



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2012**

PRESENT:

Mayor, Cllr W Burton

Cllr S Overall

Cllr R Hobbs

Cllr P Eden (arrived 7.15 pm)

9 Residents from The Paddock, Ely

Ms J Thompson, ECDC

Cllr J Yates

Cllr J Chaplin

Cllr E Griffin-Singh

Cllr B Ashton

Cllr A Brear

Cllr E Every

District Cllr S Friend-Smith

Ms K Child, ECDC Ms S Ratcliffe, ECDC

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Arnold and Clarke.

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

District Cllr S Friend-Smith and Mr Howell, resident of the Paddock declared an intention to speak on item 16.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 20TH AUGUST & MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 20th August were agreed, and signed as a true record. Pages 1211, 1212, 1213, 1214, 1215 and 1216 refer.

Matters arising:- Page 1212, Item 10 – Cllr Yates informed members, he and Cllr Eden had met with the ECDC Licensing Officer to discuss ECDC's draft Street Collection Policy. Following this meeting comments, on behalf of the Council had been submitted in writing.

Item 16 was moved to the beginning of the agenda, due to the number of residents in attendance for this item,

**16. TO CONSIDER LETTER FROM RESIDENTS OF THE PADDOCK REGARDING PARKING ISSUES
IN THIS AREA**

Mr Howell spoke on behalf of the residents, on the letter which had been submitted to the Council, regarding the problems they are experiencing with people parking in the Paddock. The Mayor said the Council had sympathy with their problem, which is endemic throughout Ely. Unfortunately dealing with the culture of people who park their cars in residential areas is extremely difficult.

District Cllr S Friend-Smith felt that the problem in the Paddock was not common to other areas, as it is city workers parking there all day. She requested the Council look at several areas of Ely that have this sort of problem and try to resolve these problems in one go. She said this had been raised at the Ely Neighbourhood Panel meeting and this suggestion made.

Mr Howell suggested that parking could be restricted to one side of the road, as currently people are double parking. The Mayor reported that he would be attending a meeting with a County Council Highways Officer on Thursday, to discuss various traffic and highway issues and would ensure this is also discussed. It was agreed that following this meeting, a group of councillors would meet with representatives of the residents, to discuss their ideas and try and find ways to resolve these issues.

The 9 residents left the meeting at 7.20 pm.

4. PRESENTATION BY SARAH RATCLIFFE AND KATIE CHILD, ECDC REGARDING THE DRAFT LOCAL POLICIES FOR ELY AND THE HAMLETS

Sarah Ratcliffe and Katie Child had attended the meeting to obtain comments from members regarding the draft Local Policies for Ely and the Hamlets. They explained that these were informal working drafts for Ely and the Hamlets and included plans and policies for these areas for the next 20 years. They will form chapters in the Local Plan, which should be published at the end of the year. Members raised their concerns regarding the following:-

The Station Gateway

Infill and garden issues – ECDC confirmed they were currently looking at this and will involve the City of Ely Council in this.

Growth in retail – felt this will decline and this does not show what could happen.

Education provision – the proposed post 16 plus skills facility had been omitted. It was confirmed that this was being considered for inclusion in the development of the North of Ely, but needed more consideration.

Volume of comparison goods retail activity – need much more flexible response. Would hope to end up with a much higher comparison of goods.

It was felt there was not enough emphasis being put on the need for the bypass, which was thought very important and should be highlighted. Sarah Ratcliffe confirmed they were waiting the County Council's decision on the proposed site, which had come in today. This will now enable them to improve this section.

The North ward development did not include any dwellings which could be doubled up to offices and felt there was a need for flexible units that could also be used for both residential and business. Sarah Ratcliffe agreed to include this within this section.

Felt Policy 2 needed to be more complex and involved than as at present.

Transport – felt there was not enough emphasis to encourage people to use other alternatives and the paragraph that included the bus services needs to be amended. It does not include the Sainsbury's funded bus, Octagon Park and Lancaster Way. These will all bring cash to improve the bus services.

Prickwillow – requested priority 2 be changed to priority 1, for the upgrade of the broadband service. Also needs to include a paragraph regarding potential attractions such as the Steam Engine Museum which would bring people into the village.

More affordable housing within new developments.

City of Ely Council would be delighted to receive land so they could undertake another low cost housing scheme.

It was agreed any further suggestions would be channelled through the Clerk to pass on to the ECDC officers.

The Council will be able to make further comments when the Local Plan is produced for consultation in November/December.

Sarah Ratcliffe and Katie Child left the meeting at 7.45 pm.

5. TO DISCUSS REPORT FROM ECDC'S ELY TRAFFIC AND ENVIRONMENT STUDY WITH ECDC OFFICER JANE THOMPSON IN ATTENDANCE

Jane Thompson had attended the meeting to inform members of the outcome of the recent consultation activities as part of the the Ely Traffic and Environment Study. She would also be seeking comments and views from members on the emerging Project List, including their priorities for funding.

Members made the following comments:-

It was felt that parking restrictions could not be quick wins as other factors in the area need to be considered as well. The County Council should be requested to redo the cycle markings as this is part of their responsibility and should not come out of the Sainsbury's Section 106 funding.

Felt the improved signage of Forehill should be a priority. The Street Furniture Committee and the City Centre Forum had both supported this signage, which had been costed at approximately £15,000.

Need to improve the general sense and feel of the town street scene from Lisle Lane up to Forehill. This would then support the pedestrians, cyclists and shoppers moving around the town.

Problems with HGV within City. Need an HGV exclusion zone.

Members felt it was very important that this money was not frittered away.

Jane Thompson would incorporate these comments into the Project List which will be considered at the ECDC's Development and Transport Committee on the 3rd October.

It was agreed the Mayor and Deputy Mayor would meet with the Chief Executive and Leader of ECDC to discuss their concerns regarding the level of involvement the City of Ely Council should have in the allocation of this money.

Jane Thompson left the meeting at 8.15 pm.

6. QUESTION TIME

District Cllr S Friend-Smith informed members of the possible redevelopment of Croylands. The Clerk reported that a resident had contacted the Mayor, raising his concerns regarding this redevelopment. District Cllr Friend-Smith also informed members that the final plan for Steeple Row was being submitted to ECDC with the latest revisions. The bin store was the only thing holding it up now.

7. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended the Paralympic Flame welcome and the Court House inspection and review. The Deputy Mayor had attended the dedication of Diamond Jubilee tree in Jubilee Gardens and the Ely in Bloom Awards.

8. PLANNING

Reports of a Planning Committee meeting held on the 3rd September 2012 and immediately prior to this meeting were received.

9. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following items for information only, were received:

Notification of tree work:- playing field Heaton Drive, Ely; 8 Vineyard Way, Ely; 2 Station Road, Ely; 2 New Barns Road, Ely; 8 Vines Court, Ely; 1 Merrifield Gardens, Ely

Notification of street naming and numbering:- Knab Rock, 5 Houghton Gardens, Ely

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) ADMINISTRATION – The Mayor presented a report of a meeting held on the 10th September, which had been tabled. This was unanimously approved. The budget update, dated the 14th September was noted. There were no significant variances. The recommendations for the grants allocated under Section 137 were unanimously approved by members and will be added to the list of approved payments. Awards were also made to Prickwillow Village Council and Ely Museum. The revised Committee Membership list with CCTV, City Centre Forum and Localism Advisory now becoming Working Parties/Steering Groups instead of Committees, was unanimously approved. The Committee structures and membership will be reviewed in January. The draft standing orders regarding income were unanimously approved and adopted. Members approved and adopted the criteria for the recognition of commendable people who have served the community. Members agreed that Councillors could respond as individuals on Shape your Place, but should make sure they make it clear that the comments are their own and not the opinion of the Council. Any issues that the Council may need to respond to, will be acknowledged and then placed on the next Full Council agenda for discussion.

Cllr Chaplin left the meeting at 8.45 pm.

(ii) STREET FURNITURE – No report as Committee had not met.

(iii) RECREATION & CEMETERY – Cllr Every presented a report of a meeting held the 3rd September, which was approved. Repairs to equipment at St John's Road and Willow Walk play areas will be undertaken when a second quotation is obtained. The maximum cost of this would be £2816. Three quotes cannot be obtained for this work, as the equipment required is Wicksteed manufactured. A request from a staff member regarding a reduction in their hours had been received. It had been unanimously agreed to offer a contract of 60 hours per month. Members had agreed to make the High Barns recreation field 'no dogs allowed'.

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Chaplin confirmed that the lights would be reconfigured this year due to the issues regarding the light columns.

(v) ELY IN BLOOM – Cllr Overall presented a report of a meeting held on the 12th September, which had been tabled. This was approved. It was generally agreed that the baskets had looked very good and had lasted well. A lot of positive feedback had also been received. The Ely in Bloom competitions had been a great success. A quote was being obtained from ECDC for the winter planting. ECDC had confirmed that they would not be able to offer the planting up and watering of the hanging baskets next year.

(vi) ELY/RIBE – No report as had not met.

(vii) YOUTH FORUM – No report as had not met.

(viii) CCTV – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be on the 25th September.

Committee Reports continued

- (ix) LOCALISM ADVISORY – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be on the 1st October.
- (x) CITY CENTRE FORUM – Cllr Yates presented a report of a meeting held on the 12th September, which had been tabled. This was approved. The BIDS Working Party is undertaking further investigation to decide if it would be worth promoting a bid application. The Forum, in conjunction with the Street Furniture Committee is looking at the existing tourist finger point signage and also new signage relating to information on shops in passageways. Discussions had also taken place about possible events, the evening culture and the Market Place.

11. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

City of Ely Allotments Association – minutes of a meeting held on the 15th August were noted.

12. TO COMMENT ON A LOCALISM REQUEST FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF A SECTION OF AT ANY TIME PARKING RESTRICTIONS IN ANGEL SQUARE, ELY

Members supported the request for the introduction of a section of at any time parking restrictions in Angel Square, Ely. However, they felt there was a need to look at the big picture of the parking problems in this area as a whole.

13. TO COMMENT ON ECDC’S DRAFT REVISED STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES UNDER THE GAMBLING ACT 2005

Members fully supported the proposed revised Statement of Principles under the Gambling Act 2005.

14. TO RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF AN APPLICATION TO MODIFY A PLANNING OBLIGATION UNDER SECTION 106A OF THE TOWN AND PLANNING ACT 1990 BY THE CHURCH COMMISSIONERS ELY ESTATE

Members noted the application to modify a planning obligation from the Church Commissioners Ely Estate.

15. TO CONSIDER LETTER FROM PARISHIONER REGARDING LARK BANK, PRICKWILLOW

Members noted the letter from the parishioner regarding the highway at Lark Bank, Prickwillow. Although they sympathised with the resident, unfortunately the problems are the responsibility of the County Council. The Clerk informed members that she had received an update from the County Council. This stretch of highway has been allocated drought damaged funding and is now on a list for this to be repaired. However, this could take up to 2 years before the work is undertaken, as there are other roads with a much higher priority. The County Council had suggested the work could be undertaken sooner if the City of Ely Council could provide funding under the Localism Act. Members confirmed there was no money within the Council's budget to fund this.

Item 16 was moved to the beginning of the agenda, due to the number of residents in attendance for this item. It was discussed after item 3.

16. TO CONSIDER LETTER FROM RESIDENTS OF THE PADDOCK REGARDING PARKING ISSUES IN THIS AREA

See page 1217.

17. TO CONSIDER E-MAIL FROM CAMBS COUNTY COUNCIL REGARDING ISSUES FOR DISABLED PERSONS CROSSING OF MARKET STREET, ELY

Cllr Overall advised that some of the issues with the disabled scooters were due to the scooters not being fit for purpose. Unfortunately, with the Market Place being a subject of public consultation and possibly being redeveloped in the future, they felt that spending money in this area at the present time may be wasted.

18. TO COMMENT ON REQUEST FOR LICENCE PERMISSION TO POSITION TABLES AND CHAIRS ON THE PUBLIC HIGHWAY IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 SECTION 115E – RE MINSTER TAVERN, 1 MINISTER PLACE, ELY

Members fully supported the request for licence permission to position tables and chairs on the public highway with regard to the Minster Tavern, 1 Minister Place, Ely.

19. CORRESPONDENCE

Members noted the following correspondence:-

Clerks & Councils Direct	The Clerk Magazine	LCR
	1220	

.....
MAYOR
15th October 2012

20. FINANCE

The following were approved for payment:

PAYEE	AMOUNT	CHQ NO
ECDC	360.00	paid by direct debit
ECDC	506.00	paid by direct debit
Talk Talk	15.31	paid by direct debit
Internet Marketing Company	24.00	paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	538.42	paid by direct debit
Oz-UK Innovations	12343.80	108768
Mr R Delahaye	5.52	108767
Premier Decorations Ltd	2257.56	108769
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	40.10	108770
RBS Software Solutions	200.40	108771
Isle Interactive Ltd	90.00	108772
CCTV Volunteer	38.40	108773
CCTV Volunteer	47.45	108774
CCTV Volunteer	9.87	108775
Balfour Beatty	450.36	108776
Barclays	27.55	paid by direct debit
ESPO	160.57	108777
Deeping Direct Deliveries	38.40	108778
Ely Tool Hire Ltd	50.40	108779
Quadrant Security Group	502.56	108780
1st Call (Hire & Sales) Ltd	16.63	108781
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	6.60	108782
Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd	96.56	108783
ECDC	5658.00	108784
G & J Peck Ltd	53.66	108791
Jewson Ltd	26.98	108786
Mr J Hannaford	100.00	108787
Konica Minolta Business Solutions East	119.90	108788
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	34.00	108789
S Overall	34.98	108790
ECDC	16.20	108792
Quadrant Security Group Ltd	1397.38	108793
Cooleraid Ltd	4.80	108794
Cambridge Newspapers Ltd	66.00	108798
CCTV Volunteer	8.99	108795
Francotype-Postalia Ltd	100.00	paid by direct debit
ESPO	38.00	paid by direct debit
ESPO	45.92	paid by direct debit
Konica Minolta	257.90	108797
EARTH	950.00	108801
Vol & Community Action East Cambs	400.00	108802
Vitalise	453.75	108803
Ely Runners	250.00	108804
Ely & District Cycling Club	250.00	108805
City of Ely & District Horticultural Soc	800.00	108806
Ely City WI	150.00	108807
Stuntney Village Council	100.00	108808
Relate Cambrige	500.00	108809
East Cambs Neighbourhood Watch Assoc	200.00	108810
Centre 33	500.00	108811
2nd Ely (St Mary's) Scout Group	400.00	108812
Camboccia	250.00	108813

Finance continued

Cambridge & Ely Child Contact Centres Ltd	500.00	108814
City of Ely Cricket Club	250.00	108815
Ely Choral Society	250.00	108816
Ely Soham Dial-a-Ride	500.00	108817
Ely & East Cambs Arts Festival Soc	500.00	108818
Queen Adelaide Village Hall	200.00	108819
The Garage Youth Theatre	500.00	108820
ADeC	420.00	108821
Cambridgheshire Search & Rescue	1000.00	108822
Ely King's Basketball Club	500.00	108823
Prickwillow Village Council	100.00	108824
Ely Museum	1076.00	108825
Citizens Advice Bureau	2700.00	108826

Payments relating to staff since meeting on 20th August 2012

Salaries and wages	£8995.60
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£1782.20
Pension fund payments	£2613.36

Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 31st August 2012, which was tabled.