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**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY,  
4TH APRIL 2022 AT THE MALTINGS, SHIP LANE, ELY.**

**PRESENT:** Mrs T Coulson – Clerk to the Council

Cllr S Austen, Mayor

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr C Whelan

Cllr M Rouse

Cllr R Denness

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr V Ganivet

Cllr D Warman

Cllr E Every

Cllr I Lindsay

Cllr A Whelan

*6 company representatives for item 5*

*County Cllr P Coutts*

**1. APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Rouse and Cllr Bellow and their reasons accepted.

**2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

There were no requests for dispensations.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Cllr Lindsay declared an interest in item 14, due to him being an ex-serviceman. He took no part in the discussion or vote on this item.

**4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 21ST FEBRUARY 2022 AND  
MATTERS ARISING**

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 21st February 2022 were agreed and signed as a true record. They were signed by the Chairman. Pages 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948 and 1949 refer. There were no matters arising.

**5. TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION BY CHEFFINS REGARDING THE COMMUNITY HUB  
IN NORTH ELY**

Representatives of the companies involved in the proposed commercial/community hub in North Ely gave a presentation on the proposed revised plans for the proposed development. Councillors asked questions on various aspects of these plans. It was agreed the North Ely Hub & Community Working Group would meet and discuss these proposals and go back to these representatives with the Council's comments. It was felt that during the planning process it must be a priority to ensure that there is appropriate pedestrian and cycle access. The Council invited them to come back to present again at a later date with a further update. The Mayor thanked them all for attending.

*The six representatives left the meeting at 7.50 pm.*

**6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman made no announcements.

## **7. QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions from members of the public as there were none in attendance.

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

A written report was received from County Cllrs Coutts and A Whelan which was noted and will be attached to the minutes. A written report was also received from Cllr Every, in her capacity as a District Councillor. A copy of which will also be attached to the minutes.

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

The Mayor had attended the Guides Training Day, Witchford Rackham Primary School assembly via zoom and the launch of the St Mary's lounge at the Cutter. The Deputy Mayor had attended South Holland District Council Civic Service, Downham Market Town Council St Winnolds Parade and Sandy Town Council Civic Service.

## **10. PLANNING**

A report of the Planning Committee meeting held prior to this meeting was received.

## **11. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS**

The following information only items were received and noted:-

Notification of Road Closures:- Willow Walk, Ely – 19 – 21.04.22; Beresford Road, Ely - 4.5.22

*County Cllr Coutts left the meeting at 8.10 pm.*

## **12. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE & GOVERNANCE – Cllr A Whelan presented a report of a meeting held on the 28th February, which was approved. Cllr A Whelan proposed the approval of the annual review of the Council's Policies and Procedures, the annual review of Council's risk assessments, annual review of the Council's direct debits, annual review of the Council's risk management procedures and the annual internal audit review by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. This was seconded by Cllr C Whelan and unanimously agreed.

*Cllr Austen proposed that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, regarding agenda item 12 (i), that the item regarding the staff grading and pay review be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 be exercised. This was seconded by Cllr A Whelan and members agreed to go into Committee at the end of the meeting.*

The report regarding the staff grading and pay review was discussed in Committee at the end of the Full Council meeting. Cllr A Whelan proposed that all the recommendations from the Consultant's report and the Clerk's report be approved and implemented. This was seconded by Cllr C Whelan and unanimously agreed.

(ii) CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT – Cllr Lindsay presented a report of a meeting held on the 7th March 2022, which was approved. Cllr Lindsay informed members the 15 trees, which represent the 15 Councillors of the City of Ely Council had now been planted around the perimeter of Ely Cemetery. It is hoped the floral displays planting will be undertaken the week commencing the 23rd May, so everything will be in place for the Jubilee celebrations. There will be a red, white and blue colour scheme. The Council's Spring litter pick will take place on the 3rd April. This will be part of the annual national Spring Clean event. The draft Climate Change & Environment Policy will be considered for approval.

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

- (iii) **ASSETS** – Cllr Morgan presented a report of a meeting held on the 21st March 2022, which was approved. New Barns recreation area had been assessed as to whether it could accommodate a Splash Pad. It was felt that as it is very overlooked by houses and passers-by it would not be suitable, being located close to the road. Further back it would be put in close proximity to the allotments and cemetery. Members unanimously agreed that this is not an appropriate site for a Splash Pad and it therefore not necessary to take the matter any further with the Church Commissioners to seek approval. Two quotes had been obtained the Stuntney play area hard standing. Members agreed to accept the cheaper of these from Grays Surfacing at a cost of £7020. Stuntney Village Council have £2904.00 to put towards the work. Members agreed the balance would be paid from the Recreation renewal/additional/repairs budget. Members agreed to the quotes for the Maltings in relation to upgrading of urinals, water softener, sound system and lighting in main hall. A request to the CIL Sub-Committee had been made for a 20% community contribution towards these. Cllr Phillips gave a full report on the progress that had been made in the last three years with regard to recreation and cemetery. He thanked the Estates Team and the Deputy Clerk for all their hard work in achieving this.
- (iv) **TOURISM AND TOWN CENTRE** – No report as Committee had not met.

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

Members noted the notes of meetings from:-

- City of Ely Allotments and Gardens Association – minutes of meetings held on the 20 October 2021, 15 December 2021 and 18 January 2022 and AGM held on the 2 March 2020  
Ely/Ribe Association – minutes of a meeting held on the 9 March 2022  
Executive Review Group – notes of a meeting held on the 8 March 2022  
Stuntney Village Council – minutes of a meeting held on the 9 March 2022

## **14. TO CONSIDER THE COUNCIL SIGNING UP TO THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT**

Cllr Every had put this agenda item forward for the Council to consider. Cllr Every proposed the Council signs up to the Armed Forces Covenant. This was seconded by Cllr Phillips and unanimously approved. It was also agreed to appoint Cllr Every as the Champion. It was also agreed this would fall under the Tourism & Town Centre Committee. The information regarding this covenant will be put on the Council's website and Facebook page. This will provide information on the support that can be provided to the Armed Forces.

## **15. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSED CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENT POLICY**

Cllr Lindsay proposed the Council approved the proposed Climate Change & Environment Policy. This was seconded by Cllr Denness and unanimously approved. The Chairman of the Council signed the policy.

**16. TO CONSIDER IF THE COUNCIL SHOULD WRITE TO LUCY FRAZER MP, REQUESTING SUPPORT OF AN EARLY DAY MOTION (EDM) WHICH CALLS FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH AN APPROPRIATE AND EFFECTIVE SANCTIONS MECHANISM TO DEAL WITH LOCAL COUNCILLORS WHO HAVE BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF BULLYING AND HARASSMENT FOLLOWING AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION**  
Councillors unanimously agreed to send the draft letter to Lucy Frazer MP requesting support for this.

## 17. FINANCE

*Members approved the following payments:-*

*Direct debit payments and BACS payments*

Lex Autolease	383.70	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	383.70	Paid by direct debit
Siemens Financial Services Ltd	500.40	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	101.58	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	42.54	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	101.58	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	42.54	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	2589.20	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	1219.06	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	1332.62	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	1166.55	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	112.07	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	202.01	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
ECDC	924.50	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	499.00	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	65.68	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	62.14	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	248.48	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	352.06	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	298.92	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	1007.59	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	165.71	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	111.35	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power	232.22	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power	59.90	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power	3005.72	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power	13.50	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power	11.96	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	129.12	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	227.80	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Drax Energy Solutions Ltd	32.27	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	665.21	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	328.79	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	128.09	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	438.55	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	192.82	Paid by direct debit
Information Commissioner	35.00	Paid by direct debit

**15. FINANCE CONTINUED.....**

Elyi Magazine	174.00	Paid by BACS
D Horne	175.00	Paid by BACS
Pen & Sword Books Ltd	635.40	Paid by BACS
L Rouse	25.00	Paid by BACS
M Routledge	820.00	Paid by BACS
ATS Heritage	234.00	Paid by BACS
P Edgington Associates Ltd	145.00	Paid by BACS
Thetford Town Council	70.00	Paid by BACS
S Blake	665.50	Paid by BACS
RGP Security Services Ltd	307.20	Paid by BACS
B Coe	480.00	Paid by BACS
RGP Security Services Ltd	153.60	Paid by BACS
Ely Museum	9474.25	Paid by BACS
D Holt	50.00	Paid by BACS
Kevin Robinson	217.20	Paid by BACS
ECDC	4000.00	Paid by BACS
Shefs	360.00	Paid by BACS
M Chinery-Colyer	90.00	Paid by BACS
Trade UK	128.81	Paid by BACS
Archant	90.00	Paid by BACS
Anglian Lifts Ltd	275.40	Paid by BACS
Cambs County Council	4560.00	Paid by BACS
Ensign Solutions Ltd	275.16	Paid by BACS
M Routledge	20.00	Paid by BACS
H C Electrical	493.56	Paid by BACS
Harper Collins Publishers	469.94	Paid by BACS
Kevin Robinson	27.00	Paid by BACS
Thomas Ridley & Son Ltd	370.30	Paid by BACS
Sterling Cleaning Services	50.40	Paid by BACS
Westair Reproductions Ltd	575.28	Paid by BACS
CamAlarms Ltd	140.40	Paid by BACS
Barcham Trees	790.80	Paid by BACS
Shefs	1600.50	Paid by BACS
Konica Minolta Bus Sols Ltd	85.28	Paid by BACS
G & J Peck Ltd	19.99	Paid by BACS
Jewson Ltd	47.64	Paid by BACS
First Aid Training Services Ltd	1080.00	Paid by BACS
Allens Skip Hire Ltd	190.00	Paid by BACS
Fenland Leisure Products Ltd	93.60	Paid by BACS
ATS Heritage	468.00	Paid by BACS
Downham Market Town Council	20.00	Paid by BACS
Barcham Trees	187.20	Paid by BACS
Royal Soc of St George Huntingdon	57.00	Paid by BACS
Cameo Curtains Ltd	4056.60	Paid by BACS
ECDC	29.29	Paid by BACS
ECDC	39.76	Paid by BACS
Minerva Publications	490.80	Paid by BACS
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	93.69	Paid by BACS
ECDC	162.26	Paid by BACS
Shefs	3841.20	Paid by BACS

**15. FINANCE CONTINUED.....**

G & J Peck Ltd	23.75	Paid by BACS
Trade UK	40.82	Paid by BACS
ATS Heritage	234.00	Paid by BACS
Ely Cathedral Dean & Chapter	343.00	Paid by BACS
S Bradley	300.00	Paid by BACS
ESPO	115.02	Paid by BACS
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	15.98	Paid by BACS
KOMPLAN Ltd	10401.12	Paid by BACS
M Routledge	1190.00	Paid by BACS
Jewsons Ltd	83.96	Paid by BACS
Speedy Asset Services Ltd	187.20	Paid by BACS

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

Amazon Payments UK Ltd	30.91	114016
City Cycle Centre	89.10	114015
DTP Southfield	821.90	114014
Thurflow Nunn Standen Ltd	1803.06	114013
Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd	46.67	114012
G & J Peck Ltd	49.71	114011
Take One Media Ltd	782.40	114009
Verve Digital Ltd	120.00	114008
Elliga Ltd	131.86	114006
Jewson Ltd	247.60	114005
S Thompson	46.00	114004
Thomas Ridley & Son Ltd	910.91	114003
Konica Minolta Bus Sols Ltd	385.85	114002
ESPO	160.38	114001

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

CAPALC	1794.51	114017
Savills (UK) Ltd	286.25	114018
Greene King Brewing & Retailing Ltd	1403.08	Paid by direct debit
RGP Security Services Ltd	134.40	Paid by BACS
R Morgan	90.90	Paid by BACS
British Telecommunications	72.00	Paid by direct debit
RGP Security Services Ltd	86.40	Paid by BACS
R Morgan	90.90	Paid by BACS
Shefs	1386.00	Paid by BACS
Shefs	134.00	Paid by BACS
Shefs	1092.00	Paid by BACS
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	52.37	Paid by BACS
East Cambs Trading Co Ltd	431.76	Paid by BACS
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	25.48	Paid by BACS
Ely Museum	220.50	Paid by BACS
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	33.55	Paid by BACS
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	25.48	Paid by BACS
Anglian Lifts Ltd	761.40	114019
Trade UK	167.08	Paid by BACS
S Thompson	33.30	114020

**15. FINANCE CONTINUED.....**

Francotyp Postalia Ltd	250.00	Paid by direct debit
Verve Digital Ltd	120.00	114021
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	38.90	114022
CoolerAid Ltd	4.74	114023
Securitas Security Services Ltd	58.80	114024
British Telecommunications	262.84	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	343.45	Paid by direct debit
D Holt	50.00	Paid by BACS
Soham Pest Control	99.00	114025
Ellgia Ltd	211.92	Paid by BACS
Ellgia Ltd	17.98	Paid by BACS
ECDC	1787.93	114026
1st Call (Hire & Sales) Ltd	288.00	114027

**Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 21st February 2022**

Salaries and wages	£30,585.88
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£7,369.29
Pension fund payments	£8,259.50

*The meeting closed at 9.04 pm*





# Ely County Councillors' Report

Cllr Alison Whelan, Ely North

Cllr Piers Coutts, Ely South

April 2022

## COVID-19

### Overview

At the time of writing, despite the removal of precautions, COVID cases are higher than they have ever been, with around one in 15 people currently infected.

### Vaccinations

The following COVID vaccinations can now be booked online, or they are available at mobile vaccination centres.

- First and second doses for people aged twelve or over
- First boosters for people aged sixteen or over, plus at-risk children aged twelve to fifteen
- 'Spring boosters' for people aged 75 or over, plus people aged twelve or over with a weakened immune system
- Additional primary doses for people with a severely weakened immune system aged twelve or over

Online vaccination bookings <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

Mobile vaccination centres <https://www.thevaccinators.co.uk/>

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## FINANCES & COUNCIL ASSETS

### Council chamber at Alconbury

The County Council's Strategy & Resources Committee has agreed to request a report on the use of the 'Multi-Function Room' at the Council's new HQ at Alconbury Weald. The report will be considered in September, following concerns in some quarters that the room may not be suitable for full council meetings (61 councillors, plus council officers, press and public) even after COVID precautions are no longer needed.

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## **ADULTS & HEALTH**

### **NHS Health Checks**

The County Council has allocated more than £1M for additional NHS health checks. These are offered to people aged 40-74 without pre-existing disease every five years and are mostly delivered by GP practices.

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## **CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **Holiday vouchers**

The council's Children & Young People Committee agreed at its meeting on 1 March to continue the supermarket voucher scheme for 2022/23 for eligible families, on the same basis as in the current financial year. This will cost around £3.6M and will operate alongside the Holiday Activity and Food Scheme which will also continue to run in the coming year.

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## **COMMUNITIES, SOCIAL MOBILITY & INCLUSION**

### **Decentralisation**

The County Council is embarking on the early stages of a major project to decentralise service delivery and decision-making. The aim is a reorientation of the Council's work to be more deeply embedded in local communities—giving residents more ownership of the Council's direction and giving the Council more accountability to residents.

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## **ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT**

### **Sampling of materials from Hundred Foot**

At the time of writing, a meeting to discuss the analysis of the samples from the Hundred Foot de-silting has been postponed from 31 March, with a revised date for a meeting yet to be set.

The Internal Drainage Board / District Council sample has been analysed and a report produced for those funding it. The Environment Agency has received the results from its sample but so far has not shared them with partner organisations.

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### **Water management tour**

On Thursday 31 March Piers joined council officers and fellow councillors on an information tour of some of the water management installations on the Hundred Foot, at Earith, Welches Dam, and Denver. The tour was hosted by the Environment Agency.

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## Wisbech incinerator

The Leader of the County Council, Lucy Nethsingha, and Cllr Lorna Dupre have visited the site of the proposed Wisbech incinerator, at the invitation of the objector group *Wisbech Without Incineration*. The site is in a very populated part of Wisbech, with considerable numbers of businesses including food firms which would really struggle if an incinerator were placed next to them.

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## Ouse Washes works

The Environment Agency has announced its work programme for the sixth year of its barrier bank works on the Ouse Washes.

Work on the Welney demountable flood barrier will start on 13 June and finish on 16 September, with a full road closure planned for 20 July to 25 August. There will be no access to the Middle Level Barrier Bank at Welney.

Bank raising work between Welches Dam and the railway bridge, and haul road works between Mepal and Welney, will also be completed.

The following footpaths will remain closed while the work is done.

- Sutton Gault to A142 Mepal
- A142 Mepal to Welches Dam
- Welches Dam to railway bridge
- Railway bridge to Welney
- Welney to Welmore Lake Sluice access restricted at Welney from June

## Public drop-in event

There will be a drop-in event on Saturday 23 April, 10:00AM-2:00PM at the William Marshall Centre in Welney (PE14 9SD) to talk to the project team and view current progress and the plan for work.

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## Repair cafés

A motion was passed last month at the County Council's full council meeting to receive a report on how the Council can support new and existing Repair Cafés to increase reuse and recycling rates.

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## HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

### Road pricing

A motion was proposed to the County Council's full council meeting on 15 March which would have ruled out any form of road pricing in Greater Cambridge, but it was not passed. Those against the motion argued that it unnecessarily restricted the scope of the GCP's investigations and pre-judged the result of its consultations. The motion itself offered no positive solutions.

Traffic in Cambridge is already congesting the city and is set to grow by 30 per cent in the next ten years. Proposals to build a new dual carriageway from Ely to Milton would attract many more vehicles, with no plan for where they would go once they reached the Milton interchange.

Public transport into Cambridge is patchy at best for much of East Cambridgeshire, with no obvious source of funding to improve it. The previous Mayor's 'CAM Metro' was planned to come no closer to us than Waterbeach. Adding more buses without resolving Cambridge traffic would simply increase congestion. And what public transport investment there has been over the years has passed East Cambridgeshire and Fenland by, as it arcs from south east of Cambridge through South Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire up towards Peterborough. This leaves many people who cannot drive, or cannot afford to run a car, with limited or no options for travel.

The Greater Cambridge Partnership has been consulting residents, including East Cambridgeshire residents, on how to solve all these issues. This work is still ongoing, which is why ruling out options at this stage is not a sensible suggestion; it would be more prudent to judge the GCP proposals as a whole when the consultation process is complete.

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### **Additional £1.49m spending on Highways 2022-2023**

In the light of an unexpected significant underspend on highways at the end of the financial year, the Strategy and Resources Committee has approved the spending of an additional £1.49m on highway maintenance over the next few months. This will be concentrated particularly on:

- Potholes – a programme of planned patching to be carried out this spring and summer to properly fix pothole hotspots in and around village and town centres, with the aim of removing remove the patchwork quilt of multiple repeat visits
- Flooding - an increased programme of work on highways flood hotspots to remove more of the risks of surface water on our roads, targeting locations that also cause issues affecting businesses and properties.
- Road markings - improve the lines and road markings across the rural network, making driving safer at night and in bad weather

There will also an acceleration of training for highways officers and of the introduction of a new Asset Management System.

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## Cambridgeshire Local Government Pension Fund

The tri-annual valuation of the pension fund has commenced. The outturn of the valuation may impact the premiums payable by City of Ely Council as employer. The results will not be known for a further year, however, the fund was valued at £4.2bn at the last valuation making it 111% funded.

The fund had between £2m and £3m directly invested in Russia and Ukraine. Currently, it is not possible to trade in Russian investments due to exclusion from the global financial markets, leaving the fund holding these at a nil valuation.

The fund has committed to a carbon net-zero target better than the Paris Accord and is taking appropriate measures to decarbonize and appropriately divest from carbon fuel companies.

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## Air Source Heat Pumps – The Larkfield Centre

The need for action on Climate Change and the availability of funding, meant that the end-of-life heating at The Larkfield Centre was replaced with Air Source Heat Pumps.

Despite external planners assessing the impact on local properties, it was clear when they were started that the noise was at an unacceptable level. Cllr Alison Whelan worked with the Officers firstly to restrict the use of the pumps and ultimately ensured these were turned off while appropriate acoustic shielding could be installed.

We must take action on climate change, but this must not be at any cost.

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## Meanwhile on the Combined Authority

The Combined Authority's Overview & Scrutiny Committee held its last meeting of the council year on 28 March, with a wide-ranging discussion of the Combined Authority's Climate Change Action Plan.

The Board meeting on Wednesday 30 March was asked to agree to return to the Government £22M of a £78.3M grant which it had been unable to spend on Green Homes retrofitting. This is very disappointing news for households who might otherwise have received investment to increase the energy efficiency of their homes and reduce fuel costs, though there will be further spending on Green Homes retrofit from the next phase of Government grant.

The Combined Authority proposes to make Pathfinder House in Huntingdon its new office base, retaining (for the time being) its satellite office in Ely.





## **CITY OF ELY COUNCIL**

### **EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL UPDATE. 4.4.22**

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

#### **Council Tax**

At the recent ECDC Full Council meeting, it was agreed that the ECDC element of Council Tax would be frozen again.

#### **Growth and Infrastructure Fund**

This new fund of £2m will be used for projects supporting sustainable growth in local communities, eg cycleways, community and sports facilities and increasing biodiversity and space for nature. This is in addition to other funds, eg CIL which has benefited the improvement of leisure centres, recreation fields, county parks, village halls, GP surgeries, and directly for the City of Ely, the funding towards the re-development of Ely Museum (also supported by the City Council).

#### **Operational Services Committee**

- The East Cambridgeshire Street Scene Business Plan for 2022/23 was approved and the quarterly performance report noted.
- Members had the opportunity to consider and raise questions on the Service Delivery Plans that are within the remit of the committee, ie Building Control, Communities and Partnerships, Customer Services, Environmental Services, Licensing, Housing and Community Advice, Information Technology, Leisure Services, Planning, Communications and Waste.
- They also endorsed the Environmental Policy and noted the commencement of the 'Investors in the Environment' accreditation programme for ECDC which would require members and officers to contribute to activities to help achieve successful accreditation <https://www.iie.uk.com>. How can the City Council be involved in this?
- Approval was given for the Community Facility Grants Scheme 2022-25 which is funding for the improvements of our District wide leisure and sports centres
- Replies from the latest youth survey were being analysed and would be cross referenced with the Youth Strategy Action Plan.
- The Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for Dog Fouling was renewed.

#### **Audit Committee**

The newly formed Audit Committee met for the last time this year. Alongside the other work that the Committee has worked on during the year we were able to report that the East Cambridgeshire District Council had signed off their accounts for the 2020/21 year. Not all Councils were in that situation, some being more than one year behind.

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

The post for a part-time Anti-Social Behaviour officer has been filled and the new postholder will start on 4 April. The closing date for the Problem-solving Co-ordinator is now 15 April.

At the end of the financial year, the Delivery Group who work to the CSP on Task and Finish groups on issues identified by the Problem Solving Group had awarded the following grants:

- Financial support for a Drugs and Alcohol Outreach Officer (Primary Care Network – North and South),
- Safety on the Streets project in Littleport;
- Start up funds for a youth hub in Soham,
- Teenage drop-in cafe in Littleport,
- Biker project in Littleport, Ely and Soham,
- Safety Strategy in Burwell, funding '20's plenty' stickers,
- Primary 'pop up' cultural events (based on post Covid researched issues) in Burwell, Littleport, Haddenham, Soham and Ely (part of the Local Cultural Education Project partly funded by the Arts Council),
- Safety seminars for small business employees and clients,
- Drink spiking campaign across the District,
- Laptops for 'inter-generational engagement in technology project' in Haddenham,
- Neighbourhood Watch signs.
- Further funding is being considered for Parish Council local forum groups, Safety on the Street one day events and Firebreak courses for young people at risk of exclusion from school or involved in anti-social behaviour.

Task and Finish Groups in operation at the moment are youth provision, collaboration and consistency across housing associations and private landlords to promote community cohesion and a mental health youth project involving organisations in the third sector.

3.4.2022