



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SUB COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF A MEETING
HELD VIRUALLY ON WEDNESDAY 5TH MAY 2021 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT:

Mrs S Jay – Deputy Clerk to the Council
The Mayor - Cllr S Austen (left at 6.45pm)
Cllr E Every
Mr I Newstead

Mrs A Bennett – Tourism & Town Centre Manager
Cllr A Arnold
Mr M Chinery-Colyer
Cllr S Bellow
Miss L Newstead

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Warman & Mr P Eden.

2. TO APPOINT A CHAIRMAN & CO-OPTION OF VOLUNTEERS

The Mayor proposed Cllr Bellow as Chairman of the Committee, this proposal was seconded by Cllr Arnold. This was unanimously agreed. Mr M Chinery-Colyer, Mr I Newstead, Miss L Newstead, Mr J Dennick & Mr P Eden were co-opted on to the Committee. Cllr Bellow then took over from the Mayor and chaired the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

4. BUDGET UPDATE

Members noted the budget update, dated 28th April 2021. There were no significant variances. Mrs Jay advised the budget for the Switch On event is low and would require a substantial amount of sponsorship in order to achieve the amount required to deliver an event the same as in previous years. Cllrs Bellow and Every will research to see if there is any COVID funding available for events.

6. TO RECEIVE UPDATE FROM LIGHTING GROUP

Mr Chinery-Colyer reported that it will be necessary to replace many of the older lights and features this year. He will work with the Estates Team to dispose of the lights that no longer work and compile an inventory of the remaining lights. Unfortunately, the solar lights purchased were unsuccessful. Cllr Every reported that the personnel from USAF Lakenheath would like to be involved in putting up the lights. Members agreed for Cllrs Every and Bellow to build a relationship with the Community Liaison Officer at Lakenheath. Mrs Jay advised she had received a quotation for the Christmas Tree. She would try to obtain further quotes from alternative suppliers. Miss Newstead would approach a local company to request the possibility of sponsorship for the tree. The Hoists have been booked. Any work involving the Market Place will be carried out on a Monday so as not to conflict with the Market.

Chairman
14th July 2021

7. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FOM THE SWITCH ON GROUP

Mr Newstead reported that he has been planning ideas in the background for this year's event. Mrs Jay advised that it would not be sensible to place any orders at the moment, given the low budget, possible restraints in obtaining sponsorship and uncertainty with COVID restrictions. Members discussed various options for an event including having a low-key event for this year and extending the event to cover the weekend in the future. Members agreed to wait until the next meeting in July before any decisions are made on the type of event for this year.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

There was no any other business.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 14th July 2021 @ 6.30pm

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

Chairman
14th July 2021