



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

Tel: 01353 661016

**MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY, 29TH MARCH 2021**

PRESENT: Mrs T Coulson – Clerk to the Council

The Mayor, Cllr S Austen

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr A Whelan

Cllr E Carlsson Browne

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr E Every

Cllr S Bellow

Cllr M Rouse

Cllr K Wilkins

Cllr I Lindsay

Cllr C Whelan

Cllr D Warman

3 representatives of City of Ely Allotments and Gardens Association

1 member of the public

6 representatives of the Voluntary Organisations giving reports

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Arnold and Mr H McMillan.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON THE 27TH MAY 2020

Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on the 27th May 2020 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages 161, 162 and 163 refer.

3. MAYOR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting. She explained why the meeting was being held virtually again this year, which was due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the need for the Council to operate within Government guidelines and safely.

4. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

The Committee Chairmen spoke about their Annual Reports, which had been issued with agendas and answered questions raised.

(i) Chairman's Annual Report

No questions.

(ii) Personnel, Finance and Governance

No questions.

(iii) Planning

No questions

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**THE MAYOR
29TH MARCH 2022**

4. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS CONTINUED

(iv) Recreation & Cemetery (including Friends of Ely Cemetery)

No questions.

(v) Environment

No questions.

(vi) Christmas Lights

No questions.

(vii) Assets and Acquisitions

No questions.

(viii) Tourism and Town Centre

No questions.

(ix) Youth Forum

No questions.

(x) Ely/Ribe Association

No questions.

(xi) Allotments

No questions. Cllr Rouse thanked Mr Graham Bond from the City of Ely Allotments and Gardens Association for all that he had done in relation to the flooding problems at the High Barns allotments. Cllr Wilkins also thanked Mr Bond and Linda Adams. The new Chairman of the Association, Mr Ken Brown thanked Mr Bond who had stepped down as the Chairman. He said it was not an easy job to follow him.

(xii) Working Groups

No questions.

(xiii) Representatives on Other Organisations

Stuntney Village Council - Mr Bond asked if the planned work for the pedestrian crossing point for the allotments at Bridge Fen would be starting at the end of next month. Cllr Lindsay said the Council had no more information than he had but hoped that it would be happening as planned.

No other questions.

5. GENERAL FORUM

There were no questions raised from those present.

6. REPORTS FROM VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Ely Eco Trees

Ms L Robertson and Ms A Halls attended on behalf of Ely Eco Trees. They thanked the Council for their grant, which has funded a large number of saplings and trees. They had planted 26 large trees and 340 saplings. These were at Abbots Way, Ely. They had also planted trees and saplings at Alexander Chase, Compton Fields, Hereford Close and Williams Close. Next week they will be planting 30 saplings at Willow Walk. They are still looking for sites to plant more trees.

CAMSAR

Mr B Carter thanked the Council for their grant. It has helped them to purchase an infra-red camera, which is currently on order and they hoped to have in May. This will help immensely with their night searches.

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THE MAYOR
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6. REPORTS FROM VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS CONTINUED

Prickwillow Engine Trust

Mr P Dunham thanked the Council for their grant and its continued support of the Trust. They need to ensure that the fire appliance is kept in good working order and this grant has allowed them to do that. The Museum has been closed due to the pandemic but it is hoped to be able to reopen in May. They have been working on the fire engine to get it ready for this season. He thought it may only have one outing this year as the ploughing festival has been cancelled for this year.

Stained Glass Museum

Dr J Allen thanked the Council for providing the grant that enabled the Museum to have such a good event last year. The Window Wonderland, which was in partnership with Babylon Arts, was held on the 23 and 24 October in 150 houses and businesses taking part. 95% of those that participated said that it should happen again next year and should even become an annual event. It brought such joy to everyone. She thanked Mark Cooney for publicising on Spotted in Ely.

7. MAYOR'S CLOSING REMARKS

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and felt it had been an interesting meeting. The Council still had to present four Freedom of the City and it was hoped these would be done as soon as it was possible.

The Boat Race would be held in Ely this year and the Mayor urged people to watch at home and not to try and watch in person, due to the pandemic and that everyone should obey the rules.

The meeting closed at 8.03 pm.

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

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THE MAYOR
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