



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 19TH JANUARY 2015 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT:

The Mayor – Cllr E Every
Cllr N Clarke
Mr J Dennick

Cllr J Yates
Cllr Arnold
Miss J Sindall

Cllr R Hobbs
Mr I Newstead

Cllr E Griffin-Singh
Mr M Chinery-Colyer

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Pittock.

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. CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER

Cllr Hobbs proposed that Miss Sindall be co-opted onto the Committee, this was seconded by Cllr Yates and unanimously approved by members.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the Christmas Lights Committee meeting held on the 17th November 2014, were agreed and signed as a true record. CL 121 refers.

There were no matters arising.

5. BUDGET UPDATE

Members noted the budget dated 13th January 2015. There were no significant variances.

The Assistant Clerk reported that the invoice for the Ping-Pong ball structure had not yet been received.

6. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE LIGHTING GROUP

Mr Chinery-Colyer advised that there had been a fault with the electrics on Forehill and it will now be necessary to look at the infrastructure in order to ascertain what caused the problem. He requested that a contingency be made available for an extra hoist within the 2015/16 budget.

Members agreed a letter should be sent from the Mayor to Balfour Beatty regarding the quotation that has still not been received, for the structural testing of some of the lamp posts.

The Assistant Clerk will obtain costs for provision of IPAF training and licenses for members of the light brigade and 1 member of the Council's staff. Miss Sindall will advise on the number of people it will be necessary to train, in order to provide adequate cover.

7. TO RECEIVE UPDATE FROM SWITCH ON GROUP AND TO DISCUSS CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED.

Mr Newstead reported that the evening had been successful and thanked members of the lighting group and Council for their hard work. He said that he is in the process of planning next year, obtaining sponsors and had already booked the stage and lighting.

Cllr Hobbs thanked all involved with the lights and stressed the importance of encouraging younger members of the community to join the team, to eventually pass on the workload.

Members noted the correspondence received and agreed that the issues raised relating to the switch on evening would be addressed.

8. TO DISCUSS REQUEST TO PURCHASE REDUNDANT LIGHTS

The Assistant Clerk reported that a request had been received to purchase redundant Christmas lights from the Council. Members unanimously agreed that redundant lights should not be sold, due to health and safety reasons.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Hobbs advised members that a more permanent solution needs to be found for storing the Christmas lights. The Assistant Clerk reported that she had received an email from ECDC's planning department advising that planning permission is not required for the location of a storage container at the recycling area at Ely Cemetery. Members agreed this could be a temporary solution to the problem.

Mr Chinery-Colyer mentioned that if the Sunday Market becomes a permanent fixture on the Market Place this will interfere with when the tree is put up. Cllr Hobbs will notify ECDC of this and requested they keep a quarter of the Market Place free on the 15th November 2015, when the tree will be erected.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

To be arranged.