



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT:

The Mayor – Cllr E Every
Cllr I Lindsay
Mr J Dennick

Cllr J Yates
Cllr E Griffin-Singh *Mr I Newstead*

Cllr R Hobbs
Mr M Chinery-Colyer

Cllr S Pittock

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Arnold.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary & other interests, from Councillors as per standing order 83 b

No interests were received.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the Christmas Lights Committee meeting held on the 23rd June 2014, were agreed and signed as a true record. CL 117 and 118 refer.

There were no matters arising.

4. BUDGET UPDATE AND TO SET BUDGET FOR 2015/16

Members noted the budget dated 9th September 2014. There were no significant variances. The Assistant Clerk informed members that testing on the anchor points is required at a cost of £487.00. In addition to this it will be necessary to supply a hoist at a cost of £220.00. This testing will be required on an annual basis and therefore needs to be budgeted for in future years. This extra cost will have an impact on the budget for 2014/15 making the balance very tight. She also advised that the company from which the hoists are hired will require operators to hold an IPAF licence from next year. The training for this will be £140 per person plus a £26.00 registration fee. This is renewable every 3 years. It was agreed to pay to train 5 operators, one of which should be a member of the City of Ely Council's staff. Mr Chinery-Colyer advised the 5 yearly electrical testing on the sockets will be required in 2015. This will cost in the region of £1000.00.

Members unanimously agreed that in order to be able to pay for the additional anchor point testing, IPAF training, electrical testing and also timers for the lampposts (which will be required once the sockets have been installed), it will be necessary to set a budget of £11500 for the year 2015/16. This will not include the purchase of any additional lights.

The Mayor advised she had been approached by a USAF service man, who is very interested in fundraising for the Christmas lights. Members agreed that some form of fundraising should be established in order to help pay for an ever increasing budget.

Mr Chinery-Colyer and Cllr Pittock advised that they would like to make an advertising display from ping pong balls, a computer and lights. This will cost a maximum of £300.00. Cllr Hobbs reminded members of how tight the budget will be and that it will be difficult to fund this. Cllr Pittock advised the Perspective Group could fund £200 of the amount required. Members agreed the remaining £100.00 will be paid from the Christmas lights budget.

5. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE LIGHTING GROUP

Mr Chinery-Colyer advised that it had been necessary to purchase new lights as the lamp posts would not be used again this year. He was however confident the display will be very good. Volunteers are coming forward and everything is in place for erecting the lights.

6. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE SWITCH ON GROUP.

Mr Newstead reported the following:-

USAF will be supplying a hot dog stand and have also offered stewarding for the evening.

Stage booked

Traffic management in place.

Jezo will be providing the light and sound.

Cadbury stall will be present.

Various acts in place.

Hereward Rotary are sponsoring a boy band from Scotland.

Fundraising will be carried out at the Applefest

Road closure letters will be delivered from the 1st-14th November 2014, Cllr Hobbs has agreed to deliver these.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Chinery-Colyer suggested Christmas lights could be erected on the Magistrates Court. Cllr Hobbs advised this would need to be decided at Full Council. Cllr Griffin-Singh suggested the Maltings should also have lights. The Mayor advised it will be necessary to find out if Ta Bouche have any Christmas lights planned.

8. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

17th November at 6.30pm, 19th January 2015 at 6.30pm, 16th March at 6.30pm and 29th June 2014 at 6.30pm.