

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

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY, 3RD APRIL 2023 AT THE MALTINGS, SHIP LANE, ELY

PRESENT: Mrs T Coulson – Clerk to the Council

Cllr R Morgan, MayorCllr E EveryCllr P HarrisCllr C PhillipsCllr C WhelanCllr V GanivetCllr A WhelanCllr R PittCllr I Lindsay

1 parishioner

1. APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Austen, Warman, Denness, and Wade. The reasons for their absences were accepted.

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 27TH FEBRUARY 2023 AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 27th February 2023 were agreed and signed as a true record, subject to one grammatical amendment. They were signed by the Chairman. Pages 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021 refer. There were no matters arising.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced this would be the last time he would be chairing the Full Council meeting, after nearly 12 months as Mayor and Chairman. He thanked councillors for their forbearance and said he had enjoyed it very much. He thanked those councillors that would not be standing in the forthcoming elections for the work they had done on behalf of the Council over the time that had been in office. He hoped that following the elections they would come together again as Eleans and councillors with a sole focus on the betterment of the lives of all citizens, beginning with the Mayor Making on the 15th May.

6. QUESTION TIME

A parishioner questioned what the council could do with regard to cars parking on a Saturday, in the High Street when this was closed to traffic and pedestrianised. Cllr Every informed the parishioner this was undertaken by ECDC and that she would speak to the Community Safety Partnership at ECDC who can liaise with the police over their concerns.

The parishioner left the meeting at 7.10 pm.

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7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report was received from County Cllrs Coutts and A Whelan. A copy of which will be attached to the minutes. District Councillor C Whelan provided a written report, which will be attached to the minutes. District Cllr Every reported on how successful the Community Safety Partnership celebration event on the 13th March had been.

8. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended the South Holland District Council charity ball. He was present, with others at the Market Place for the raising of the flag on Commonwealth Day and made a short speech. He had attended a preview of Ben's Yard at Stuntney; the Mayor of Whittlesey's Dinner; St Ives Civic Service and Mayoral Ball. He visited the wellness garden, "St John's Retreat" at Abbots Way and he had signed the Armed Forces Covenant and given a speech, earlier that evening.

The Deputy Mayor had attended the local Rainbows Group; given a talk on the cemetery to two different groups; visited the Fire Station to congratulate the students at their Fire Break Pass-out Parade on behalf of the Council. He had also attended the community iftar meal organised by the Ely Islamic Centre. He thanked Cllr Morgan for all that he had done in the last 12 months as Chairman of the Council.

9. PLANNING

Cllr Lindsay gave a report on the last planning meeting.

10. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following information only items were received and noted:-

Notification of street closures:- Broad Street, Ely – 31.05.23; Annesdale, Ely – 22-26.05.23; Branch Bank, Prickwillow, Ely – 15–16.05.23

Letter from the Drinking Water Inspectorate regarding the Inspectorate's assessment of an event involving the sufficiency of the water supply 10,762 properties following a burst main in Ely Notification of street naming and numbering:- Units 20A and 20B The Dock, Angel Drove, Ely

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE & GOVERNANCE – Cllr A Whelan presented a report of a meeting held on the 6th March 2023, which were noted and approved. Cllr A Whelan proposed councillors approved the recommended grant awards for:- Littleport & District Pony Club - £250; Cruse - £750, Friends of the Lantern School - £1000. This was seconded by Cllr C Whelan and unanimously approved. The annual review of the Council's Policies and Procedures was being undertaken. Cllr Pitt will contact ECDC, Centre E and the Community Safety Partnership with regards to researching and obtaining information as to whether there was a need for support workers for the elderly and youth. Councillors also discussed the anti-social issues raised by Cllr Pitt and it was agreed Cllr Pitt would discuss these with the Community Safety Partnership and report back to the next meeting. Councillors considered the written statement from a staff member concerning the overtime/toil policy. They felt that the points raised were already contained within the policy and unanimously agreed the policy could not be amended. The CIL minutes of a meeting held on the 27th March 2023 were noted. Cllr Morgan proposed the CIL request for a further £13,000 towards the replacement of the climbing tower at St John's play area be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Ganivet and unanimously approved.

2023

MAYOR
22nd May 2023

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED

- (ii) CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be held on the 11th April 2023.
- (iii) ASSETS Cllr Philips presented a report of a meeting held on the 13th March 2023, which were noted and approved. Councillors noted the update on decarbonisation. Cllr Lindsay informed councillors the tree in memory of the late Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh had now been planted in the sensory garden at the cemetery. A plaque will be installed shortly. A meeting had been held with ECDC Conservation Officer at the cemetery chapels, who was happy that the council should continue to maintain them as we had been doing.
- (iv) TOURISM AND TOWN CENTRE No report as Committee had not met.

12. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Ely/Ribe Association – minutes of meetings held on the 21st February 2023 and 28th March 2023 were noted.

Prickwillow Village Council – minutes of a meeting held on the 13th March 2023 were noted.

13. NOMINATIONS FOR DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2023/2024

Councillors considered the nominations for Deputy Mayor for 2023/24. These being Cllr R Denness, proposed by Cllr Phillips and seconded by Cllr Ganivet and Cllr R Pitt, proposed by Cllr Wade and seconded by Cllr Morgan. A paper vote was undertaken with the result being a tie. The Chairman had the casting vote and Cllr R Pitt was approved as the Deputy Mayor for 2023/24. Cllr Every abstained from the vote.

14. TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF MR C FULLER TO THE POSITION OF ESTATES TECHNICIAN AND TO PASS A RESOLUTION THAT HE BE SPECIFIED AS A PENSIONABLE EMPLOYEE UNDER REGULATION B1(5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS 1986 (AS AMENDED)

Cllr Morgan proposed the approval of the appointment of Mr C Fuller to the position of Estates Technician and to the passing of a resolution that he be specified as a pensionable employee under Regulation B1(5) of the Local Government Regulations 1986 (as amended). This was seconded by Cllr A Whelan and unanimously approved.

15. TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH ADEC IN RELATION TO THE USE OF THE MALTINGS

Cllr Morgan proposed the updated version, provided to all councillors, be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Pitt and unanimously approved. The Chairman signed the Agreement.

16. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE FRIENDS OF SESSIONS HOUSE

Cllr Every gave background information on the Friends of Sessions House. A meeting had recently taken place with the Council, Ely Museum and representative from OCH. It was agreed that it would be good to make Sessions House a Crime and Justice Centre. It could also be a centre for the Arts, Music and Theatre. The Deputy Clerk was also investigating the option of it being a wedding venue. It was agreed interested parties should meet again to discuss further and produce options for the use of the building. Cllrs Every and Lindsay would be happy to be continue to work as the Friends, after May when they stand down as councillors.

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22nd May 2023

17. FINANCE

Cllr Morgan proposed these all be approved, which was seconded by Cllr Phillips and unanimously approved.

Direct debit payments and BACS	payments	
ECDC	196.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	297.12	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	2090.52	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	523.50	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	499.00	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	269.72	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retai	1 Ltd 1100.93	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retai		Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	70.12	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	264.71	Paid by direct debit
Drax Energy Solutions Ltd	32.97	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	143.28	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	342.96	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	144.01	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	250.51	Paid by direct debit
Worldpay	335.51	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	64.80	Paid by direct debit
Information Commissioner	35.00	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	1345.90	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power	946.50	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power	998.63	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power	17459.73	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power	50.51	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power	288.20	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	400.94	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	1313.94	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	242.32	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	120.94	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retain	1 Ltd 1889.66	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications		Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	42.54	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	250.00	Paid by direct debit
EE	18.65	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	383.70	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	408.65	Paid by direct debit
Mr R Todd	399.00	Paid by BACS
K Robinson	189.12	Paid by BACS
L E Enterprices	31.25	Paid by BACS
Thompson Media Partners Ltd	238.50	Paid by BACS
Up To Speed Training &		
Assessment Ltd	1956.00	Paid by BACS
City Cycle Centre	274.54	Paid by BACS
We Are Blueshed Ltd	72.00	Paid by BACS
		2025

2025

17. FINANCE CONTINUED	• • • • • • • • • • • • •	
Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd	132.59	Paid by BACS
March Stationery & Print	82.18	Paid by BACS
G & G Gallo Enterprises Ltd	418.46	Paid by BACS
ATS Heritage	234.00	Paid by BACS
D Holt	75.00	Paid by BACS
CB Groundworks & Construction	on Ltd 1786	.99 Paid by BACS
RGP Security Services Ltd	105.60	Paid by BACS
March Stationery & Print	119.22	Paid by BACS
Ellgia Ltd	192.15	Paid by BACS
The Kite Trust	500.00	Paid by BACS
Human Capital Department Ltd	178.80	Paid by BACS
The Royal Society of St George	57.00	Paid by BACS
S Blake	491.50	Paid by BACS
Yellow Publications Ltd	53.20	Paid by BACS
Mrs N Booth	171.40	Paid by BACS
House of Marbles	368.64	Paid by BACS
St Ives Town Council	150.00	Paid by BACS
Isle Interactive Ltd	48.00	Paid by BACS
Trade UK	79.20	Paid by BACS
Mrs L Green	40.00	Paid by BACS
Yandell Publishing Ltd	518.40	Paid by BACS
K M Lighting Services Ltd	180.00	Paid by BACS
Thompson Media Partners Ltd	270.00	Paid by BACS
Studio Nova Ltd	90.00	Paid by BACS
HC Electrical	637.26	Paid by BACS
Studio Nova Ltd	24.00	Paid by BACS
Trade UK	37.38	Paid by BACS
Mr D Holmes	312.00	Paid by BACS
Arco Ltd	232.92	Paid by BACS
Eden Farm Hulleys	135.71	Paid by BACS
RGP Security Services Ltd	192.00	Paid by BACS
Kamarin Computers Ltd	3912.00	Paid by BACS
KISS Communications	48.00	Paid by BACS
Good Evans Art	192.50	Paid by BACS
Trade UK	14.98	Paid by BACS
CamAlarms Ltd	204.00	Paid by BACS
Mr R Morgan	84.60	Paid by BACS
ECDC	144.00	Paid by BACS

17. FINANCE CONTINUED				
Rialtas Business Solutions Ltd	Paid by BACS			
H C Electrical	1912.56	Paid by BACS		
East Air Conditioning Services	Ltd 774.00	Paid by BACS		
Star Editions Ltd	989.33	Paid by BACS		
ATS Heritage	234.00	Paid by BACS		
Zaun Ltd	1012.80	Paid by BACS		
Ellgia Ltd	176.84	Paid by BACS		
Ely Central Heating Services L	td 360.00	Paid by BACS		
Lauren Rouse	35.00	Paid by BACS		
Take One Media Ltd	732.00	Paid by BACS		
Fullpip Ltd	234.90	Paid by BACS		
Cambridge Art	723.60	Paid by BACS		
Grocer's Brokers Ltd	191.76	Paid by BACS		
Trade UK	52.95	Paid by BACS		
G & G Gallo Enterprises Ltd	506.97	Paid by BACS		
We Are Blueshed Ltd	72.00	Paid by BACS		
March Stationery & Print	82.18	Paid by BACS		
P Myerson HVAC Maintenance Ltd 278.98 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

Savills	338.09	114327
Konica Minolta Bus Sols Ltd	123.82	114328
Jewson Ltd	66.86	114329
Mrs A J Morgan	45.00	114300
G & J Peck Ltd	65.66	114331
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	50.09	114332
Gordon Harrison	120.00	114333
Two Bad Mice Publishers Ltd	251.40	114334
ESPO	1854.00	114335
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	351.25	114336
ECDC	420.00	114337
Housden's Catering Ltd	624.00	114338
Jewson Ltd	344.40	114339

The following invoices had not been paid prior to the meeting

Securitas Security Services (UK) Ltd 540.00 114344 G & J Peck Ltd 0.91 114340 **CAPALC** 1890.16 114343 Zurich Municipal Paid by BACS 13203.12 FuelGenie 325.46 Paid by direct debit Paid by direct debit **British Telecommunications** 299.60 47.95 114342 City Cycle Centre Human Capital Department Ltd 178.80 Paid by BACS Paid by direct debit Bidfood 488.91 Liquidline Ltd 486.97 Paid by direct debit Thomas Media Partners Ltd Paid by BACS 357.60 Paid by BACS ATS Heritage Ltd 234.00

17. FINANCE CONTINUED				
500.00	Paid by BACS (an explanation for this payment was given)			
50.00	Paid by BACS			
515.00	Paid by BACS			
33.30	114341			
500.00	Paid by BACS			
226.45	Paid by direct debit			
265.21	Paid by direct debit			
180.40	Paid by direct debit			
306.80	Paid by direct debit			
319.54	Paid by direct debit			
242.32	Paid by direct debit			
227.70	Paid by direct debit			
5 2 2 1 3 3 2	50.00 315.00 33.30 500.00 226.45 265.21 80.40 06.80 19.54 442.32			

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 27th February 2023

Salaries and wages £34,883.77 Inland Revenue (tax & NI) £9,219.92 Pension fund payments £10,191.30

Councillors noted and approved the bank reconciliation against the accounts for the period ending the 31st January 2023.

The meeting closed at 7.46 pm.



Cllrs Alison Whelan and Piers Coutts MONTHLYREPORTMARCH2023

FULL COUNCIL County Council Vacancies

There have been two resignations at the County Council and there will be by elections on 4th May for:

- Soham and Haddenham
- Arbury

Full Council meeting

The Full Council meeting on Tuesday 21 March saw motions passed on "Debate not Hate" and Voter Identification.

Councillors have been subjected to significant amounts of abuse, both in person and online. This was a factor in the recent resignation of a County Councillor in Cambridge.

Research on the impact of the voter ID requirements suggest that 2 million people do not have appropriate ID, yet only a very small number of voters have applied locally for a free Voter Authority Certificate so that they are not denied their right to vote.

A call for a referendum on a congestion charge in Cambridge did not pass. Such polls are blunt tools that are not able to deal with complex matters. This is an issue that is about the significant growth in Cambridge and the resulting congestion, pollution and the lack of public transport. It is more appropriate to see what the 24,000 plus responses to the Connecting Cambridge consultation say.

However, we have concerns about the proposals in the consultation which we would not support as they are not beneficial to the people of East of Cambridgeshire.

The decision to create a public transport link connecting existing and planned settlements at Cambourne, West Cambourne and Bourn Airfield to Cambridge also came to the Council. These settlements are the best alternatives to development in the green belt, and this clustered development protects the vast majority of South Cambs villages from unsustainable growth.

A key point of contention for the proposed Cambourne to Cambridge Busway is at Madingley and Coton where different options have been debated. The eight years of consideration included a detailed independent audit in 2021.

Officers have given a clear steer that the proposed on-road route was not good enough to meet the needs of Cambourne and further planned growth, and risks disturbing Madingley Wood, an ancient and hugely biodiverse site. The preferred route involving the loss of trees at Coton Orchard, a private site without public access, is regrettable. The final route will be aligned to reduce to a minimum the number of lost trees, almost or potentially all of which will be commercial fruit trees around 30 years old.

The next stage will almost certainly be a public inquiry at which the integrity of the scheme and objections to it will be tested.

SENIOR APPOINTMENTS

Cambridgeshire County Council has announced two new senior appointments as it completes work to refocus its senior team entirely on the county - with Martin Purbrick taking up the role of Executive Director for Children, Education and Families, and Patrick Warren-Higgs as Executive Director for Adults, Health and Commissioning.

PENSIONS

The triennial pensions valuation was approved by the pensions committee last week. The pension fund is currently 140% funded and this has enabled a more prudent approach to investment to be undertaken and, more importantly, enabled a number of employers to reduce their contributions.

The fund continues to pursue its Responsible Investment Policy that has seen approval of £179m being moved into investments aimed at carbon-reduction.

ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT Waste contract

The County Council's long-term waste disposal PFI contract with Thalia at Waterbeach continues to be a major preoccupation of the Council. Work is

continuing on options for the odour emission abatement required by the Environment Agency, and Government changes to food waste collection arrangements are proving challenging.

Swaffham Prior

There continues to be ongoing media interest in the Swaffham Prior renewable energy project, including from the BBC1 national morning magazine programme and the property section of the *Sunday Times*. The first homes in the village are already receiving heat from the new system.

Wisbech incinerator

The Council's case against the planning application for the Wisbech incinerator was presented to the Planning Inspectorate's Examination on Thursday 24 February.

Waste water treatment plant

Anglian Water have withdrawn their application for the move of the waste water treatment plant from North East Cambridge to Horningsea, which we expect to be revised and resubmitted.

Water industry consultations

A number of water industry consultations are in progress at the moment, including Anglian Water's Water Resources Management Plan, and their Storm Overflow consultation.

PRIORS FIELD GP PRACTICE, SUTTON

The announcement of the closure of the GP surgery at Priors Field in Sutton with effect from the end of 31 March has shocked residents.

This would have a major impact on Ely as patients were to be allocated to the GP practices in Ely and Haddenham.

Although a 1 year agreement has now been put in place, it is important that a permanent solution is found to prevent a reduction in GP services in Ely.

HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT Local Highway Improvement schemes

LHI bids will be considered at a panel meeting on Friday 12 May.

From now until 28 April, applications for new 20MPH speed limits can be submitted by any person as long as they have the support of their local parish or town council and county councillor. Once an application has been submitted it will be processed and prioritised, until all schemes have been delivered.

Ely 20mph Scheme

All Ely Councillors have been asked for their feedback on the proposed 20mph scheme for Ely. This will then enable the plans to go to public consultation.

Road Network

The business plan agreed by the Council in February this year included a budget of £32.76 million for maintenance of the highways. This is an increase on the previous budget as proposed by preceding administrations. The dire condition of our roads, and their poor management under the previous administration were a key issue. More money was firstly put into dealing with the catastrophic failure to clear gullies, and now into highway maintenance.

The Council as Highway Authority seeks to prioritise highways maintenance country wide as best it can within the resources available. The Highways Maintenance service use road condition information and forecasts to determine where best to target our limited funding for the best long-term benefits to road users across the county. Due to the very tight budget limitations we have to strike a difficult balance between dealing with the immediate challenge of potholes, and preventative maintenance which helps to avoid the longer-term deterioration of the road network. We have a system of inspections to identify and repair safety maintenance requirements. Our 5 year forward Highways Maintenance Capital Maintenance Programme was approved in March by our Highways and Transportation Committee following discussion with County Councillors from all parties.

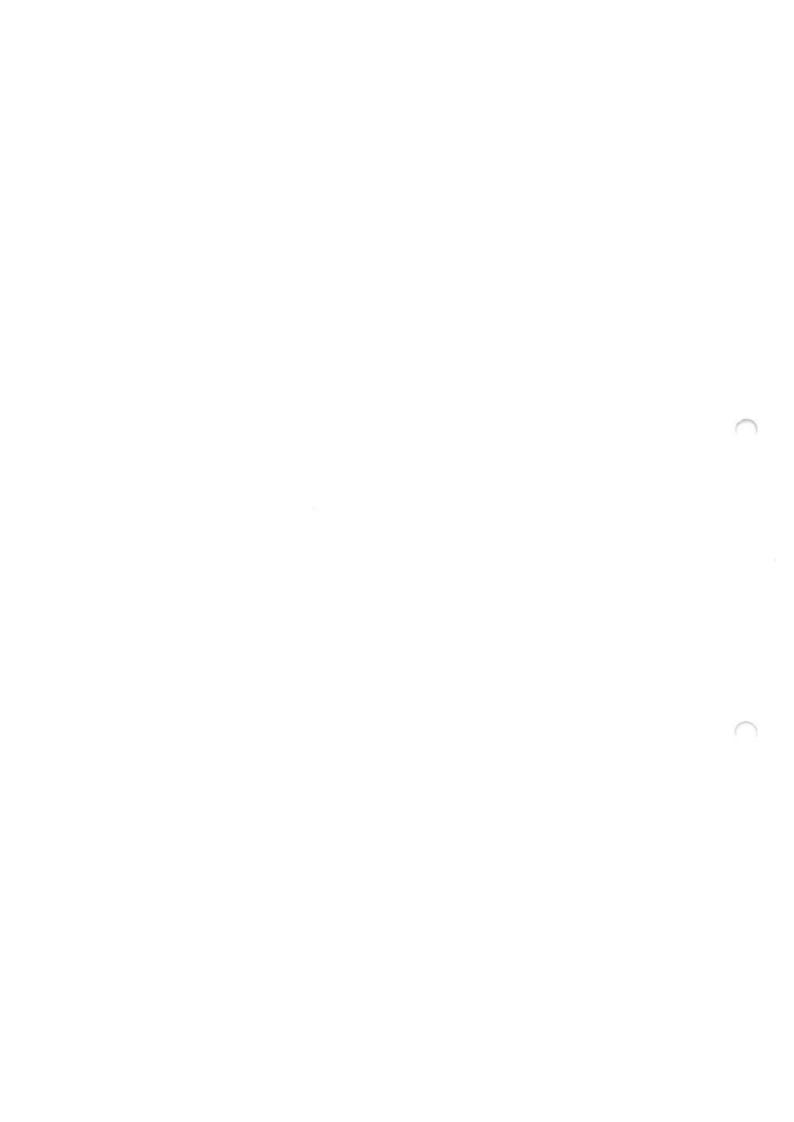
The impact of the recent droughts followed by heavy rain on stretches of road such as Black Bank and Hundred Foot Bank has been severe. The nature of the peat soils on which many of our roads sit makes many of our rural roads more vulnerable to extreme weather. In the last few years, we have seen a significant increase in deterioration of these roads and the effect of this on communities.

The impact of climate change on our infrastructure is not yet well understood and is recognised as a major risk for the County Council. It is disappointing that the urgency of the need to reduce our carbon emissions in order to reduce our climate risk is not supported across the political spectrum within the County. Cambridgeshire County Council is leading discussions on the impact of climate change on our road network along with similarly affected neighbouring authorities and with the Department for Transport and are seeking technical support and ultimately a sufficient level of funding to address the issues and adequately maintain the network for the future.

Meanwhile on the Combined Authority

The Combined Authority Board continues to focus on its Improvement work. It has agreed to appoint an Executive Director Resources & Performance, and an Executive Director Economy & Growth.

Clirs Alison Whelan and Piers CouttsCounty Councillors for Ely North and Ely South



District Councillor Report 03-04-23 by Cllr C Whelan

Operational Services Committee 27-03-23

There was a presentation given by Lizzi Wales who is the Youth and Community Coordinator. The slides and presentation can be seen on the youtube link below. I do not have the slides available, but it is worth watching and is at the beginning of the meeting.

There was a report on the replacement of vehicles as 10 Refuse Collection Vehicles are coming to the end of their life and need replacing.

There was a debate from the report on the best use of fuel which would produce low CO2 admissions. It was unanimously agreed by the committee that the best form of fuel for the replacements would be HVO Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil. The older vehicles will be converted to use this fuel as well. In cab technology will be installed to improve the service of the collections.

The rest of the agenda was reports and they were either unanimously supported or just for noting.

The full agenda and decision list can be found on

https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/meetings/operational-services-committee-27032023

The full meeting can be viewed on

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F3XLon891u8

The Finance and Assets meeting was held on the 30th March

The full meeting can be viewed on

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Es-csTDjJ6c

The full council which was scheduled for April has been cancelled.

