



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
ASSETS COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 21ST JUNE 2021 AT 7.00 PM AT THE MALTINGS, SHIP LANE, ELY

PRESENT: Mrs T Coulson – Clerk to the Council

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr A Arnold

Cllr M Rouse

Cllr V Ganivet

Cllr I Lindsay

Bold font indicates voting member of committee

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from **Cllr Denness**, Cllr A Whelan, Cllr Austen and Cllr Every.

2. To receive declarations of interests

There were no declarations of interests received.

3. To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on the 27th April 2021 and matters arising.

The minutes of the last meeting held on 27th April 2021 were agreed by members and taken as signed by the Chairman. Pages A19 & A20 refer.

There were no matters arising.

4. Recreation & Cemetery –

(i) To receive report from Lead Member

Cllrs noted Cllr Phillips' report that had been circulated with the agenda.

Cllr Phillips reported he had been considering how the new sensory garden could commemorate the Royal Jubilee in 2022. He felt that it should be more in remembrance of local people as the cemetery has 16,000 citizens of Ely buried there. He would like to remember the children in particular and had looked at the records, especially as 6 out of 10 children buried were under the age of 10. In August 1861, a little girl had died of Typhus, aged 10, her name was Rose Appleyard. He wanted the garden to stand for all the children buried there but forgotten. He asked for permission to develop the theme of the Rose Appleyard Sensory Garden to be opened in the year of the Jubilee. All members were in agreement to this proposal so Cllr Phillips will now work up and present a paper to the Committee for approval.

Members agreed a bid for the upgrade of the Park Play area should be submitted to the next CIL Sub-Committee meeting. If this was unsuccessful it may be possible to fund from earmarked reserves for recreation equipment.

Members agreed as the request for funding for a bier from CIL funds had not been successful that these should be funded from the cemetery's equipment reserve budget heading.

5. Recreation Areas

(i) To note the budget update, dated 14th June 2021

Members noted the budget update dated the 14th June 2021, there were no significant variances.

6. Cemetery

(i) To note the budget update, dated 14th June 2021

Members noted the budget update dated the 14th June 2021, there were no significant variances.

(ii) Update from Friends of Ely Cemetery

Cllr Arnold reported on the recent open day at the cemetery. This went extremely well and the feedback was very good. As it was so successful, the Friends of Ely Cemetery will be looking to expand on this for future open days. He thanked the Mayor, Cllr Austen for attending for the whole day and supporting the event. He also thanked Cllr Phillips for undertaking the tours and Cllr Rouse for taking pictures and also the Friends

for organising this. Following a recent survey undertaken at the cemetery by the Ely U3A Botany Group, the Friends asked if they could be given permission to contact the Wildlife Trust to seek further guidance on the plants and wildlife within the cemetery and how to make this more sustainable. Members agreed to this request, subject to the involvement of the Estates Manager. A Flora Group had also been contacted and they might like to visit the cemetery next year.

7. Christmas Lights –

(i) To note the budget update, dated 14th June 2021

Members noted the budget update dated the 14th June 2021, there were no significant variances.

(ii) To note minutes of Christmas Lights Sub-Committee meeting held on the 5th May 2021

Members noted the minutes of the Christmas Lights Sub-Committee meeting held on the 5th May 2021. Members were pleased that personnel from USAF Lakenheath would like to be involved in putting up the lights this year. It was noted that new lights would need to be purchased this year and the Clerk confirmed there would be enough money within the budget to cover these.

(iii) To approve purchase of Christmas tree

Members unanimously agreed to the purchase of a Christmas tree from Nunton Trees at a cost of £1600. The Deputy Clerk will confirm if this cost includes erection.

8. Local Need Housing Scheme issues and to note budget update dated 14th June 2021

There were no issues to report. Members noted the budget update dated 14th June 2021, there were no significant variances.

9. Sessions House

(i) To note budget update dated 14th June 2021

Members noted the budget update dated the 14th June 2021, there were no significant variances.

10. The Maltings Complex -to receive updates on:

(i) Maltings

(i.i) To approve tender document for procurement of seating

Cllr Rouse proposed the tender document for the procurement of seating be approved, which was seconded by Cllr Phillips and unanimously approved. The Deputy Clerk will action this. It is anticipated that the seats will be installed in September 2022.

(i.ii) To receive a report from Cllr Arnold regarding the improvements required at the Maltings

Cllr Arnold gave a report on the current issues that needed improvement at the Maltings. These included the stage curtains and other cosmetic issues. The Clerk informed members that some of these could be resolved by the Estates Team. Quotes were being obtained by the Venue Manager for lighting in the main hall and new curtains. The Venue Manager had also suggested that the sound system needed to be upgraded as was now quite old. This may be something that could be undertaken in conjunction with ADeC, as this is used for the cinema.

Cllr Rouse left the meeting at 7.57 pm.

The notes from the meeting of the Maltings Chairs Working Group held on the 15th June were also noted. Members agreed to recommend to Full Council that the remit of this Working Group be amended to include all aspects of the Maltings and not just the chairs, especially due to the improvements required as identified by Cllr Arnold in his report. This would enable them to look at fund raising for these as well. It was proposed that they be renamed the Maltings Working Group.

Cllr Ganivet suggested that a National Lottery Fund grant be considered for some of the improvements. It was agreed that when looking at the costs for new lights within the main hall that the lights in the foyer area also be included within this.

(ii) To note budget updates dated 14th June 2021 for the Maltings, restaurant & cottage

Members noted the budget updates dated 14th June 2021, there were no significant variances.

(iii) Tapestry

Cllr Morgan proposed that due to the amount of expenditure needed for the Maltings it was not an appropriate time to spend money on the display of the Ribe Tapestry. This will be put on hold and the Ribe Association informed of this decision.

(v) Maltings Cottage – to receive an update

The Council is still awaiting confirmation from ECDC as to what repairs will be undertaken through the insurance claim they are currently making on the Cottage through their insurance provider. Until this is known the City Council cannot move forward.

(vi) Maltings Restaurant

The Clerk gave an update on the restaurant. Although the tenant had requested to extend his seating area in line with railings, on the grass, under the Willow Trees and this had been approved by the City Council and ECDC, this area had not been occupied yet.

11. Any Other Business

There was no any other business.

12. Date of next meeting; Monday 2nd August 2021 @ 7pm

The meeting closed at 8.13pm