



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

20TH APRIL 2015

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Chairman of the Council and Mayor of the City of Ely is Councillor Elisabeth Every
Deputy Chairman of the Council and Deputy Mayor of the City of Ely is Councillor John Yates

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL PARISH REPORT 2015

This has been an exciting and fulfilling year for the City of Ely Council. Following on from the previous three years, it has been a year of consolidation as well as growth as the City of Ely Council continues to grasp the benefits of localism.

We continue to provide quality facilities at the Cemetery and our play parks; the City has been ablaze with colourful flowers provided by Ely in Bloom and the Christmas Lights and the Switch On were, I believe, the best we have had. Further details are shown in the relevant Committee sections.

Our partnerships are thriving. In particular, the City Centre Forum strives to develop our local City economy through local consultation. The strong relationships have resulted in the City Centre benefiting from increased footfall during all our major events. Progress is also well underway to develop strong business and school links to encourage employability skills and greater opportunities for our young people to work locally.

We acquired the Sessions House, saving one of our most prestigious Ely buildings. Phase one of the upgrading of the Sessions House is completed. It now houses the City of Ely Council offices and the Court Room and other rooms are available for meetings. Phase 2 is now being planned in order to provide further opportunities for community use and adding to the Ely Heritage trail and educational visits organised by the Museum.

We took over The Maltings at the end of September. The venue is now emerging as the Village Hall it should always have been providing a wonderful setting for commercial and community events and is open for business. It is also encouraging to see so many people taking advantage of the enhanced facilities along the river.

Our Communications and PR Working Party have undertaken research into issues of consultation and we are delighted to announce that we will be reinstating (albeit in a slightly different format) the Neighbourhood Panel – now called the Community Panel. This will take place in May and will provide an opportunity to consult with our residents on emerging issues. We are aware that improved communication is vital and an improved and interactive new website has been commissioned and will become 'live' in May.

All this has been achieved by the City of Ely Council through prudent and rigorous good housekeeping resulting in only the very slight inflation rise in the precept for our residents next year. We now have the basis on which good business planning for the future will enable us to manage the viability of the planned growth to come.

Our challenge is to continue to improve. The key is growing our existing partnerships and establishing new ones between Council and the community. 2015 will continue to bring opportunities for our City and our people. We need to ensure that we capitalise on these.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the staff of the City Council, the Councillors and all the volunteers who have helped the Council to maintain so many of its services. These volunteers work on CCTV, Ely in Bloom, Christmas Lights and Switch on, City Centre Forum, the Maltings and the Sessions House. It has been a real privilege to work with such a great team.

Lis Every
Mayor and Chair of the City of Ely Council

PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE 2014-2015

This Committee has been extremely busy this year dealing with managing the budget and the legislative requirements to support the acquisition and renovation of our new buildings, the Maltings, The Sessions House and the Maltings Cottage. Details of this are shown in other Committee reports.

Systems, procedures and personnel practices have also been put into place in order to support this process. Changes in identifying priorities have resulted in all aspects of finance (including monies allocated through Section 106) being channelled through this Committee.

The myriad of changes in working practices and responsibilities have resulted in a full Staffing Review for all staff. This will ensure that we have the right level and skill set of staffing to support the requirements of our local residents, the current requirements of workload and those of the future as opportunities for localism arise. It is our aim to promote a positive 'customer focus' by increasing our opening hours, introducing a new interactive website due to be in operation during May, and embracing 'social media'.

Sound financial management has been at the heart of all our planned activities and this has resulted in achieving our objectives with a balanced budget for this year and the next.

Lis Every

Chair of Personnel, Finance and Governance

PLANNING 2014-2015

The City of Ely Council is a statutory consultee on all planning applications received by East Cambs District Council that relate to the area covered by the Parish of Ely.

To meet the requirements of timescale the Council has two sub-committees which meet alternatively every fortnight.

All comments are sent to ECDC.

In the last year a range of applications have been received and considered for window replacements, new doors, extensions to developments.

Of note the Council have rejected applications for the developments on Cambridge Road and St Mary's Street and for a Community facility in the business park at Chettisham. However, the Council has supported the proposed new Southern By-Pass, the Cinema on Downham Rd, the Country Park and the North Ely development as well as improvements to the Riverside.

RECREATION AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE 2014-2015

Recreation

The ongoing upgrade and replacement of play equipment has continued with several repairs and repainting of equipment taking place across the nine play areas the City of Ely Council is responsible for.

The play areas continue in most parts to be well used, however it has been identified that there is a need for toddler equipment and this is something the Committee aim to look at in the future. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee completed a detailed visit to each of the sites. On three site visits they were accompanied by the Grounds Team to give an overview of the equipment available and any work that may need to be carried out in the future.

Currently the grounds team carry out daily checks of the sites for cleanliness and safety and maintain existing equipment on a planned basis.

Changes to equipment throughout the year include:-

Ely (St Johns Road)	-	Zip Wire Installation
Stuntney	-	Removal of climbing apparatus (to be replaced)

Cemetery

During the last year, the Committee arranged a visit for all Councillors to be given a tour of the Cemetery grounds and see improvements that had been made, which has included the redecoration of the Chapel.

Policies and Guidelines for the Cemetery were reviewed by the current Committee and felt to be adequate for the safety of the staff and for the needs of the public. One small amendment was agreed to the Rules of the Cemetery, regarding burials taking place outside of the current opening hours, it was agreed that any applications would need to be considered on an individual basis by the Recreation and Cemetery Committee, to ensure no risk would be involved.

The grounds team continues to maintain the area to an excellent standard and continue to carry out the ongoing task of testing and repairing memorials.

General

Agreement was given for the team to lease a new vehicle to help ensure as a team they can continue to carry out maintenance to the cemetery and recreation areas on a daily basis and transport necessary equipment safely.

Agreement was also given to house two secure containers for storage of Ely's Christmas lights on the Cemetery grounds at the back of Con E.

The current ground staffing levels have been adequate to cover existing areas of responsibility and the team are supported by the office staff, who deal with the line management and administration tasks associated with the recreation and cemetery areas.

Cllr J Pearson

Chair of Recreation & Cemetery Committee

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE (FORMERLY STREET FURNITURE) 2014 - 15

The Committee, as part of its responsibilities maintains existing or new items of street furniture that is in ownership of the City of Ely Council, such as some bus shelters, street lights, dog bins, flower tubs, hanging baskets and planting in the city centre. The Committee responds to parishioners that have requests, concerns or suggestions regarding the Environment Committee's role.

There have been no requests for the Memorial Bench Scheme or new bus shelters.

During the year Dog Bin requests have been limited. A bin at Pocket Park has been maintained.

A new City of Ely flag was purchased for the Market Place.

This year the Environment Committee produced a Tree Planting Policy, which was adopted by the Council.

One of the Committee's aims was to put lights along a section of the Riverside. Working in partnership with ECDC, solar lights have now been installed, which mark out the edge of the path by the river. This was funded from the City of Ely Councils, Section 106 open space monies.

Another of the Committee's aims was to seek permission to erect "Welcome to Ely" signs at the Fisherman Car Park Railway Bridge and on the Highways, High Bridge for visitors entering Ely via boat. Permission was granted and both sites have signs in place, which were donated by the City of Ely Perspective.

The On-Street Parking (Signs and Lines) Working Group's live master document between Cambridgeshire County Council Highways and City Of Ely Council has been very successful. Since this document was activated in 2013 there are only 11 remaining on the live document of 48 defects identified, only 11 are left, but these involve long term changes that will need public consultations. Other issues of traffic were raised by parishioners to the City of Ely Council, which were passed on to the Environment Committee. Thus a Traffic Flow Working Group emerged, with work in progress on the issues raised. Both of these Working Groups now come under the umbrella of the "Traffic Management Working Groups" and as before City of Ely Council have been working with Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Cambridgeshire County Council and East Cambridgeshire District Council.

Within this year Ely in Bloom was incorporated into the Environment Committee as a Working Group. This Group is mainly made up of community volunteers, who plant up the City Centre's wooden tubs, brick tubs, and the Victoria fountain and war memorial. Although, with not much time and with less categories the 2014 Ely in Bloom floral competitions went ahead. A presentation was held for the winners at the old City of Ely Council offices and was well attended. Winter and Spring planting for 2014-15 contains a mixture of pansies, violas, primulas and spring bulbs.

The Ely in Bloom Working Group decided that the 2015 Summer hanging baskets should contain the colours of coral, bright yellow and mauve together in one basket. These colours will be banded in the tiered planters in that the top tiers will be coral and the yellow and mauve tiers will be alternated for each planter. The hanging baskets and tiered tubs in the City are planted and looked after by the Council's appointed contractor. Also as a group Ely in Bloom was asked to look at the City of Ely Council Buildings. This summer it is hoped the Maltings will have 10 hanging baskets on display. Also the City of Ely Council's new offices (Sessions House) is being looked at for future flower displays of some form.

As Chairman, I cordially thank members of the Environment Committee and Working Groups who have given their support and input during the year. Also I would like to thank the office staff for their continued support and help, and the Council's Cemetery maintenance team for their assistance.

Cllr Alison Arnold
Chairman

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMMITTEE 2014-2015

The City of Ely Council Christmas Lights Committee consists of City Councillors and volunteers. It is split in two areas of responsibility. The Light Brigade's role is to service the lights throughout the year erect and disassemble over the Christmas season. Apart from the core Light Brigade we are very fortunate to receive valuable help from the service men and women from USAF Mildenhall. The whole team carries out these duties in all weathers to make sure the work is completed for the Switch on night. The Switch on team meets throughout the year to ensure that Ely has a spectacular evening. They work from early hours in the morning to late in the evening on the Switch on night. This event has become extremely popular with the public. This year a new layout was planned to cope with the thousands that turn out to support this free annual event. The evening also helps numerous charities to raise much needed funds.

This year all aspects of the Christmas Lights are now under the direct budget control of the council. I am pleased to report that this has been very successful. The Assistant Clerk has been able to control expenditure, showing a small under spend against the budget.

As Chairman I know what hard work our volunteers put in so Ely can celebrate a truly colourful Christmas. I would like to pass on my thanks to the two team leaders and their team's and to Sarah the Assistant Clerk for her administrative support to me and the Committee.

Cllr Richard Hobbs
Chair Christmas Lights committee

ASSETS AND ACQUISITIONS COMMITTEE 2014-2015

With the introduction of the Localism Act, this Committee was formed to actively consider the feasibility of the acquisition of assets, facilities and services that would be pertinent to the City of Ely and its people, taking into account the wishes of local people, financial viability and diligent due process.

During the year, the City of Ely Council has been engaged in negotiating the legal requirements for the acquisition of the Maltings and the Sessions House as well as putting into place the procedures and systems required to manage these assets efficiently and effectively.

In order to achieve this, two working parties were set up to manage the process, ie for the Sessions House and for the Maltings and Maltings Cottage. In view of the complexity and speed of decisions required to move things forward, these Working Parties reported directly to the Full Council in Committee. As a result, the following has been achieved.

Sessions House

We have completed the external renovation of the Sessions House to be compliant with Equality legislation and Conservation requirements.

Phase 1 - completed the internal renovation of the office area. The City Council offices are now housed in the Sessions House.

Phase 2 – Plans are in hand to identify and achieve access requirements to the rest of building in order to establish how the other parts of the building may be used and create a working relationship with the Museum to provide educational and heritage visits.

The Maltings

We became the new tenant of the Maltings from the 23 September 2015 and became the landlord to Ta Bouche from that date having fulfilled all legal and financial requirements.

We have taken over the day to day running of the Maltings Venue and an Events Manager will join us in June to manage the facility as a combination venue for commercial and community use.

We continue to work closely with ADeC in order that they can continue with their Cinema and Arts events.

The Maltings Cottage

External renovation has taken place. Negotiations are now in hand to renovate the inside of the Cottage and let it.

Lis Every
Chair of the Assets and Acquisitions Committee

ELY YOUTH FORUM

The objectives of the Ely Youth Forum are:-

1. To create a forum in which a healthy debate can occur on social and community issues across Ely which affect youth seeking opinions and views
2. To identify and develop ideas/projects that will benefit youth
3. To reward those who contribute to society as a whole
4. To enhance public perception of youth as useful members of our society

The Forum consists of City of Ely Councillors with the Council providing administrative support. Representatives of youth organisations, other organisations with a youth commitment and businesses who have a social community objective also make up this Group.

Apart from the administrative costs, which the City of Ely Council will provide, there will be no specific funding. However, the Forum will have the right to raise funds for projects which will enable the objective s above to be achieved.

The Forum met twice during this year.

Cllr Elaine Griffin-Singh
Chairman of Ely Youth Forum

REPORT ON THE CITY CENTRE FORUM

It has been important to identify an appropriate structure for the City Centre Forum in order to achieve full representation, consultation and feedback from the stakeholders involved. These stakeholders were drawn from the City of Ely Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, the Museum, the Cathedral, Ely Perspective, the Traders' Association, independent traders, publications and community groups. A Sub-Group had been formed from the main Forum which was charged to manage the process of consultation, create partnership working on activities, identify a yearly plan and monitor progress.

It became increasingly clear that the main City Centre Forum meetings, whilst allowing for free access, did not create an effective decision-making or efficient implementation body. Following a City Centre Forum meeting early last year, the Chair was tasked to identify a more appropriate structure and put this in place in order to move things forward.

Consultation with all stakeholder representatives resulted in the decision to run more regular Seminars, which would enable a larger group of interested people to shape decisions and work on a yearly Action Plan with the Sub-Group continuing to work on implementation and feedback. This has been accomplished.

Two further seminars have been run following the first seminar, when the First Year's Action Plan was formulated. Phase 1 had been to create sustainable partnership with the stakeholders and build confidence to create a climate where collaborative working would result in decisions and activities which would benefit the economic development of the City.

The second seminar took place in October 2014. This was a six month update, monitoring progress on first half projects:

- Joint marketing on shopper promotions, eg vouchers;
- Retailer's pack;
- Footfall Survey;
- Using the Elyi for distribution of marketing materials;
- Promotion of social media for retailers;
- Shopper and eating branding options for a Shopping and Food Guide.

The third seminar was in March 2014, the first year update:

- Continued joint marketing projects;
- Launch of Ely Shopping and Food Guide (planned in Seminar 2);
- Wider marketing of Ely;
- Update on Footfall;
- Discussion on designs for signage around the City (funding obtained);
- Using Star Radio, our media partner.
- 'Pride in Ely' initiative

Next steps will include a new 'dropping point' in Ely for coaches

The City Centre Forum process is now working in line with many Town Centre Teams, ie formal stakeholders collaborating on planning and implementing projects with joint funding. A review is taking place on how this could be taken forward with initial research into how similar towns operate.

Lis Every
Chair of the City Centre Forum

CCTV PARTNERSHIP STEERING GROUP REPORT 2014-2015

The new partnership has now been running for 12 months, with the partners now being City of Ely Council, Soham Town Council and the Police. The partnership has been tested thoroughly during that time with various aspects requiring a high degree of cooperation, which was very forthcoming and augers well for the future.

When writing the report for last year's Annual Parish Report we were all confident that the important operational change from a cable system to a wireless system was ready to roll out. The operational change was very important in order to enable the CCTV system in Ely and Soham to be financially viable in the long term for the reduced number of financial partners. These savings will amounting to 10's of thousands of pounds per year.

The opportunity to include broadband services within the wireless system arose during the planning stage which will eventually enable faster broadband speeds to be made available to local villages. This was particularly important as some were not quickly going to receive the benefit of the Government's broadband roll out programme.

This required our securing permission for aerials to be erected on church buildings involving organisations where their governing bodies only met every 3 or 6 months. This slowed the process considerably, but now I am happy to report all necessary agreements and permissions are in place and work started 2 weeks ago on installation of aerials in Soham, with Ely work programmed for 31st March 2015.

During the period of delay there has been a reduced service, which was planned and has been managed successfully with the partners.

The volunteers have remained very loyal during this period and our thanks are extended to them, for their patience and adaptability.

The whole system will be operational very shortly and we believe the benefit of converting to wireless will manifest itself in financial saving and more flexibility in siting of temporary or further permanent cameras in the future. There is also a real bonus to local residents and businesses, who will be able to access much faster broadband connections.

Nigel Clarke
CCTV Working Group

ELY-RIBE COMMITTEE

Report to Annual Parish Meeting - April 2015

The focus for the last year has been to safeguard and improve the display of the Ely-Ribe Tapestry at The Maltings and to make preparations for a visit from Ribe in May of this year.

We are pleased to record that the City Council's acquisition of The Maltings has hopefully secured the future of the tapestry, and that when the long term arrangements for management of the facility are confirmed, that the foyer will be open on a daily basis for viewing of this major piece of public art. With this in mind, we have recently completed a small project to install lighting within the tapestry case, and will also be improving the display of Ribe memorabilia in the adjacent cabinet. There are further proposals to enhance visitors' interpretation of the tapestry, which will be discussed with the City Council over the coming months, but overall we hope that the improvements already committed will be a fitting recognition of the role that the twinning plays in the life of both communities.

We have another significant anniversary on the horizon, as the twinning reaches its 60th anniversary in 2016. Those celebrations are likely to be held in Ribe, but we will be starting the 60th year with our own celebrations in Ely over the coming Eel Festival weekend. This visit is notable, as we have managed to bring together members of Rotary from Ely and Ribe, and also to forge a new relationship between the Ely Choral Society and the Ribe Chamber Choir. Over the course of the weekend we hope that representatives of these organisations will be able to establish new links and friendships. Another event during the weekend will be the planting of a twinning tree in the Jubilee Gardens, and the celebrations will end with a dinner in The Maltings. The Committee would like to thank the Ely and Hereward Rotary Clubs, the Ely Choral Society and the Friends of Jubilee Gardens for their invaluable support of the twinning celebrations.

The year has therefore been a very busy one for the committee, and as Chairman I would like to express my thanks to all members of the committee for their commitment and support.

G Hughes

Chairman, Ely-Ribe Association and Ely-Ribe Committee
9th April 2015

CITY OF ELY ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION REPORT FOR ELY CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2015

Since the last APM things have been very busy at the allotments. The drainage ditch at Bridge Fen overflowed and flooded one side of the site. Graham Bond arranged to have the ditch cleaned out and things improved very quickly. We are currently looking at ways of improving drainage at New Barns and are also aware that parts of Upherds Lane can get waterlogged in very wet spells.

Another major development at Bridge Fen is that a working party recently fitted a gate at the entrance. This was a response to a series of thefts mainly from around the middle car park area, though on several separate occasions all sheds were entered, followed by thefts from all parts of the site a few days later. Presumably any items of interest were listed and buyers found before the thefts actually happened. Complete rows of vegetables were either stolen or pulled up and thrown on the floor. Carefully selected tools, rolls of fleece and water-butts were stolen and further water-butts were damaged or emptied.

Vala Carter (New Barns) has once again won the A J Fenn cup at the Great Autumn Show organised by the Horticultural Society for best allotment in Ely. This time jointly winning with Stewart Bye (Bridge Fen). Other plot-holders were also successful in many other classes including cooking and wine-making. There is also another class where allotment holders are invited to enter a box of produce suitable for the kitchen. This year the Allotments are organising a mini-show within the show. A further nine classes for vegetables for allotment holders only, judged not by the strict RHS rules but by general appearance and suitability for cooking.

With some of the older stalwarts giving up their plots the average age of the plot-holders is dropping considerably. Morale is very good on all sites with more people joining working parties and tidying up the sites. Several people with long-term health problems are being helped out by those on nearby plots.

The plans for the Bypass continue and the Committee are taking a keen interest in developments in the area around Bridge fen.

The current number of plot-holders on individual sites is as follows.

Site	2012	2013	2014	2015
Canterbury Ave	9	9	8	9
Bridge Fen	104	110	88	103
New Barns	43	50	49	49
Upherds Lane	45	46	45	45
Back Hill	2	2	2	2
Totals	203	217	192	208

On behalf of the plot-holders the committee would like to thank the City Council for their support, particularly Cllr Nigel Clarke who represents the Council at the committee meetings. We would also like to thank the police for taking time to advise us and their increased vigilance which has led to a marked decrease in thefts from Bridge Fen compared to previous years.

Linda Adams
Secretary of the City of Ely Allotments Association

REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT OF GOVERNANCE OF ELY ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

As a member of the City of Ely Council, the role of governor to the school is that of a community governor and it is their opportunity to cover skills gaps and bring in governors with a wide range of experience including business skills

The governing body is responsible for the conduct of the school, and must promote high standards of educational achievement at the school. It is the school's accountable body which among many other areas of responsibility holds the headteacher to account for the performance of the school and ensures that parents are involved, consulted and informed as appropriate, with information to the community being made available as required.

As a member of the Resource Committee, my responsibilities as part of the team are for good financial budgeting and forward planning, personnel issues, including performance management and appraisal, recruitment and all matters concerned with 'value for money', as well as being a member of the Full Council.

It was always anticipated that there would be an Ofsted inspection during this academic year and this was a main focus for planning and training during that time. We were all delighted, therefore, when after the 'call' in February 2015, the Ofsted Team confirmed that the school 'is a good school'. This was based on 'good' for all aspects of the school's work with 'outstanding' for pupil safety. These aspects are good leadership, management and governance, good teaching, good progress, pupils' safety, good behaviour and parental satisfaction. A quote from the Ofsted report -

'With good support from staff, the headteacher has brought good improvements to both the quality of teaching and pupils' achievement. Pupils achieve well and attainment has been rising for the past three years. By the end of Year 6, it is now significantly above average in reading, spelling, punctuation and grammar. The pupils were seen as very enthusiastic about school and their work and enjoy school.'

This was a really rewarding verdict for everyone who had worked so hard as a team to improve on the previous Ofsted report. The school is oversubscribed with a waiting list.

Lis Every

Governor at Ely St John's Primary Community School

THE LANTERN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL ELY ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15

Being recently appointed as one of the governors at Lantern School, I have found this involves the governing body working with the head teacher and staff to make sure the school provides a good quality education for the students with strategic direction to support the head to make operational day to day decisions. An interwoven strand of the governing body is largely a strategic role in the running of the school, a critical friend, to ensure accountability of the governing body to the parents and the head teacher to the governing body.

There are around 430 children that attend the Lantern School within 15 classes. 83 % of Year 6 pupils achieved level 4 or above in reading, writing and maths. The last Ofsted report in July 2014 reported the overall effectiveness was good and they obtained a grade 2.

Cllr Alison Arnold
Governor

NEEDHAM'S FOUNDATION

Needham's Foundation is a charity that meets four times a year. Its function is to oversee charity money left by its benefactor Miss Catherine Needham.

The governors role is to ensure those applying meet the criteria set down by the charity, which is to financially assist school projects which are not funded by local government and help individuals students towards the cost of further education, that have been educated in Ely.

Cllr Richard Hobbs -Governor on behalf of the City of Ely Council

PRICKWILLOW VILLAGE COUNCIL/COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2014 - 15

Prickwillow Village Committee is a small organisation that is made up of community residents. The committee responds and responds to requests, concerns or suggestions from residents at their meetings held every two months. Prickwillow Village Committee has a monthly newsletter that informs residents of forthcoming events and other items of interest.

Picnic in the park beside the village hall was attended by children, parents, grandparents, committee members and representatives. An enjoyable day was had by all.

Harvest Supper Festival with Photo Slides and a speaker from Prickwillow's Bygone days, games and prize draws was enjoyed by many and was supported by a high attendance.

This year the committee addressed the issues of Lark Bank Road. Representatives from the City of Ely Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council Highways Department, farmers and residents were invited to a meeting to address these concerns. By stakeholders working and pulling together, the issue of the road surface at Lark Bank has now been hugely improved.

Also within this year the committee tackled the problem of speeding farm vehicles that came through the village. This was by a meeting with farmers, where all concerned addressed this issue which has made a marked difference for their community. The problems with other vehicles that are going fast within the village have not been as successful but work is still in progress with this matter.

Prickwillow Village Council and residents campaigned furiously for high-speed broadband and attained this infrastructure on December 2014.

Cllr Alison Arnold

Representative on Prickwillow Village Council/Committee from the City of Ely Council

PARISH REPORT ON STUNTNEY VILLAGE COUNCIL

The Stuntney Village Council continues to work on the enhancement of the Village through a number of initiatives well supported by the local residents.

Plans continue to improve the 'well kept' look of the Village with an emphasis on keeping the environment tidy. The 'Stuntney in Bloom' competition in the summer results in the local gardens looking increasingly colourful and well managed. Involvement in judging (always a sensitive issue) was an exciting affair being undertaken in a World War 1 motor cycle and sidecar. Other plans are in the pipeline for entrance improvements and we are working together to obtain funding and permission for this.

The Ely Southern Bypass and Station Gateway does remain a concern for the residents and we have all been working with the Project Manager from the Cambridgeshire County Council who holds regular consultations with the residents discussing issues as they emerge.

The less than satisfactory Broadband situation for Stuntney residents is being addressed by a local Village Council working party involving the City Council and ECDC. There are a couple of solutions being discussed and it is hopeful that the most cost effective solution can found to provide a much better service in the very near future.

Lis Every

Council representative on the Village Council

ELY TRINITY DOLE CHARITY

The Ely Trinity Dole was formed in April 2000 when a number of local charities covering the former Parish of Ely Trinity were amalgamated.

The aims of the Trust are twofold to :-

Relief in Need

Promotion of Education

In the last year the Trustees have met on two occasions. Income as at 9/11/14 was £5466.66 and £3905.40 had been distributed less fees.

£50000 had been invested in COIF Investment Funds funded from compensation from Network Rail for the closure of a crossing from reserves.

The next meeting will be held in June 2015.

Cllr J Yates

Governor representing the City of Ely Council

RURAL CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Rural Cambs CAB is supported by an annual grant from the City of Ely Council. Its Ely office in Market Street provides a base for its operation throughout the East Cambridgeshire District and it is here that clients are helped and advised by a group of trained volunteers who give professional-standard free, confidential, independent and impartial advice on a wide range of topics - benefits, debt and money, housing, relationships and work to name the most common. As the Council's representative to the organisation I have been able to discuss its work with the chairman and to attend the AGM to hear a full report of what has been done. All this I have fed back to the Council in order to keep them informed and up to date.

Cllr C Phillips – City of Ely Council Representative

ELY MUSEUM

Two members of the City Council have served as Trustees of the Museum over the past year. The Council supports the Museum financially and sees it as an important asset in as much as it has gathered together a large collection relating to the city's history and is not only a part of Ely's tourist trail but also a centre for education and learning with a vibrant schools' programme in place. The museum has ambitious plans for the development of its current site and for partnership with the Council in its use of the Sessions House. As one of the Council's representatives to the Museum's Board of Trustees I have attended meetings throughout the year and have been able to make regular reports to the Council concerning the Museum's work and future plans.

Cllr C Phillips – City of Ely Council Representative

CITY OF ELY COUNCIL

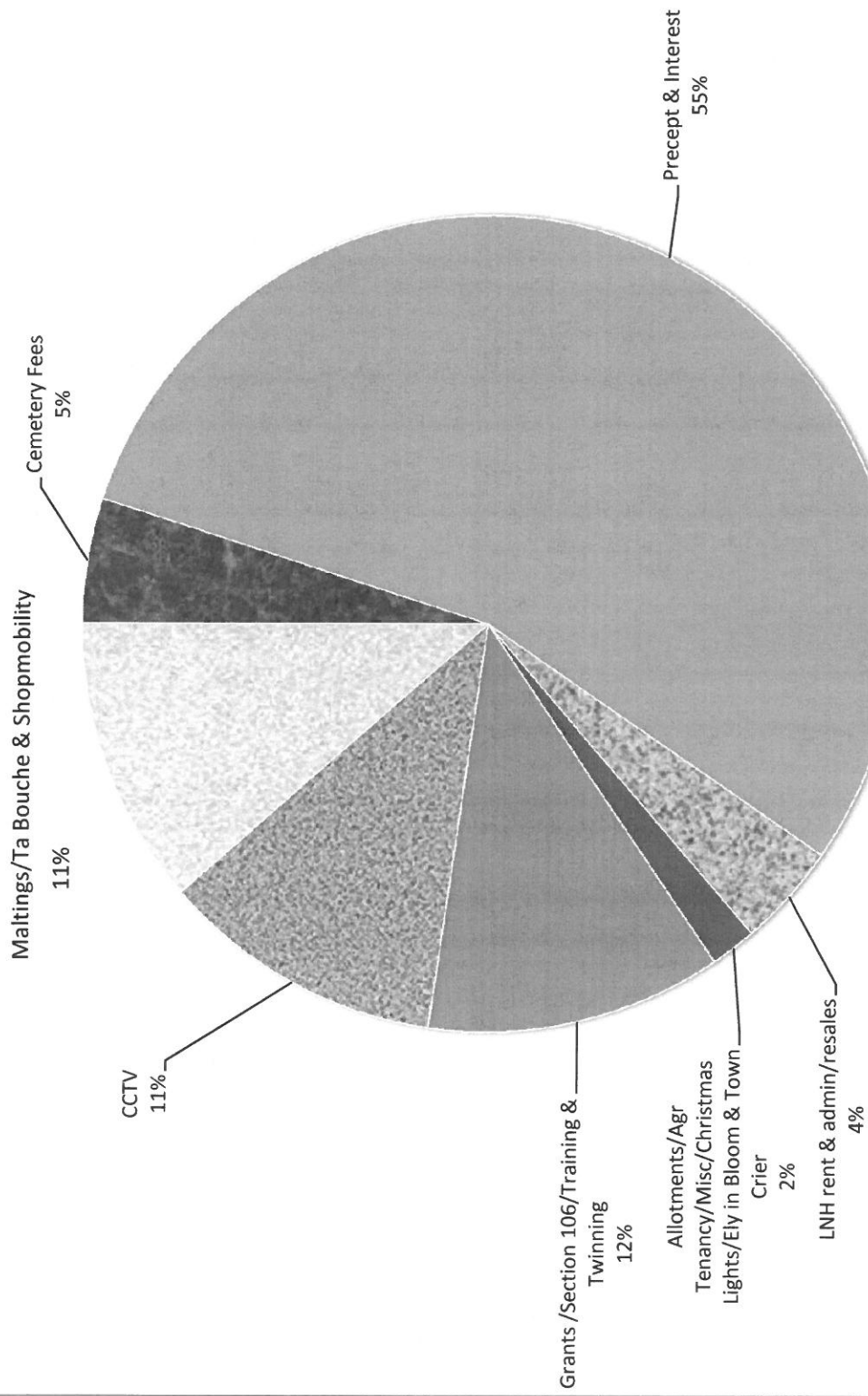
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR 2014/2015

Due to the insufficient time between the yearend on the 31st March 2015 and the publication of this report for the Annual Parish Meeting on the 28th April, it is not possible to produce the year end accounts summary. Therefore, information is provided in the form of pie charts, which show the income and expenditure of this Council.

A detailed summary will be available shortly from the Clerk.

	2014/2015	2015/2016
	£	£
Gross Expenditure	401,684	436,775
Income	95,264	91,942
Net Expenditure	306,420	344,833
ECDC's parish contribution	18,655	32,037 (includes reserves/ECDC contribution)
Amount of Precept	306,420	312,746

INCOME 14/15



EXPENDITURE 2014/2015

