



**CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
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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,
19TH JANUARY 2026 AT THE MALTINGS, SHIP LANE, ELY**

PRESENT: Mrs T Coulson – Clerk to the Council

Cllr M Banyard, Mayor

Cllr C Whelan

Cllr M Hucker

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr Ní Dhónaill

Cllr D Warman

Cllr R Trent

Cllr R Ward

County Cllr A Whelan

Nine parishioners/representatives of Smartphone Free Childhood

1. APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Sandhu, Moss-Eccardt, Denness and Ward. 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 1ST DECEMBER 2025 AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 1st December 2025 were proposed by Cllr Morgan that they be agreed and signed as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Whelan and unanimously approved. They were signed by the Chairman. Pages 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203 and 2204 refer. Matters arising:- Page 2199, item 7 – the Chairman asked if Cllr Moss-Eccardt had sent the letter to the Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution, as agreed. The Clerk will seek clarification from him. Page 2200, item 11 – the chairman reported he had held an informal meeting with members on the 10th January 2026, to discuss the Local Government Review. This had been a very positive meeting and a report will now go back to the Personnel, Finance and Governance Committee. Page 2200, item 14 – the chairman confirmed a letter had been sent to the Combined Authority Mayor with regard to bus service changes in Ely, but no response had been received. He had however, met with the Combined Authority Deputy Mayor with regard to this issue and will be having a further meeting with two other officers from the Combined Authority.

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman informed members of the recent and sudden death of his Chaplain on the 8th December. He had attended his funeral on the 9th January 2026. He also reminded members of his charity event for the Chinese New Year on the 1st February at the Maltings.

6. QUESTION TIME

A member of the Smartphone Free Childhood Group thanked Cllr Ward and Cllr Banyard for proposing the motion under item 13 and they hoped the Council would fully support this. This campaign has so much support and people feel passionate about their aims. They thanked the Council for proposing to support and promote it within the City.

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A written report for January was received from County Cllrs C Whelan and A Whelan. This was presented by Cllr A Whelan and noted by members. A written report from District Cllrs C Whelan, A Whelan, Trent, Wade, Holtzmann, Colbert and Akinwale was also received and noted by members.

8. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended Haverhill Civic Carol Service; RAF Lakenheath tree lighting; Ribe Association Christmas social event; Fenland District Council's Civic Carol Service; Sing Together concert, dementia choir at St Mary's Church, Ely; Fen Perspective survey at Ely Museum; Ely Climate Action Network meeting; Ely Arts Festival Concert; Ely Funeral Service remembrance event and service; Ely Choral Society Concert; KD Theatre pantomime at the Maltings; Ely Arts Festival harp and flute concert at Sessions House; March Town Council Civic Candlelight Carol service; Ely Community Lunch at the Methodist Church and Lighthouse Centre on Christmas Day. He had also meet with the Combined Authority's Deputy Mayor regarding new bus routes for Ely; meet with the Dean; held a thank you reception for City of Ely Council staff; attended Stuntney Village Council meeting and Huntingdon Town Hall for an exhibition regarding Abbots Ripton rail disaster in 1876.

The Deputy Mayor had attended the Cats Protection League Concert; City of Ely Military Band Christmas Concert and the Ely Arts Festival live Orchestra event.

The Ambassador had attended the Mayor of St Ives Christmas fundraising concert and the City of Ely Military Band Christmas Concert.

9. PLANNING

Cllr Morgan as the Planning Committee Chairman gave a report on the planning meetings which had been held since the last meeting and prior to this meeting. He also reported that representatives of Cheffins had been in attendance before the last Planning Committee meeting to inform members of developments at Lancaster Way, Ely.

10. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following information only items were received and noted:-

Street Naming & Numbering:- Garden Cottage, 18 Church Lane, Ely

Road Closures – Fieldside, Ely – 9 – 11.2.26 (to facilitate a new gas collection; High Street Back, Ely – 24 -26.2.25 (to facilitate stop tap replacements)

Tree Preservation Orders:- 50 Main Street, Prickwillow, Ely; verge to the front of 77 Bell Holt, Ely

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE & GOVERNANCE – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Ní Dhónaill proposed members accept the quotation from Mr C Berry at a cost of £4493.99, from the three quotations obtained for the new Council website. This was seconded by Cllr Trent and unanimously approved.

(ii) CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting is on the 26th January 2026.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED

(iii) ASSETS – No report as Committee had not met. Cllr Morgan proposed members accept the quotation from We Are Blueshed Ltd at a cost of £20,570.00, from the three quotations obtained for the replacement stage lighting in the Maltings hall. This was seconded by Cllr Phillips and approved with 7 in favour and 2 abstentions.

(iv) TOURISM – No report as Committee had not met. The Clerk informed members that following the last meeting where councillors had agreed to respond to the quote from the company who the Council had intended to undertake the contract administration of the building works to Oliver Cromwell's House by email, councillors did do this and a majority in favour of accepting their quote was received and the company appointed. Since their appointment three quotes are being obtained for a measured survey. A draft project programme and budget tracker had also been produced, which once the Council moves forward with the project, these can be formally finalised. A survey of the building, with regard to the work that will need to be undertaken, has been completed and a report is awaited. There have been issues with water ingress at the side of the building, which will be addressed at the same time as this project. The Council will also obtain a quote for a Planned Preventative Maintenance Report. Members thanked the staff for the hard work done to move this project forward.

12. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

The Chairman reported he had attended the Stuntney Village Council meeting last week.

Executive Review Meeting – notes of meeting held on the 13th January 2026 were noted.

13. TO CONSIDER REPORT AND MOTION FROM CLLR WARD AND CLLR BANYARD WITH REGARD TO SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

Cllr Ward proposed a motion that the Council supports and works with the Smartphone Free Childhood Campaign. The Council believes it has a duty to support efforts to protect children locally and by supporting this campaign it can play a proactive role in raising awareness to families to aid them in making an informed decision about smartphone use in childhood. It would allow the free use of the Council's digital signage boards across Ely by the campaign to make more families aware of their aims and goals. This motion was seconded by Cllr Banyard and unanimously approved. It was also agreed that Cllr Ward would write to the Education Director at Cambs County Council asking them to support and work with schools on this matter.

9 parishioners/representatives of Smartphone Free Childhood left the meeting at 7.44 pm.

14. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON ECDC'S CONSULTATION ON THE RURAL SETTLEMENT LIST 2026/27

This consultation was noted.

15. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON RECAP'S RESOURCES AND WASTE STRATEGY

This consultation was noted. It was agreed members would respond individually if they so wished.

16. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON ECDC'S CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS TO IMPLEMENT PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER (PSPO) TO ADDRESS VEHICLE RELATED ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

This consultation was noted.

17. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON PROPOSED STREET NAMES FOR PHASE 5A, ORCHARDS GREEN, ELY

Members unanimously agreed they had no concerns with the proposed street names for phase 5A, Orchards Green, Ely.

18. FINANCE

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

Direct debit payments and BACS payments

ECDC	499.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	524.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	2295.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	299.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	200.00	Paid by direct debit
Bidfood Ltd	687.90	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	79.25	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	597.45	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	336.48	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	188.89	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	66.30	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease Ltd	358.22	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	64.80	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	2972.42	Paid by direct debit
SSE Energy Solutions Ltd	51.15	Paid by direct debit
EE Ltd	85.56	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	2289.73	Paid by direct debit
Cellair Ltd	55.20	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	32.86	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media Business Ltd	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media Business Ltd	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease Ltd	353.67	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	73.46	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	73.46	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	2324.78	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	76.96	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	032.64	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	413.82	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	437.82	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	84.08	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	1750.51	Paid by direct debit
Liquidline Ltd	448.26	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	282.78	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	341.54	Paid by direct debit
Bidfood Ltd	1017.13	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease Ltd	358.22	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	79.25	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	615.64	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	97.56	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	274.23	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	4997.90	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	32.86	Paid by direct debit
Studio Nova Ltd	36.00	Paid by BACS
Ellgia Ltd	235.07	Paid by BACS

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MAYOR
9th March 2026

18. FINANCE CONTINUED

The Play Inspection Company Ltd	360.00	Paid by BACS
UK Tool Hire Group Ltd	209.60	Paid by BACS
Human Capital Development Ltd	226.80	Paid by BACS
Elyi Magazine	175.00	Paid by BACS
RGP Security Services Ltd	126.00	Paid by BACS
Mr C Berry	130.00	Paid by BACS
Mr M Chinery-Colyer	493.20	Paid by BACS
Advanced Thinking Systems Ltd	234.00	Paid by BACS
CoolerAid Ltd	27.81	Paid by BACS
Aztek Services Ltd	697.80	Paid by BACS
City Cycle Centre	15.97	Paid by BACS
Eden Farm Hulleys	658.90	Paid by BACS
Energy Auditing Agency Ltd	8064.00	Paid by BACS
Barcham Trees	1416.97	Paid by BACS
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	16.50	Paid by BACS
Ely Community Cinema CIC	220.00	Paid by BACS
RGP Security Services Ltd	573.30	Paid by BACS
Bannold Supplies & Services Ltd	768.00	Paid by BACS
Screwfix Direct Ltd	78.41	Paid by BACS
Amazon Business UK Payments	1277.90	Paid by BACS
Cambridge Marketing Ltd	3310.00	Paid by BACS
David J Richards Ltd	495.18	Paid by BACS
Thompson Media Partners Ltd	270.00	Paid by BACS
Mr C L Berry	1000.00	Paid by BACS
Konica Minolta Bus Solutions Ltd	474.85	Paid by BACS
East Cambs District Council	63.60	Paid by BACS
S Ruff	35.00	Paid by BACS
Digital Typeline Publications Ltd	1127.63	Paid by BACS
Cambridge Fire Doors	504.00	Paid by BACS
Kompan Ltd	15772.32	Paid by BACS
Grocer's Brokers Ltd	199.08	Paid by BACS
Abbey Memorials (Stonecraft) Ltd	550.00	Paid by BACS
Mr C Berry	999.00	Paid by BACS
InPost Response Ltd	3995.00	Paid by BACS
G & G Gallo Enterprises Ltd	1336.21	Paid by BACS
Sandy Dog Ltd	360.00	Paid by BACS
We Are Blueshed Ltd	360.00	Paid by BACS
We Are Blueshed Ltd	360.00	Paid by BACS
Get Licensed Ltd	349.99	Paid by BACS
Cambridge Art	843.60	Paid by BACS
Thompson Media Partners Ltd	270.00	Paid by BACS
East Cambs District Council	1101.71	Paid by BACS
Festive Lights Ltd	769.99	Paid by BACS
Mr C Berry	99.99	Paid by BACS
City Cycle Centre	52.66	Paid by BACS
Ely Skip Hire Ltd	334.00	Paid by BACS
Soham Pest Control	99.00	Paid by BACS
Powell Cinema Engineering Ltd	1020.00	Paid by BACS

18. FINANCE CONTINUED

Eden Farm Hulleys	2024.83	Paid by BACS
Human Capital Department Ltd	226.80	Paid by BACS
Konica Minolta Bus Solutions Ltd	327.96	Paid by BACS
G & G Gallo Enterprises Ltd	869.76	Paid by BACS
Studio Nova Ltd	36.00	Paid by BACS
Ellgia Ltd	303.28	Paid by BACS
Stark Building Materials UK Ltd	249.29	Paid by BACS
SLCC	505.00	Paid by BACS
Screwfix Direct Ltd	989.36	Paid by BACS
Amazon Business UK Payments	307.92	Paid by BACS
Mr M Chinery-Colyer	197.30	Paid by BACS
Advanced Thinking Systems Ltd	234.00	Paid by BACS
East Air Conditioning Services Ltd	1338.00	Paid by BACS
ESPO	59.22	Paid by BACS
Millennium Pest Control Ltd	80.90	Paid by BACS
UK Tool Hire Group Ltd	477.60	Paid by BACS
Mr C Berry	960.00	Paid by BACS
G & J Peck Ltd	320.04	Paid by BACS
RGP Security Services Ltd	138.60	Paid by BACS
SSE Energy Solutions	75.74	Paid by direct debit
Anglian Water Business (National)	54.75	Paid by BACS
Anglian Water Business (National)	86.43	Paid by BACS
S Bradley	350.00	Paid by BACS
Konica Minolta Bus Solutions Ltd	32.80	Paid by BACS
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	610.50	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	103.28	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	269.93	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	5942.32	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	33.92	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	282.53	Paid by BACS
ESPO	1136.03	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	537.32	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	452.02	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	87.05	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	365.33	Paid by BACS
East Cambs Trading Co Ltd	1141.49	Paid by BACS
Gem Heating Solutions Ltd	2675.36	Paid by BACS
G & J Peck Ltd	70.50	Paid by BACS
Barclaycard	636.50	Paid by direct debit
RGP Security Services Ltd	138.60	Paid by BACS
Cellair Ltd	55.20	Paid by direct debit
Konica Minolta Bus Solutions Ltd	44.08	Paid by BACS
ECDC	440.00	Paid by BACS
Cambridge Marketing Ltd	72.00	Paid by BACS
Westair Reproductions Ltd	431.78	Paid by BACS
ECDC	438.76	Paid by BACS

18. FINANCE CONTINUED

The following invoices had been paid prior to the meeting

A Reddick	10.00	114801
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The following invoices had not been paid prior to the meeting

S Thompson	24.99	114802
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S Jay	18.00	114803
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Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 1st December 2025

Salaries and wages	£47,573.57
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Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£16,213.18
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Pension fund payments	£14,459.08
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Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation for the period ending 30th November 2025.

The meeting closed at 7.50 pm.