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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL  
CHAMBER AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY, 7TH MARCH 2011**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor, Cllr B Ashton

Cllr E Griffin-Singh

Cllr J Yates

Cllr S Overall

*Mrs P Beattie, Parishioner*

Cllr J Pearson

Cllr R Hobbs

Cllr S Friend-Smith

Cllr P Eden

*Inspector R Sissons*

Cllr N Covell

Cllr W Burton

Cllr A Winchester

Cllr M Rouse

*District Cllr J Friend-Smith*

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Chaplin, Bradney and Moakes.

**2. REQUEST INTENTION OF THOSE IN ATTENDANCE WHO WISH TO SPEAK ON  
AN AGENDA ITEM – as per standing order 60 b**

Mrs Beatty made an intention to speak on agenda item 11 and Inspector Sissons on agenda item 4.

**3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 7TH FEBRUARY & MATTERS  
ARISING**

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 7th February were agreed and signed as a true record.

Pages 1112, 1113, 1114 and 1115 refer.

Matters arising:- Page 1112, Item 3 – Cllr Eden agreed to update councillors regarding the contracted bus services in Item 12.

Page 1112, Item 3 – The next Section 106 meeting had been arranged for the 30th March at 9.30 am.

**4. QUESTION TIME**

The Mayor welcomed Inspector Robin Sissons, the new Ely Sector Inspector. Inspector Sissons informed members he had now been in post for just over a week. He gave them a brief history of his service in the police force. His main priorities would be anti-social behaviour, the designated public order around the Cathedral and he would also be concentrating on tackling drug related crimes. He wanted to work with the partners of the Community CCTV Partnership to make it a success. The Mayor thanked Inspector Sissons for attending the meeting.

*Inspector Sissons left the meeting at 7.10 pm.*

Cllr J Friend-Smith informed members he had passed on the e-mail relating to the play area on Morley Drive to the Clerk.

*Cllr J Friend-Smith left the meeting at 7.12 pm.*

*This item was discussed at the beginning of the meeting for the benefit of Mrs Beattie.*

## **11. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON AN APPLICATION TO STOP UP THE HIGHWAY OUTSIDE 54 AND 54B (LADDER HOUSE), QUAYSIDE, ELY**

*Mrs Beattie informed members of the history behind this application.*

Members unanimously agreed they would have no objection to this application and would support the stopping up of the highway.

*Mrs Beattie left the meeting at 7.20 pm.*

## **5. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT**

The Mayor had attended the Hereward/Ely Rotary Club quiz; the King's School Osmond Memorial Lecture; ESDAR AGM; Young Cambridgeshire's Got Talent; Rotary Club of Ely Big Band Night; Ely Railway Station workshop and the installation of the Rt Rev Stephen David Conway, 69th Bishop of Ely. He had also attended various meetings on behalf of the Council, on various issues such as CCTV, future development of Ely, Riverside, railway crossing seminar and new workshop.

## **6. PLANNING**

Reports of a planning committee meeting held on the 24th January 2011 and immediately prior to this meeting were received. Members requested Cllr Rouse call in the planning application for the Maltings Cottage at ECDC.

## **7. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS**

The following items for information only, were received:

Notification of tree work;- Cemetery Lodge, 58 High Barns, Ely; Langtree House, 39 Forehill, Ely; 18 Barton Road, Ely; 38 Parade Lane, Ely; Chapel Cottage, 11 Chapel Street, Ely; 2 Nutholt Lane, Ely; 26A Lynn Road, Ely; 14 Egremont Street, Ely; 92 Broad Street, Ely; 77 Deacons Lane, Ely.

## **8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(i) ADMINISTRATION – The Mayor presented a report of a meeting held on the 21st February, which was approved. The Council's insurance cover was currently being reviewed, and two additional quotes will be obtained. The wording of the lease for the Council's shared equity housing scheme was being re-examined to see if the clause regarding restrictions on who can buy the properties could be reworded. This would however, still need to ensure the properties are for local people. Cllr Yates had raised this at the Forum for Rural Housing and had been offered advice from two Housing Associations and two District Councils. Members unanimously approved the 5% increase to all cemetery fees, with effect from the 1st April 2011. It was also agreed to undertake a review of all fees to ensure costs are covered on all charges. The Internal Auditor's report from his first visit on the 10th February had been noted and members had no concerns. Copies of the amended draft Standing Orders were tabled to allow all councillors to make comments on these at the next Administration Committee meeting. The Mayor informed members that all 18 adopted policies and procedures of the Council, excluding the Standing Orders, had been reviewed by himself, the Deputy Mayor and the Clerk. There had been a few very minor changes. Members unanimously agreed these should now be approved and adopted. The Mayor then signed all 18 policies and procedures. Cllrs Burton and Griffin-Singh were appointed to undertake the review of the effectiveness of the system of internal audit for the Council. It had been agreed to adopt back to work interviews, following absences from work, with immediate effect. The next Council drop-in stall will be held on the Saturday market on the 4th June. Members unanimously agreed to proceed with updating the lease for the High Barns allotment site and recreation area, with Smiths Gore. However, the cost of £2500 was felt to be too high, and this will be looked at. Members had agreed to pay Capital Costs on an individual case basis, in relation to staff retirements. A member's seminar will be held on the 28th March to discuss how the Council works and what adjustments may be needed. A seminar to discuss the issues concerning Stuntney and the railway crossing will be arranged for June 2011. Work proposed to link the areas within the bund of the West of Ely, which had not been completed by the developers, will be discussed at the next Section 106 meeting.

**Committee Reports continued .....**

- (ii) STREET FURNITURE – Cllr Eden presented a report of a meeting held on the 14th February, which was approved. Members noted the update on the erection of the flagpole. A meeting between the County Council, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Cllr Eden will be arranged shortly to discuss street trading and pavement licensing in Ely. Members agreed to consider suitable locations for designated disabled access crossings within the parish. The Access Group will also consider this at their next meeting on the 18th March. Quotes will be obtained for the maintenance of the Council's streetlights. The County Council will continue to provide the energy for these.
- (iii) RECREATION & CEMETERY – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Hobbs informed members he had received a letter from a parishioner regarding an issue that had been discussed at a recent meeting, regarding permission for an image on a headstone. Members unanimously agreed that as copyright permission had been refused for this, this could not be pursued any further.
- (iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – No report as committee had not met.
- (v) ELY IN BLOOM – No report as Committee had not met.
- (vi) ELY/RIBE – No report as no meeting had taken place.
- (vii) YOUTH COUNCIL – The Youth Council had met on the 2nd March. Cllr Yates reported that there had been a good attendance by the members. He would produce notes of the meeting.
- (viii) CCTV – No report as Committee had not met.

**9. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

City of Ely Perspective Riverside Group – minutes of a meeting held on the 8th February were noted.  
Community Event committee – Cllr Yates tabled notes for a meeting held on the 15th March, which were noted. Cllr Yates informed members there would be expenditure for additional bunting, hire of a hoist and Red Cross cover on the day. Members unanimously approved expenditure of £750 to cover these costs from the Section 137 budget heading. The bunting will be put up, the weekend of the 16th and 17th April.

**10. TO CONSIDER LETTER FROM CAMBS COUNTY COUNCIL REGARDING HIGHWAY WARDENS**

Members unanimously agreed to wait with interest, results from the pilot schemes undertaken before they made any formal decision on Highway Wardens.

**12. TO DISCUSS LETTER FROM CAMBS COUNTY COUNCIL REGARDING PROPOSED CHANGES TO BUS SERVICES FOR APRIL 2011**

Cllr Eden tabled a full report on the proposed changes to the bus services, the effect these would have and some recommendations. Members agreed separate letters should be sent by the Deputy Mayor to Cambs County Council and Stagecoach. All parishes, district councillors and county councillors will also be written to encouraging them to raise their concerns regarding these changes. Cllr Eden will draft the letters.

**13 . CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was noted:  
Clerks & Councils Direct

#### 14. FINANCE

The following were approved for payment:

| <b>PAYEE</b>                      | <b>AMOUNT</b> | <b>CHQ NO</b>                            |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--|
| Tiscali                           | 18.79         | pd by direct debit                       |
| Internet Marketing Company        | 24.00         | pd by direct debit                       |
| Ely Museum                        | 252.00        | 108169                                   |
| E.ON                              | 163.09        | 108170                                   |
| East Cambs District Council       | 5855.22       | 108171                                   |
| Avery Weigh-Tronix                | 9.32          | 108172                                   |
| MiJan Ltd                         | 34.20         | 108173                                   |
| British Telecommunications        | 54.00         | pd by direct debit                       |
| Screwfix                          | 79.14         | 108174                                   |
| Nochex                            | 68.57         | credit card payment – pd by direct debit |
| Vistaprint UK                     | 8.49          | credit card payment – pd by direct debit |
| City Cycle Centre                 | 6.11          | 108175                                   |
| V & J Knitwear Ltd                | 42.30         | 108179                                   |
| Allen's Skip Hire Ltd             | 84.00         | 108176                                   |
| Mr M Pinion                       | 11.84         | 108177                                   |
| ESPO                              | 33.52         | 108178                                   |
| Henderson Electrical Services Ltd | 118.98        | 108180                                   |
| G & J Peck Ltd                    | 48.49         | 108181                                   |
| Lunchbox                          | 312.00        | 108182                                   |
| 1st Call (Hire & Sales) Ltd       | 33.60         | 108183                                   |
| ESPO                              | 94.49         | pd by direct debit                       |
| Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd          | 38.28         | 108184                                   |
| Stoke Ferry Timber Ltd            | 48.00         | 108185                                   |

#### Payments relating to staff since meeting on 7th February 2011

|                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Salaries and wages        | £7658.74 (pd by BACS) |
| Inland Revenue (tax & NI) | £2311.05 (pd by BACS) |
| Pension fund payments     | £1823.17 (pd by BACS) |

**Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 28th February 2011, which was tabled.**