

**CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT 7.00 PM ON
18TH JULY 2022 AT THE MALTINGS, SHIP LANE, ELY**

PRESENT:

Cllr S Bellow

Cllr R Pitt

Cllr S Austen

Cllr V Ganivet (substitute)

Cllr E Every (substitute) (arrived 7.06 pm)

Cllr I Lindsay

Cllr C Phillips

In the Chairman's absence the Vice-Chairman, Cllr Bellow chaired the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs A Whelan and C Whelan.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING (HELD ON THE 30TH MAY 2022) & MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the last Personnel, Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on the 30th May 2022, were agreed, and were signed by the Vice-Chairman, as a true record. Pages PFG 115 and 116 refer.

There were no matters arising.

4. BUDGET UPDATE

Members noted the budget update for the period up to the 31st May 2022. There were no significant variances. Cllr Pitt asked if the Council had undertaken a risk assessment regarding changes in climate and how this affects the infrastructure of Ely. The Clerk confirmed this had not been undertaken and suggested Cllr Pitt ask this to be discussed at a Climate & Environment Committee meeting.

5. UPDATE FROM THE GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUP

No report as the Governance Working Group had not met. Cllr Every requested that at the next meeting the Group discuss how the process of substitutes is working. She informed members she had to leave another meeting to attend, as Cllr A Whelan's substitute as not sure if the Committee would be quorate. The Clerk agreed to email members to obtain their comments on this process to allow these to be considered in the discussion.

6. UPDATE FROM THE COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PLAN WORKING GROUP

There was no update from the Strategic Plan Working Group.

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COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
30th August 2022

7. UPDATE FROM CIL SUB-COMMITTEE

No report as the CIL Sub-Committee had not met. The CIL expenditure analysis update was noted. Cllr Every informed members that at the last Climate & Environment Committee meeting Cllr Denness agreed to contact the office of the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Mayor for an update on the aims for the regions transport issues. It was felt this discussion was very important due to the fact that the Council had allocated £100,000 originally for support for the No 9 bus service. The circuit bus has now been cancelled so it needs to be confirmed if this allocation should go back into the available funds pot if it is no longer required for what it had originally been allocated for. Once Cllr Denness has spoken to the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Mayor a much wider discussion on this at a Full Council meeting will be had to make a decision on this allocation. It was also agreed the Clerk would send copies of the Council's Business Plan (now out of date) and the draft Strategic Plan to the new councillors.

8. UPDATE FROM THE INCLUSIVITY WORKING GROUP

Cllr Phillips presented notes of a meeting of the Inclusivity Working Group held on the 8th June 2022, which were accepted. This meeting was with Mr Pittock, so that the Group could more fully engage with the preparations for this year's Ely Pride. This will be held on the 6th August at the Maltings/Jubilee Gardens. It was agreed that the Council will invite local people for their stories. These could be captured and be included in an article in Elyi regarding Pride in the September/October edition. Cllr Ganivet agreed to put a call out for stories on the Council's Facebook page. It was also agreed this would be helpful as the Group still has to review the Council's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy Statement. It was also agreed they could recruit people from the event to help them undertake this review.

9. UPDATE FROM THE NORTH ELY HUB AND COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP

The Group had not met. Cllr Bellow informed members she had an informal meeting with a resident of Stour Green, who is interested in the plans for this area and would like to get involved and support the Council. Cllr Phillips informed members that he had been contacted by St Mary's Church who have expressed an interest in running the new centre as a community centre. Cllr Bellow felt it would be useful to have a demographic selection of people from this area co-opted on to the Working Group, as they can then express what they want to see provided. She proposed that the Working Group allow the co-option of up to 5 local people on to this Group. This was seconded by Cllr Every and unanimously agreed. It was agreed a meeting of the Group will be arranged for August. The cancelled visits to similar type hubs had not happened due to Covid, but Cllr Bellow will try to arrange these now.

10. UPDATE FROM THE YOUTH LEAD

As Cllr C Whelan was not present, no update was received.

11. TO DISCUSS WHETHER TO RETURN TO SESSIONS HOUSE FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Members discussed whether all Committee meetings should now return to Sessions House. Cllr Bellow proposed that all Committee meetings return to Sessions House, but Full Council should remain at the Maltings. This was seconded by Cllr Pitt and unanimously agreed. If there is a Planning Committee meeting before Full Council this will be held at the Maltings.

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COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
30th August 2022

12. COMMUNICATIONS/PR

This Group had not met. Cllr Pitt agreed to arrange a meeting of the Working Group within the next week. The Clerk agreed to sort the submission from the Council for the next edition of the Elyi.

13. HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES

There were no health and safety issues to raise.

14. PERSONNEL ISSUES

Cllr Bellow provided an update as to the progress with regard to the decision made at the last Full Council meeting in relation to overtime/toil. Cllr Every proposed that although Full Council had agreed not to pay overtime that the Council could consider the hours worked at the Jubilee weekend by 4 of the OCH staff as an ex-gratia payment. This would be a one-off payment and would not set any precedent for any future payments of overtime. Staff would have to sign a letter stating they understand this. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Bellow and unanimously agreed. There will be a recommendation that this proposal be approved at the next Full Council.

The Clerk informed members interviews had been undertaken for two roles at OCH. She requested that appointments be recommended for approval at the next Full Council meeting as follows – Sales and Events Officer – Mr M Routledge; part-time Tourist Information Assistant – Ms E Gray. This was unanimously agreed. Both appointments will be subject to satisfactory references and approval at Full Council.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 30th August 2022 at 7.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

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COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
30th August 2022