



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN ECDC COUNCIL CHAMBER,
THE GRANGE, NUTHOLT LANE, ELY AT 7.00 PM ON
MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2015**

PRESENT:

The Mayor, Cllr E Every
Cllr A Arnold
Cllr B Ashton
Cllr S Pittock

Deputy Mayor, Cllr J Yates
Cllr R Hobbs
Cllr I Lindsay

Cllr C Phillips
Cllr N Clarke
Cllr M Rouse

3 parishioners

District Cllr J Friend-Smith

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs Griffin-Singh, Pearson, Whelan and Barber.

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and other interests from Councillors as per Standing Order 83b were received.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 9TH FEBRUARY AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 9th February were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1401, 1402, 1403, 1404, 1405 and 1406 refer.

Matters arising: Page 1402, item 6 – The Mayor informed members that Phase 2 of the Sessions House will be discussed later in the meeting. The Clerk also informed members that the concerns raised by District Cllr Austen regarding three highway issues had been raised with the Highways Department of Cambs County Council. A response had been received, confirming that the disabled bays in Market Street would not be moved when Anglian Water undertook their planned work. She had not received any response regarding the other two issues.

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.

Cllr Rouse, in his capacity as a County Councillor reported that the County Council were making progress with Lisle Lane regarding the double yellow lining. This will be going to the Highways Committee next Tuesday, with a recommendation to approve Lisle Close, Lisle Lane and small section of Willow Walk. Next year there are plans to resurface Lisle Lane, with investigational work still continuing regarding a cycleway. He had also had meetings with Network Rail regarding the dualling of the Ely to Soham track. Local consultations will be taking place next week. He was concerned that they were not doing the whole section between Ely to Soham. They need to obtain a

Question Time continued

certain capacity, which they can do without doing it all. He reported that King's Avenue had not been adopted due to broken sewer pipes. Anglian Water will not approve until Barrett undertakes this repair work. The County Council will also not adopt until this has been undertaken. It was agreed that Barretts should be contacted to request they complete this work as soon as possible.

Cllr Hobbs in his capacity as a District Councillor reported that he was still in discussion with the residents of Dovehouse Close, regarding the parking issues in this area. Cllr Rouse confirmed the County Council had received the petition from the residents. The Commercial Services Committee had now approved the Moorings regulations and now had control, with new regulations in place. They will be moving this forward. The new cinema planning application will be going to ECDC's Planning Committee in April.

District Cllr J Friend-Smith was concerned regarding the South of Ely. He had been in touch with ECDC's solicitor regarding land at Morley Drive/Meadow Way. She reported that this land is likely to be transferred into the ownership of ECDC very shortly. He hoped the new pathway could be funded through Section 106. It now appears that Alexander Chase is also unadopted, along with some other roads. He felt this was unacceptable and should not be allowed to continue. County Council are still waiting for the developer to complete. He hoped that pressure could be applied to sort this out. There are parking issues outside of St John's Primary School at the start and end of the day. He said that it was important children get to their primary schools without danger. He suggested there should be double yellow lines outside the school. The Mayor, as a Governor at the school, agreed to ask at the next meeting if the school wished assistance in resolving this issue.

The Mayor informed District Cllr Friend-Smith that the application for the new pathway at Morley Drive/Meadow Way had not been successful under the Minor Highways Improvement Scheme. A letter had been sent to Mr John Hill, ECDC Chief Executive, requesting this be considered under Section 106 funding. She also confirmed the Council had started to collect information regarding unadopted roads and will hopefully try and move these forward.

Linda Franklin, a parishioner, informed members she was registered blind and was very concerned regarding the number of obstructions on the pavement in the City centre. She had walked down the High Street and had encountered four metal sheets with heavy concrete bases, a metal chair and a table and chair. When she is out she has to feel her way with care. There appears to be more and more obstructions, which are a great hazard. She had visited ECDC to report these, but was told it was not their responsibility. She felt it should be someone's responsibility.

Cllr Yates said he shared her concerns and the Council had tried hard in the past to take responsibility for some of these matters. He agreed to meet with her outside of the meeting and will then discuss the issue with the County Council.

Mrs V Holden, a parishioner thanked the Council for their persistence in getting the Post Office into a permanent position, along with District Cllr Friend-Smith. She said that the Access Group and herself were aware that the Council was having meetings where access could not be gained. She said that she was prepared to take the Council to court if they did not find a place which was suitable.

The Mayor reported the Council was looking carefully at the situation and will be starting the process of Stage 2 of the Sessions House. She will be kept informed of the progress made. Mrs Holden confirmed that she would not wait forever. Cllr Lindsay will be attending one of the Access Group meetings.

6. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended the British Chamber of Commerce conference in London; had been interviewed by Ofsted as Governor of St John's Primary School; East Cambridgeshire's Careers Fair at Ely College; the City Centre Forum Sub-Group meeting; the High Sheriff's Award at Cottenham Village College, ECDC Civic Reception, Traid Craft Fair, Girl Guiding 'Thinking Day'; Isle of Ely Festival Committee meeting; Ely Rotary lunch meeting; Inner Wheel Charter evening and the Chamber of Commerce Skills Event in Stamford. She had also supported ADeC as duty manager for an event at the Maltings; Skills Planning meeting at Ely College; Ward meetings with residents; meeting with Cambs ACRE and a visit to Mildenhall Air Base to present certificates in connection with Christmas Lights.

The Deputy Mayor had attended the Osmond Memorial Lecture at the King's School.

District Cllr J Friend-Smith left the meeting at 7.40 pm.

7. PLANNING

Reports of a Planning Committee meeting held on the 23rd February 2015 and immediately prior to this meeting were received from Cllr Yates.

8. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following information only items were received:-

Notification of tree work:- 24 Cromwell Road, Ely; 17 St Mary's Street, Ely; 16 The Vineyards, Ely; 16 Mulberry Way, Ely; 39 Waterside, Ely; Bridge House, 1 Bridge Road, Ely

Notification of road closures:- Chettisham Station LC, Lynn Road, Ely (9.5.15-11.5.15); Shippea Hill LC, Mildenhall Road, Shippea Hill (23-24.6.15 and 24-25.5.15); Queen Adelaide LC, Ely Road, Queen Adelaide (25-26.5.15 and 26-27.5.15)

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE – The Mayor presented a report of a meeting held on the 23rd February, which was approved. Cllr Ashton requested the minutes be changed when approved at the next Committee meeting to read 'The Clerk will look at the systems available and the cost of having a third party input this on the Council's systems, with a firm intention of implementing a new system for the 2015/16 accounts'. This statement is in relation to a new accounting package. It was agreed the Chairman should write to John Hill, Chief Executive of ECDC requesting the Council wished to see a resolution to the current problem regarding the need of a new pathway linking Morley Drive and Meadow Way. As an application through the Local Highway Improvement Initiative was unsuccessful, this should now be funded through Section 106. Members unanimously agreed the annual increase in the shared equity scheme's rent and administration charges. This is the RPI at the end of January, which was 1.1%. This will equate to a 30p increase per month. The Chairman informed members the website specification was on Source Cambridgeshire and the deadline for the tender submissions was the 9th March. A drop-in will be held shortly at Sessions House, with tours of the building being offered. A report from Cheffins on the possible rental of the Maltings Cottage had been noted. Members agreed that Cllr Yates and Clarke should obtain a clearer estimate on the costs of renovating the Cottage, as to the approved planning permission.

A request had been received from the City of Ely Allotments Association for the transfer of the funds held by the City of Ely Council on their behalf. Members unanimously agreed this money could be given to them to manage. Members had discussed the appropriate location of the Council's boards and pictures and agreed to submit suggestions to the Clerk. They would also make suggestions regarding the meetings and the logistics of these.

(ii) ENVIRONMENT – Cllr Arnold presented a report of a meeting held on the 24th February, which was approved. The 'Welcome to Ely' signs had now been erected on the Riverside. The Traffic Flow Working Group had held a meeting, with representatives from Ely Police Station, Cambridgeshire County Council and County Councillors. The discussion had predominantly been about King's Avenue and the main issue being that the road had not been adopted by the County Council. County Councillors had agreed to try and progress this. £16,000 from County Council funding had been indentified for use in this area. A meeting would be arranged to identify potential costs and to draw up a list of priorities, for this funding. Cllr Clarke reported the Working Group had met that morning, where it had been agreed a letter would be sent to Barretts regarding the sewage problem and request they fix this as soon as possible, to allow the adoption of the road to take place. The Ely in Bloom Working Group are looking to expand the floral displays at the Maltings and Sessions House. It was agreed the Council would endeavour to establish regular use of the Community Payback Team and a list of possible tasks for them to undertake. The Mayor will be undertaking a 'Spring Clean' of Ely on the 29th March between 9.00 am and 12.00 pm, with the help of volunteers.

(iii) RECREATION AND CEMETERY – No report as Committee had not met.

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

(v) ASSETS & ACQUISITIONS – No report as Committee had not met.

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

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

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 Yates 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.

City Centre Forum Sub-Group – The Mayor tabled notes of a meeting held on the 12th February, which was noted. The Mayor informed members that the City Centre Forum will be formalising the way it will work in the future.

11. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Stuntney Village Council – tabled minutes of a meeting held on the 14th January were noted.

2 parishioners left the meeting at 8.20 pm.

12. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON STREET LIGHTING DESIGNS FOR QUEEN ADELAIDE AND PRICKWILLOW

Members considered the street lighting designs for Queen Adelaide and Prickwillow and had no concerns with these. However, they did request that they also be consulted on the proposals for Ely when they are available, as they felt there was a gap in the lighting columns on Prickwillow Road near Thistle Corner up to the Rowing Club.

13. CLLR YATES TO GIVE FEEDBACK ON POSSIBLE EVENT TO MARK THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR II

Cllr Yates informed members of his ideas for marking the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that Cllr Yates would plan to hold a tea party on Cross Green and discuss with the Cathedral the possibility of doing this and holding a service to mark this occasion. Cllrs Every, Arnold and Phillips agreed to assist with these arrangements.

14. COUNCIL SERVICES AND PERSONNEL ISSUES

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 Yates 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	20.31	paid by direct debit
Internet Marketing Company	24.00	paid by direct debit
Barclays	27.55	paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	111.27	paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	60.00	paid by direct debit
Southern Electric	90.36	paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	974.07	paid by direct debit
ESPO	226.07	paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	43.20	paid by direct debit
ESPO	29.87	109849
The Bishop of Ely’s Registry	481.92	109847
ECDC	10.50	109848
British Telecommunications	26.20	109850
Mr P M Jeffs	100.00	109851
ADeC	116.40	109852
City Cycle Centre	16.85	109854
Anglian Water	34.23	109855
CamAlarms Ltd	174.00	109856

Finance continued

Ben Baxter	40.00	109853
Ely Museum	1894.75	109857
ADeC	669.60	109858
Ely Tyre Services	120.00	109859
Just Projectors	440.40	109860
BI Catering Equipment Ltd	18.00	109861
Neil Cutforth & Associates	600.00	109862
Labour-tech Recruitment Ltd	115.50	109863
Gordon Harrison	130.68	109864
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	109865
ECDC	145.38	109866
T Coulson	18.90	109867
ECDC	322.09	109868
Glasswells	1740.00	109870
Ely Central Heating	160.00	109872
Southern Electric	303.05	109869
G & J Peck Ltd	119.17	109871
City of Ely Allotments Assoc	298.50	109893
1st Call (Hire & Sales) Ltd	12.00	109873
ECDC	4200.00	109874
ESPO	306.25	109875
ADeC	633.60	109876
RGP Security Services Ltd	252.00	109877
Argos Business Services Ltd	11.75	109878
Countryside Services	228.00	109879
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	100.00	paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	96.00	paid by direct debit
Labour-tech Recruitment Ltd	123.38	109881
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	42.38	109882
Cooleraid Ltd	£4.74	109883
Armourstore Self Storage Ltd	207.60	paid by direct debit
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	109884
MetroSafety	948.00	109885
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	65.00	109886
Southern Electric	111.83	paid by direct debit
Daniel Block	104.00	109880
G & J Peck Ltd	2.88	109887

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 9th February 2015

Salaries and wages	£9106.14
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£2200.81
Pension fund payments	£3215.26

Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 28th February 2015 which was tabled.

Mrs Holden, parishioner left the meeting at 8.40 pm

The Council went into Committee for items 10 and 14 at 8.45 pm.