



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
SESSIONS HOUSE
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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
SESSIONS HOUSE, LYNN ROAD, ELY AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY, 21ST OCTOBER 2019**

PRESENT: Mrs T Coulson - Clerk to the Council

Cllr M Rouse, Mayor

Cllr S Bellow

Cllr K Wilkins

4 members of public

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr E Every

Ms C Somerville, Babylon Arts

Cllr I Lindsay

Cllr E Carlsson Browne

Cllr R Denness

NOT PRESENT: Cllr M Downey

The Mayor requested all those present join him in a minute's silence, in recognition of the service given to the Council, as a past Mayor and councillor by Mr Bryant Watson, who had died on the 5th October 2019.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr A Whelan, Cllr C Whelan, Cllr C Phillips, Cllr Warman and Cllr S Austen.

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 23RD SEPTEMBER 2019 AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 23rd September 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1784, 1785, 1786, 1787, 1788, 1789 and 1790 refer. There were no matters arising.

5. CLAIRE SOMERVILLE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF BABYLON ARTS TO TALK ABOUT THE CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF ELY

Ms Somerville informed members she had looked at the Council's mission and felt that by delivering the Babylon Arts mission they would also be delivering the Council's. She thanked the Council for the use of the Maltings, in kind, which allows them to run their cinema. They had 6000 people through the door with 102 film screening and live events. The Cinema Campaign has already raised £11,500 and gained the support of TLC Inns, who are donating to the campaign with purchases from their restaurants. Over the last two years there has been a dynamic shift in the staff and trustees. The purpose of Babylon Arts is to develop a culture style celebration going forward and to attract visitors and businesses to the area. The Mayor asked what funding ECDC provides to them and she confirmed that they did not provide any. Cllr Every asked if they were looking to form a Stakeholder Group, with the Council being part of this. Ms Somerville confirmed that they would like to bring stakeholders together and felt they could work more effectively and strategically if working together. She hoped the Council would consider becoming part of such a group. She also explained how they work with schools and that the Membership scheme is still in operation. Cllr Every proposed the Council supports this organisation with regard to a cultural strategy for Ely and the district and be part of the process to develop this wider. Cllr Denness seconded this proposal and members unanimously agreed. The Council will try and move to a closer working strategy with Babylon Arts. The Mayor thanked Ms Somerville for attending the meeting. She left the meeting at 7.25 pm.

6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor informed members of the Remembrance Service, Christmas gathering, VE day celebrations with the Eel Day and Food Festival to be held on the weekend of the 8th May 2020 and the VJ Day service on the 19th July 2020.

7. QUESTION TIME

A parishioner, who had previously discussed with the Chairman of the Tourism and Town Centre Committee their suggestions on how to improve some aspects of the tourism service, this Council offered, asked if there was an update on how to make the Courthouse part of Tourism. Cllr Lindsay informed the parishioner that decoration of the Court room was currently underway. It is the Council's ambition to incorporate Sessions House into the tourist trail. It was also hoped that once Ely Museum's redevelopment is complete, it may be possible to integrate some of their events into this building.

8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Members noted the report from County Cllr Bailey. A copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Members noted the report from Cllr Every in her capacity as a County Councillor and District Councillor. A copy of which is attached to these minutes.

9. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended the Ely Heroes cheque presentation; JDR Cables Littleport Stemtastic Day; Ribe Association AGM; had a publicity photo for the Really Big Bash Charity event for Babylon Gallery Anglian Potters Exhibition; attended Ely Station new Greater Anglia trains and the Ely Station Macmillan coffee morning; Ely Fire Station car wash; New Connexions Church 11th birthday and Harvest Festival; attended Macmillan coffee morning at Prickwillow Village Hall; the KD Theatre Panto launch for Dick Whittington; the Prickwillow Ploughing Festival and was a guest speaker for Soham Old Grammarians annual lunch. He had also attended the Ely Police Station Open Day; the Prickwillow Ploughing Festival presentations; visited the new County Archives at Ely; the launch of Ely Fireworks at Oliver Cromwell House; met with Canon Garrod and Colin Elsdon, DL re VE and VJ Day; the Bowman Lecture at Kings, Ely; he welcomed the Mayor of St Ives and party from Stadtallendorf; the Isle of Ely potato races; the old Eleans annual dinner; Godmanchester Civic Service; Maltings wedding fayre; visit of HRH the Princess Royal to Corkers Crisps; photo call at Ely Market to support Connecting Cambridgeshire; Apple Festival; Ely Choral Society's Faure's Requiem and held his Civic Service at St Mary's Church.

10. PLANNING

A report of the Planning Committee meeting, immediately prior to this meeting was received.

11. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following information only items were received:-

Notification of tree work:- 6 Cambridge Road, Ely; 56 Fitzgerald Close, Ely; Ely Marine Ltd, Cathedral Marina, Waterside, Ely; Oil & Gas Systems Ltd, 6 St Thomas Place, Ely; 16B Nutholt Lane, Ely; 22 Lynn Road, Ely; 2 Station Road, Ely; 34 Prickwillow Road, Ely; 11 Waterside, Ely; 4 The Paddock, Ely; 2 Houghton Gardens, Ely; 19 Heaton Drive, Ely; 18 Williams Close, Ely; 19 Broad Street, Ely; 16 Cambridge Road, Ely; 5 Cardinals Terrace, Board Street, Ely; 45 Cardinals Way, Ely

Notification of road closures:- Chapel Street, Ely – 12 – 13.11.19

Thank you letter from Prickwillow Engine Trust regarding grant

Email from ECDC Planning Officer regarding removal of telephone box consultation

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE – Cllr Carlsson Browne presented a report of a meeting held on the 9th September, which was approved. Members unanimously approved the recommendations for the grant awards.

(ii) ENVIRONMENT – Cllr Lindsay presented a report of a meeting held on the 8th October, which was approved. The contract for the floral displays had been awarded to Simpson's Nursery of Fordham. Issues reported under the Traffic Working Group were noted. Three quotations had been received regarding the refurbishment of the Prickwillow War Memorial. Cllr Lindsay proposed that the quotation from Hanchets Monumental Masons be accepted. Although this was not the cheapest, it was felt to be the preferred option. Cllr Every seconded this

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED

proposal and members unanimously agreed. Cllr Lindsay informed members there was a community litter pick planned for the 3rd May 2020. The proposed budget for 2020/21 was also agreed.

(iii) RECREATION & CEMETERY – Cllr Arnold presented a report of a meeting held on the 30th September, which was approved. Members agreed the proposed budget for 2020/21. Trinity Dole had confirmed they would be happy to extend or renew the lease for a period of 25 years. This would allow the Council to apply for Section 106 funding to upgrade this site. Members were pleased to receive this confirmation. The archaeological investigation at the cemetery was now complete and the work to the area can now proceed. The Friends of Ely Cemetery will be holding their next meeting on the 30th October. Prickwillow Village Council will be contacted regarding them obtaining funding for upgrading the play area in Prickwillow.

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – Cllr Wilkins presented a report of a meeting held on the 14th October, which was approved. The reports from the Lighting Group and Switch-on Group were noted.

(v) ASSETS & ACQUISITIONS – The update regarding the decoration of the court room was noted. Planning permission for the installation of air conditioning units in the Council’s main office and the Council Chamber had been submitted to ECDC.

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

(vii) YOUTH FORUM – The Mayor presented a report of a meeting held on the 15th October 2019, which was approved. The Committee had made a decision that the Mayor’s cadet was not inclusive enough and felt it should be opened up to other organisations. The Mayor felt that to have a Mayor’s cadet was his decision and he did not agree with the Committee’s decision. Therefore, he had decided not to proceed with having a Mayor’s cadet. He suggested that the Committee could have a youth of the year award if they wished.

(viii) TOURISM AND TOWN CENTRE COMMITTEE – No report as Committee had not met.

13. WORKING PARTIES/STEERING GROUPS REPORTS

Cllr Every raised her continued concerns regarding an adopted strategy for the use of CIL monies. She requested an update on the Council’s CIL funds available. The Clerk agreed to provide this to members.

14. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

There were no reports from external meetings.

15. TO CONSIDER LETTER FROM THE RURAL SERVICES NETWORK

Members felt that Ely was more urban than rural and therefore unanimously agreed that they did not wish to join this Network.

16. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON ECDC’S COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME CONSULTATION

It was unanimously agreed that members would respond as individuals to this consultation.

17. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON A TABLES AND CHAIRS LICENCE APPLICATION – MARKET KITCHEN, 1-3 MARKET STREET, ELY

Members unanimously agreed to support this application. However, it was requested that any ‘A’ boards be positioned within this area and not on the public open space. The applicant should ensure that barriers are also in place, as visually impaired people find it very 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 tables and chairs.

18. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON A PROPOSED DISABLED PERSONS PARKING BAY – NEW BARNES AVENUE, ELY

Members unanimously agreed to support this application. However, they were concerned that the County Council does not remove these when the resident moves or no longer requires this.

19. TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION FROM INTERVIEW PANEL TO APPOINT THE ASSISTANT MANAGER FOR THE MALTINGS AND TO PASS A RESOLUTION THAT THEY BE SPECIFIED AS A PENSIONABLE EMPLOYEE UNDER REGULATION B1(5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS 1986 (AS AMENDED)

The Mayor proposed the formal appointment of Mrs A Farrow to the position of the full-time Assistant Venue Manager at the Maltings, and that the Council pass a resolution that they be specified as a pensionable employee under regulation B1(5) of the Local Government Regulations 1986 (as amended). This was seconded by Cllr Lindsay and unanimously approved.

20. TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION FROM INTERVIEW PANEL TO APPOINT THE TOURISM AND TOWN CENTRE MANAGER

Cllr Every proposed the formal appointment of Mrs A Bennett to the position of the Tourism and Town Centre Manager. This was seconded by the Mayor and unanimously approved.

21. TO RECEIVE THE COUNCIL'S DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN AND TO RANK THE PRIORITIES LIST

Members agreed that they should rank the priorities list and return to the Clerk by the 1st November. These will then be returned to the consultant to analysis.

22. FINANCE

Members approved the following payments:-

Direct debit payments and BACS payments

ECDC	908.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	491.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	933.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	275.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	1733.00	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	695.29	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	396.45	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	250.00	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	72.00	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	277.53	Paid by direct debit
EE	113.34	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	1837.50	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	674.17	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	61.37	Paid by direct debit
Siemens	569.40	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	189.16	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	320.48	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	249.49	Paid by direct debit
S Blake	858.00	Paid by BACS
D Holt	50.00	Paid by BACS
ESPO	63.05	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	428.44	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	112.61	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	227.56	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	248.26	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	189.11	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	124.74	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	3090.94	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	38.96	Paid by direct debit

22. FINANCE CONTINUED

The following invoices had been paid prior to the Full Council, due to due date of payment with the approval of the Chairman

Arco Ltd	4.75	112850
HM Revenue & Customs	6178.40	112851
RGP Security Services Ltd	108.00	112852
S Bradley	360.00	112853
Sigma Embroidery	30.00	112855
Elyi Magazine	245.60	112856
Clarity Heating	480.00	112857
RGP Security Services Ltd	234.00	112860
ECDC	23.00	112862
JezO's	3816.00	112863
Anglia Stairlifts	1770.00	112861
Carole Souvenirs Ltd	231.00	112859
H McCreadie	50.00	112864
Stuntney Village Council	250.00	112865 (grant/Section 137)
Ely Youth Choir	350.00	112866 (grant/Section 137)
Ely Museum	2000.00	112867 (grant/Section 145)
East Cambs Art Festival	575.00	112868 (grant/Section 137)
Talking FreEly	500.00	112869 (grant/Section 137)
Magpas Air Ambulance	500.00	112870 (grant/Section 137)
Babylon Arts	750.00	112871 (grant/Section 145)
Ely City Football Club	1500.00	112872 (grant/Section 137)
East Cambs Neighbourhood Watch	300.00	112873 (grant/Section 137)
Spectrum Cambridge	500.00	112874 (grant/Section 137)
EARTH	860.00	112875 (grant/Section 137)
VCAEC	750.00	112876 (grant/Section 137)
Ely & District Parkinson's UK SG	500.00	112877 (grant/Section 137)
Ely Perspective Ltd	240.00	112878 (grant/Section 137)
Cambs Artistic Roller Skating Club	750.00	112879 (grant/Section 137)
Highfield Ely Academy	750.00	112880 (grant/Section 137)
All In Sound	750.00	112881 (grant/Section 137)
Prickwillow Village Council	120.00	112882 (grant/Section 137)

The following invoices had not been paid prior to the meeting

Holy Mackerel (UK) Ltd	51.63	112883
Fens Falconry	270.30	Paid by BACS
Bright Publishing Ltd	180.00	112884
ECDC	180.00	112885
City Cycle Centre	27.37	112886
BusinessClean (Cambridge) Ltd	1116.44	112887
ECDC	1592.65	112888
ECDC	1635.35	112888
CamAlarms Ltd	474.00	112889
Savills (UK) Ltd	264.50	112890
Swann of York Ltd	539.76	112891
First Aid Training Services Ltd	1050.00	112892
Clearview Communications Ltd	1569.77	112893
Ancestors of Dover Ltd	1251.72	112894
Coffee Plus	61.25	112895
Archaeological Solutions Ltd	4132.80	112949
Something Different Wholesale Ltd	93.40	112847
Ensign Solutions Ltd	28.80	112898

22. FINANCE CONTINUED

Cooleraid Ltd	38.18	112899
Securitas Security Services (UK) Ltd	176.40	112900
ECDC	166.80	112901
Mr & Mrs Bownlow	105.00	112902
G & J Peck Ltd	0.66	112903
Millennium Pest Control Ltd	66.00	112904
CCTV Volunteer	16.20	112905
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	100.00	112906
Cambridgeshire Turf Nurseries	126.00	112907
ECDC	777.00	112901
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	29.56	112908
Ely Central Heating Services Ltd	76.00	112909
Iliffe Media Publishing Ltd	234.00	112910
A G Hobbs	76.80	112911
DBL Promotion	200.00	112912
Fenland Leisure Products Ltd	68.40	112913
Total Gas & Power	9.53	112914
Jewson Ltd	50.18	112915
ECDC	20.00	112916
Trade UK	33.98	112917
ESPO	55.60	112918
K Ellis	2021.00	112919
Simpson's Nurseries Ltd	126.82	112920
Warren Access	73.80	112921
E Coster	60.00	112922
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	29.84	112923
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	121.99	112923
Chess ICT Ltd	209.59	Paid by direct debit
First Aid Training Services Ltd	630.00	112892
Radio Facilities Ltd	327.00	112925
Gordon Harrison	121.79	112924
Solitech Sound Lighting & AV Services Ltd	6960.00	112926
G & J Peck Ltd	12.36	112903
Total Gas & Power	235.03	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	177.83	Paid by direct debit
Plan Communications Ltd	72.28	Paid by direct debit
Plan Communications Ltd	124.92	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	124.10	Paid by direct debit
Heightsafe Systems Ltd	1038.00	112950
Cambridgeshire Turf Nurseries	324.00	112907
Clarity Heating	120.00	112928
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	109.50	112929
Sigma Embroidery Ltd	254.28	112930
Barclaycard	555.14	Paid by direct debit
Anglian Water	40.38	112932
Anglian Water	30.80	112931
Greene King Brewing & Retailing Ltd	1556.25	Paid by direct debit
RGP Security Services Ltd	108.00	112933
Trade UK	113.08	112917
1st Sutton Scout Group	50.00	112934
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	112906
Elyi Magazine	50.00	112935

22. FINANCE CONTINUED

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 23rd September 2019

Salaries and wages	£27,893.61
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£8,741.11
Pension fund payments	£15,026.19

Members noted the bank reconciliations against the accounts for the periods ending 31st August 2019 and 30th September 2019

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Cambridgeshire County Council Update - City of Ely Council 21st October 2019

Business Planning

The Council is in full business planning mode with all Committees focused on the detail of their service delivery plans for 2020/21. Consultation, via a face to face survey of 1,100 residents is taking place on the CCC 2020/21 Business Plan to help inform its development and the budget. Questions in the survey test the appetite of residents to become more involved in helping to support their communities as well as the annual decision on Council Tax.

2019 Conference for Cambridgeshire Local Councils

This year's full day event will continue the conversation about how we all work together to improve our local community. Over the past year public sector partners across Cambridgeshire have been developing a new approach to put communities first and build on the existing strengths of local places and people. This conference gives us the time to talk together about the opportunities this creates. The agenda will cover the 'Think Community' way of working, the values that underpin it, and how local councils can adopt this approach and get involved. I would strongly urge representatives of the City of Ely Council to attend. To book a place or places, please complete the online booking form at <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/conf19/>

Corporate Energy Strategy

An updated joint Corporate Energy Strategy for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough councils has been approved. This is the first time that the two councils have produced a joint energy strategy. CCC approved the strategy and associated action plan at General Purposes Committee in July. The Strategy can be viewed here: <https://www.mlei.co.uk/climate&environment/corporate-energy-strategy/>

St Ives Park & Ride Smart Energy Grid

This will be a 'first of its kind' in the UK, paving the way for future green energy projects. The project will install car ports above the two central car parking sections, to which solar panels will be fitted. These panels will generate renewable electricity - powering not only the site, but also electric vehicle charging points and local businesses in the years to come.

Construction is expected to start in early 2020 and will take up to one year to complete. The car park will remain open, with construction work being carefully coordinated to minimise the impact on users of the site.



Design image of the solar panel car ports at St Ives Park & Ride site

Innovate UK Bid

CCC is working with East Cambs District Council put forward a bid to Innovate UK to design an energy system to deliver net zero carbon emissions from energy use in East Cambridgeshire by 2050; the project focuses on shifting transport, gas and oil use to electricity and to grow the electricity network to cater for the change.

Kings Dyke Tender Issued

On 30th September 2019, the Council published a notice and tender documents marking the start of the formal procurement process to secure a new construction partner for the much needed Whittlesey King's Dyke level crossing scheme. The scheme will see considerable benefits for the local community by reducing journey times and unlocking housing and jobs growth within the town

and along the A605 corridor. It will also improve safety around the level crossing and support rail capacity enhancements across the wider region.

A shortlist of contractors that score highest in initial quality assessments, will be issued the main invitation to tender at the end of November and they will then have four months to submit bids. This keeps us on track for the appointed contractor to start construction by December 2020.

Innovative Recruitment Campaign for Social Workers

The Council has invited more than 150 people to attend social worker interviews since its 'We Love Social Workers' campaign launched in January 2019. Working with creative agency CPL, the campaign initially focused on attracting adult social workers to work in Cambridgeshire. This has so far led to 111 people being invited to interview, 84 people interviewed so far, 54 offered a role and 29 of these have already started working for Cambridgeshire County Council. From a high of 40 vacancies at the start of the campaign there are now only eight social worker and five senior social worker vacancies. During the summer, the campaign was expanded to cover children's social worker roles. So far, 42 people have been invited to interview, 18 people interviewed and six new social workers have already joined. In addition four agency workers have become permanent employees. This campaign leads on from the See the Difference Reablement Recruitment campaign which recently won two regional awards from the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR).

Adult Social Care Funding

The Council was pleased to hear about the £1.5bn of additional short term funding from central Government for upper tier local authorities for social care in the autumn spending review, testament to the hard work that has gone into lobbying. £500m of this is expected to be raised locally, by Government extending the option for local authorities to raise 2% from the adult social care precept. For Cambridgeshire we expect the additional money to be worth c.£9.6m to be used across children and young people's and adults social care services. Whilst it is very welcome news, it does not address the longer term budget gaps and continued unfair distribution of Government funds. The Council continues to successfully manage the financial situation in the Adults Committee and most importantly to find opportunities for improved outcomes. One such innovation is Neighbourhood Cares, which has been running as a pilot in Soham and St Ives and has had a huge impact on the way that people are supported in those communities. A video has been made to capture the outcomes from the pilots and work is now being taken forward via the Think Communities Strategy to embed the principles and methods of working locally across Cambridgeshire and will be released shortly.

County Council Funded Healthchecks

Free NHS health checks are being offered to residents aged 40-74 years to help detect early health issues before they do real damage. The 20-30 minutes checks, funded through the County Council's Public Health budget, will include monitoring blood pressure, weight, cholesterol and lifestyle factors that influence health. By booking a check our residents can find out how likely they are to get heart or kidney disease, diabetes or have a stroke in the future, and if the likelihood is high, advice on how to reduce this. Those aged over 65 are also told about the signs and symptoms of dementia. Between April 2017 and March 2018, over 20,500 Health Checks were completed across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, an increase of 14 per cent from the previous year. This is a great opportunity to find out early if you are at risk of a stroke, diabetes, a heart attack, or many other life threatening conditions. By finding out early, before serious damage is done, you could potentially make lifestyle changes that would massively reduce, or in some cases, eliminate your risk of dying early as a result of these conditions. If you're aged between 40-74 years and do not currently have a long-term health condition it is recommended that you should have a Health Check every five years. Call or visit the GP now to get a Free Health Check. More information can be found here: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/bewell/resources-and-campaigns/nhs-health-checks-programme/>

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**City of Ely Council– Cambridgeshire County Council and East Cambridgeshire District
Update – 21 October 2019**

Cambridgeshire County Council

Cllr Lis Every, Cambridgeshire County Councillor – Ely North

We have a focus on how important it is that elected Members know and understand their role as corporate parents of all our young people in care and those who are leaving care. This may well influence decisions that are made in Committees which impact on this important group, ie what would you want for your own children? Our newly formed Foster Carers Association which represents all our foster carers has been invited to take part in the Corporate Parenting Sub Committee agenda. They have been particularly supportive of the increasingly successful recruitment for foster carers. Recruitment for those interested in adoption is now in place as we plan to decrease the amount of time that successful adoptions take whilst increasing the numbers of young people who are adopted.

The Communities and Partnership Committee meeting took place in the new Archives in Ely – a really impressive building which incorporates an effective multi space for conferences and an excellent space for the Register Office which has recently moved from the centre of Ely. The emphasis of the meeting was on the growth and development of our library spaces and social prescribing. Recommissioning will take place for the new contract for infrastructure support services which will serve both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. At present this is undertaken by Support Cambridgeshire and the CVS in Peterborough. The Innovate and Cultivate Fund had met and grants had been made for the Cultivate Fund with several organisations going forward for the Innovate fund. Work continues on the development of Community Hubs which will result in County staff being available in hubs around the county working away from the central headquarters which will be based at Alconbury.

It was agreed at the Constitution and Ethics Committee that the social media guidelines being proposed should not be adopted but that a collaborative approach to an agreed set of guidelines be pursued with consultation with all local authorities which can be adopted by them all.

East Cambridgeshire District Council – Ely East

The ECDC Full Council meeting on 17 October was a long one with 20 Agenda items. There were a large number of the general public which is welcomed. This is to be encouraged. At the normal question time there were two questions regarding Climate Change/emergency and a petition was delivered on the same issue. The motion on Encouraging Inclusivity was withdrawn. Two motions followed on Climate issues, one from the opposition and one from the leading administration. The first motion was not passed and the second motion which took note of the petition agreed to their being a Climate Emergency with a planned approach was passed. A question regarding the governance of the Council's two companies was posed and answered. The Corporate Plan for the next four years was discussed and passed. Other issues discussed were regarding the polling review, recommendations from Committees, the Independent Remuneration Report, changes to the Constitution, the current situation of the Local Plan, CIL update and proposed changes, a report from the Combined Authority and an asset issue (discussed due to its sensitivity in committee). The minutes will be published on the website.

A date for your Diary – our Eyes and Ears Celebration at the Cathedral on Thursday 24th from 10.00 am. This is a real opportunity to understand some of our issues and the support that is provided for our more vulnerable residents.

