



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN THE VERNON CROSS ROOM, ELY MUSEUM, MARKET STREET, ELY AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY 7TH APRIL 2014

PRESENT:

The Mayor, Cllr E Griffin-Singh
Cllr A Arnold
Cllr M Rouse
Cllr R Hobbs

Deputy Mayor, Cllr E Every
Cllr J Yates
Cllr N Clarke
Cllr J Tyrrell

Cllr C Phillips
Cllr B Ashton
Cllr G Barber
Cllr J Pearson

Mrs V Holden (parishioner) District Cllr S Friend-Smith
Mrs M Haynes

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no requests for dispensations and no declarations of interest requested.

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

Mrs Holden and Mrs Haynes declared an intention to speak on agenda items 4 and 13. District Cllr S Friend-Smith declared an intention to speak on agenda item 5.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 10TH MARCH AND MATTERS ARISING. MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON THE 24TH MARCH AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 10th March were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1325, 1326, 1327, 1328, 1329 and 1330 refer.

Matters arising:- Page 1325, item 4 – Mrs Holden informed members that she was not sure if the Stained Glass Museum had obtained their funding from the National Lottery, as she had stated at the previous meeting. Page 1328, item 15 – Cllr Yates informed members the planning application for the Magistrates Court had now been submitted. Mrs Holden reminded Cllr Yates that the Access Group had been told they would see the plans before they were submitted. Cllr Yates confirmed that he and Cllr Every would be arranging to meet with her to discuss these plans. The Clerk reported that the quote for the painting of the columns had been received and was in the region of £2000.

The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting, held on the 24th March, were discussed in Committee at the end of the meeting. Page 1331 – it was agreed an addition to these minutes was needed and these would subsequently be corrected and then approved at the next meeting.

5. QUESTION TIME

The Mayor informed those present that item 14 would be discussed in Committee at the end of the meeting. Due to the confidential nature of this item, members of the public would be excluded from the meeting.

District Cllr S Friend-Smith asked if members had received details regarding a planning application to extend the time limit for the temporary Post Office, for a further five months, until September. The Clerk confirmed this had been received today and would be considered at the next Planning Committee meeting. She informed members of a Festival that ECDC was sponsoring, which runs from the 11th June to 13th July. She also asked if the Council had made any progress with regard to the cobbles.

Cllr Rouse responded that the County Council will be having a meeting regarding the cobbles. This will involve cyclists, County Council reps etc. There needs to be agreement on the way forward. It is hoped to have smooth strips on cobbles for cyclists. Cllr Rouse also reported that Mott McDonald have been surveying Lisle Lane regarding the provision of a cycle lane. They had also been looking at Broad Street/Back Hill area, which could include the extension of the 20 mph speed limit and the removal of some of the parking on Station Road. When the plans have been finalised, the City of Ely Council will be consulted. New play equipment is currently being installed in the Country Park, which will improve the area greatly. The question of provision of toilets in this area may need to be considered in the future.

6. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor in February had attended the Barns Voice AGM; the Voluntary Centre Dragons Den Grant Awards; Ely College Careers Event; Pos+Ability AGM and the Chairman of ECDC's Civic Event. In March she had attended her Under 18 drop-in; G's of Barway Employment Recruitment Day; Ely's Bollywood Fair on behalf of the Mayor's Charity; meeting with local Muslim community representatives; K9 Cafe at the Cathedral Centre; Ted Coney Exhibition at ADeC Babylon Gallery; City of Ely Flower Club open evening and the Devil Dyke Morris Men Dinner for the Morris Ring of England.

The Deputy Mayor had attended the Stuntney Village Council meeting; a Governors meeting of Ely St John's and the reopening of The Almonry following its refurbishment. The former Mayor of Ely, Minnesota, USA had visited Ely and meet up with Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Cllr Hobbs requested that on all correspondence from the Mayor, it should always read 'the Right Worshipful the Mayor of the City of Ely'.

7. PLANNING

Reports of a Planning Committee meeting held on the 24th February 2014 and immediately prior to this meeting were received.

8. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following items for information only, were received:

Notification of tree work:- 34 Annesdale, Ely; 28 Cambridge Road, Ely; 20 New Barns Road, Ely
The Clerk

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) FINANCE AND PERSONNEL – The Mayor presented a report of a meeting held on the 24th March, which was approved. Members unanimously approved the adoption of the Project Funding Report. The annual review of the Council's adopted policies and procedures was noted and members unanimously agreed approval and adoption of these documents. The Mayor signed all of these documents. Two requests regarding the shared equity scheme were considered and approved. Members approved the recommendations within the report, prepared by the Committees Working Party, regarding the restructuring of the Council Committees and Working Groups and the structure chart. These changes will be implemented from the 12th May 2014.

(ii) STREET FURNITURE – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be held on the 14th April.

Committee Reports continued

(iii) RECREATION AND CEMETERY – Cllr Clarke presented a report of a meeting held on the 31st March, which was approved. Three quotes had been received for a zip wire at St John’s play area, and members unanimously agreed to accept the Wicksteed Leisure quote, at a cost of £8527.36. Section 106 funds will be applied for this project. Although members had agreed to accept a quote for fencing at High Barns play area, the Clerk informed members that because this was over £2500, a further two quotes needed to be obtained. Since this meeting, one had been obtained from Kestrel Fencing at a cost of £4116.57, which was lower than the original quote. However, a third quote was still being obtained. Members gave authority to the Chairman of the Committee to accept the lowest quote, when the third one had been received.

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – No report as Committee had not met.

(v) ELY IN BLOOM – The Mayor presented a report of a meeting held on the 18th March, which was approved. Members had agreed that the Ely in Bloom Committee would become part of the Street Furniture Committee. A Working Group , similar to that of the current sub-group, would be formed that would meet when necessary to discuss and make decisions, regarding the practical issues of the planting in Ely.

(vi) ASSETS & ACQUISTIONS – No report as Committee had not met.

(vi) ELY/RIBE – No report as not met. The next meeting will be on the 15th April.

(vii) YOUTH FORUM – No report as not met. Cllr Yates informed members that although the group had not met, they have been busy in the background. They have been working with Centre 33 and the County Council, regarding establishing the possible provision of a drop-in centre in Ely for youths. This could be held at the Centre E in Barton Road. This is leased by the Ely Forum, who they are hoping to meet with soon. It was agreed they would continue to work on the possible opportunities and report back to a future Full Council meeting, with some firm ideas and plans. Cllr Every reported that through the Community Safety Project she had helped the Youth Club submit a bid for funding of £2000.

10. WORKING PARTIES/STEERING GROUPS REPORTS

The Mayor proposed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the following matter 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 Every and unanimously agreed. *Due to the confidential nature of this item, this was discussed in Committee at the end of the meeting.*

CCTV - a verbal report was given in Committee at the end of the meeting.

11. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Prickwillow Village Council – minutes of a meeting held on the 3rd March were noted.

City of Ely Perspective Riverside Group – minutes of a meeting held on the 11th March were noted.

City of Ely Perspective Design & Marketing Group – minutes of a meeting held on the 18th March were noted.

Members noted that the Perspective Groups would be merging into one group.

12. CITY OF ELY RIVERSIDE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

Members noted the schedule of proposed works for the Riverside, drawn up by ECDC's City of Ely Riverside Improvement Scheme. Cllr Every proposed that the City of Ely Council continue to explore these proposals and obtain costings. This was seconded by Cllr Clarke and unanimously approved. This would be discussed further at a Finance and Personnel Committee meeting.

13. FUTURE FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS VENUE

The Mayor had raised this item due to the fact that meetings had been changed to the Vernon Cross Room at Ely Museum only until May. As the Magistrates Court would not be ready for the Council to move into until approximately August, members needed to agree whether to extend the change of venue until then. Cllr Hobbs said he was not happy with the present location. After discussing other possible locations it was unanimously agreed to continue the meetings at Ely Museum until the Magistrates Court was ready. Mrs Holden informed members that she felt people feel alienated at Council meetings as they do not have all the information to follow the meeting. It was agreed that minute packs could be made available to people attending future meetings.

14. COUNCIL SERVICES

The Mayor proposed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the following matter 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 Every and unanimously agreed. *Due to the confidential nature of this item, this was discussed in Committee at the end of the meeting.*

15. FINANCE

Members approved the following for payment:

Talk Talk	15.31	paid by direct debit
Internet Marketing Company	24.00	paid by direct debit
Barclays	29.18	paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	269.42	paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	643.58	paid by direct debit
ESPO	115.59	paid by direct debit
ESPO	71.85	paid by direct debit
ESPO	63.51	paid by direct debit
ESPO	101.42	paid by direct debit
Rural Citizens Advice Bureau	2700.00	109437 – <i>it was agreed to review this grant at a F & P meeting</i>
City of Ely Allotments Assoc	298.50	109438
Konica Minolta	334.25	109439
East of England LGA	2160.00	109440
RJH Technical Consultancy Ltd	2400.00	109441
Countryside Services	960.00	109442
ESPO	2.71	109443
City Cycle Centre	4.32	109444
G & J Peck Ltd	125.35	109445
Anglian Water	41.99	109446
Festive Lights Ltd	1822.00	109447
Anglian Water	22.51	109448
Hayden's Arboricultural Consultants	559.20	109449
G & J Peck Ltd	27.71	109450
ESPO	81.12	109451
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	84.00	109452
Smiths Gore	251.50	109453
Wilder Plan Ltd	112.54	109454
G & J Peck Ltd	41.04	109464
Stoke Ferry Timber Ltd	112.80	109463
ESPO	61.32	109462
Local World Ltd	72.00	109461
CCTV Volunteer	24.00	109457
CCTV Volunteer	19.20	109460
CCTV Volunteer	16.00	109470
CCTV Volunteer	38.40	109459
CCTV Volunteer	9.87	109458
Zurich Municipal	14647.65	109456
ICCM	90.00	109455
ECDC	375.00	paid by direct debit
ECDC	528.75	paid by direct debit
Cooleraid Ltd	14.22	109465
St Mary's PCC	115.00	109466
G & J Peck Ltd	89.83	109467
ESPO	12.90	109468
Information Commissioner	35.00	109469
British Telecommunications	72.91	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	207.34	paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	258.07	paid by direct debit

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 10th March 2014

Salaries and wages	£8322.09
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£2138.97
Pension fund payments	£3124.38

To note and approve the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 31st March 2014 -
This will be approved at the next meeting.

Mrs Holden and District Cllr S Friend-Smith left the meeting at 8.10 pm.