



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL  
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**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY,  
24TH MAY 2021 AT THE MALTINGS, SHIP LANE, ELY.**

**PRESENT:** Mrs S Jay – Deputy Clerk to the Council

Cllr S Austen, Mayor

Cllr R Denness

Cllr I Lindsay

Cllr A Whelan

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr E Every

Cllr S Bellow

Cllr C Whelan

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr M Rouse

Cllr V Gavinet

*Miss L Howell – Maltings Venue Manager  
1 parishioner*

*County Cllr P Coutts*

**1. APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Wilkins, Downey & Warman

**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 12TH APRIL 2021 AND MATTERS ARISING AND MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING AND MAYOR MAKING HELD ON THE 4TH MAY 2021 AND MATTERS ARISING**

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 12th April 2021 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896 and 1897 refer. There were no matters arising.

Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting and Mayor Making held on the 4th May 2021 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 1898, 1899 & 1900 refer. There were no matters arising.

**5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman announced the Working Groups need to set meeting dates and the Strategic Plan needs to be finalised. Also, any Working Groups that are no longer relevant need to be deleted. The Cemetery open day will be on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

## **6. TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE MALTINGS VENUE MANAGER REGARDING HOW THE MALTINGS IS MOVING FORWARD, FOLLOWING REOPENING FROM LOCKDOWN AND THE CHALLENGES IT FACES ON GETTING BACK TO NORMALITY**

Miss Howell presented a report to members regarding the Maltings and the plans for reopening the venue. A copy of this report is attached to and forms part of these minutes. Cllr Rouse questioned the painting of the foyer area. The Deputy Clerk informed members this matter had been agreed at the Assets Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and was included in the decision list that was subsequently sent out following the meeting, to which there had been no 'call in' on the decision from Councillors.

## **7. QUESTION TIME**

There were no question from members of the public.

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

Reports were received from County Cllrs Whelan and Coutts and also from Cllrs Every, A Whelan and C Whelan in their capacity as District Councillors. These reports are attached to and form part of these minutes

Cllr Rouse congratulated the new Councillors on their appointments. County Cllr Coutts thanked members for inviting him to the meeting and he looked forward to working with the Council. He also paid thanks to his predecessor, County Cllr A Bailey for her hard work.

Cllr A Whelan is not receiving emails via her City of Ely Council email address and therefore advised members to use her personal email account.

*County Cllr Coutts left the meeting at 7.24 pm.*

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

There were no engagements to report.

## **10. PLANNING**

A report of the Planning Committee meeting, immediately prior to this meeting was received. Cllr Lindsay advised members he was considering revising how large submissions are dealt with at meetings. He will give this some thought and report back to members.

## **11. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS**

The following information only items were received: -

Notification of Road Closures:- Ely Footpath 12 (between Cuckoo Bridge and Queen Adelaide, Way), Ely 14.6.21 – 3.10.21; Ely Road, Queen Adelaide, Ely 22.5.21; Queen Adelaide BGK Level Crossing, Ely Road, Ely 22 – 23.5.21; Mildenhall Road, Shippea Hill, Ely 31.7.21 – 1.8.21; High Street, Ely 5 – 6.7.21  
Cllr Rouse was concerned about the closure to the Cuckoo Bridge Footpath and the work that is planned.

## **12. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE – Cllr A Whelan presented a report of a meeting held on the 13th April 2021, which was approved. It was noted the North Ely Community Hub Working Group and the Covid-19 Working group had been amalgamated to become the North Ely Hub and Community Working Group. The final version of the Strategic Plan needs to be prepared and priorities need to be set. Members agreed the Clerk should obtain quotations for the cost of undertaking a staff review.

(ii) CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT – Cllr Lindsay presented a report of a meeting held on the 28th April 2021, which was approved. Cllr Denness reported on the 20s Plenty speed campaign, which campaigns to alter the behaviour of motorists and encourage them to reduce their speed to 20 mph, as accidents are survivable at this limit. She reported she has set up a campaign in Ely and the first step will be to ask the co-ordinator for this, to do a presentation to the Council.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED.....**

Cllr Rouse expressed his concerns that the Country Park planned for the Thistle Corner area of Ely, had not moved forward. Members agreed that a letter should be sent from the Council to ECDC regarding their Natural Environment – Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the North of Ely and request an update on information regarding this and the new Country Park. It was agreed to plant a tree to commemorate the Duke of Edinburgh. Members discussed the Queens Green Canopy and agreed the Mayor will write to the Lord Lieutenant to clarify how this is led. Cllr Every reported the preferred area for the Splash Pad is the Paradise and that a letter had been sent to ECDC regarding land for the Skate Park. The Hive Leisure Centre would be happy to accommodate both these facilities and if they did the running costs would be lower. But as this is not the preferred option, there could be a dilemma with the working group.

iii) ASSETS – Cllr Morgan presented a report of meetings held on the 27th April, which was approved. He reported that he and the Deputy Clerk had met with the Architect for the Maltings Cottage and the Conservation Officer. The Architect will draw up plans to obtain costs to convert the cottage into 2 residential units. Members approved the updated Memorandum of Agreement with ADeC to allow them to deliver the cinema and live events at the Maltings.

Cllr Phillips requested members support the approach to remove inappropriate items from graves if they are contacted by members of the public.

The Deputy Clerk reported she and the Estates Manager has interviewed for an Estates Technician and that Mr G Wayman had accepted the position. Cllr Phillips proposed the formal appointment of the Estates Technician and that the Council pass a resolution that they be specified as a pensionable employee under regulation B1(5) of the Local Government Regulations 1986 (as amended). This was seconded by Cllr Morgan and unanimously approved.

(iv) TOURISM AND TOWN CENTRE COMMITTEE – In the absence of Cllr Warman, Members approved the report of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Cllr Every reported that a meeting had been held to discuss the formation of a Friends of Oliver Cromwell house’ group. However, it was decided not to move forward with this at the present time. Members noted that the entrance fee to Oliver Cromwell House will increase slightly to cover the cost of the new audio tours. The Eel Fayre will take place on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

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

City of Ely Allotments and Gardens Association – notes of a meeting held on the 17th March 2021 were noted.

## **14. ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

Cllr A Whelan proposed members approve the Annual Governance Statement, Accounting Statement and the signing of the balance sheet for the year ended 31st March 2021 and to also note the Internal Auditor’s Report for the last check for 2020/2021. This was seconded by Cllr Every and unanimously approved. The Mayor and Deputy Clerk signed the appropriate boxes. Members thanked the Clerk for her work in producing the accounts.

## **15. TO AGREE THE UPDATED SLA WITH ELY MUSEUM**

Cllrs Every, Lindsay & Rouse declared they were trustees of the Museum and took no part in the discussion. Cllr Morgan proposed to accept the updated SLA with Ely Museum for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Philips and unanimously agreed by members.

## 16. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE MALTINGS SEAT WORKING GROUP

Cllr Every presented a report from the Maltings Seat Working Group, which was noted by members. After a lengthy discussion, members agreed to:- look at the costs for the work identified by Cllr Arnold and prioritise these, draft a report that defines the Maltings as a community Asset and analyse the bookings in order to seek to achieve the maximum amount of CIL funding in order to offset the loan needed to replace the retractable seats.

## 17. FINANCE

*Members approved the following payments:-*

*Direct debit payments and BACS payments*

Haven Power Ltd	35.43	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	444.78	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	259.61	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	738.38	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	182.29	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	94.94	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	235.22	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	51.15	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	858.21	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	178.80	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	269.45	Paid by direct debit
Information Commissioner's Office	35.00	Paid by direct debit
Chess ICT Ltd	244.54	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	89.47	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	50.88	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	63.29	Paid by direct debit
Haven Power Ltd	34.28	Paid by direct debit
Plan Communications Ltd	116.99	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	249.27	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	150.44	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	49.42	Paid by direct debit
Total Gas & Power	2177.00	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	108.60	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	15.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	499.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	923.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	948.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	279.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	1821.00	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	160.89	Paid by direct debit
Chess ICT Ltd	244.54	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	237.05	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	695.29	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	383.70	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications Ltd	270.05	Paid by direct debit
P Clarke	375.00	Paid by BACs
Westair Reproductions Ltd	168.90	Paid by BACs

**17. FINANCE CONTINUED.....**

D Toulson-Burke	486.00	Paid by BACs
Rialtas Bus Solutions Ltd	672.00	Paid by BACs
Green Wood Tree Surgery	2580.00	Paid by BACs
ICCM	95.00	Paid by BACs
Mrs A Pickering	150.00	Paid by BACs
M Cooney	150.00	Paid by BACs
D Holt	50.00	Paid by BACs
Dr P Appleton	160.00	Paid by BACs
Clearview Communications Ltd	7255.76	Paid by BACs
ECDC	93.24	Paid by BACs
PP & EC Ashton	37.50	Paid by BACs
Eliga Ltd	16.80	Paid by BACs

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

M Green	150.00	113607
Cogwheel Counselling	600.00	113608
1094 (Ely) Squadron ATC	600.00	113609
LittleArtistsEly	500.00	113610
Jewson Ltd	82.11	113611
Simpson's Nurseries Ltd	109.99	113612
Gordon Harrison	18.48	113613
G & J Peck Ltd	7.22	113614
Trade UK	30.55	113615
ESPO	19.14	113616
Total Gas & Power Ltd	12.92	113617
Paul Myerson HVAC Main Ltd	1115.18	113618
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	327.04	113619
A Bennett	35.40	113620
Heelis & Lodge	350.00	113621
E Butcher	7.92	113622
ATS Heritage Ltd	234.00	113623
Simon Ward Architectural Design	800.00	113624
SLCC	42.00	113625
Ensign Solutions Ltd	2908.80	113626
ECDC	8001.00	113627
Aztek Services Ltd	606.00	113628
Konica Minolta Bus Sols Ltd	170.07	113628
Ensign Solutions Ltd	892.29	113630
CoolerAid Ltd	14.22	113631
Securitas Security Services Ltd	58.80	113632
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	113633

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

Total Gas & Power Ltd	12.69	113634
Allen's Skip Hire Ltd	120.00	113635
AmeyCespa (East) Ltd	1.92	113636
Churches Fire Security Ltd	495.00	Paid by BACS
Trade UK	129.98	113637
CamAlarms Ltd	386.20	Paid by BACS
Ely Tool Hire Ltd	96.00	113638

**17. FINANCE CONTINUED.....**

SMBE Direct Ltd	214.50	Paid by BACS
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	111.37	113639
Jewson Ltd	34.67	113640

**Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 12th April 2021**

Salaries and wages	£26,320.58 (April)	£25,742.08 (May)
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£7,010.51	£7,692.04
Pension fund payments	£8,153.84	£8392.84

**Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the periods ending the 31<sup>st</sup> March and 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

*The meeting closed at 8.12 pm*

ALISON WHELAN & CHRISTINE WHELAN –  
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MONTHLY REPORT MAY 2021

**FOURTH ROUND OF ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS GRANTS OPEN FOR BUSINESSES IN EAST CAMBS**

East Cambridgeshire District Council has published details of its fourth round of the Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) scheme to provide support to business sectors, who up until now, haven't been eligible for support from other grant schemes.

Round four of the ARG scheme is designed to provide support to businesses who were significantly impacted by the COVID-19 restrictions in place from 16th February 2021- 12th April 2021 and have not been eligible for the Local Restrictions Support Grant (LRSG) or Restart Grants.

The ARG is a discretionary funding scheme managed by the district council to support businesses during periods of lockdown relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**ELY AREA CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT**

The round 2 Consultation for the rail enhancement for Ely South has now commenced and will run until 4 July 2021.

Ely South encompasses part of the Soham branch line and Ely Dock junction (where the Soham branch line meets the West Anglia main line), Ely station Stuntney Road bridge, Cutter bridge, Common Muckhill bridge and Kiln Lane level crossing.



I would like to suggest that the City Council takes an active part in this consultation due to the importance of the proposals on Ely. I do not know if the full proposals have been distributed to the Councillors as I do not have access the City of Ely email.

ALISON WHELAN & CHRISTINE WHELAN –  
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MONTHLY REPORT MAY 2021

**IDB WORK AT CLAYWAY CATCHWATER**

Following resident complaints to me and the IDB and reports carried by the local press, a review was carried out by the IDB into the works recently carried out at Clayway Catchwater, alongside The Bishops Way path.

This concluded that there were a number of failures and the contractor used, will not be used again.

**Recommendations**

1. All works along public rights of way should be notified to the local council ahead of them starting and a notice shall be placed at both ends so as to identify who is responsible for the works, together with a contact number, and their purpose.
2. A cut off date for the completion of works will be the end of February. Any works outside that shall be the subject of assessment by an ecologist or suitably experienced person to ensure that no breeding birds are affected.
3. Trees to be removed and/ or works to be undertaken shall be specifically identified to the contractor on site and marked if necessary. A written brief shall be given.
4. Regular supervisory visits shall take place during clearance works.
5. Contractors and staff involved in tree works will have undergone training in good practice prior to works starting.
6. The contractor used should not be used again on tree works.
7. The remaining chippings should be spread on the track.
8. The remaining piles of brash shall be dismantled carefully, following inspection to ensure that there are no breeding birds present, and chipped, the arisings being spread.
9. Work should be undertaken by another contractor to tidy up the trees and ensure that the cuts are clean, and the trees are balanced. Some coppicing may be necessary to improve the longer term biodiversity value and the longevity of some of the younger trees.
10. A review of the stumps of elm should be undertaken in conjunction with the local wildlife group.
11. Prior to any further works on the channel, including desilting, the complainants should be invited to a meeting.

**EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING**

Cllr Alan Sharp was elected as Chairman and Cllr Daniel Schumann was appointed as Vice-Chairman of East Cambridgeshire District Council for the municipal year 2021/22.

The Council approved a loan to East Cambridgeshire Community Land Trust of £390k to enable them to purchase an interest in the full market price, shared ownership



ALISON WHELAN & CHRISTINE WHELAN -  
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MONTHLY REPORT MAY 2021

properties on the former MOD site. The loan takes the indebtedness for those properties by the CLT to 114% of the value of their share of the properties.

The Council voted to endorse the Fenland Flag,



Alison Whelan & Christine Whelan

## **Report of Ely North and Ely South County Councillors – 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

Following the elections on May 6th 2021, the Liberal Democrats, Labour and Independents agreed to form a joint administration at the County Council.

That agreement was ratified at the Full Council meeting held in the unusual surroundings of IWM Duxford on 18th May, required by the loss of legislation supporting virtual meetings.

At the meeting a revised constitution was approved, bringing into place a number of these changes. The effect was a reduction in the current Councillor Allowances of £72k.

The language used in the constitution was changed to be more gender neutral, such that Chairman/Woman has been changed to Chair, demonstrating a higher level of inclusivity.

Lib Dem Group Lead, Lucy Nethsingha is the new Leader of the Council, and her Labour counterpart Elisa Meschini is Deputy Leader.

The agreement contains a series of progressive policies aimed at COVID recovery and Climate Change redress. Some of the highlights are as follows:

### **1. Environment, sustainability, and the climate emergency**

We will put climate change and biodiversity at the heart of the Council's work and at the heart of its land management strategy. We commit to reviewing the Council's Sustainability Strategy, with the aim of moving forward the Net Zero target for Cambridgeshire County Council towards 2030.

### **2. Communities**

We will tackle poverty, create opportunity, promote diversity, and do all we can to foster inclusion across the county. We will revive, further develop, and implement an anti-poverty strategy for Cambridgeshire. We will aim to offer more accessible services such as youth services and children's centres, to provide more help for young people and families. We will keep the county's libraries open, in public ownership, and ensure their services remain free for everyone on Universal Credit.

### **3. Health and care**

We believe all residents in need of care deserve this to be provided equitably and to be of high quality. We will champion the concept of independent living, using personal budgets and direct payments for those who choose, and explore directly provided residential care and community-based models where possible.

We will adopt a 'health in all policies' approach, as advocated by the World Health Organisation. Mindful of the importance of clean air for public health, we will increase air quality monitoring across Cambridgeshire.

#### **4. Children and education**

We will campaign to keep state nursery schools open, to keep schools in local authority control, and for fair funding for Cambridgeshire schools. We will maintain free school meals for eligible children during school holidays, and work with schools and partners to widen the network of breakfast clubs in schools during term-time.

#### **5. Transport**

We will focus on modal shift to encourage more residents out of their cars, along with infrastructure development, the encouragement of sustainable travel, and securing safe routes and connections for pedestrians and cyclists. We will seek to invest more in road, footway, and cycleway maintenance and routine gully clearance, and end the freeze on residents' parking schemes.

#### **6. Finance, growth and commercial investment**

The new administration will immediately initiate a full review of Council finances, including major projects and the Council's Transformation Fund, and impose a temporary freeze on such schemes until the review has been completed.

The Council will pay the Real Living Wage for all its employees and work towards achieving Real Living Wage Foundation accreditation including all contractors, with monitoring to ensure continuous progress towards meeting it.

Piers Coutts was elected to Ely South and Alison Whelan to Ely North Divisions.

Piers will be serving on the Environment and Green Investment and the Highways and Transport Committees.

Alison is Chair of the Pensions Fund Committee and also serving on the Audit and Accounts Committee.

Piers Coutts & Alison Whelan

## **CITY OF ELY COUNCIL**

### **EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL UPDATE**

**East Cambridgeshire District Councillor, Ely East – Cllr Lis Every**

#### **Community Safety Partnership Board (CSP)**

The new way of working is now up and running and on the 26 May 2021 the Community Safety Partnership Strategic Board will be receiving the updated 6 months' Action Plan Progress Report. This plan is based on our 2 Priorities:

**CSP Priority 1:** Understanding risk and vulnerability of individuals (people) and locations (places) and helping communities respond to this.

**CSP Priority 2:** Working to tackle local issues of high harm.

The CSP also works through the Problem Solving Group which is a grass roots led group working with all the agencies, schools, local authorities, health and community organisations to determine solutions to local problems. The PSG will now send the more complex issues to the Delivery Group who has funding for multi-agency Task and Finish Groups drawing expertise from relevant stakeholders including councillors. So far funding has been awarded to the Cambridgeshire Youth Project for devices in schools and the Primary Care Network North's Project on Drugs and Alcohol for administrative and research support for sustainability. New projects for two Task and Finish Groups are in the planning stage for 1) collaborative social housing association approaches to issues of anti-social behaviour and building communities and 2) establishing structures and activities to support ECDC's Youth Strategy, eg place based approaches to youth provision. The Youth Advisory Board is working well and has a day's training next month.

#### **Walking and Cycling Project Working Group**

This is a cross-party Working Group which has undertaken extensive research and analysis covering East Cambridgeshire to determine priority routes across the District. This was about to be discussed with parishes for their input. However, our Working Party has been postponed as Cambridgeshire County Council have delayed the start of the local cycling and walking infrastructure plans (LCWIP) consultation. This is very disappointing as a lot of work has gone into this and residents have been surveyed and have expectation of an outcome.

#### **Skills Network**

Work is continuing with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority on a place-based District support network on skills for businesses and local schools to improve careers advice in schools through contact with local businesses. This will also focus on increasing potential apprentice opportunities in the area through a strategy involving businesses and schools.

#### **East Cambridgeshire and Fenland Opportunities Area Fund**

We are delighted that this has been extended a further year which will build on its current successes. This will be particularly important for our Post-16 agenda, SEND and Early Years.