



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
SESSIONS HOUSE
LYNN ROAD
ELY CB7 4EG
Telephone 01353 661016
Fax 01353 667057

CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEEETING HELD AT 7.00PM
ON TUESDAY 4TH JUNE 2019

PRESENT;

Cllr I Lindsay Cllr R Morgan Cllr A Arnold Cllr R Denness Cllr S Bellow Cllr E Every
Mrs M Pickering.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr S Austen.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHAIR AND ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Cllr Lindsay was elected as Chair of the Committee at the meeting of Full Council on 3rd June 2019. Cllr Morgan nominated Cllr Bellow as Vice Chair. This was seconded by Cllr Every and unanimously agreed. Cllr Bellow was therefore elected as the Vice Chair.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 25TH MARCH 2019 & MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 25th March 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages ENV 43 and 44 refer.

Matters Arising – Item 11, Page ENV 44 – Request for a litter bin for Sessions House. The bin has been ordered.

Matters Arising – Item 12, Page ENV 44 – Litter Pick – This was held 28th April 2019 and was a success. Cllr Lindsay thanked McDonalds, Ely Cathedral and other community groups for arranging their own litter picks.

Matters Arising – Item A.O.B Page ENV 44 – Cllr Every has been in contact with the family of the late John Yates and they would welcome the provision of a memorial. Cllr Every will pursue the contact with Ely Rotary to involve them in the discussions.

5. BUDGET UPDATE

Members noted the budget update, dated 4th June 2019. There were no significant variances.

6. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Cllr Lindsay agreed to review the terms of reference and re-cast them in a way that parallels the relevant section of the City of Ely Council's business plan. Once reviewed, they will be issued to all members for approval.

7. HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES

Cllr Every reported that parishioners need to be encouraged to log issues about local highways, for example, or health and safety concerns on the relevant Council's website. This is the most effective way of raising an issue as the logged entry creates an audit trail.

Links to the websites will be put onto the City of Ely Council's website.

8. ELY IN BLOOM

For the benefit of new Councillors, a brief history of Ely in Bloom was provided and an update given on the current situation. A potential contractor has responded to the invitation to provide a quote for 2020-2023 and this is expected to be received by mid-June. The difficulties of watering baskets and planters, if a contractor was not engaged, was discussed. It was agreed that an advert would be placed in the Elyi for invitations to quote for the watering contract and that the original spec for invitations for quotes would be promoted via Visit Ely. The future of the annual Ely in Bloom competition was discussed and the value of continuing to host the competition. It was suggested by Cllr Lindsay that this was an event that may be more appropriate for the Tourism and Town Centre Committee to get involved with. Cllr Lindsay agreed to progress this with the Chair of the Committee.

9. TRAFFIC WORKING GROUP

Cllr Lindsay gave a brief explanation of the Minor Highways bid process for the benefit of new Councillors and gave a brief update of the successful bids for Cam Drive and the mobile speeding devices. There are two on-going projects that are being funded by the City of Ely Council – the moving of the 30mph sign in Stuntney and the rumble strips in Prickwillow. Cllr Bellow and Cllr Morgan agreed to assist with the project in Prickwillow and Cllr Every and Cllr Lindsay agreed to pursue the arrangements for the relocation of the speed sign in Stuntney. It was agreed that a meeting with the relevant officers at Cambridgeshire County Council would be arranged.

A new request for a crossing on Beresford Road has been received from St John's School governors. Cllr Arnold and Cllr Austen were asked to take the lead on this request with the assistance of Cllr Every and Cllr Denness.

10. PRICKWILLOW WAR MEMORIAL – UPDATE

A quote for the refurbishment of the war memorial in Prickwillow has now been received. A superficial refurbishment involving a general clean and making good damaged jointing and edges would be £2,148.00 plus VAT. A complete refurbishment would require the dismantling of the cenotaph, including plinth course, refacing the front and side elevations to completely remove the lettering and most of the damaged areas. The back elevation and plinth would be thoroughly cleaned and the inscriptions re-incised with a deeper character and finished with black enamel; the actual character font, being Art Deco type. It would then be refixed in situ. The cost for this would be approximately, £8,000 plus VAT.

In view of the approximate costs, it was agreed that two further quotes must be sourced. After a discussion on possible sources of funding, Cllr Lindsay volunteered to contact armed forces associations who may be able to contribute. It was also suggested that residents of Prickwillow could organise some fundraising. Cllr Every proposed that once further quotes have been received, a recommendation should be made to Full Council.

11. INSTALLATION OF NEW LAMPPOSTS - UPDATE

Work on the three new streetlamps for Annesdale, Chapel Street and West End is underway. The column shafts have been erected and UK Power Networks are booked for w/c 10th June 2019. The lanterns are scheduled to arrive on or around 18th June 2019.

12. ACTION PLAN

For the benefit of the new Committee members, Cllr Lindsay outlined the purpose of the Action Plan and how it also acts as a “check list” when prioritising projects.

13. A.O.B.

Cllr Every explained the purpose of the Ely Walkabouts that are normally organised by Ely Perspective and how the participants identify areas of concern around the City, such as broken benches or graffiti. The new City Centre Ranger will also be tasked with identifying areas of concern. Cllr Lindsay reported that he had recently carried out a ‘Signs and Lines’ audit and has passed the information to Cambridgeshire County Council.

It was agreed that the Q-GIS training provider, could be contacted as and when necessary, for essential updates and training.

14. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is planned for 22nd July 2019.