



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
ASSETS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2020 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Mrs S Jay – Deputy Clerk to the Council

The Mayor, Cllr S Austen **Cllr R Morgan** **Cllr E Carlsson Browne** **Cllr A Arnold**
Cllr M Rouse (left 7.28 pm) **Cllr C Phillips** Cllr I Lindsay Cllr E Every
Cllr A Whelan (left 8.30 pm) Cllr R Denness (left 7.23 pm)
(bold font indicates voting member of this committee)

1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies received.

2. To receive declarations of interests

There were no declarations of interests received.

3. To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on the 5th October 2020

The minutes of the last meeting held on 5th October 2020 were agreed by members and taken as signed by the Chairman, as a true record. Pages A04, A05 & A06 refer.

Cllr Every informed members, the Seating Working Party had been disbanded.

4. Recreation Areas

(i) Budget update, dated 10th November 2020 and to set budget for 2021/22

Members noted the budget update dated 10th November 2020, there were no significant variances.

Members agreed to set the budget for 2021/22 as per the budget circulated with the agenda dated 10th November 2020.

Cllr Philips advised that he has recently visited the recreation areas and all are in good order.

5. Cemetery

(i) To receive an update

Cllr Philips expressed his concern for some of the very old memorials in the cemetery that are deteriorating quickly. The Deputy Clerk reported that there is a Management of Memorials Policy and advised she would consult with the Estates Managers regarding this matter. **Action: SJ/RD/CP**

Cllr Morgan asked if there would be a fence/hedging planted along the perimeter of the cemetery with New Barns Avenue. The Deputy Clerk reported this would be fenced once the work to the area is completed. The area is due to be grass seeded and pathways laid in due course.

Cllr Lindsay queried the tree survey. The Deputy Clerk explained this is due to be received shortly.

(ii) Budget update, dated 10th November 2020 and to set budget for 2021/22

Members noted the budget update dated 10th November 2020, there were no significant variances. Members agreed to set the budget for 2021/22 as per the budget circulated with the agenda dated 10th November 2020.

Members agreed to the purchase of a tower lift at a cost of £4845 plus VAT from the equipment reserve heading. This will enable the Estates team to carry out working at height safely across all council services.

6. Christmas Lights –

(i) To receive an update

The Deputy Clerk advised the majority of the lights are now up. The tree will be installed on the 18th November at 2am and any work to be carried out on the Market Place will be done on a Monday, so as not to affect Ely Markets. Cllr Every reported that the volunteers would have appreciated more support from Councillors than they received. The volunteers were also helped this year by 6 USAF volunteers. The Deputy Clerk reported she had been in regular conversation with Mr Chinery-Colyer and that he would like to arrange to present certificates to the USAF volunteers in the spring with the Mayor

Action: SA

(ii) Budget update dated 10th November 2020 and to set budget for 2021/22

Members noted the budget update dated 10th November 2020, there were no significant variances. Members agreed to set the budget for 2021/22 as per the budget circulated with the agenda dated 10th November 2020.

Cllr Morgan proposed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, regarding agenda item 7, that this be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 be exercised. This was seconded by Cllr Phillips and unanimously agreed by members to go into Committee at the end of the meeting.

7. The Maltings Complex -to receive updates on:

(i) Maltings

Update from seating working party

The seating working party was resurrected

(ii) Maltings Cottage

(ii.i) To note ideas received for use of cottage and consider Cllr Morgan's email referred from the Personnel, finance & Governance committee

Members noted the ideas received from staff and councillors and noted Cllr Morgan's' email

(ii.ii) To receive update on work to cottage

Members were updated on the progress with the work to the cottage

(iii) Maltings Restaurant

(iii.i) To receive an update

Members discussed a request that had been received.

(iv) Budget updates dated 10th November for Maltings, restaurant & cottage

Members noted the budget update dated 10th November and discussed the budget for 2021/22

8. Local Need Housing Scheme issues & budget update dated 10th November 2020 and to set budget for 2021/22

Members noted the budget update dated 10th November, there were no significant variances. Members agreed to set the budget for 2021/22 as per the budget circulated with the agenda dated 10th November 2020. There were no issues to report.

9. Sessions House

(i) Members noted the budget update 10th November. The Deputy Clerk advised the budget for Sessions House would be set by the Personnel, Finance & Governance Committee as it contained many elements that are not relevant to the Assets Committee. Cllr Every reported she had requested an item to be put on the next Full Council agenda to form a 'Friends of Sessions House' group. This would consist of partners from the local community who can work together to create a cultural centre for Ely. The group would work with and report to the Assets Committee.

Action: EE

Members requested a budget update of the fixed costs be provided, which can be offset by the letting's income.

Action: SJ/TC

(ii) To note Zurich Inspection reports dated 20.10.20

Members noted the above report and that there were no faults reported with the platform lift in the courtroom and also the passenger lift.

10. To discuss the production of a letting's portfolio for all Council assets

Members agreed a lettings portfolio could be produced to promote the rooms and buildings the Council has to offer.

Action: EE

11. Any Other Business

There was no any other business.

12. Date of next meeting; 12th January 2021 at 7pm The meeting closed at 8.56pm

Due to enforced social distancing caused by the Coronavirus, this meeting took place by video communication, accessed by the Zoom meetings facility.