



**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 MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM  
ON MONDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2019**

**PRESENT;**

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

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr S Austen and Cllr R Morgan

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Every declared a personal interest in item 7 due to the fact that she is Chair of Governors at Ely St John's School. She signed page 227 of the Register of Interests book, page 227.

**3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019 & MATTERS ARISING**

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages ENV 45 and 46 refer.

Matters Arising – Item 4, Page ENV 45 – Cllr Every has been in contact with Ely Hereward Rotary. They have kindly donated £250 towards a memorial for the late John Yates. It was agreed that prices for benches would be sourced but a final decision of the most suitable memorial will be made by Full Council.

Matters Arising – Item 6, Page ENV 45 – The Terms of Reference were reviewed and distributed. No objections were received.

Matters Arising – Item 7, Page ENV 45 – Links to other Council's websites will be added as soon as possible.

Matters Arising - Item 8, Page ENV 46 – The Chair of the Tourism and Town Centre Committee has agreed to take over the "Ely in Bloom" competition from summer 2020.

**4. BUDGET UPDATE**

Members noted the budget update, dated 22nd July 2019. There were no significant variances.

**5. HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES**

There were no issues to report.

**6. FLORAL DISPLAYS**

As no quotes for the planting, watering and maintenance of the floral displays in Ely has been received from a commercial contractor, the practicalities of undertaking this function 'in-house' were discussed. Cllr Lindsay suggested that he should discuss this with the Clerk.

Prices for the supply and maintenance of plants only, would be sourced from our current contractor for summer and winter 2020.

## **7. TRAFFIC WORKING GROUP**

Cllr Every provided members with some background notes about the minor highway bid process. Please see the notes attached. Bids for this year need to be submitted by 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019. One bid is being proposed by this Committee for approval by Full Council – the creation of a zebra crossing on Beresford Road. This has been requested by parents of pupils at Ely St John’s School, as lots of pupils access the school via the side entrance on this road.

Regarding the successful bid for 3 mobile speed devices, a meeting needs to be arranged between the City of Ely Council, Skanska (on behalf of Cambs County Council) and Mr D Godsmark from Ely Speedwatch. This will be arranged once the proposed locations for the use of these devices has been suggested by the Speedwatch team.

Regarding the moving of the 30mph sign in Stuntney further towards the entry from the bypass from the A142, it was agreed that Stuntney Village Council will be asked if the funds being held by City of Ely Council from the Rural Communities Grants, could be used towards the cost of moving this sign. Cllr Lindsay agreed to raise this at their next meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019.

It was agreed that a special electronic device could be purchased in order to aid Speedwatch members access traffic and speed data stored on our mobile devices.

*Cllr Denness left the meeting at 7.40pm.*

## **8. PRICKWILLOW WAR MEMORIAL – UPDATE**

After approaching the local branch of the British Legion, Cllr Lindsay reported that they did not have any funds to contribute to the refurbishment of the war memorial. Cllr Bellows reported that Prickwillow Village Council would be happy to make a contribution and that they were pursuing possible grant funding. Members of Prickwillow Village Council did not want the memorial to be moved but are concerned that the immediate area is quite unsightly but it’s not clear who this land is owned by.

## **9. LAMPOST ENERGY SUPPLY**

We have been informed by Cambs County Council of a decision to end the current street lighting energy arrangements. This involved the County Council, buying energy on our behalf and then recharging us at the end of every year. This system will be coming to an end and a new energy provider will have to be sourced. A company called Utility Aid has been recommended that specialise in securing the cheapest energy supply for Parish Councils. This company will be contacted for assistance.

## **10. ACTION PLAN**

The Action Plan has been updated since the meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Please see attached.

## **11. FOR INFORMATION – LETTER FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> ELY BROWNIES**

A letter has been received from 1<sup>st</sup> Ely Brownies suggesting improvements that could be made to the Market Place. A response will be sent and the details forwarded to East Cambs District Council, with permission from the Brownies. It was also suggested that it could be discussed at the next Youth Forum Committee meeting.

## **12. A.O.B.**

There were no further items for discussion.

## **13. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is planned for 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

COMMITTEE: ENVIRONMENT	Activity	Partners	Timescale	Budget	Comments
<b>RESPONSIBILITIES</b>					
Street furniture	Biannual inspection of street furniture and street scene	CoEC, Perspective, Town management team, ECDC	ST	No	Action plan for city assets in place. Perspective lists to ECDC & CCC.
Street furniture	IT mapping of assets, locations and last inspections/maintenance	CoEC	ST	No	List updated
Street furniture	Identify locations to install new CoEC street furniture including bins	Perspective, TIC, public requests	LT	See below	Relevant to Steeple Row. Problem with dog bin in Springhead Lane.
Street furniture	Rolling programme for maintenance and replacement	CoEC, Town management team, ECDC	ST/MT	£5,000 in 2019/20 budget	Meet with Spencer Clark to liaise
Trees and Green Spaces	Annual tree audit and possible replacement	ECDC Tree Officer	ST & MT	£1500	Review progress with Rec and Cem Committee
Trees and Green Spaces	Identify locations for new CoEC trees and green spaces	ECDC, Developers	LT	Yes	Consider use of Parish share of CIL
Floral Displays	Plan and budget for widening the provision of floral displays in the City	City Forum, TIC, Perspective, Hort Association	MT	£16,000 in 2019/20 budget	Involve local business. \$106 for permanent planters? Replace planters. Suitable for A boards.
Floral Displays	Plan for future change of contractor and provision of watering service 2020-2023		MT	Yes	Clerk investigating and widening advertising. Possible interested contractor. Consider voluntary group, or extra staff. Reduce ambitions if needed.

Annual Floral display competition	Getting dated. Consider move to Town Centre and Tourism. Volunteers still available to help and co-ordinate. More publicity as City event needed.	TIC, Town Centre manager and Committee chairs	ST to LT	Minimal	Done.
Memorial Bench Scheme					Currently inactive
<b>POWERS &amp; DUTIES</b>					
Litter, street cleaning, graffiti	Annual audit to identify problem areas.	CoEC, Volunteers, Perspective, ECDC	ST LT	No	New cleaning programme sorted. Liaise with James Khan. Perspective concentrating on graffiti at 18 Jun walkabout.
Litter, street cleaning, graffiti	Litter pick days.	CoEC, ECDC, Payback Team, Time Bank, Cathedral Volunteers, Individuals	ST	No	Next pick autumn 19.
De-cluttering streets	Annual audit of street clutter	CoEC, ECDC Access Group, Local business, RNIB, TCMT.	ST	No	Ongoing work via Access Group. Develop good practice guide.
Maintenance of signs and road markings	Annual audit of signs and lines	CoEC, CCC Highways	ST	Yes	List of City Centre lines forwarded to Steve Alexander. Will action wef 1 Apr 19. Chase new Highway's contact at Witchford depot.
Traffic	Annual audit of traffic choke points.	CoEC, CCC Highways	ST MT	No Yes	Monitor impact of Ely North Development plans

Traffic	Select plans to submit for 'Minor Highways Improvement Scheme funding'. Enter in budget	CoEC, CCC Highways	ST	£20,000 in current budget. Worst case £47,000 from CIL for 2019/20	Cllr Every has promulgated call for projects. Working actively on St John's school calming. Seeking advice from CCC, Ruth Raper, on existing projects.
Traffic	Support Speedwatch development as means of monitoring speeding areas in City.	CoEC, Speedwatch	ST		WG to consider use of current mobile signs. Use to develop traffic calming strategy
Traffic calming	Procure and deploy moveable speed warning signs as part of city wide strategy	Speedwatch		£6K per sign	Successful MHI submission for initiation in 2019. Have had recent response from Highways.
Provision of cycle ways	Review CCC cycle plans and provide feedback. Push for schemes that reflect local priorities. Find a solution for dangerous Broad Street / Back Hill junction	CoEC, CCC Highways, Traffic Working Group	MT	No	Work ongoing at CCC. Action in hand for Stuntney Ely cycle path. Calming measures proposed for Back Hill Station Road to include a shared us path.
Street Lighting	Review effects of CCC lamp replacements and energy saving measures (replacement with LED bulbs)	CoEC, CCC, Balfour Beatty	MT	£10,000 from CIL	3 areas identified as needing extra lights. Lights installed and connected. One light in Steeple Row has no owner.
Street Lighting	Monitor condition of CoEC owned lamp posts and plan for renovation/replacement over time. Plus replacing bulbs with LED	CoEC, Perspective	ST	£1,500 in budget for energy &	LED bulbs now in all CoEC owned lights

Street Lighting	Steeple Row development need power supply off CoEC lighting	CoEC, Group, Perspective	ST													Perspective would pay costs
Bus Shelters	Review condition of all CoEC shelters.	CoEC, CCC, ECDC. Bus partnership	ST													Cam Drive bus shelters adopted by CoEC and renovated by estates team. Offer Witchford CoEC shelter affected by changes in parish boundaries wef Dec 18.
Commons, footpaths, ditches and ponds, public clocks, war memorials	Monitor as required	CoEC, ECDC, Volunteers, Service veterans associations.	ST MT													British Legion care for City war memorial. Offer to adopt Prickwillow memorial. Estimate for repairs £8,000
Power to spend money on crime detection and prevention measures.	Participate in Community Forums and Safety Partnership meetings.	CoEC, Police, Speedwatch, Neighbourhood Watch, CCTV	ST													Soham PC taking over their cameras. Work continues. Community sergeant liaising with our CCTV volunteers.
Power to issue fixed penalty notices for litter, graffiti and offences under dog control orders.	Consider policy in conjunction with Town Centre Management and ECDC															
Power to acquire and maintain land for open spaces.	Been offered Thomas Parson land on Prickwillow Road															

Power to make byelaws for cycle parks	No current plans					
Right to challenge services that are provided by a principal authority	No current intention					

Timescale: Short term: up to December 2019; Medium term: to April 2021; Long term: 2021 onwards.





## **MINOR HIGHWAYS BIDS**

The City of Ely Council is determined to take an active role in the traffic management of the City and made representation to the Cambridgeshire County Council Consultation in April 2016 in order to do this. This forms our own Local Traffic Strategy Plan.

Representation to the Transport Strategy for East Cambridgeshire with this plan was based on consultation with members and other interested parties, in order to put forward a more cohesive plan for the City and connecting highways. We were disappointed that our requests were largely ignored.

We had based our plans on resident representation, evidence and the relevant documents that have shaped the strategy so far, which are:

**Ely Market Town Transport Strategy 2011 (but updated)**

**Mott MacDonald Study – December 2013**

**Cambridgeshire Future Transport – Ely - Fordham – Newmarket**

**Cambridgeshire Local Transport Plan 2011-3031 – draft April 2014**

**Sainsbury's Section 106 Agreements**

**North Ely Development – Section 106 agreements**

**Aldi's Section 106 Agreements**

We have our own Speedwatch scheme which is also operating temporary flashing speed signs down Cambridge Road.

Our Estates Team is trained and able to move temporary flashing speed signs following permission from Balfour Beatty.

To support the above, our Traffic Working Party has made recommendations to the Full City of Ely Council and have achieved the following bids:

- The calming of the traffic down Forehill; requested by local residents and retailers. (Part of our plan);
- Traffic calming around Prickwillow, following 2 serious accidents with 2 fatalities requested by the Village Council and other residents. (Part of our and their Traffic Calming Strategy).
- Two flashing school signs along Cam Drive with supplementary speed signs (about to be completed)
- Three additional temporary flashing speed signs (awaiting purchase)

In addition, the City of Ely Council has agreed to fully fund:

- Rumble strips or similar outside Prickwillow on all entry roads
- The move of the 30 mph sign in Stuntney further towards the entry from the Bypass from the A142

Our calming transport priorities following research from the Speedwatch Team are:

- Lisle Lane
- Kings Avenue
- Lynn Road

The temporary speed signs will be located along these roads when received and will be monitored through a programme (agreed with the Speedwatch team) to find evidence.

### **New Bids**

The new bid ceiling has been raised to £15,000 and we have to donate at least a 10% donation which is shown as a percentage of our precept.

Investigation with City Councillors has resulted in the following:

Need to secure evidence through a consultation programme for calming in Kings Avenue for 2020 bid.

A possible bid along St Mary's Street for yellow lines possibly being ruled out as it does not fit into our overall plan.

We have only one possible bid in for Ely St John's Primary access during start and finish times to the school which comes from a parental survey. The criteria is health and safety.

### **Criteria for the new bid**

See attached picture

The issue is that children approaching the school along the pink line cannot currently cross Beresford Road safely to enter the school by the side gate. This includes children coming down from Beresford Road, and various other roads, plus those arriving from St. Johns Road. This is a large number of children.

Added to the problem, is the volume of traffic currently parked along Beresford Road, (shown orange), which makes crossing the road to reach the school dangerous. It is only a matter of time before there is an accident.

The parents, and other stakeholders, would like a crossing put in to allow children to cross the road safely to enter and exit the school. I have shown the location opposite the entrance gate in yellow, as a suggested location for this crossing.

To give greater crossing visibility, there should also be no parking allowed along the orange lines.

### **Suggested solution – zebra crossing**

Descriptions/benefits etc of the zebra crossings are shown on the Highways website.

- Zebra crossings must be installed in locations where vehicle users have good visibility of waiting pedestrians. There must be no obstacles (e.g. trees) on the pavement to block the view of pedestrians. The location should not have tight corners or steep hills.
- Can't be installed within 5 meters of a junction or roundabout
- The pavement must be wide enough to make it clear to motor vehicle drivers that pedestrians are waiting at the edge of the road to cross
- This scheme requires a Traffic Regulation Order and a [Road Safety Audit](#).
- If a suitable location is found but the work requires a large number of ground workers to install, costs could potentially increase.

### **Possible costings**

<b>Cost</b>	
Equipment	£4,000 - £10,000
Works	£5,000 - £30,000
Traffic Regulation Order	£1,500
Road Safety Audit	£2,000
Power Connections	£2,000 - £5,000
Committed Sums	£3,500 - £5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£18,000 - £53,000</b>

It is recommended that this is put forward for a Local Highways bid. There will then be a feasibility study to determine if this is the right solution and an investigation of actual costs.

