



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 19TH APRIL 2016 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT:

The Mayor, Cllr E Every
Mr M Chinery-Colyer

Cllr A Arnold
Mr J Dennick

Cllr S Pittock
Mr I Newstead

Cllr M Lansell

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr S Friend-Smith.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary & other interests, from Councillors as per standing order 83 b

No interests were received.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the Christmas Lights Committee meeting held on the 1st February 2016, were agreed and signed as a true record. CL 130 & 131 refer.

Matters Arising: - CL 131 – The Mayor had not yet spoken to the Police regarding traffic issues when the lights are taken down. The Deputy Clerk reported the sockets will be installed on the lamp posts in due course and will not require timers. The Professional Lighting Guide 06 had been purchased as requested.

4. BUDGET UPDATE

Members noted the budget update dated 19th April 2016. There were no significant variances. The Deputy Clerk reported that in order to comply with the Council's standing orders, it will be necessary for 3 quotes to be obtained for the stage.

5. HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES

There were no health and safety issues to report.

6. TO DISCUSS GROTTO

Mr Newstead reported that Hereward Rotary Club are interested in taking ownership of the grotto. Members agreed the Council could not financially support any organisation in any way. However, they do support in principal, the provision of a grotto at the 'Switch On' event and that Hereward Rotary Club would be welcome to provide this, but would be required to meet all costs associated with the grotto and the pitch fee. Mr Newstead will inform Hereward Rotary Club of this decision.

7. TO RECEIVE UPDATE FROM LIGHTING GROUP

Mr Chinery-Colyer reported that he, the Deputy Clerk and Cllr Arnold had been to the lighting exhibition at the NEC, and had placed orders for new lights for this year. He also advised he had spoken to a business owner on Forehill regarding improving the display on this road. He said that the businesses would be willing to display spare features that may be available. It may also be possible to reinstate the lighting that runs down the sides of Forehill.

The Deputy Clerk will contact the USAF base regarding presenting the certificates to the USAF volunteers.

8. TO RECEIVE UPDATE FROM SWITCH ON GROUP

Mr Newstead reported that the 'Switch On' event this year will be revamped to a more traditional theme. There will be less fairground rides and the plans for the event will endeavour to include the whole of the City Centre. All press releases for the event will be sent via the Council. The next Switch on Sub Group meeting will be on 28th April 2016. The Deputy Clerk requested that notes from both Sub Groups must be submitted to the next meeting of the Christmas Lights Committee. Cllr Arnold reported there is a projection company that may be interested in becoming involved with the 'Switch On' event. She will pass these details on to Mr Newstead.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Cllr Arnold requested members be mindful of the need to look at permanent alternative storage space for the lights, once the planning permission for the existing storage containers has expired.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 6th June at 6.30pm, Monday 1st August at 6.30pm, Monday 7th November at 6.30pm and Tuesday 22nd November at 6.30pm. Additional meetings will be arranged if they are required.