



**CITY OF ELY COUNCIL  
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**MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 PM ON  
MONDAY, 1ST JUNE 2020**

**PRESENT:** Mrs T Coulson - Clerk to the Council

Cllr M Rouse, Mayor

Cllr S Bellow

Cllr E Carlsson Browne

Cllr A Whelan

Cllr I Lindsay

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr K Wilkins

Cllr E Every

Cllr S Austen

Cllr C Whelan

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr D Warman

Cllr M Downey

Cllr R Denness

### **1. APOLOGIES**

No apologies were received.

### **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 5TH MAY 2020 AND MATTERS ARISING**

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 5th May 2020 were agreed subject to the addition of 'Road' after Prickwillow in item 11. iiiii) on page 1824 and will be signed as a true record. Pages 1832, 1833, 1834, 1835, 1836, 1837, 1838 and 1839 refer. There were no matters arising.

### **5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman told councillors he had been saddened by the fire at Corkers Crisps and wished them a speedy recovery from this.

### **6. QUESTION TIME**

A parishioner had emailed a request for some questions be put to the Council under this item, however the Clerk had answered them before the meeting, so this had not been necessary.

### **7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

County Cllr Bailey had sent her apologies.

Cllr Every, in her capacity as a County Councillor, gave an update in relation to the County Council and in her capacity as a District Councillor, gave an update in relation to the District Council. Her report is attached to and forms part of the minutes. She informed members of the bid that was being made for 'pop up' cycling and walking routes, with social distancing to the Combined Authority. She thanked Cllr Carlsson Browne, who had put in a lot of the work. ECDC will be working with Cambs County Council in relation to the reopening of the City Centre and plans are being drawn up as to how this will work. The Cathedral is hoping to reopen in early July. Questions were raised as to how the queues will work when shops reopen and who will be responsible for this. Cllr Every confirmed this was very difficult as it fell on lots of ownership and that all parties would be working together to make sure a plan can be devised, that residents can adhere to. There was a discussion regarding the BP and

## **7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS continued .....**

Witchford roundabouts. More information was requested regarding the 'pop up' cycling and walking bid and why the deadline had been so tight. Cllr Every confirmed that the funds for this had been given to the Combined Authority and the project then passed to Cambs County Council. ECDC had not initially been included, so when they were, there was only a very short time frame to produce the bid. This is only a temporary project, due to Covid-19 and will not be permanent routes for cycling and walking.

Cllr A Whelan, in her capacity as a District Councillor, congratulated Cllr Every, who had been re-elected as the Chair of ECDC. She also informed members that with regard to the MOD site there was an expectation that there would be nothing more than basic, affordable housing provided. There had also been a motion to set up a taskforce for Covid-19 recovery.

## **8. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT**

The Mayor had not attended any engagements due to the lockdown.

## **9. PLANNING**

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

## **10. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS**

The following information only items were received:-

Notification of road closures:- Parade Lane, Ely – 6.7 -8.7.20; Beresford Road, Ely 3.8 – 12.8.20 (construction of zebra crossing – Local Highways Improvements; Putney Hill Road/Prickwillow Road, Prickwillow, Ely – 1.2.21-12.3.21 (carriageway reconstruction)

## **11. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE – No report as Committee had not met.

(ii) ENVIRONMENT – No report as Committee had not met.

(iii) RECREATION & CEMETERY – No report as Committee had not met.

(iv) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – No report as Committee had not met.

(v) ASSETS & ACQUISITIONS – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Morgan informed members prices were being obtained for a specialist to move the structural report for the Maltings Cottage, forward. This will be discussed further at the next Committee meeting on the 15th June. The Clerk informed members of the current situation with regard to the issues at the Maltings and the Riverside. She explained that at a recent meeting with other organisations it had been agreed the best way for the Council to move forward was to erect fencing on all the green areas at the Maltings, which would stop people from congregating in this area. This would be monitored and reviewed. Members voted for the erection of this fencing, with 12 for and 3 against. This was therefore agreed. The Clerk informed members that ECDC had also requested that they be permitted to erect a walkway from the gate to Jubilee Gardens across the Maltings car park. This would encourage people to take a shorter route to the public toilets and hopefully stop the incidents of people using public spaces as a toilet. This would only be open from 8.00 am to 8.00 pm, when the public toilets are open. Members had reservations about this, but did agree subject to there being plenty of signage, the walkway area being kept clear and it being monitored.

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

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

## **12. WORKING PARTIES/STEERING GROUPS REPORTS**

Strategic Plan Working Group – a meeting had been held on the 20th May, but no notes were available.

Governance Working Group – a meeting had been held on the 26th May, but no notes were available.

## **13. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

There were no reports from external meetings.

*Cllr Austen left the meeting briefly due to a technical issue.*

#### **14. TO CONSIDER MOTIONS FROM THE GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUP**

- i) To agree the recommended changes to the Committee Structure as per attached sheet  
Members had a discussion to the heading as to which Recreation and Cemetery, should be under. This had previously been agreed it would be Assets, however, the sheet showed it under Climate and Environment. Cllr Phillips expressed his concern regarding the ending of the Recreation and Cemetery Committee as it had undertaken a lot of work in the past years and achieved many projects. After a discussion Cllr Lindsay proposed agreement to the Changes to the Committee Structure, but with Recreation and Cemetery under the Assets Committee. This was seconded by Cllr Morgan. A vote was undertaken, with 12 for and 2 abstentions.
- ii) To consider motion to change the Standing Orders in relation to Committees as per attached sheet  
Cllr Wilkins explained the changes to the Standing Orders. The Mayor asked if substitutes had been considered. Cllr Wilkins agreed to look at this. Cllr Wilkins proposed this motion be approved, which was seconded by Cllr Morgan and unanimously agreed.

*Cllr Austen re-joined the meeting.*

- iii) To approve that these changes will be adopted at the Annual Council Meeting and Mayor Making on the 13th July 2020  
Cllr Austen asked for clarification as to whether the Mayor elect and Deputy Mayor elect could be on a Committee. Cllr A Whelan confirmed that it was intended that if they wished to be on a Committee they could be, but they would not be able to be a Chairman of a Committee. It was unanimously agreed to adopt these changes at the Annual Council Meeting and Mayor Making on the 13th July 2020.

#### **15. TO DISCUSS THE CHANGES TO THE GOVERNMENT'S FURLOUGH SCHEME**

The Clerk had produced a report regarding the changes to the Government's Furlough Scheme and recommended necessary action for the Council to undertake. This was unanimously approved and these recommendations will take effect from the 1st July and the 1st August 2020.

#### **16. FINANCE**

Members approved the following payments:-

##### *Direct debit payments and BACS payments*

Lex Autolease	695.29	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	30.80	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	100.08	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	933.35	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	101.25	Paid by direct debit
Chess ICT Ltd	209.60	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	201.55	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	803.82	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	266.69	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	69.70	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	258.11	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	48.00	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	810.91	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	948.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	923.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	499.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	1821.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	279.00	Paid by direct debit

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MAYOR  
29th June 2020

**16. FINANCE CONTINUED .....**

Francotyp Postalia Ltd	250.00	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	48.36	Paid by direct debit
Gourmet Brownie	195.00	Paid by BACS
Really Sweet	215.00	Paid by BACS
F M Enterprises	110.00	Paid by BACS
N Chan	150.00	Paid by BACS
Heart of Suffolk Distillery	150.00	Paid by BACS
Kittiwake Jewellery	65.00	Paid by BACS

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

C Gascoigne	50.00	113278
R Grey	130.00	113279
RBL Poppy Appeal	20.00	113280
Thompson Media Partners Ltd	750.00	113281

*The following invoices had not been paid prior to the meeting*

Ernest Doe & Sons	79.96	113283
Trade UK	125.30	113296
G & J Peck Ltd	82.47	113284
Millennium Pest Control Ltd	66.00	113285
Total Gas & Power	9.63	113286
Infiniti Graphics (Ely) Ltd	60.00	113287
Barclays	73.55	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunication	48.36	Paid by direct debit
R Delahaye	40.49	113282
Konica Minolta Bus Solutions Ltd	264.12	113288
Festive Lights Ltd	4108.19	113289
G & J Peck Ltd	23.47	113284
Cybertill Ltd	62.93	Paid by direct debit
Glasdon UK Ltd	659.96	113298
Haven Power	35.43	Paid by direct debit
Elyi Magazine	174.00	113291
Ensign Solutions Ltd	14.40	113293
Ofcom	726.00	113290
ATS Heritage	300.00	113294
Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd	312.00	113292

**Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 5th May 2020**

Salaries and wages	£29,572.99
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£9,096.01
Pension fund payments	£10,671.51

**Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending 30th April 2020**

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

*Due to enforced social distancing caused by the Coronavirus, this meeting took place by video communication, accessed by the Zoom meetings facility.*

## **City of Ely Council– Cambridgeshire County Council and East Cambridgeshire District Update –I June 2020**

### **Cambridgeshire County Council Cllr Lis Every, Cambridgeshire County Councillor – Ely North**

It is business as usual at County with the Annual Council meeting taking place virtually on 19 May and all other committees meeting as usual. Work continues on supporting the most vulnerable through the Community Hub and plans are already in hand for determining how the valuable work done by Parish Councils and volunteers all over the District and Think Communities approach can be maintained and developed when the Covid-19 is no longer such a threat. A tremendous amount of work has been and continues to be done by the Education Department with all the schools in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The level of preparation has been huge but it has resulted in many primary schools opening their doors to Reception, Yr 1 and 2 and Yr 6 children from today. The arrangements vary from school to school depending on their own unique situations. Bubbles of between 7-10 children are planned for this phase and each school will have its own plans and risk assessments for the school and each child. Yr 10 students will be returning in a similar phased way over the next few weeks in secondary schools.

### **East Cambridgeshire District Council – Ely East**

The council has expanded its Housing and Community Support offer which provides a preventative, holistic and accessible service despite Covid 19. Although face to face interviews are not taking place they are still accessible 40 hours a week, via telephone, online and virtually with a drop in service at the Council Offices and through the Community Hubs. There is also an out of hours service.

Work restarted on the ex Mod site in Ely on 11 May after 10 weeks closure and although there will be some slippage 15 affordable houses will be delivered in Phase 1 and they are finding ways to deliver more than 30% in Phase 2.

- The A14 21 mile upgrade is now completed and opened.
- Plans for the new Soham Railway Station have moved forward and it is anticipated that this will be completed and open to passengers in 2022.
- A142/A10 'BP' and Lancaster Way – upgrade of 2 roundabouts as an interim measure. Work on BP roundabout starts in July this year.
- Work continues in partnership with Cambridgeshire NHS organisations to push for the redevelopment of the Princess of Wales hospital to bring much needed new community health facilities to East Cambridgeshire.
- The first Environment and Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan is due to come to Committee in June.
- The ECDC Bus/Cycling and Walking survey has just finished. In the meantime, we are working on a very tight deadline to put forward a bid to the Combined Authority via the County Council for funding for pop up cycling and walking routes taking into account pedestrian social distancing.
- ECDC is working with County on a plan for the re-opening of the District to support the above as shops start to open on 15 June.

Le.1.6.2020

