



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL  
SESSIONS HOUSE  
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ELY CB7 4EG

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER  
SESSIONS HOUSE, LYNN ROAD, ELY AT 7.00 PM ON TUESDAY, 27TH AUGUST 2019**

**PRESENT:** Mrs T Coulson - Clerk to the Council

Cllr M Rouse, Mayor

Cllr I Lindsay

Cllr E Carlsson Browne

Cllr D Warman

*1 member of the public*

Cllr S Austen

Cllr S Bellow

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr C Whelan

*Sgt M Rabel*

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr A Whelan

Cllr E Every

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Denness, Cllr Wilkins and Cllr Downey.

### **2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

There were no requests for dispensations.

### **3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of interests.

### **4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 27TH JULY 2019 AND MATTERS ARISING**

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 27th July 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1769, 1770, 1771, 1772, 1773, 1774, 1775 and 1776 refer.

Matters arising - page 1772, item 18 – the Clerk informed members that BT planned to remove the public telephone box on the Market Place. Members had previously agreed that they would wish this to remain. The Clerk will object directly to BT regarding the removal of this.

Page 1772, item 15 – Cllr Phillips informed members that following the adoption of this motion regarding inclusivity, Cllr A Whelan, Cllr C Whelan and himself would be making contact with groups within the community. If members have any groups in mind he would welcome their input.

### **5. UPDATE FROM SGT MARK RABEL, GIVING AN OVERVIEW OF CURRENT POLICING AND PRIORITIES**

Sgt Mark Rabel gave members an update on the current staffing levels at Ely Police Station. He informed members he had invited the new City Centre Ranger to the monthly problem solving meetings with partners and had a lot of interaction with her. The Chief Constable from the local constabulary is able to bestow extra powers onto employees of Council bodies. They would have to receive extra training and obtain accreditation. It is quite an expensive scheme to get off the ground, but he was very keen to move this forward and would be looking further at the costs and how it would work. He hoped that it could be up and running by the New Year. Cllr Phillips informed Sgt Rabel that he had been contacted by a parishioner and outlined their concerns. He passed this information to Sgt Rabel to look in to. Cllr Phillips also asked Sgt Rabel if they had made any progress with the numerous acts of vandalism at the St John's Road play area and open space. Sgt Rabel said he had put a request out on social media for the public to identify anyone who had caused this vandalism.

*Sgt Rabel left the meeting at 7.15 pm.*

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MAYOR

23rd September 2019

## **6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor informed members the Mayor and Mayoress' chains will be sent off for repair and to be mounted on to a velvet collar. This could take up to 11 weeks. The Mayor asked members to consider the purchase of a lightweight set of robes, as during the summer months the current robes are too thick and are very uncomfortable to wear. It was unanimously agreed to obtain a quotation for these. The Mayor informed members of the raising of the Red Ensign flag on the 3rd September at 8.30 am for Merchant Navy Day. He invited members to join him for this. Heritage weekend will be held between the 13th – 15th September, with the Council's cemetery being one of the attractions. He will be holding his Civic Service on the 20th October at 3.00 pm at St Mary's Church. He also requested that it be recorded that the Council had appreciated the services of Mrs Harding, both as an officer at this Council and previously at ECDC. He wished her well in her new post and will send her a letter to that effect.

## **7. QUESTION TIME**

The parishioner present, thanked the Council for allowing him to be in residence in the Courtroom for the weekend, during the Isle of Ely Festival. He had a very good turnout with over 60 people attending. A film of the event is available to be viewed on his website. The parishioner then asked members if anyone was aware that ECDC had withdrawn all services to Jubilee Gardens, apart from cutting the grass. He felt they should not be allowed to get away with this, as they are actually own this area. The Friends of Jubilee Gardens are not able to keep on top of the weeding required. Cllrs Austen and Every, were aware of this in their capacity as District Councillors, and would look into this and arrange a meeting with an ECDC officer and the Friends, to build a better relationship if needed.

## **8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

There were no reports from County Councillors or District Councillors.

## **9. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT**

The Mayor had attended Ely Museum Volunteers' tea; hosted four sessions of Chinese students at Sessions House; had a photo publicity shoot with the Dean for Pride in Ely; attended Ely Rocks at PositivEly; attended Cambridgeshire Artistic Roller Skating Club's 2nd birthday; attended Branching Out at Littleport 25th Birthday Fun day; Cromwell's At Home at Oliver Cromwell House; Classic Cars Rally judging on Palace Green; Ely Museum Talking Streets with Ely Perspective; Classic Cars awards presentation; Prickwillow Drainage Museum 40's Day; welcomed the St Bride's Choir from Ontario, Canada; presentations to Italian students at Ely Porta Language School; attended Heliogland '39 meeting; opened Pride in Ely Day at the Maltings; presentation to Maltings employee of the month; opened Ely Guild of Woodturners Exhibition; opened Soham Lodge Care Home summer fete, professional wrestling at Ely Beet Sugar Social Club and attended Fen House joint lunch with Lily House. The Deputy Mayor had attended the Pride in Ely Day at the Maltings. Cllr A Whelan thanked and congratulated the Mayor for his speech at Ely Pride.

## **10. PLANNING**

A report of the Planning Committee meeting, immediately prior to this meeting was received.

## **11. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS**

The following information only items were received:-

Notification of tree work:- 1 Columbine Road, Ely; Cambs Fire & Rescue, Ely Fire Station, Egremont Street, Ely; Old St Marys, 66 Silver Street, Ely; 6 Prickwillow Road, Ely; 3 Cromwell Road, Ely; Knab Rock, 5 Houghton Gardens, Ely; 2 Houghton Gardens, Ely; 21 Old Brewery Close, Ely; 4 Nutholt Lane, Ely; 41 Hills Lane, Ely;

Notification of road closures:- Egremont Street, Ely – 24 – 25.9.19

Street Numbering and Naming:- Orchard House, The Hamlet, Chettisham, Ely; 33 & 35 Potters Lane, Ely

## 12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE – Cllr A Whelan presented a report of a meeting held on the 12th August, which were approved. Members considered a quote for cyber insurance, which was unanimously accepted. The Clerk will check that this covers the councillors' Council emails, before moving forward with this. Members unanimously approved the first draft of the Annual Investment Strategy. The Clerk will work further on this and circulate to members for comments. The Council's Strategic Plan seminar will be held on the 7th September. Cllr Every asked when the Council's Business Plan will be produced. It was agreed to wait and see what comes out of the seminar, but this will be updated as soon as possible following the production of the Strategic Plan. The Communications and PR Working Group, who had been tasked with considering different options to consult with parishioners, will also discuss the future of Community Forums.

(ii) ENVIRONMENT – No report as Committee had not met.

(iii) RECREATION & CEMETERY – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Phillips informed members of the numerous vandalism that has occurred at St John's Road play area and open space. He had also attended a Trinity Dole meeting, as the Council's representative, where they had considered the Council's request to extend the lease at Willow Walk, which Trinity Dole own. He confirmed they would be happy to extend this to 25 years.

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – Cllr Bellow presented a report of a meeting held on the 19th August, which was approved. Cllr Austen confirmed she would take responsibility for the tombola stall and would organise a team to support her. A date for a meeting regarding the use of the Market Place was still awaited. The order for the Christmas Tree will be placed in due course. The update from the Switch-On Group was noted.

(v) ASSETS & ACQUISITIONS – No report as Committee had not met.

(vi) ELY/RIBE – Notes of a meeting held on the 30th July were noted.

(vii) YOUTH FORUM – Cllr C Whelan presented a report of a meeting held on the 20th August, which was approved. The introduction of a Mayor's Cadet was discussed and a possible process for appointment agreed. The Mayor felt that perhaps the Council should rethink the decision to appoint a Cadet and look at recognising youth organisations more generally. Members agreed to give the Mayor more time to think about how to move forward with this. Members noted the letter from the 1st Ely Brownies, detailing things they had liked and disliked about the Market Place in Ely. It was agreed to make contact with the local packs to engage with them further regarding their views.

(viii) TOURISM AND TOWN CENTRE COMMITTEE – No report as Committee had not met.

## 13. WORKING PARTIES/STEERING GROUPS REPORTS

Sessions House Working Group – Cllr Lindsay presented notes of a meeting of the Working Group held on the 15th August. Members unanimously agreed that following the receipt of three quotes, to accept the quotation for air conditioning units in the Council Chamber and office from East & Smith, at a cost of £2,975. Listed Building consent will be sought for this. Three quotes had also been obtained for a wired microphone system for the Council Chamber. Members unanimously agreed to accept the quote from Solitech, who had provided microphones for a trial use. Members noted the painting of the Court Room will commence very shortly.

### Tourism and Town Centre Working Group

The Mayor proposed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, regarding this item, that this be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 be exercised. This was seconded by Cllr Austen and agreed to go into Committee at the end of the meeting.

CIL Working Group – Cllr Austen informed members the Working Group had meet that morning to consider the request for £100,000 of CIL monies to support the Cloud bus service. The Group felt that in light of the on-going Bus Strategy Working Party, they could not make a decision, until they had received an update on the status of the Working Party. The CIL Working Group agreed to hold another meeting, once further information had been received before the next Full Council meeting.

#### 14. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

The Ely Museum Update was noted. Concern was expressed as there had been no Council representative at any of the Ely Museum meetings since the new representative had been appointed in May.

#### 15. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON ECDC'S REVIEW OF THE PARLIAMENTARY POLLING DISTRICTS, POLLING PLACES AND POLLING STATIONS 2019

Members considered the review and felt that Bell Holt Community Room would be a more suitable alternative to the Vernon Cross Room, as this would be easier for the elderly community in Ely East ward to access. However, if this was not agreeable to ECDC then the Council would be happy for the Sessions House to be used.

#### 16. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON ENDURANCE ESTATES COMMUNITY FACILITY SCHEME AND COMMUNITY FACILITY SPECIFICATION

The Mayor updated members on this specification and the process so far. Although, the Council had not officially agreed to take ownership of the community centre, they had agreed in principle to do so, in the process already undertaken. Although this will have to be discussed and a formal decision made at a later date as to whether this Council takes ownership of this community facility. Members were requested to provide the Clerk with any comments regarding the specification. Concerns already highlighted were not adequate/suitable storage within the building, for groups such as playgroups etc to leave their equipment permanently in the building. Also the toilets were not felt to be adequate due to the number of people that could be using the hall at one time.

#### 17. FINANCE

Members approved the following payments:-

##### *Direct debit payments and BACS payments*

ECDC	908.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	491.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	933.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	275.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	1733.00	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	695.29	Paid by direct debit
Plan Communications Ltd	89.98	Paid by direct debit
EE	99.34	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	61.37	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	250.00	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	108.70	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	123.64	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	81.17	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	28.32	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	155.88	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	62.04	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	133.63	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	3515.77	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	39.77	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	300.23	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	221.56	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	141.28	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	105.60	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	55.67	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	140.62	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	402.19	Paid by direct debit
Chess ICT Ltd	212.27	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	1366.62	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	902.08	Paid by direct debit

## 17. FINANCE CONTINUED .....

Siemens Financial Services Ltd	569.40	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	320.46	Paid by direct debit

*The following invoices had been paid prior to the Full Council, due to due date of payment with the approval of the Chairman*

Stefan Parr	280.00	112710
BFS Group Ltd	473.64	112713
The Elyi Magazine	185.60	112712
The Chelsea Magazine Co Ltd	300.00	112711
RGP Security Services Ltd	90.00	112714
S Bradley	280.00	112715
Kleanco Dry Cleaners & Laundry	27.50	112716
Shefs	3241.80	112717
Anglian Water	143.81	112718
RGP Security Services Ltd	108.00	112720
S Blake	1388.47	112721
Shefs	1930.80	112723
Anglian Water	88.31	112724
Virgin Media	62.40	112725
Virgin Media	62.40	112726

*The following invoices had not been paid prior to the meeting*

Trade UK	17.96	112727
CamAlarms Ltd	284.40	112728
GOBA Ltd	140.00	112729
Verve Digital Ltd	120.00	112730
Businessclean (Cambridge) Ltd	1116.44	112731
Cooleraid Ltd	53.29	112732
Ely Choral Society	316.80	112733
East Cambs Arts Festival Society	339.00	112734
1st Call (Hire & Sales) Ltd	28.80	112735
Millennium Pest Control Ltd	88.80	112736
ESPO	66.95	112737
Securitas Security Services (UK) Ltd	226.90	112738
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	108.77	112739
City Cycle Centre	104.78	112740
Ely Museum	9474.25	112741
Cottenham Brass Band	200.00	112742
Ely Folk Festival	65.00	112743
ATS Heritage	300.00	112744
History Needs You	1500.00	112745
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	69.57	112746
CCTV Volunteer	5.40	112747
I Lindsay	116.25	112748
RJD Ashman	200.00	112749
ECDC	232.32	112750
We Are Blueshed Ltd	336.00	112751
Greenworks Solutions Ltd	1224.00	112752
Jewson Ltd	156.32	112753
Clarity Heating	609.32	112754
Jean Barrington Ltd	409.34	112755
Clearview Communications Ltd	7366.80	112756
Cambridge Art	714.60	112757
Clive Brown	84.00	112758

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## 17. FINANCE CONTINUED .....

Ensign Solutions Ltd	159.54	112759
Manea Silver Band	200.00	112760
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	112761
Ely & Soham Elect Services Ltd	1854.00	Paid by BACS
M Rouse	157.15	112762
Gordon Harrison	491.42	112763
A G Hobbs	38.40	112764
A E Chivers	23.00	112765
Twist of Lemon	76.00	112766
National Pen Promotional Products	66.00	112767
RGP Security Services Ltd	108.00	112769
Shefs	594.00	112768
Total Gas & Power	9.84	112770
G & J Peck Ltd	39.98	112771
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	115.83	112772
ESPO	66.72	112737
House of Marbles	593.40	112773
Konica Minolta Bus Solutions Ltd	124.43	112774
Jewson Ltd	60.06	112753
D Hill	675.00	112775
Clarity Heating	1242.34	112754
We Are Blushed Ltd	168.00	112751
Cambridge Mapmakers	180.00	112776
Ancestors of Dover Ltd	216.00	112777
Wishstrings	185.76	112778
Lighbeam UK Ltd	84.50	112779
Total Gas & Power	187.97	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	290.53	Paid by direct debit
Arco Ltd	34.50	112780
D Holt	50.00	Paid by BACS
EE	98.78	Paid by direct debit

### Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 29th July 2019

Salaries and wages	£30,248.55
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£7,804.10
Pension fund payments	£14,004.68

**Members noted the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 31st July 2019 was deferred until next Full Council, due to insufficient time to prepare this.**