



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
SESSIONS HOUSE
LYNN ROAD
ELY CB7 4EG

Tel: 01353 661016 Fax: 01353 667057
E-mail: info@cityofelycouncil.org.uk

**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, 23RD SEPTEMBER 2019**

PRESENT: Mrs T Coulson - Clerk to the Council

Cllr M Rouse, Mayor

Cllr I Lindsay

Cllr E Carlsson Browne

Cllr D Warman

Cllr R Denness

4 members of public

Cllr S Austen

Cllr S Bellow

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr C Whelan

Cllr K Wilkins

Ms R Saunt, ECDC

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr A Whelan

Cllr E Every

Mr C Partrick, ECDC

NOT PRESENT: Cllr M Downey

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies were received.

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr Every declared a prejudicial interest in item 17 as she helped prepare the original brief. She signed page 233 of the Register of Members Interest Book and left the meeting whilst this was discussed.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 27TH AUGUST 2019 AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 27th August 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1777, 1778, 1779, 1780, 1781, 1782 and 1783 refer.

There were no matters arising.

5. REBECCA SAUNT, PLANNING MANAGER AND CHRISTOPHER PARTRICK, CONSERVATION OFFICER FROM ECDC TO GIVE A GENERAL UPDATE REGARDING PLANNING

Ms Saunt explained to members about the District Council's sustainable five year housing stock. The Planning Department has to adhere to the National Policy Framework and this is used as a basis for determining all applications, as all decisions have to be based on policy. Unfortunately, the new Local Plan did not progress so they still operate under the 2015 Local Plan. She also gave examples of possible material planning considerations.

Cllr Every said that ECDC Planning Department is seen as a 'can do' department and advised members to go and see Planning Officers if they had any queries regarding planning.

Mr Partrick gave his planning background and raised some concerns with regards to some heritage issues within the City. He suggested that the City Council might like to be involved in a Heritage Forum, which he would like to set up. This would enable organisations within the City to be represented and involved in decisions. He is currently reviewing the District Council's list of Buildings of Local Interest and having a blitz on illegal banners.

Cllr Lindsay asked if the Council's comments on planning applications were too brief. Ms Saunt said that they welcome additional comments regarding local knowledge, eg: drainage concerns etc.

The Chairman thanked them for attending and they left the meeting at 7.30 pm.

6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor informed members he had invited Babylon Arts to give a presentation at the next Full Council meeting. He also requested members let him know of any Macmillan coffee mornings taking place so he can try to support them.

7. QUESTION TIME

A parishioner present informed members, in their capacity as a member of the East Cambs Access Group, that the situation with regard to street clutter in Ely was coming to a head. Following various correspondence with the County Council and Lucy Frazer MP, a meeting will be held shortly with Lucy Frazer MP to discuss this further. The County Council had appointed a new Enforcement Officer a few months ago, but they had not see any improvement in these issues. The new City Centre Ranger had attended one of the Group's meetings where this issue was discussed. The Group however, do not feel that the Ranger has any powers to enforce and the City of Ely Council should resist if the County Council tries to force this on the Council.

The Chairman hoped that the Group got a satisfactory compromise or general resolution.

8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

There were no reports from County Councillors or District Councillors.

9. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended the presentation of Ely College certificates; leaving event for a member of staff; Ely Museum Brunch; Ely Methodist Church induction of Revd Dixon; raising of Red Ensign flag on City Council's flagpole; opening of the Prospects Trust unwrapped shop; Fenland District Council's Chairman's Reception; Ramsey Civic Service; City of Ely Allotments and Gardens Association's annual awards; welcomed visiting NT party from Northants; presented Ely Library summer reading certificates; Love Ely at the Maltings; met with the Dean of Ely with Cllr Every; hosted heritage tour of Ely Cemetery; launch of Archer & Gather Adventures; Littleport and Ely Lion Club Charter Lunch; met with Ms Somerville from Babylon Arts; 30 year anniversary reception for Grovemere at Apex Café; Archant Business Awards at Lady Chapel; launch of book '16 Barton Road' at Burrows Bookshop; Needham's Association 30th Dinner and attended the Pagan and Alternative Fair
The Deputy Mayor had attended the Ely Symphonia concert at the Cathedral.

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:- 32 Egremont Street, Ely; 20 Lumley Close, Ely; 101 Cambridge Road, Ely; 2 Houghton Gardens, Ely; 22 Cromwell Road, Ely; 56 Lynn Road, Ely

Notification of road closures:- Steward Close, Stuntney 1.10.19 – 31.3.20; Victoria Street, Ely 25 – 27.11.19; Black Horse Drive LC 30.11.19, 1.12.19, 2.12.19 (01.05 hrs until 03.05 hours each night)

Letter from CCC re Back Hill/Broad Street, Ely – Safety Improvement Scheme

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE – Cllr A Whelan presented a report of a meeting held on the 9th September, which was approved. Cllr A Whelan proposed that Council accept the grant award recommendations. This was seconded by Cllr Lindsay and unanimously approved. The grant cheques will be presented at the end of the Mayor's Civic Service.

(ii) ENVIRONMENT – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Lindsay informed members they were still awaiting the third quote for the floral displays contract for next year. Due to timescales, Cllr Lindsay requested Council gave him authority to consider the three quotes and make a decision with the Clerks, on which quote to accept. Members unanimously agreed to his request.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED

(iii) RECREATION & CEMETERY – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Phillips informed members the next meeting would be on the 30th September. He also gave an update on the archaeological dig within the proposed new burial section. This had now been completed but nothing had been found. Due to the clay, this section will only accommodate single depth graves. On the 25th September, he will be meeting with the Deputy Clerk and Estates Manager, on site to look at the plans and costs for the new burial section. He also reported that the Heritage open day at the cemetery went very well. The first newsletter for the Friends of Ely Cemetery will be published soon and it is hoped the Group will take on more responsibility for future work. The vandalism at the St John’s Road play area and open space appears to have stopped and the Council will look to replace the vandalised equipment with more something more durable. The negotiations for the revised rent at Willow Walk are still continuing. New play signs will be installed at all play areas shortly.

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Wilkins informed members the meeting with Ely Markets had now taken place and they had been satisfied with the Committee’s arrangements etc.

(v) ASSETS & ACQUISITIONS – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Morgan informed members of Cllr Every’s request for information regarding the Maltings. He requested that councillors and the Clerks give him assistance to provide this.

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

(vii) YOUTH FORUM – No report as Committee had not met.

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

13. WORKING PARTIES/STEERING GROUPS REPORTS

CIL Working Group – Cllr Austen presented notes of a meeting held on the 27th August, which were approved. Cllr Every requested she be informed when the next CIL meeting is to be held, so she can attend and provide the update required by the Group.

Communications & PR Working Group – Cllr Arnold presented notes of a meeting held on the 9th September, which were approved. Members had identified initial actions which included pursuing social media, articles in the Elyi and publication of the Mayor’s engagements, which will show who has been supported by the Mayor over the last 18 months.

14. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

City of Ely Allotments and Gardens Association – notes of a meeting held on the 21st August were noted. Cllr Wilkins informed members there had been another meeting since this. He said the most important issue for the Council is the finalisation of the wording for the Management Plan for the new allotments in the Hopkins Homes development in the North of Ely. A meeting had been held with ECDC, the Clerk, Chairman of the Association and himself to discuss this Management Plan. Hopefully the Association is close to agreeing acceptable wording for this document. He also raised the Association’s safety concerns regarding the access to Bridge Fen.

Stuntney Village Council – Cllr Lindsay informed members he had attended a meeting on the 11th September, where they had also discussed the village’s issues with regard to the A142 and new bypass, with regard to the new cycleway from Ely to Stuntney. A County Council Highways officer had agreed to report their concerns.

Paradise Sports Centre – Cllr Lindsay had attended their last meeting. There was concern that the Centre had lost some revenue over the last year, which they had attributed to the Hive opening. However, they are still very busy and are well used.

One parishioner left at 7.45 pm.

15. TO NOTE AND APPROVE THE ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

Members noted the completion of the limited assurance review of the Council’s annual return for the year ended 31st March 2019 by the external auditors, PKF Littlejohn LLP. On the basis of their review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in their opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR was in accordance with proper practices and no other matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met.

16. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON A LETTER FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND CHURCH COMMISSIONERS REGARDING THE CLOSED CHURCH BUILDING OF PRICKWILLOW ST PETER

Members noted the proposals for this building and unanimously agreed not to make any comments on this.

3 parishioners left the meeting at 8.10 pm.

17. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE MALTINGS COTTAGE

(Due to the confidential nature of this item, this will be discussed in Committee at the end of the meeting)

The Mayor proposed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, regarding this item, that this be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 be exercised. This was seconded by Cllr Austen and agreed to go into Committee at the end of the meeting.

18. 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
Cybertill Ltd	61.37	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	51.60	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	52.56	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	301.25	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	300.61	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	318.59	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	1751.26	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	744.17	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	677.01	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	149.94	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	30.77	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	1846.11	Paid by direct debit
D Holt	50.00	Paid by BACS
Copper Spirits Ltd	147.23	Paid by BACS
Total Gas & Power	142.27	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	3456.58	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	38.78	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	140.09	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	103.61	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	141.15	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	55.19	Paid by direct debit
Chess ICT Ltd	210.94	Paid by direct debit

18. 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

K Edmondson-Brown	54.98	112781
The Firewater Partnership Ltd	120.00	112782
PPL PRS Ltd	3918.67	112783
Ely & Soham Electrical Services Ltd	42.00	112784
ECDC	231.00	112785
Orca Book Services	109.86	112786
Prickwillow Engine Museum	332.00	112787
BFS Group Ltd	606.95	112788
ECDC	23.00	112789
LGRC Associates Ltd	1200.00	112790
K Edmondson-Brown	69.99	112791
PKF Littlejohn LLP	2400.00	112792
YPL Exhibitions & Events	579.96	112793
RGP Security Services Ltd	108.00	112794
S Bradley	280.00	112795
S Bradley	280.00	112796
Shefs	2697.12	112797
RGP Security Services Ltd	315.00	112798

The following invoices had not been paid prior to the meeting

Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd	348.00	112800
Trade UK	47.28	112801
Isle Interactive Ltd	90.00	112830
Steenbergs Ltd	173.20	112831
Konica Minolta Bus Sols Ltd	224.93	112832
Heathcote & Ivory Ltd	469.80	112833
ATS Heritage	300.00	112834
Belly Button Bubble Ltd	135.16	112835
The Blue Hand Press	165.13	112836
ESPO	79.44	112837
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	166.37	112802
BusinessClean (Cambridge) Ltd	1116.44	11280
Bright Publishing Ltd	180.00	112804
Holy Mackerel (IK) Ltd	347.83	112805
The Country Candle Co Ltd	230.04	112806
Waterbeach Brass	200.00	112807
CoolerAid Ltd	50.35	112808
S Blake	1199.00	112809
Amanda White Design Ltd	57.50	112810
Cambridge Art	450.00	112811
Ensign Solutions Ltd	445.19	112812
ECDC	651.90	112813
JB & SB Fencing	2058.00	112814
G & J Peck Ltd	36.49	112815
Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd	540.00	112816
We Are Blueshed Ltd	336.00	112817
Allens Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	112818
City Cycle Centre	18.26	112819
Total Gas & Power	9.84	112820
Archant Community Media Ltd	210.00	112821

1788

.....
MAYOR
21st October 2019

18. FINANCE CONTINUED

Clarity Heating	379.07	112822
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	65.32	112823
E Ratzko	37.44	112824
Warren Access	964.80	112825
Securitas Security Services Ltd	710.52	112826
Ely & Soham Electrical Services	126.60	112827
K Ellis	3615.00	112854
ESPO	58.54	Paid by direct debit
Shire Leasing PLC	242.70	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	156.72	112837
Gordon Harrison	194.53	112838
Soham Pest Control Rodent Acc	99.00	112839
Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd	38.41	112840
Konica Minolta Bus Sols Ltd	130.61	112832
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	35.98	112841
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	47.44	112823
CamAlarms Ltd	175.75	112847
Trade UK	60.16	112801
Jewson Ltd	60.84	112842
Cheffins	152.78	112843
Zurich Municipal	465.21	112844
Arco Ltd	26.39	112845
I Lindsay	22.50	112846
ECDC	58.00	112799
E Gardener	46.80	112848
Grocer's Brokers Ltd	595.24	112849

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 27th August 2019

Salaries and wages	£31,043.66
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£8,365.25
Pension fund payments	£14,475.08

Members noted the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 31st July 2019.