



**CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM
ON MONDAY 10TH APRIL 2017**

PRESENT;

Cllr A Arnold Cllr M Lansell Cllr R Hobbs Cllr S Friend-Smith

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr J Yates, Cllr E Every and Cllr Lindsay, the Mayor

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – to receive Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary & other interests from Councillors.

There were no declarations received.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 23RD JANUARY 2017 & MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 23rd January 2017 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages ENV23 and 24 refer.

Matters Arising – Page 23, item 7. The QGIS map software has now been installed and some of the operator training has taken place. Further training sessions are planned for the near future.

Matters Arising – Page 23, item 8. The memorial bench has been purchased. The Estates Manager will meet with the Mayor to discuss the exact location at Barton Square.

4. BUDGET UPDATE

Members noted the budget update, dated 31st March 2017. There were no significant variances.

5 HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES

There were no health and safety issues.

6. ELY IN BLOOM

The notes of the Ely in Bloom Working Group meeting, held 13th March 2017, were noted and are attached to these minutes. The City of Ely Council has been advised by Balfour Beatty that hanging baskets cannot be placed on lampposts on the Market Place or Market Street at present. There is a safety issue with the posts and Balfour Beatty are intending to replace all of the posts in these two areas. A discussion took place as to what could be done with the excess plants. It was agreed that the Ely in Bloom Working Group would arrange a meeting with the contractor to discuss this.

7. DOG WASTE BINS - UPDATE

A new dog bin has been installed on the corner of The Hamlet and Lynn Road in Chettisham and it is planned that a new bin will be installed in Compton Fields as soon as possible.

8. BOLLARDS ON THE HIGH STREET

Cllr Mansell raised concerns about illegal parking on the High Street and suggested that more bollards could be installed at strategic places to combat the problem. He also thought that it was disrespectful to allow parking in front of the War Memorial and that a bollard should also be placed in front of it. A general discussion took place

about the pros and cons of pedestrianisation or the restricted use of the High Street. Cllr Hobbs suggested that this should be raised at the Full Council meeting in May.

9. ANTI-LITTER CAMPAIGN

Cllr Mansell reported that the Litter Pick that took place on the 2nd April 2017 had been successful, but there were still areas that needed attention. Cllr Mansell suggested an Anti-Litter Campaign would encourage visitors and parishioners alike to keep litter to a minimum. The possibility of increasing the frequency of litter picks and concentrating on a specific area was discussed. Cllr Hobbs advised that the Government has published its first National Litter Strategy for England, which aims to create an “anti-litter culture” and to reduce the near £800m burden to the taxpayer of clean-up costs. He proposed that it would be wise to look further into this initiative and find out if there were funds available.

10. THE CITY OF ELY FLAG

It was agreed that a new City of Ely Flag would be purchased for the flag pole on the Market Place, as the existing flag is looking very dirty and tattered.

11. FOR INFORMATION ONLY – CHARTER FOR TREES

Members noted the information supplied regarding the Charter for Trees.

12. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting has been scheduled for 26th June 2017.