



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

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**MINUTES OF A VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 PM ON
MONDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY 2021**

PRESENT: Mrs T Coulson - Clerk to the Council

Cllr S Austen, Mayor

Cllr R Denness

Cllr I Lindsay

Cllr A Whelan

Cllr M Downey

Stan Hickish and 5 members from RASE

1 parishioner

1 representative from the Ely Ribe Association

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr E Every

Cllr S Bellow

Cllr C Whelan

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr M Rouse

Cllr E Carlsson Browne

1. APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Warman and Wilkins.

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 11TH JANUARY 2021 AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 11th January 2021 were agreed and will be signed as a true record. Pages 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885 and 1886 refer. There were no matters arising.

5. TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM STAN HICKISH ON BEHALF OF RIDING AND SKATING ELY

Stan Hickish on behalf of Riding and Skating Ely (RASE) presented a proposal for a skatepark and pump track in Ely. They had identified a site within the Country Park in Ely and requested the City of Ely Council supports their organisation in achieving this facility. Questions were asked from members as to the likely costs, how it would be funded, would it be a free facility and how inclusive it would be. These questions were answered by Stan Hickish and other members of RASE. Cllr Every proposed this be referred to the Outside Sport & Leisure Working Group to look at in more detail. This was seconded by Cllr A Whelan. Members unanimously approved this recommendation. It was also agreed the Council would support this project, as best as it was able to and hoped to be a partner in helping to provide such a facility.

The Mayor thanked Stan Hickish and RASE for all their hard work in putting this proposal together and for presenting it to members so well.

2 members of RASE left the meeting at 7.30 pm

6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

7. QUESTION TIME

There were no questions raised.

1 member of RASE left the meeting at 7.35 pm.

8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

County Cllr Bailey had given her apologies as she was unable to attend the meeting.

Cllr Every, in her capacity as a County Councillor and District Councillor, gave her report. A copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Cllr C Whelan, in her capacity as a District Councillor, informed members ECDC would be holding their Full Council meeting on the 23rd February, at which they would be discussing the budget for next year.

9. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had not attended any engagements.

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:-

Street Naming and Numbering:- 1-24 Orchid Fields, Ely; 5A, 6A, 7A, 8A Simeon Close, Ely; 1-43 Mirabelle Close, Ely; 1-16 Medlar Close, Ely; 1-8 Chorister Court, Ely; 1-21 (odds) Quince Way, Ely; 31-63 (odds) Forsythia Road, Ely; 4-16 (evens) Forsythia Road, Ely; 28-84 (evens) Forsythia Road, Ely; 1-37 (odds) Concorde Crescent, Ely; 2-20 (evens) Concorde Crescent, Ely; 2-44 (evens) Comice Way, Ely; 1-21 (odds) Chelsea Drive, Ely; 2-22 (evens) Chelsea Drive, Ely; 25-79 (odds) Bright Street, Ely; 2-68 (evens) Bright Street, Ely

Notification of Road Closures:- Chiefs Street, Ely – 15-19.3.21; Benedict Street, Ely – 6-12.4.21; Forehill, Ely – 8-9.4.21; Lynn Road, Ely – 26-30.4.21; Queen Adelaide BGK Level Crossing, Ely Road, Queen Adelaide, Ely – 10-11.7.21

Notification of Tree Preservation Order:- open space adjacent to 12 to 22 Holly Walk, Ely; road closures for resurfacing – Frankland Walk, Ely 9.3.21; Compton Fields, Ely 9.3.21; Felton Way, Ely 9.3.21; Wilford Drive, Ely 10.3.21; Spencercroft, Ely 10.3.21

Thank you letter for grant received by CAMSAR

Report from Town Crier

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE – Cllr A Whelan presented a report of a meeting held on the 18th January 2021, which was approved. Members noted the updated report detailing the financial losses to the Council in relation to Covid-19. Current losses were approximately £128,838 (up to 31st December 2020). Cllr A Whelan proposed the acceptance of the recommendations from the annual review of Council's Policies and Procedures; annual review of the Council's direct debit payments; annual internal audit review by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and annual review of the Risk Management Procedures. This was seconded by Cllr Austen and unanimously approved and adopted. It was also agreed the CIL Working Group should become a Sub-Committee of Personnel, Finance & Governance Committee. The Clerk requested members approve the slight amendment to the Grants Policy, which was unanimously agreed. She also requested they consider the Risk Assessment for the Cash Reserves 21/22, which she had produced. The recommendation to increase the Council's general reserve by £43,640 to £253,640 for 2021/2022 from the unbudgeted money in the Council's Building Society Account was unanimously agreed.

Cllr Denness left the meeting between 7.47 pm – 7.50 pm, due to technical issues.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED

(ii) **CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT** – Cllr Lindsay presented a report of a meeting held on the 25th January 2021, which was approved. It was noted that Cllr Lindsay will request a meeting with a County Highways Officer, to receive guidance on how to produce a strategy for dealing with highway improvement requests from residents. It was agreed to undertake a formal inspection of the flag pole on the Market Place to ensure the Council was adhering to the Lifting Operations & Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER). The results of the Council’s bids for the Local Highway Improvement Scheme are still awaited. Two quotes for the tree work had been obtained, with a third awaited. If this had not been received by the 8th February, then the contract will be awarded to Green Wood Tree Surgery. The Outdoor Sport and Leisure Facilities in Ely Working Group were still having discussions regarding a possible site for a splash pad.

iii) **ASSETS** – Cllr Morgan presented a report of a meeting held on the 12th January 2021, which was approved. It had been agreed to request £30,000 from the CIL Working Group for a sensory garden within the cemetery. Cllr Arnold had been appointed to the Christmas Lights Sub-Committee, representing the Assets Committee. It was noted the Deputy Clerk had started the process with regard to the procurement of seating for the Maltings. A meeting regarding the moving forward of the Friends of Sessions House had been undertaken.

(iv) **TOURISM AND TOWN CENTRE COMMITTEE** – The Mayor, in Cllr Warman’s absence, presented a report of a meeting held on the 1st February 2021, which was approved. Members noted the update from the Tourism and Town Centre Manager on the service and the Town Centre. New tours were also discussed and an update on the progress of the Heritage Lottery Funded Project was noted. It had been hoped to hold events in 2021, but these would be determined by Government guidance. Cllr Bellow had been appointed to the Christmas Lights Sub-Committee, representing the Tourism and Town Centre Committee.

13. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Stuntney Village Council – notes of a meeting held on the 10th January 2021 were noted.

City of Ely Allotments and Gardens Association – notes of a meeting held on the 16th December 2020 were noted.

Ely Museum Executive Review – notes of a meeting held on the 26th January 2021 were noted.

14. NOMINATIONS FOR MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR 2021/2022

Nominations for Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2021/2022 were received. Cllr E Every proposed Cllr Sue Austen for Mayor, which was seconded by Cllr C Phillips and Cllr I Lindsay proposed Cllr Richard Morgan for Deputy Mayor, which was seconded by Cllr R Denness. Both nominations were unanimously approved.

15. TO MAKE A FORMAL DECISION, FOLLOWING DISCUSSION AT BOTH THE ASSETS AND TOURISM AND TOWN CENTRE COMMITTEES AS TO THE MOST APPROPRIATE LOCATION FOR THE RIBE TAPESTRY, THIS BEING EITHER THE MALTINGS OR OCH

Cllr Morgan presented a report recommending the Ribe Tapestry remained at the Maltings, but with further discussions with the Ely Ribe Association, as to how best to showcase this. Members had also received two statements from the Chairman and a member of the Ely Ribe Association, detailing the history of the tapestry and requesting this remain at the Maltings. The recommendation was seconded by Cllr Rouse and unanimously agreed.

1 parishioner left the meeting at 8.00 pm.

1 member of RASE and 1 member of the Ely Ribe Association left the meeting at 8.02 pm.

16. FINANCE

Members approved the following payments:-

Direct debit payments and BACS payments

Lex Autolease	695.29	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	383.70	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	123.11	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	55.25	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	108.60	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	15.00	Paid by direct debit
Chess ICT Ltd	236.84	Paid by direct debit
Chess ICT Ltd	236.56	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	293.41	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	1020.97	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	185.11	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	163.22	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	63.29	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	56.97	Paid by direct debit
Haven Power Ltd	35.20	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	102.97	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	72.00	Paid by direct debit
Greene King B& R Ltd	216.08	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	48.00	Paid by direct debit
Plan Communications Ltd	116.99	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	55.03	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	55.47	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	197.96	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	199.75	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	59.76	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	99.95	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	100.80	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	6901.61	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	279.34	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	1099.07	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	258.65	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	257.81	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	237.98	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	324.84	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	250.00	Paid by direct debit
Jewson Ltd	13.00	Paid by BACS
City Cycle Centre	18.28	Paid by BACS
Trade UK	48.42	Paid by BACS
Paula Edgington Assocs Ltd	10.80	Paid by BACS
Stoke Ferry Timber Ltd	88.20	Paid by BACS
Eden Farm Hulley's	205.68	Paid by BACS
Paula Edgington Assocs Ltd	45.00	Paid by BACS
Tailored Travel Ltd	33.20	Paid by BACS
A Hayter-Smith	200.00	Paid by BACS
CAMSAR	750.00	Paid by BACS
Market Kitchen Ely Ltd	173.95	Paid by BACS
Gordon Harrison	770.64	Paid by BACS
L Hicks	600.00	Paid by BACS
Cambs County Council	1750.00	Paid by BACS

1890

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MAYOR
12th April 2021

16. FINANCE CONTINUED

SLCC	410.00	Paid by BACS
D Holt	50.00	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

Warren Access	1302.60	113550
Mr Hannaford	400.00	113551
M Chinery-Colyer	92.10	113552
Total Gas & Power	11.91	113553
Simpson's Nurseries Ltd	73.58	113554
G & J Peck Ltd	194.55	113555
Allens Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	113556
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	61.68	113557
Trade UK	279.78	113558

The following invoices had not been paid prior to the meeting

Cambridge Marketing Ltd	2100.00	113559
Heelis & Lodge	525.00	113560
Haine Tree Services Ltd	2160.00	113561
Ely Museum	9474.25	113562
Ensign Solutions Ltd	34.80	113563
ATS Heritage Ltd	300.00	113564
Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd	70.80	113565
CoolerAid Ltd	4.74	113566
Konica Minolta Bus Sols Ltd	168.72	113567
Cambridge Marketing Ltd	2400.00	113568
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	19.25	113569
Trade UK	26.28	113570
G & J Peck Ltd	23.71	113571
Monkey Tower Ltd	5814.00	113572
Burwell Museum	54.00	113573
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	19.10	113574
Ely Tyre Services	186.01	113575
Total Gas & Power	11.88	113576

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 11th January 2021

Salaries and wages	£24,614.49 (Jan)	£26,640.31 (Feb)
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£8,414.29 (Jan)	£7,256.60 (Feb)
Pension fund payments	£8,618.55 (Jan)	£7,992.62 (Feb)

Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending the 31st January 2021.

The meeting closed at 8.05 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 Update – 22 February 2021

Cambridgeshire County Council

CLlr Lis Every, Cambridgeshire County Councillor – Ely North

Children and Young People Committee

One of the increasing concerns is the rise of elective home schooling and the unregulated nature of this. Whilst it is accepted that excellent home schooling takes place, some may well be less successful. At the meeting we were provided with information and data with the aim of highlighting any issues and concerns regarding the data, and the approach being taken in Cambridgeshire to support this cohort and we supported the proposal for a compulsory Elective Home Education registration system.

Cambridgeshire Local

The first presentations on place based working are taking place on 23 February and 3 March. The content of both are the same and they are designed so that Councillors can attend either. Others will follow which will be more specifically place based. We have a County place based co-ordinator and two community connectors who will be working closely with the District and Parish Councils

East Cambridgeshire District Council – Ely East

Community Safety Partnership Board

We have just received our update Strategic Assessment which is the research on which the Partnership Board's Action Plan is based. It provides details of crime trends within the area and although these are from a low base level, there are concerns about rising trends in hate crime, domestic violence, stalking, harassment, substance use, shoplifting and issues with young people. For the first time Ely heads list for ASB. Active working links with all the agencies are vital to manage change and we are keen to work with ECDC on their Youth Strategy for East Cambridgeshire (going to Committee in March). This was an initiative raised initially two years ago from the CSP based on information being provided about youth issues in the District.

Market Town Strategies

A seminar was held for ECDC Councillors on the above. For Ely following the successful bids which have been reported on before, there is a balance of £300K+ for further spend and there will be an independent consultation carried out with all Ely Councillors plus other identified stakeholders, eg businesses, on how this might best be used to improve the GVA for Ely and re-invigorate the City following COVID. The timescale for this will be relatively short.

22.2.21