



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT:

The Mayor – Cllr Ely Griffin-Singh
Cllr S Overall
Mr M Chinery-Colyer
Mr John Dennick

Cllr E Every – Deputy Mayor
Cllr C Phillips
Mr T Overall
Mr S Pittock

Cllr J Chaplin
Cllr J Tyrrell
Mr I Newstead
Mr D Block

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Arnold and Hobbs

2. REQUEST INTENTION OF THOSE IN ATTENDANCE WHO WISH TO SPEAK ON AN AGENDA ITEM – (*as per standing order 83 b*)

Intentions to speak were requested from Mr Pittock and Mr Block on items that refer to the City of Ely Perspective group. This was unanimously agreed by members.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the Christmas Lights Committee meeting held on the 10th June 2013, were agreed and signed as a true record. CL 109 and 110 refer.

Matters arising:

Page CL 110 - Item 13: The Assistant Clerk reported that she had contacted local retailers and had received two responses offering prizes for the tombola stall.

4. BUDGET UPDATE

Members noted the budget update dated 10th September 2013. There were no significant variances.

Cllr Tyrrell would like to see lights erected towards the riverside. Mr Chinery-Colyer advised this might be possible if power can be obtained.

Members agreed to set the budget for 2014/15 at £10,000 in order to eventually expand the lights down to the riverside, towards Sainsbury's and along St Mary's Street.

5. TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON LAMPPOSTS

The Assistant Clerk reported that a quotation had been received for installing sockets on 28 lamp posts at a cost of £7,595.28, which will be funded through Section 106. The application for this will be made shortly.

6. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE LIGHTING GROUP

Mr Chinery-Colyer confirmed that plastic storage boxes had been purchased to keep equipment dry at the Barton Road store. He also advised that the group were short on volunteers; however the USAF will be helping again this year. The hoist hire insurance stipulates that drivers over the age of 65 will be unable to drive the machines, which restricts the number of volunteers able to do this. It was agreed to book a market stall in order to try and recruit more volunteers. The Assistant Clerk will arrange this.

The Council has a drop install on the Saturday market on 12th October where volunteers could also be recruited. Mr Chinery-Colyer will design a leaflet to be handed out, detailing information about being a lights volunteer.

Cllr Tyrrell offered the use of his hoist for erecting the lights and will speak to Mr Chinery-Colyer regarding this.

The Mayor suggested that the Recreation and Cemetery Supervisor should be asked to visit the Barton Road store and assess the space required for storage, to see if the Christmas Lights could be accommodated at the cemetery.

7. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE SWITCH ON GROUP

Mr Newstead updated members on the switch on evening. At present he has only 2 sponsors, however the Ely News will be doing a feature regarding stalls and sponsors. He advised the stage and sound has been booked and that various acts are lined up. The Assistant Clerk informed members to confirm this order an official council order must be sent. Mr Newstead will forward the quote to the Assistant Clerk.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Pittock advised the Perspective are thinking of running a Christmas Lights competition for both residents and businesses. He also advised the Perspective are holding a recruitment volunteer evening at the Cathedral Centre. Mr Chinery-Colyer will look at attending this.

Members discussed the possibility of arranging out of town parking for people to either walk in to the switch on event or have a taxi. Mr Newstead will look at the possibility of arranging taxis.

9. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Monday 14th October 2013 at 6.30 pm – budget meeting, Monday 11th November at 6.30pm, Monday 20th January 2014, at 6.30pm, Monday 31st March 2014, at 6.30pm and Monday 9th June 2014 at 6.30pm.