



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, 12TH APRIL 2021**

PRESENT: Mrs T Coulson - Clerk to the Council

Cllr S Austen, Mayor

Cllr R Denness

Cllr I Lindsay

Cllr A Whelan

Cllr D Warman

County Cllr A Bailey

1 parishioner

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr E Every

Cllr S Bellow

Cllr C Whelan

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr M Rouse

Cllr K Wilkins

NOT PRESENT: Cllr M Downey

The Chairman expressed her sadness at the recent death of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh. She said we must give thanks for his life and work. History will remember him as a great man. Our thoughts are with her Majesty the Queen and her family. The Council was flying its flag at half-mast. As a mark of respect, a one minutes silence was held.

1. APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

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 22ND FEBRUARY 2021 AND
MATTERS ARISING**

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 22nd February 2021 were agreed and will be signed as a true record. Pages 1887, 1888, 1890 and 1891 refer. There were no matters arising.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced the change in the date for the Annual Council Meeting and Mayor Making from the 17th May to the 4th May. By bringing this forward it will allow for this to be undertaken virtually. Also the Planning and Assets Committee meetings had been changed from the 10th May to the 27th April. These will also be undertaken virtually.

6. QUESTION TIME

A parishioner asked that as there is an increasing number of developments where shared space is being incorporated into designs, had the Council's Planning and Asset Committee members received any training on shared space and what was the Council's opinion on this, particularly in relation to housing developments. Cllr Lindsay confirmed the Council had not received any information about this and would investigate it further.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

County Cllr A Bailey gave members an update from the County Council, which covered gully clearance and the concerns regarding flooding, budget setting, A428 work and the Princess of Wales Hospital planning application for redevelopment. She informed members that road accidents in the County had halved during the pandemic. The NHS and the social care system would become an integrated care system from the 1st April 2021. This would result in health and social care being pushed out to the communities to make it more accessible to the needs of the community. As she would be stepping down from the County Council, this would be her last attendance at the City of Ely Council's meetings in this capacity. She said it had been a pleasure to work with the City Council for all these years. Cllr Morgan thanked her on behalf of the people of Prickwillow and Lark Bank, for all her hard work with highways regarding these two areas. Cllr Phillips thanked Cllr Bailey on behalf of the Council for all her hard work over the last 8 years as a County Councillor for Ely. He also thanked Cllr Every, who was also stepping down from County after serving 4 years. He thanked them both for the contributions they have brought to the City Council Full Council meetings and all the work they have achieved for the City.

County Cllr Bailey left the meeting at 7.24 pm.

8. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had undertaken two local news interviews regarding the Boat Race in Ely.

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:-

Street Naming and Numbering:- The Orchards, 4B Hills Lane, Ely; 15, 16, 17, 17A and 17B Broad Street, Ely

Confirmation that street name 'Seekings Way' has been approved and adopted for the Ely Southern Bypass

Notification of Road Closures:- Shippea Hill Level Crossing – 17 – 18.4.21; Potters Lane, Ely - 19.3 – 2.5.21 and Back Hill – 1 -2.5.21; Queen Adelaide BGK Level Crossing, Ely Road, Queen Adelaide, Ely – 25.4.21; Broad Street, Ely – 10 – 12.5.21; Ely Footpath 22, Ely (Cutters Bridge, Ely) – 7 – 18.6.21; Downham Road, A10, Ely – 21-23.8.21 (night closures)

Notice of temporary prohibition of traffic:- Potters Lane, Ely - 19.4 – 2.5.21; Back Hill and Station Road, Ely – 9.5.21 & 16.5.21; Back Hill & Barton Road – 9.5.21 & 16.5.21 – weight restrictions

Notification of TPO at open space adjacent to 12 to 22 Holly Walk, Ely

Notification from ECDC regarding adoption of a Climate Change Supplementary Planning Document

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE – Cllr A Whelan presented a report of a meeting held on the 1st March 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 £123,971 (up to 31st January 2021). Cllr A Whelan proposed the acceptance of the recommendations from the second phase of the grant applications for 2020/21. It was also recommended that any underspend on the grants budget should be carried forward to the next financial year. This was seconded by Cllr Denness and unanimously approved. Members noted the reports of the Sessions House and Oliver Cromwell’s House from the Internal Auditor, following her visit on the 26th January 2021. The only action required had already been undertaken and approved. Members noted the annual review of the Council’s risk assessments had been undertaken and all signed off. The renewal of the annual subscription to CAPALC was unanimously agreed.

(ii) CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT – Cllr Lindsay presented a report of a meeting held on the 8th March 2021, which was approved. It was noted that Council’s bids for the Local Highway Improvement Scheme had been unsuccessful. A bid for upgrading the CCTV system had been submitted as part of the Market Towns bid. The Outdoor Sports and Leisure Facilities in Ely Working Group continue to meet and explore possibilities of sites.

iii) ASSETS – Cllr Morgan presented a report of meetings held on the 23rd February 2021 and the 22nd March 2021, which were approved. Cllr Wilkins will be liaising with the City of Ely Allotments and Gardens Association regarding the on-going issue of flooding at the allotments and the cemetery. The Friends of Ely Cemetery will be holding an open day at the cemetery on the 29th May 2021. This will follow the Government guidance at the time. Members unanimously approved the increase of 2% for the cemetery fees, from the 1st April 2021. It was agreed to request through the CIL Sub-Committee, funding for a bier for the cemetery at a cost of approximately £6000. Quotations were being obtained for additional equipment at the Park play area. A request to the CIL Sub-Committee for £20,000 funding to cover this will also be made. Members unanimously approved the annual rent increase for the Local Needs Housing Scheme, as per the terms of the lease of 1.4% from the 1st July 2021, this being the RPI as at the 31st January 2021. A framework for the procurement of the replacement cinema seating at the Maltings had been sourced with Crown Commercial Services. LGSS are in the process of producing a specification for the tender. Members noted the email received from Emma Grima, ECDC with regards to the Maltings Cottage and agreed not to re-tender the cottage at the current time but to obtain costs to 1) refurbish the building and run it in conjunction with the Maltings, with the provision of a café downstairs and serviced accommodation upstairs and 2) to refurbish it as a residential property to let. Cllr Phillips informed members he had been contacted by a gentleman from the Netherlands, who was looking after a parishioner’s grave in the Netherlands. He had requested more information about him, and Cllrs Phillips and Rouse had agreed to see if they could find more information about him. The parishioner was Samuel Ankin, who died in 1944 in the Netherlands, and was a serving member of the Cambridgeshire Royal Engineers.

(iv) TOURISM AND TOWN CENTRE COMMITTEE – Cllr Warman presented a report of a meeting held on the 15th March 2021, which was approved. Members noted the update from the Tourism and Town Centre Manager on the service and the Town Centre. Members unanimously agreed to the role of the Business Liaison Assistant becoming a permanent contract. Members thanked the Tourism & Town Centre Manager, the Estates Team and our sponsors for the delightful bunting in the High Street and Forehill.

12. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

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

City of Ely Allotments and Gardens Association – notes of meetings held on the 20th January 2021 and 17th February 2021 were noted.

Prickwillow Village Council – notes of a meeting held on the 7th December 2020 were noted.

13. TO CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR TELEPHONE SYSTEMS FOR THE COUNCIL

Members considered a report from the Clerk, regarding options for a new telephone system for the Council. This would be for all sites. The costs provided were considered. Cllr Morgan proposed the Council move forward with the cheapest quotation from MLCS Ltd. This was seconded by Cllr Every and unanimously agreed.

14. TO CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR CCTV SYSTEM

Members considered a report from the Clerk, regarding quotations for the maintenance contract for the CCTV system. Cllr Every proposed the Council continue with its current provider, Clearview Communications Ltd, which was the cheapest quotation. This was seconded by Cllr Lindsay and unanimously agreed. It was suggested that the Council should request the addition of a penalty clause within the contract, to ensure commitment from the company to undertake repairs within a set period of time, as there had been issues in the past, with the time it had taken to attend site.

15. 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
Lex Autolease	477.60	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	427.65	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	81.15	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	307.63	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	1035.44	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	210.95	Paid by direct debit
Haven Power Ltd	31.96	Paid by direct debit
Plan Communications Ltd	116.99	Paid by direct debit
Plan Communications Ltd	116.99	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	144.36	Paid by direct debit
Siemens Financial Services Ltd	566.40	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	63.29	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	257.51	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	48.00	Paid by direct debit
Shire Leasing Ltd	242.70	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	100.80	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	85.26	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	139.55	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	75.01	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	838.17	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	79.95	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	108.60	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	15.00	Paid by direct debit
Chess ICT Ltd	236.56	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	695.29	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	383.70	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	95.98	Paid by direct debit

15. FINANCE CONTINUED

ECDC	499.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	924.50	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	949.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	283.40	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	1824.50	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	426.59	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	252.85	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	831.46	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	178.03	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	290.96	Paid by direct debit
The Old Fire Engine House	153.60	Paid by BACS
City of Ely Allotments & Gardens	895.50	Paid by BACS
H C Electrical	674.40	Paid by BACS
National Fed of Cemetery Friends	10.00	Paid by BACS
D Holt	50.00	Paid by BACS
Thomas Ridley & Sons Ltd	93.23	Paid by BACS
CamAlarms Ltd	177.60	Paid by BACS
SMBE Direct Ltd	687.00	Paid by BACS
Piggotts Flags	500.04	Paid by BACS
Gem Heating Solutions Ltd	1444.08	Paid by BACS
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	11.53	Paid by BACS
Trade UK	15.99	Paid by BACS
Allens Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	Paid by BACS
Total Gas & Power	12.56	Paid by BACS
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	11.40	Paid by BACS
ATS Heritage Ltd	10800.00	Paid by BACS
Zurich Municipal	61.87	Paid by BACS
Zurich Municipal	11455.08	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

ECDC	7.02	113577
CoolerAid Ltd	18.96	113578
Gordon Harrison	15.73	113579
G & J Peck Ltd	6.41	113580
Konica Minolta Bus Sols Ltd	251.92	113581
ATS Heritage Ltd	300.00	113582
Verve Digital Ltd	120.00	113583
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	613.11	113584
City Cycle Centre	86.93	113585
Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd	306.62	113586
Cambridgeshire Turf Nurseries	72.00	113587
Local Media Publishing Ltd	180.00	113588
Take One Media Ltd	585.60	113589
Jewson Ltd	76.56	113590
Ensign Solutions Ltd	55.20	113591
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	340.24	113592
English Eden	290.00	113593
Trade UK	37.99	113594
ESPO	52.86	113595

15. FINANCE CONTINUED

Gordon Harrison	1359.57	113596
Savills	286.25	113597
Konica Minolta Bus Sols Ltd	85.28	113598
SMBE Direct Ltd	687.00	113599

The following invoices had not been paid prior to the meeting

Securitas Security Services Ltd	540.00	Paid by BACS
Trade UK	83.45	113602
ECDC	1658.56	113603
Hampshire Flag Company	528.00	Paid by BACS
Ensign Solutions Ltd	72.00	113601
CAPALC Ltd	1765.07	113600
Cybertill Ltd	62.93	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	108.60	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	12.00	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	72.00	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	250.00	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	413.41	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	48.00	Paid by direct debit
D F Holt	50.00	Paid by BACS
Coffee Plus	305.76	Paid by BACS
Ensign Solutions Ltd	78.00	113601
S Slezacek	618.00	Paid by BACS
G & J Peck Ltd	10.99	Paid by BACS
Spotted in Ely	100.00	Paid by BACS
Lime Tree Learning & Development	325.00	113604
Total Gas & Power	12.92	Paid by BACS
Soham Pest Control	99.00	113605
Millennium Pest Control Ltd	66.00	113606

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 22nd February 2021

Salaries and wages	£26,419.26
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£7,472.51
Pension fund payments	£8,328.82

Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending the 28th February 2021.

The meeting closed at 7.56 pm.

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