



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT 7.00PM
ON TUESDAY 26TH JUNE 2018

PRESENT;

Cllr M Rouse, The Mayor, Cllr I Lindsay, Cllr A Arnold, Cllr E Every, Cllr M Lansell, Cllr P Moakes

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Cllr Rouse invited nominations for the Chair of the Committee. Cllr Every proposed that Cllr Lindsay should be elected as Chair. This was seconded by Cllr Moakes and unanimously agreed. Cllr Lindsay proposed that Cllr Every should be elected as Vice Chair. This was seconded by Cllr Moakes and unanimously agreed. Cllr Rouse thanked Cllr Mansell for having chaired the Committee for the previous two years and then left the meeting. Cllr Lindsay then chaired the meeting.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations received.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 20TH MARCH 2018 & MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 20th March 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages ENV33 and 34 refer.

Matters Arising – Page 34, item 9, A.O.B. – Cllr Arnold reported that the bike had been removed.

5. BUDGET UPDATE

Members noted the budget update, dated 19th June 2018. There were no significant variances. A discussion took place about the budget for the minor highway improvements. It was agreed the budget for these projects should be included within the Environment Committee budget.

6. HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES

Cllr Moakes raised concerns about the number of potholes in and around Ely. In her capacity as a County Councillor, Cllr Every advised that issues like this should be reported to Highways via the County Council website. Residents need to be encouraged to register potholes and any other problems spotted on the highway as this is the correct procedure in order to get defects/faults fixed.

7. ELY IN BLOOM

Cllr Arnold agreed to continue to be the lead contact for all matters concerning Ely in Bloom for the coming year. Competition judging will be carried out on 20th July and the presentation evening will be held in the Council Chamber on 7th August 2018.

It was agreed that the Committee needed to look at the options available to them once the current Ely in Bloom contract with Simply Gardening of Ely comes to an end. The current contractor will be contacted to discuss their future plans.

8. TRAFFIC WORKING PARTY

Cllr Every reported that the Speedwatch campaign is working well under the guidance of local resident, David Godsmark. There is a small well-trained team that has gained knowledge and a good understanding about the traffic/speeding issues in Ely.

Cllr Every has now collated the potential projects to be put forward for Minor Highway Improvement Bids

- 1 Extra temporary traffic signs supported by a planned programme of use
- 2 The closing of parking in the lay by opposite Castlehythe in Station Road – (Cllr Every is going to check if this suggestion is part of a bigger scheme)
- 3 Re-location of the 30mph speed sign in Stuntney
- 4 Prickwillow – speed reduction sign and footpath to Community Centre along Putney Hill
- 5 20mph speed reduction signs to be used during school start and finish times – Highfields Special School and Isle of Ely Primary School.
- 6 Pedestrian Crossing across Cam Drive

After discussing the potential bids, it was proposed by Cllr Every and seconded by Cllr Moakes that Cllr Every would concentrate on bids 1,2, 5 and 6.

9. MOBILE SPEED CAMERA

A working group is to be created to organise a system for the use of the new mobile speed camera received from the County Council. Speedwatch has learned that the worst areas for speeding are Cam Drive, Lisle Lane, Kings Avenue, Prickwillow and Stuntney. A rota for the use of the camera will be organised in these areas.

10. FINGER POST SIGNAGE AT SESSIONS

Staff members at Sessions House have suggested that it would be useful to erect some heritage style finger post signs at the back the building to direct parishioners correctly between City of Ely Council, East Cambs District Council, the Register Office and the office of the Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Cllr Every said that signage for the whole of Ely is under review and that the Tourism and Town Centre Committee will be reviewing this.

11. DOCKLESS BIKE SHARING SCHEME

Cllr Mansell raised concerns about the dockless bike sharing scheme that is in operation in Cambridge. He has experience of one of these bikes being dumped near to his home in Ely, which took ten days for it to be removed. The issue is that because the bike has been taken out of the range of the operation, it can not be activated for use. Cllr Mansell has suggested that this Committee should have a policy in place before any similar schemes are set up in Ely. At the request of the Chair, Cllr Mansell agreed to explore this further and to write a process of how it should be dealt with.

12. PARISH LANTERN UPGRADE TO LED

Cllr Lindsay suggested that it may be beneficial to upgrade the lamps owned by the City of Ely Council to LED. It was agreed that Balfour Beatty would be contacted to find out the cost and to get advice of the long-term benefits of an upgrade.

13. REVIEW OF STREET FURNITURE ASSETS

The Q-GIS map has now had approximately 95% of the Council's street furniture assets added to it. Ely Perspective has now completed an audit of the street furniture for the whole of the City and it is hoped that working in conjunction with them, areas in need of attention can be identified and a programme of work can be planned.

14. A.O.B

Cllr Lindsay is mindful that Cllr Moakes and Cllr Phillips are looking at the Council's Committee structures but until he is advised otherwise, he will continue to work to the current terms of reference. He will be producing an up to date action plan which he will forward to members as soon as possible.

Members agreed to the purchase of a further five dog waste bins to hold in stock.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting has been set for 13th August 2018.