



**CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT 7.30PM
ON MONDAY 13TH AUGUST 2018**

PRESENT;

Cllr M Rouse, The Mayor, Cllr M Lansell, Cllr P Moakes, Cllr J Yates, Cllr A Arnold, Cllr I Lindsay, Mrs M Pickering.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr E Every.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations received.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 26TH JUNE 2018 & MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 26th June 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages ENV35 and 36 refer.

Matters Arising – Page 36, item 8 – It should have been minuted that the decision on which bids were to be submitted had been devolved to the Environment Committee.

Matters Arising – Page 36, item 11 – Cllr Mansell has contacted ECDC enquiring as to whether there is a policy for the removal of any discarded dockless bikes. It appears that ECDC does not have a policy currently, but Cllr Lansell will continue to liaise with ECDC officers.

4. BUDGET UPDATE

Members noted the budget update, dated 30th June 2018. There were no significant variances.

5. ACTION PLAN

Cllr Lindsay reported that the Tourism & Town Centre Manager has set up a meeting with the street cleaning team at ECDC in order to carry out a ‘walkabout’ of the City where street furniture assets will be inspected. A report has already been compiled by Ely Perspective and it is hoped that the Environment Committee will be able to get a copy of this.

Members commented that there is a lot of graffiti in the City at the moment. Some has been cleared but more is appearing. Cllr Lansell commented that the graffiti outside of the tourist areas is not getting dealt with. A discussion about how the problem can be resolved took place and if there was anything the City of Ely Council could do, but Cllr Lindsay pointed out that this Council does not have the resources to help with this.

6. HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES

There were no health and safety issues to report.

7. ELY IN BLOOM

Cllr Lindsay thanked Cllr Arnold for organising the Ely in Bloom competition and the presentation evening on 7th August 2018. The evening was well attended and a success.

The discussion then focused on the provision of hanging baskets etc. after the current contract with Simply Gardening of Ely has ceased. Members were briefly informed of how other local Parish Councils in the area provide and maintain their baskets and planters. It was agreed that the Horticultural Society and the local charity

Earth, would be contacted to find out if they could provide a service. The possibility of employing a seasonal/part-time staff member was also discussed.

8. TRAFFIC WORKING GROUP - TO DISCUSS FUNDING OF MHI BIDS

It was agreed that if none of the minor highway improvement bids were successful, the Council would still like to carry out the work on all bids, not just the two that have been submitted. The Committee proposed to fund this by:

A £10,000 underspend from last year's minor highways budget
£20,000 to be budgeted into the City of Ely Council budget for 2019/2020.
The balance to be made up from CIL monies.

It was agreed that the CIL/Section 106 Working Group should meet to identify areas where CIL monies should be spent. Cllr Rouse suggested that using CIL money obtained from Prickwillow and Stunten developments for improvements in these areas, would be a good use of the funds.

9. PARISH LANTERNS UPGRADE TO LED - UPDATE

Four organisations have been contacted to ask for a quote to upgrade the parish lamps to LED. So far, one contractor has responded and has met with Cllr Lindsay to carry out a site visit. The contractor advised that an annual maintenance contract would not be necessary, as an inspection would be carried out when the lamp was upgraded to LED. All lamps could be converted at the same time or could be serially upgraded. Before any decisions are made the other requests for quotes would need to be chased and members would need to have some idea of what the potential savings on energy costs would be. The aim is to raise this at Full Council at the end of August as the Committee would like to see the conversion completed by the time the clocks go back in October.

10. A.O.B

It has been noticed that when the parish ward boundaries change later in the year, the bus shelter currently owned by the City of Ely Council at Lancaster Way Business Park, will no longer be within the parish of Ely but in Witchford Parish. It was agreed that Witchford Parish Council would be contacted, suggesting that they take ownership of the bus shelter.

Due to the reconfiguration of the highway at and around Angel Drove, we have been advised that the bus stop on Station Road will be moved to Angel Drove. The City of Ely Council has a bus shelter at this stop, but it is not certain as to whether there will be enough room for a shelter at the new site and if indeed the shelter is fit to be moved here. Cllr Lindsay suggested that if there was no longer a need for this shelter, then the County Council would be asked to remove it and make good the path where it once stood. Further information is awaited from County Council. Members proposed that the County Council should be asked why the bus stop on The Dock at Tesco could not be used instead of siting a new stop on Angel Drove, where there is already a shelter. It would be a very minor detour for the bus to make.

11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting has been set for 8th October 2018.