



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN ECDC'S COUNCIL
CHAMBER, THE GRANGE, NUTHOLT LANE, ELY AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY,
16TH NOVEMBER 2015**

PRESENT:

The Mayor, Cllr E Every
Cllr A Arnold
Cllr M Rouse
Cllr D Warman
Cllr J Pearson
2 parishioners

Deputy Mayor, Cllr I Lindsay
Cllr C Whelan
Cllr P Moakes
Cllr R Hobbs
Cllr S Pittock

Cllr C Phillips
Cllr S Friend-Smith
Cllr M Lansell
Cllr A Whelan
Cllr S Austen

Before the commencement of the meeting there was a minute's silence in respect of the victims of the recent terrorist attacks in Paris.

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensations. However, the Clerk informed the meeting that all members had been granted their requests for a dispensation to allow them to discuss the setting of the precept.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllrs Friend-Smith, Every and Moakes declared an interest in item 14, as they were members of the Isle of Ely Arts Festival, as per Standing Order 83b. They took no part in the discussion of this item.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 19TH OCTOBER AND MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON THE 4TH NOVEMBER AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 19th October were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1462, 1463, 1464, 1465 and 1466 refer.

Matters arising:- Page 1463, item 6 – Cllr Rouse informed members the construction of the new road for the school had now commenced. The safety of the pupils is foremost and they will have all the necessary, safety measures in place before the school opened.

The minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on the 4th November were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1467 and 1468 refer. The Mayor reported the appointment of an Assistant Venue Manager for the Maltings, had been approved at this meeting.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor informed members the Budget seminar, held on the 2nd November had been very informative. Ely Ribe Association had held a social event at the Maltings on the 18th November. The Christmas Lights switch-on will be on the 27th November and the Council's Christmas dinner will be on the 8th December.

6. QUESTION TIME

Cllr Rouse in his capacity as a County Councillor advised members a new trust had been formed at Ely College, after the recent follow-up inspection by Ofsted, where it was determined effective action was not being taken to remove Ely College from special measures. He also commented that he was continuing to oppose front line cuts. Cllr Hobbs in his capacity as District Councillor reported the ECDC's Parish Forum at Burwell had been very successful. The new bylaws imposed by ECDC at the Riverside were working very well.

Mrs Holden raised her concerns regarding item 15. She wanted members to be aware of the problems experienced by visual impaired people when they encounter outside table and chairs. She asked members to consider requesting that these areas have barriers around them. Cllr Lindsay confirmed that on Cambridgeshire County Council's website it says they will take notice of disabled and visually impaired people.

7. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended the Ely Careers and Skills Fair at the Cathedral; the opening of G's Mushroom Farm; Mayor's Community Forum; Ely Sinfonia concert in the Cathedral; Chair of ECDC's Civic Service at Fordham Church; Meeting with ESAT; planning/debrief meeting regarding Careers and Skills Fair; celebration of Thorlabs successes at Business Awards Employer of the Year and Investment in People Award; St John's Community Primary School Governor meeting; Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade and visited the new offices of Ely Tax Company. She had opened the extension of Highfield School Sixth Form; attended Ely Chamber of Commerce Committee meeting; attended the Armistice Day Service; been Quizmaster at Friends of Ely Library Quiz night and meet with ECDC and the National Apprenticeships Association regarding local apprenticeships.

The Deputy Mayor had attended the Royal Anglian's Freedom Parade at St Neots; Mayor's Community Forum; Cambridge Red Cross Volunteer Forum; the Battle of Britain flag raising at Huntingdon; swan feeding at Welney; Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade; the opening of the extension at Highfield School and the Armistice Day Service.

8. PLANNING

Reports of a Planning Committee meeting held on the 19th October 2015 and immediately prior to this meeting were received.

9. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following information only items were received:-

Notification of tree work:- St John's Manor, 1 St John's Road, Ely; The Maltings, Ship Lane, Ely; 21 Downham Road, Ely; 28 Chapel Street, Ely; 19 Cromwell Road, Ely; 7 Meldon Place, Ely; 62 Broad Street, Ely; 15 Waterside, Ely; 19B Donwham Road, Ely; 10 Springhead Lane, Ely; 22 Cromwell Road, Ely; 20 Chiefs Street, Ely
Street Naming and Numbering:- Westerly House, 78 West Fen Road, Ely; Downham Road, Ely; St Mary's Street, Ely

Thank you letters regarding the grants issued:- Citizens Advice Rural Cambs; Youth Ely Hub; Magpas; Fenland Poet Laureate Awards; Ely Waits; Prickwillow Engine Trust; Ely Runners; Ely Folk Festival

Notification from Savills regarding settlement in the sum of £555 for sewer works undertaken at Bridge Fen Allotments

The Clerk

Clerks & Councils Direct

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE – The Mayor presented a report of a meeting held on the 29th October, which was approved. She reported ADeC had finally agreed to sign the original Memorandum of Agreement.

(ii) ENVIRONMENT –Cllr Lindsay presented a report of a meeting held on the 26th October, which was approved. The proposed 2016/2017 budget headings for the Committee were approved. The Committee continues to look at their business plans and Cllr Lindsay has prepared an action plan. A tree audit of the trees on land, which the Council is responsible for, has been ordered. This will also include a systematic annual review of all trees. The cost of this will be shared with the Recreation and Cemetery Committee.

10. Committee Reports continued

(iii) RECREATION AND CEMETERY – Cllr Pearson presented a report of a meeting held on the 21st October, which was approved. The new play equipment at Stuntney was installed on the 11th November. The proposed 2016/2017 budget headings for the Committee were approved. Cllr Phillips reported that he was looking at the possibility of having the cemetery chapel open on a regular basis, to allow visitors to sit and remember loved ones. There could also be a Book of Remembrance held in the Chapel. He said the first step was to go and look at the chapel and see what, with regards to decoration, needs to be undertaken. Could then form a ‘Friends of Ely Cemetery’ and see if any members of the public wished to get involved. Cllrs Pittock, Warman and Austen volunteered to help Cllr Phillips with this project. Cllr Phillips also reported he had visited St Ives cemetery and would be arranging a meeting with members of a local community group to discuss the possibility of an area within the existing cemetery, being reserved for different faith burials.

1 parishioner left the meeting at 7.30 pm.

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – Cllr Arnold presented a report of a meeting held on the 9th November, which was approved. She reported that all the lights and the tree had now been erected. The Mayor said that the people who erect these lights and put on the switch-on event are a fantastic example of volunteers. This year the Council’s Estates Team has also been working at the weekends to help with this. She informed members there would be another Volunteer evening at the Maltings on the 19th January 2016, to say thank you to all the Council’s volunteers.

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

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

(vii) YOUTH FORUM – The Mayor presented draft notes of a meeting held on the 9th November, which were approved. It had been agreed to continue with this Forum, as it was felt there should be a forum, which will work for the benefit of the young people of the Parish. Members of the Forum will be exploring with the schools ways of working together, to encourage young people to be more involved in public life. They would also raise awareness and understanding of the work of local government and the UK political system.

11. WORKING PARTIES/STEERING GROUPS REPORTS

CCTV – the Mayor reported that the CCTV cameras in Ely and Soham.were now operational.

Sessions House Stage II Working Group – Cllr Lindsay informed members that approval of the work undertaken by Purcell Miller Tritton had now been given and could now be submitted to ECDC’s Planning Department.

12. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Stuntney Village Council – notes of a meeting held on the 9th September were noted.

Rural Citizens Advice Bureau AGM – Cllr Phillips reported he had attended their AGM.

Ely Museum Trustee Meeting – Cllr Lindsay reported he had attended the last Trustee meeting and confirmed they had now submitted their grant application for the extension to the Museum.

ECDC Parish Forum – Cllr Phillips reported he had attended the Parish Forum, which had been very informative.

13. FLOOD AND WATER MANAGEMENT WITHIN THE PARISH

Members discussed this matter in great detail and unanimously agreed that this was already being provided by the Internal Drainage Board and ECDC for the parish of Ely. Therefore, no further action will be undertaken on this issue.

14. TO DISCUSS LETTER FROM ISLE OF ELY ARTS FESTIVAL

The Isle of Ely Arts Festival had requested whether the Council had any suggestions of possible arts events that could be put on next year. Members suggested a theatrical event in the courtroom, such as ‘Trial by Jury’ or ‘Witness for the Prosecution’. Cllr Lindsay suggested a ballet could be performed. Cllr Friend-Smith agreed to take these suggestions to the Festival Committee.

15. TO CONSIDER APPLICATION FOR TABLES AND CHAIRS LICENCE AT THE FISH HOUSE, 5 MARKET PLACE, ELY

Members considered the application for a tables and chairs licence at the Fish House, 5 Market Place, Ely. They unanimously agreed to support this application subject to the area having barriers to define this. Concerns were raised that visually impaired people find it difficult when there are tables and chairs in the highway. If a barrier is in place this aids their movement and prevents them from bumping into the table and chairs.

The Mayor informed members that all eateries have to have these licences. Tea for two had informed her that the cost for theirs had gone up by 300% to £1000 per annum. This was partly due to the fact that they have put a canopy on the outside area. District Cllr Anna Bailey has managed to put this on hold for the time being, whilst it is looked at. Members agreed to support what Cllr Bailey was doing and the Mayor will send a letter to this effect, requesting an explanation for the increase and that no further action be taken against the cafe owner until the Council has this information. Cllr Arnold raised her concerns that other businesses should be paying to put goods etc outside the front of their premises, if eateries had to for tables and chairs. She agreed to look into this matter and report back at a future Full Council meeting.

1 parishioner left the meeting at 8.20.

16. ELECTORAL REVIEW OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE: FURTHER LIMITED CONSULTATION FOR CAMBRIDGE

Members agreed to make no comments regarding this consultation.

17. COMMUNITY-LED DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS

Members discussed these documents at great length and agreed in principle to the Community-Led Development Supplementary Planning Document (SPD): draft for public consultation. However, members felt there should be an indication of where the financial benefits flow, as this was not recognised in this document. Who is benefiting? A large proportion should flow back to the community. The Clerk will feedback these comments to ECDC.

18. TRAFFIC ISSUES WITHIN PARISH

The Mayor reported that following approval of the funding for the highway improvements to Dovehouse Close, Ely at the last Full Council meeting, the Council needs to ascertain the exact costs for these works. A meeting of the Traffic Working Group will be arranged and Steve Alexander from the Highways Department will be invited to attend/provide costings.

19. FINANCE

Members approved the following for payment:

Internet Marketing Company	24.00	paid by direct debit
ECDC	887.00	paid by direct debit
ECDC	250.00	paid by direct debit
ECDC	384.00	paid by direct debit
Armourstore Self Storage Ltd	credit 54.24	paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	339.21	paid by direct debit
British Gas	6640.47	paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	243.27	paid by direct debit
Southern Electric	2563.48	paid by direct debit
Southern Electric	25.73	paid by direct debit
Barclays	28.66	paid by direct debit
ESPO	7.87	paid by direct debit
ESPO	62.41	paid by direct debit
ESPO	109.34	paid by direct debit
Vodafone	137.05	paid by direct debit
Southern Electric	2563.48	paid by direct debit
Southern Electric	25.73	paid by direct debit
Barclays	28.66	paid by direct debit

19. Finance continued

British Telecommunications	26.03	paid by direct debit
Mr R Delahaye	20.96	110246
Bidvest Foodservice	1206.22	110247
C4 Digital Group Ltd	1950.00	110248
Sunflowers Catering	300.00	110249
RGP Security Services Ltd	195.00	110250
Wider Plan Ltd	112.53	110251
Benjo Bags Ltd	111.60	110252
Blushed Studios	150.00	110253
Prior Associates Consulting Engineers	1140.00	110254
Infiniti Graphics LLP	100.00	110255
RGP Security Services Ltd	39.00	110256
CD Clowe	52.40	110257
Deeping Direct Deliveries	234.00	110258
Blushed Studios	300.00	110259
XS Platforms	1066.80	110260
Haine Tree Services Ltd	1380.00	110261
Warren Access	1077.90	110262
Ely Museum	3527.50	110263
Nisbets	357.24	110265
Cooleraid Ltd	4.74	110266
Bidvest Foodservice	2085.47	110264
E Every	115.00	110267
ESPO	109.99	110268
Simpson's Nurseries Ltd	73.45	110269
Countryside Services	180.00	110270
M Pinion	12.99	110271
Johnsons Cleaners UK Ltd	170.90	110272
Ben Baxter	48.00	110273
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	43.99	110274
Trade UK	435.20	110275
Purcell Miller Tritton LLP	1092.00	110276
DEB Electrical Ltd	672.00	110277
Labour-tech Recruitment Ltd	105.00	110278
G & J Peck Ltd	333.98	110279
Infiniti Graphics	162.50	110281
BT Redcare	3534.16	110282
Elliotts	27.48	110283
ESPO	10.68	110284
White China	67.20	110285
Bacon Lightning Protection Ltd	130.80	110286
Stannah Lift Services Ltd	300.28	110287
Basic Life Support Consultancy	420.00	110288
Star Tours Productions	500.00	110289
Warren Access	858.00	110291
Simpson's Nurseries Ltd	31.46	110292

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 19th October 2015

Salaries and wages	£0.00
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£0.00
Pension fund payments	£0.00

Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 31st October 2015