



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

Telephone 01353 661016

**You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the City of Ely Council
on Monday, 14th September 2026 at 7.00 pm at the Maltings, Ship Lane, Ely, Cambs, CB7 4BB
Members of the public and the press are invited to attend**

T Coulson
Tracey Coulson (Mrs)
Clerk to the Council
8th September 2026

AGENDA (*Indicates paper enclosed or item referred to in 'Notes on Agenda Items', ** Indicates paper to follow)

1. APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Any apologies should be received by the Clerk prior to the meeting, in accordance with the Council's Apologies Policy, with the reasons for absence being accepted by the meeting

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

To receive Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary & other interests from Councillors

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 27TH JULY 2026 AND MATTERS ARISING *

5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

6. QUESTION TIME

Members of the public may speak during this item. The Chairman will allow a maximum of six speakers, who may provide information for up to three minutes each and each person, may only speak once. Councillors with declared prejudicial interests must also speak during this item. The public participation is not to be a part of the debate, but merely fact giving and answering questions in the same manner as the councillor with the prejudicial interest.

Those public in attendance – please note this will be your only opportunity to speak during the meeting

7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

8. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS AND REPORT

9. PLANNING

To receive a report of the Planning applications considered at previous Planning meetings

10. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

To receive the following information only items:-

Street Naming & Numbering – Heaton Drive, Ely – incorrectly numbered originally

Road Closures:- temporary 40 mph speed limit along Mildenhall Road, Littleport and Shippea Hill as lies between New River Bank and Burnt Fen Turnpike to facilitate safety works – 1.9.26 – 29.2.28; Lynn Road, Ely, as lies between points 20m either side of the railway crossing – 5 -12 October, 16 – 19 October, 24 – 25 October and 30 October - 2 November; Angel Drove, Ely as lies between the Dock and Station Road to facilitate section 78 and associated works – 12.10 – 13.11.26; Ely footpath 49, Ely – 9 – 12.10.26, 16 – 19.10.26, 24 -25.10.26, 30.10 – 2.11.26, 28 -29.11.26; Ely Footpath 71, Ely as lies between 69a and Northwold to facilitate communication pipe repair – 16 – 20.10.26; Ely Road B1382, Queen Adelaide, to facilitate essential maintenance works – 9.10.26 for a maximum of 18 months

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- (i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE & GOVERNANCE * - to approve policy, grant recommendations and resident survey
- (ii) CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT * - to consider endorsing the flag of the Fens
- (iii) ASSETS * - to consider additional quote for further work required on Maltings fire doors
- (iv) TOURISM * - to consider issue regarding councillor being voluntary guide
- (v) CIL

12. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Maltings Residents meeting – 25.08.26

13. TO COMMENT ON THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN REVIEW – SCOPING CONSULTATION AND CALL FOR SITES *

14. TO COMMENT ON THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S RIGHT OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (ROWIP) *

15. TO NOTE THE COMPLETION OF THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026 FROM PKF LITTLEJOHN LLP *

To note the completion of the limited assurance review of the Council's annual return for the year ended 31st March 2026 by the external auditors, PKF Littlejohn LLP

16. TO CONSIDER REVISED MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNCIL AND ELY COMMUNITY CINEMA CIC * to be emailed

17. FINANCE

To approve the following for payment:

Direct debit payments and BACS payments

ECDC	2548.00	(business rates/court – pd by dd)
ECDC	221.00	(business rates/office – pd by dd)
ECDC	157.00	(business rates/TIC – pd by dd)
ECDC	508.00	(business rates/cem – pd by dd)
ECDC	510.00	(business rates/Maltings – pd by dd)
Kennett Equipment Leasing Ltd	205.86	(coffee machine lease/Maltings – pd by dd)
Kennett Equipment Leasing Ltd	205.86	(coffee machine lease/Maltings – pd by dd)
British Telecommunications	112.18	(broadband charges/TIC – pd by dd)
Barclays	63.88	(bank charges – pd by dd)
Lex Autolease Ltd	1121.31	(van leases/watering & rec van – pd by dd)
FuelGenie	328.45	(fuel/rec&cem – pd by dd)
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	366.30	(electric charges/TIC – pd by dd)
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	605.93	(electric charges/office – pd by dd)
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	5908.35	(electric charges/Maltings – pd by dd)
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	33.33	(electric charges/war memorial – pd by dd)
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	248.24	(electric charges/cem – pd by dd)
Bidfood Ltd	1762.68	(bar expenditure/Maltings – pd by dd)
Cybertill Ltd	79.25	(till support/TIC – pd by dd)
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	64.80	(franking machine rental/office – pd by dd)
Greene King Brewing & Retailing Ltd	1248.85	(bar expenditure/Maltings – pd by dd)

ESPO	238.34	(gas charges/Maltings – pd by dd)
ESPO	112.30	(gas charges/TIC – pd by dd)
ESPO	127.17	(gas charges/cem – pd by dd)
ESPO	27.67	(gas charges/office – pd by dd)
Greene King Brewing & Retailing Ltd	1821.26	(bar expenditure/Maltings – pd by dd)
Epos Now Ltd	72.00	(till support/Maltings – pd by dd)
SS Energy Solutions	38.24	(electric charges/streetlights ENV – pd by dd)
Cellair Ltd	82.80	(bar expenditure/Maltings – pd by dd)
Public Works Loan Board	9508.08	(loan repayment for seating/Maltings – pd by dd)
Barclaycard	2313.58	(various/all depts – pd by dd)
Lex Autolease Ltd	1121.31	(van leases/watering & rec van – pd by dd)
Barclays	46.00	(bank charges – pd by dd)
Bidfood Ltd	677.06	(bar expenditure/Maltings – pd by dd)
FuelGenie	175.11	(fuel/rec&cem – pd by dd)
Greene King Brewing & Retailing Ltd	1218.98	(bar expenditure/Maltings – pd by dd)
Virgin Media	77.32	(broadband charges/Maltings – pd by dd)
Virgin Media	77.32	(broadband charges/Maltings – pd by dd)
Cybertill Ltd	83.28	(till support/TIC – pd by dd)
Epos Now Ltd	72.00	(till support/Maltings – pd by dd)
Greene King Brewing & Retailing Ltd	540.07	(bar expenditure/Maltings – pd by dd)
RGP Security Services Ltd	453.60	(security charges/Maltings – pd by BACS)
Ely Skip Hire Ltd	414.00	(skip exchange/cem – pd by BACS)
East Cambs Trading Co Ltd	1691.71	(tree work/Env – pd by BACS)
Gordon Harrison	1349.91	(equipment service & repair & materials/cem – pd by BACS)
Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd	1180.34	(water charges/Maltings – pd by BACS)
Advanced Thinking Systems Ltd	504.00	(audio guide lease/TIC – pd by BACS)
Energy Auditing Agency Ltd	6024.00	(energy auditing services/ENV – pd by BACS)
ESPO	113.40	(consumables/TIC – pd by BACS)
Splash & Dash Creations Ltd	1050.00	(gateway project/CIL – pd by BACS)
Cooler Aid Ltd	147.00	(water machine/TIC – pd by BACS)
Anglia Sprayers Ltd	35.39	(materials/floral displays – pd by BACS)
Mr C L Berry	99.00	(website support/Maltings & office – pd by BACS)
Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd	94.61	(water charges/TIC – pd by BACS)
We Are Blueshed Ltd	582.00	(entertainment charges/Maltings – pd by BACS)
Digital Tyneline Publications Ltd	891.65	(merchandise/TIC – pd by BACS)
Studio Nova Ltd	48.00	(website support/TIC – pd by BACS)
Gem Heating Solutions Ltd	888.00	(removal of toilets and cylinder/SH – pd by BACS)
Human Capital Department	189.00	(HR consultancy – pd by BACS)
Media Shed Ltd	480.00	(advertising/TIC – pd by BACS)
City Cycle Centre	292.27	(materials/cem – pd by BACS)
John Audus (Electrical Contractor) Ltd	464.54	(electrical work at Maltings & SH – pd by BACS)
Elyi Magazine	175.00	(advertising general & TIC – pd by BACS)
MLCS Ltd	384.00	(telephone & broadband charges/all – pd by BACS)
Cooler Aid Ltd	76.50	(water refills/TIC, cem & Maltings – pd by BACS)
Fenland Leisure Products Ltd	420.55	(swing seats/rec – pd by BACS)
Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd	98.26	(materials/ENV – pd by BACS)
Ellgia Ltd	283.07	(refuse/Maltings & TIC – pd by BACS)
V Rudkin	273.25	(merchandise/TIC – pd by BACS)
Borough Council of Kings Lynn & Norfolk	135.00	(mayoral allowance – pd by BACS)
Ely Tool Hire Ltd	50.94	(hire of equipment/TIC – pd by BACS)
ECDC	85.40	(printing/TIC – pd by BACS)
UK Tents Ltd	439.98	(equipment/TIC – pd by BACS)
Mrs L Bufton	250.00	(band concert – pd by BACS)
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	1411.32	(various/all depts – pd by BACS)
Trade UK Ltd	325.13	(materials/cem, TIC & rec & uniform/cem – pd by BACS)
Festive Lights Ltd	4879.38	(new features/Christmas Lights – pd by BACS)
R Hughes	25.69	(sign for anniversary stone/Twinning – pd by BACS)
SSP Direct Ltd	131.40	(signs/LNH – pd by BACS)
G & G Gallo Enterprises Ltd	672.52	(bar expenditure/Maltings – pd by BACS)
Mrs N Booth	285.35	(merchandise/TIC – pd by BACS)

Howes Percival LLP	1000.00	(legal charges/TIC – pd by BACS)
Securitas Security Services Ltd	867.00	(security services/Maltings – pd by BACS)
Ely Skip Hire Ltd	414.00	(skip exchange/cem – pd by BACS)
RGP Security Services Ltd	151.20	(security charges/Maltings – pd by BACS)
Compass IT Support Ltd	3453.30	(equipment/office – pd by BACS)
We Are Blueshed Ltd	336.00	(entertainment charges/Maltings – pd by BACS)
Thompson Media Partners Ltd	150.00	(advertising/TIC – pd by BACS)
Beau Business Media Ltd	330.00	(advertising/TIC – pd by BACS)
Waterbeach Brass	250.00	(band concert – pd by BACS)
Somersham Town Band	250.00	(band concert – pd by BACS)
Building Materials Wholesale Ltd	1655.20	(materials skatepark repair/rec – pd by BACS)
Newmarket Town Band	250.00	(band concert – pd by BACS)
Caterfix Ltd	1500.00	(refurb to kitchen works/Maltings CIL – pd by BACS)
Cambridge Juice Company Ltd	70.99	(catering charges/Maltings – pd by BACS)
Surface Matter	1623.00	(materials skatepark repair/rec – pd by BACS)
Eden Farm Hulleys	114.17	(merchandise/TIC & bar expenditure/Maltings – pd by BACS)
John Wiley & Sons Ltd	97.43	(merchandise/TIC – pd by BACS)
Macmillan Publishers International Ltd	90.41	(merchandise/TIC – pd by BACS)
ESPO	711.60	(bench/rec CIL – pd by BACS)
Konica Minolta Bus Sols Ltd	85.68	(photocopier charges/CCTV – pd by BACS)
S Bradley	350.00	(entertainment charges/Maltings – pd by BACS)
Ely Skip Hire Ltd	414.00	(skip for skatepark repair/rec – pd by BACS)

The following invoices had been paid prior to the meeting

B Laver	9.90	(expenses/Maltings)
L Pridmore	17.00	(consumables/TIC)
M Ward	36.00	(uniform/TIC)
A Reddick	10.00	(consumables/TIC)
C Tyler	5.07	(uniform/TIC)
A Bennett	25.20	(hospitality & uniform/TIC)

The following invoices have not been paid prior to the meeting

C Tyler	6.27	(uniform/TIC)
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Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 27th July 2026

Salaries and wages	£43,572.49
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£15,131.30
Pension fund payments	£12,175.03

To note and approve the bank reconciliations for the periods ending 30th June 2026, 31st July and 31st August *



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

**Tel: 01353 661016
E-mail: info@cityofelycouncil.org.uk**

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00 PM ON MONDAY,
27TH JULY 2026 AT THE MALTINGS, SHIP LANE, ELY**

PRESENT: Mrs T Coulson – Clerk to the Council

Cllr R Denness, Mayor/Chairman	Cllr C Phillips
Cllr M Wade	Cllr R Morgan
Cllr M Banyard	Cllr R Ward
Cllr Ní Dhónaill	Cllr R Trent
Cllr R Moss-Eccardt	Cllr Bebu-Vijianu

Cllr C Whelan
Cllr M Hucker
Cllr P Coutts
Cllr S Sandhu

County Cllr A Whelan

Mrs A Bennett, Tourism & Events Manager, Visit Ely

1. APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Warman. The reasons for her absence was accepted.

2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

There were no requests for dispensations.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr Whelan said that under item 14, she would declare that she was a County Councillor, but would have no reason to be involved in this project.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 8TH JUNE 2026 AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 8th June 2026 were proposed by Cllr Denness that they be agreed and signed as a true record, subject to a correction regarding the ambassador's attendance at an event under Mayor's Engagements and Report. This was seconded by Cllr Banyard and unanimously approved. They were signed by the Chairman. Pages 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237 and 2238 refer. There were no matters arising.

5. UPDATE FROM MRS ANNA BENNETT, TOURISM AND EVENTS MANAGER, VISIT ELY ON THE LOCAL VISITOR ECONOMY PARTNERSHIP (LVEP)

Mrs Bennett explained to the members what a Local Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP) was, what implications it would have for the Council and how it would benefit both the Council and the city. She provided handouts with further information and a diagram showing how the LVEP was made up of all the organisations involved. The Chairman thanked her for her presentation and agreed this would be beneficial to both the Council and the city.

6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman informed members the Local Government Reorganisation and Strategic Plan Working Group had recently met and it had been agreed that a letter should be sent by the Chairman to the leaders

6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS Continued

and Chief Executives of ECDC and Cambs County Council and also the Combined Authority. This letter would request that the Council be involved in any discussions with regard to the LGR.

It was also agreed that a survey regarding the LGR would be sent out to all staff and councillors to allow everyone to have an input into the discussion on how the council moves forward.

7. QUESTION TIME

As there were no members of the public present, there were no questions raised.

8. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Written reports were received from County Cllrs C Whelan and A Whelan and from District Cllr C Whelan which were noted.

County Cllr A Whelan and Mrs A Bennett left the meeting at 7.37 pm.

9. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT

The Mayor had attended the Unforgotten tea party; the Mothers' Union tea party; Arts Festival Concert; opened Highfields Fete; opened the Armed Forces Day Visit Ely event; Huntingdon and Godmanchester Town Twinning Dinner; the installation of the new Bishop of Ely and Reception; the Bishop's Garden Party; Pos+Ability Charity AGM; Viva Theatre Company Award ceremony; NSPCC Garden Party; Ely Choral Society Concert; opened Ely Aquafest; attended KD Theatre Company's performance of The Little Mermaid; Mayor's Charities Co-ordination Meeting; Ely College Presentations Evening; the Royal Anglian Regiment Reunion; Mock interviews at Bishop Laney; Ely Ribe Association Garden Party; Gateway Project Visit and the EPL Language School Graduation.

The Deputy Mayor had attended the Huntingdon Town Council Mayor Making and

The Ambassadors had attended the Army Cadet family event at Waterbeach, Cllr Banyard and the Installation of the Bishop, Cllr Phillips.

10. 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

11. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

The following information only items were received and noted:-

Street Naming & Numbering – Chestnut Walk, Prickwillow – Cllr Morgan informed members that Prickwillow Village Council were appealing against this new street name.

Road Closures:- Lynn Road, Ely as lies between Orchid Fields and Cottongrass Lane (S278 entrance construction) – 1 -31.8.26; Lynn Road as lies outside Brick Kiln Farm (new water connection) – 26 – 28.8.26; Soham Road A142, Stuntney, Ely as lies between Ben's Yard and M&S Simply Food, Soham (carriageway resurfacing) – 1 – 15.8.26; Ely Footpath 23 (footbridge maintenance) 7.9 -2.10.26; Back Lane (stop tap replacement), Ely – 23 – 25.9.26

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE & GOVERNANCE – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be on the 24th August. Cllr Phillips reminded members about the Ely Pride event on the 8th August. He thanked the Inclusivity Working Group for their input and hard work and for those members who had agreed to be on the council's stall on the day.

(ii) CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be on the 10th August. The Clerk had tabled an email regarding a request from the Royal British Legion for an additional inscription to be added to the war memorial. Members had no objections to this and a quotation

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS continued

would be obtained for this work. The Clerk will ask the RBL what their policy is for adding additional names.

(iii) ASSETS – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be held on the 3rd August. Cllr Banyard informed members the skate park at St John's Road had been temporarily closed due to some maintenance issues. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

(iv) TOURISM – No report as Committee had not met. The next meeting will be held on the 17th August.

(v) CIL – The Chairman presented a report of a meeting held on the 15th June 2026, which was noted and approved. The terms of reference and the application procedure were agreed. An application for planning costs for a splash pad was considered. It was agreed that further clarification on several points would be requested before the application could be considered. This information has now been received and the application will be considered at the next CIL Committee meeting.

13. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS

Executive Review Meeting – notes of a meeting held on the 14th July 2026 were noted.

Ely/Ribe Association – minutes of a meeting held on 18th June 2026 were noted.

14. REQUEST FROM CAMBS COUNTY COUNCIL REGARDING USE OF CCTV COLUMNS TO ALLOW FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO MOBILE COVERAGE

Cllr Banyard proposed the Council agree to move forward with this project to improve mobile coverage within the city centre. This was seconded by Cllr Morgan and unanimously approved. This will of course be subject to the additions to the CCTV columns not affecting the CCTV system.

15. TO APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNCIL AND ELY COMMUNITY CINEMA

Cllr Hucker had proposed amendments to the agreement. Cllr Moss-Eccardt proposed that this be agreed in principle subject to the amended version being circulated to all members for approval. If all in agreement this would then be sent to the Ely Community Cinema for their comments. It was hoped the new agreement would commence on the 1st September. This was seconded by Cllr Morgan and unanimously approved.

16. UPDATE ON CIL PROJECT FOR THE SOLAR LIGHTS – ALEXANDER CHASE TO WEST FEN ROAD

Cllrs Whelan and Trent updated members on this project. Three quotes had been requested, with two being received. It was felt that the lights should now go down the middle of the pathway at the same spacing as proposed when going along the edge of the pathway. It was felt this was a better option following the survey which had been undertaken. Cllr Trent proposed the quote received from Solar Eye at a cost of £20,119.11 plus VAT, which was the cheaper quote, be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Ní Dhónaill and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC Cllr Denness proposed to resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the Meeting. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Banyard and unanimously agreed by councillors. There were no members of the press or public present.

Due to the commercially sensitive nature of this item it was discussed in Committee at the end of the meeting.

17. TO CONSIDER TENDERS FOR WORK TO OLIVER CROMWELL'S HOUSE AND TO APPOINT CONTRACTOR

Cllr Phillips and the Clerk went through the tender analysis report provided by Martin and Mortimer Ltd. Cllr Phillips proposed we accept their recommendation to appoint Brown & Ralph at a cost of £114,808.43 plus VAT. This was seconded by Cllr Morgan and unanimously approved.

18. TO CONSIDER FURTHER REQUEST FROM CIL FUNDS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR WORK TO OLIVER CROMWELL'S HOUSE

Cllr Banyard proposed that the CIL allocation of £60,000 for the repair works to Oliver Cromwell's House be increased to £115,000, due to the cost of the accepted quote for the work. This was seconded by Cllr Moss-Eccardt and unanimously approved.

Due to the commercially sensitive nature of this item it was discussed in Committee at the end of the meeting.

19. TO CONSIDER REQUEST FROM TENANT REGARDING LEASE

Cllr Ní Dhónaill proposed the Council approve their request in principle subject to a new lease being issued. This was seconded by Cllr Morgan and approved, with two abstentions.

Item 20 was taken before items 17, 18 and 19.

20. FINANCE

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

Direct debit payments and BACS payments

ECDC	2548.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	221.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	157.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	508.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	510.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	2548.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	221.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	157.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	508.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	510.00	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	64.80	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	285.71	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	498.15	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	5689.03	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	32.90	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	124.49	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	163.02	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	77.04	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	362.84	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	615.04	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	243.79	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	168.28	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	250.95	Paid by direct debit

20. FINANCE Continued

SSE Energy Solutions Ltd	40.62	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	1688.18	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	1156.96	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	362.00	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	79.25	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	288.13	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	99.84	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	189.58	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	205.76	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	110.13	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	449.55	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	599.61	Paid by direct debit
Cellair Ltd	55.20	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease Ltd	1121.31	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	47.26	Paid by direct debit
Bidfood Ltd	1419.76	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	250.00	Paid by direct debit
SSE Energy Solutions Ltd	35.29	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	339.71	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	486.71	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	5544.16	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	32.26	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	105.97	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	77.32	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	77.32	Paid by direct debit
Kennett Equipment Leasing Ltd	205.86	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	1078.71	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	267.36	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	108.68	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	136.62	Paid by direct debit
Cellair Ltd	82.80	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	1761.26	Paid by direct debit
Epos Now Ltd	72.00	Paid by direct debit
Advanced Thinking Systems Ltd	504.00	Paid by BACS
GTW Media Ltd	180.00	Paid by BACS
K & M Lighting Services Ltd	180.00	Paid by BACS
EPOS Now Ltd	316.90	Paid by BACS
Anglia Sprayers Ltd	25.85	Paid by BACS
ESPO	55.02	Paid by BACS
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	460.49	Paid by BACS
HMRC	1905.44	Paid by BACS
Trade UK Ltd	63.81	Paid by BACS
RBK (Ely) Ltd	180.00	Paid by BACS
Arco Ltd	112.99	Paid by BACS
Nisbets Ltd	146.96	Paid by BACS
G & G Gallo Enterprises Ltd	1094.70	Paid by BACS
Ely Skip Hire Ltd	414.00	Paid by BACS
Konica Minolta Bus Solutions Ltd	166.44	Paid by BACS

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CHAIRMAN
14th September 2026

20. FINANCE Continued

Thompson Media Partners Ltd	270.00	Paid by BACS
Mr C L Berry	750.00	Paid by BACS
L Howell	70.73	Paid by BACS
Compass IT Support Ltd	33.00	Paid by BACS
Gordon Harrison	98.28	Paid by BACS
Cambridge Wind Band	250.00	Paid by BACS
Harper Collins Publishers	203.37	Paid by BACS
Harper Collins Publishers	4.50	Paid by BACS
J Goodge	35.00	Paid by BACS
John Wiley & Sons Ltd	142.90	Paid by BACS
Middle Fen & Mere Internal D Board	170.10	Paid by BACS
Newmarket Community Arts	300.00	Paid by BACS
Mrs N Booth	373.30	Paid by BACS
NSPCC Ely District	35.00	Paid by BACS
RGP Security Services Ltd	252.00	Paid by BACS
Shefs	6360.00	Paid by BACS
Zaun Fencing Ltd	1133.24	Paid by BACS
Grantanbrycg	500.00	Paid by BACS
Horncastle Education	197.28	Paid by BACS
RHS Horticultural Services	5366.40	Paid by BACS
Pride in Ely CIO	25.00	Paid by BACS
Shefs	2052.00	Paid by BACS
SSP Direct	97.20	Paid by BACS
Cambridge Marketing Ltd	114.00	Paid by BACS
Thompson Media Partners Ltd	270.00	Paid by BACS
Cambridge Marketing Ltd	354.00	Paid by BACS
G & G Gallo Enterprises Ltd	726.50	Paid by BACS
Innovate Media Ltd	450.00	Paid by BACS
City Cycle Centre	78.25	Paid by BACS
CSD Brass	250.00	Paid by BACS
City of Cambridge Brass Band	250.00	Paid by BACS
Xtreme Brewery	387.79	Paid by BACS
Westair Reproductions Ltd	880.92	Paid by BACS
Eden Farm Hulleys	325.66	Paid by BACS
Simpsons Nurseries Ltd	51.70	Paid by BACS
Mr C L Berry	99.00	Paid by BACS
Ely Tool Hire Ltd	374.40	Paid by BACS
Arco Ltd	184.47	Paid by BACS
Konica Minolta Bus Solutions Ltd	197.82	Paid by BACS
Konica Minolta Bus Solutions Ltd	126.17	Paid by BACS
Soham Pest Control	99.00	Paid by BACS
Martin and Mortimer Ltd	3078.00	Paid by BACS
Cooler Aid Ltd	75.12	Paid by BACS
Ellgia Ltd	270.38	Paid by BACS
Human Capital Department	189.00	Paid by BACS
Studio Nova Ltd	36.00	Paid by BACS
Advanced Thinking Systems Ltd	504.00	Paid by BACS
S Bradley	350.00	Paid by BACS
We Are Blueshed Ltd	336.00	Paid by BACS

20. FINANCE Continued

Eden Farm Hulley's	325.66	Paid by BACS
SIS Global Seating Ltd	82.68	Paid by BACS
Page Fine Jewellery	330.00	Paid by BACS
ECDC	1322.05	Paid by BACS
Soham Comrades Band	250.00	Paid by BACS
MLCS Ltd	750.00	Paid by BACS
Cooler Aid Ltd	99.22	Paid by BACS
Pocock & Shaw	192.00	Paid by BACS
1Ely Ltd	180.00	Paid by BACS
Millennium Pest Control Ltd	80.90	Paid by BACS
Fen Farm Supplies Ltd	7.35	Paid by BACS
S Bradley	350.00	Paid by BACS
RGP Security Services Ltd	277.20	Paid by BACS
Ely Cathedral Enterprises Ltd	78.90	Paid by BACS
Yellow Publications Ltd	148.50	Paid by BACS
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	652.91	Paid by BACS
Trade UK Ltd	109.53	Paid by BACS
Stark Building Materials UK Ltd	173.16	Paid by BACS
Cooler Aid Ltd	163.22	Paid by BACS
Konica Minolta Bus Solutions Ltd	32.80	Paid by BACS
Anglian Water	81.96	Paid by BACS
Anglian Water	59.60	Paid by BACS
Virgin Media Ltd	77.32	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media Ltd	77.32	Paid by direct debit
Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd	24.46	Paid by BACS
Kathryn Hayes	150.00	Paid by BACS
Clara L Mora	88.00	Paid by BACS
We Are Blueshed Ltd	336.00	Paid by BACS
The Wedding Secret Ltd	119.99	Paid by BACS
Konica Minolta Bus Solutions Ltd	74.27	Paid by BACS
S A Wilson	250.00	Paid by BACS
City of Norwich Brass Band	250.00	Paid by BACS
RGP Security Services Ltd	138.60	Paid by BACS
S Bradley	350.00	Paid by BACS
Littleport Band	250.00	Paid by BACS
K & M Lighting Services Ltd	96.00	Paid by BACS
City of Ely Military Band	250.00	Paid by BACS
SIS Global Seating Ltd	690.16	Paid by BACS
Gem Heating Solutions Ltd	1459.56	Paid by BACS
We Are Blueshed Ltd	216.00	Paid by BACS
Ely Museum	10862.50	Paid by BACS
Two Bad Mice Publishers Ltd	263.04	Paid by BACS
Mr E A Coney	12.00	Paid by BACS
ECDC	180.00	Paid by BACS
Sigma Embroidery & Printing	258.12	Paid by BACS
House of Marbles	301.92	Paid by BACS
C Whelan	101.88	Paid by BACS
1Ely Ltd	180.00	Paid by BACS
Cam Alarms Ltd	270.35	Paid by BACS
Beechdean Dairies Ltd	996.00	Paid by BACS

20. FINANCE Continued

ESPO	113.40	Paid by BACS
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The following invoices had not been paid prior to the meeting

L Pridmore	14.65	114812
S Jay	16.00	114813

Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 8th June 2026

Salaries and wages	£48,199.60 (June)	£45,296.38 (July)
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£14,493.05	£16,368.29
Pension fund payments	£11435.42	£12,514.88

Members noted and approved the bank reconciliation for the period ending 31st May 2026.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

**CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT 7.00 PM ON
24TH AUGUST 2026 AT SESSIONS HOUSE, LYNN ROAD, ELY**



PRESENT: Mrs T Coulson – Clerk to the Council

Bold indicates a voting member of the Committee

Cllr C Ní Dhónaill

Cllr M Hucker

Cllr R Trent

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr R Denness

Cllr C Phillips

Cllr M Banyard

Cllr C Bebu-Vijianu

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from **Cllrs Sandhu and Moss-Eccardt**.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Banyard declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 13, No 3, Pos+Ability as he is the Chairman of the charity. He took no part in the discussion of this application and completed a declaration of interest form 252.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING (HELD ON THE 1ST JUNE 2026) AND MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of the last Personnel, Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on the 1st June 2026, were agreed as a true record. They were signed by the Chairman. Pages PFG 187, 188 and 189 refer. Matters arising; Page 189, item 18 – Cllr Hucker said he was still working on the risk management procedures.

4. BUDGET UPDATE AND EXPLANATION OF RESERVES

The budget up to the 31st July 2026 was noted. There were no significant variances that councillors had concerns with. The Clerk had provided a detailed explanation of the reserves held by the council. These were discussed at great length and it was agreed that there should be a Reserves Policy, which Cllr Hucker agreed to draft. The Clerk will provide for the next meeting details of why all the amounts are in the earmarked reserves. It was felt that perhaps these should be reviewed every two years to ensure they should remain in this allocation.

Item 13 was taken before item 5 due to the amount of applications being considered.

5. TO CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR BUDGET FOR 2027/28 FROM INFORMAL MEETING AND TO ALLOCATE ANY FELT APPROPRIATE TO THE COMMITTEES FOR CONSIDERATION OF INCLUSION INTO THEIR BUDGET FOR 2027/28

The list of a possible 15 projects for consideration were discussed. The Clerk had provided her comments on each project and it was agreed that the projects would be allocated to the appropriate Committee and be requested that they consider whether these are something they think would be a viable project and whether they wished to include within their budgets for 2027/28. Two of the projects were removed from the list as one is already provided and the other is already moving forward.

6. UPDATE FROM THE GOVERNANCE WORKING GROUP

The Working Group had not met.

.....
COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
26TH OCTOBER 2026

7. UPDATE FROM THE COUNCIL'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION AND STRATEGIC PLAN WORKING GROUP

The Working Group had met on the 23rd July 2026. Cllr Hucker reported he had summarised the comments received with regard to the public consultation on the draft Strategic Plan. He felt that none of these would result in the document needing any amendments. It was therefore agreed that Full Council would be requested to formally adopt the Strategic Plan. The Mayor reported that she had written to the Chief Executives and Leaders as agreed and had received some responses. She will give an update at the next Full Council meeting. Cllr Denness proposed Cllr Hucker be formally appointed as a member of the Communications & PR Working Group. This was seconded by Cllr Ní Dhónaill and unanimously approved.

8. UPDATE FROM THE INCLUSIVITY WORKING GROUP

Cllr Phillips thanked all the members that had represented the council and attended Ely Pride. He thanked Cllr Whelan for the new council banner, which she and County Cllr Alison Whelan had designed and had printed. Members thanked Cllr Phillips for all his hard work.

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

The Working Group had not met. Cllr Morgan had provided an update with regard to the North Ely developments which was noted.

10. UPDATE FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS & PR WORKING GROUP

The Working Group had not met. Cllr Trent informed members they were meeting tomorrow to discuss the draft consultation questionnaire that they were preparing for obtaining parishioners views on what they wanted to be provided in Ely. This would be brought to the next Full Council meeting for approval.

11. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE HOT WEATHER WORKING POLICY

Cllr Hucker proposed the Hot Weather Working Policy be recommended to Full Council for formal adoption. This was seconded by Cllr Morgan and unanimously approved.

12. TO CONSIDER AN EMAIL FROM BUSINESS KNOWLEDGE XCHANGE RE SPONSORSHIP OF EVENT

Cllr Ní Dhónaill proposed the council agrees to sponsoring this event with the free hire of 40 tables, as requested. This was seconded by Cllr Hucker and unanimously approved.

Item 13 was considered after item 4 due to the amount of applications being considered.

13. TO CONSIDER GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR 2026/2027

Members considered the grant applications for 2026/2027. Due to the large amount of applications and the total sum requested, it was agreed that the underspend from the previous year's grant budget allocation would be added to this year's allocation of £18,000 to a total amount of £23,426 if required. A list of recommendations for awards will be proposed to the next Full Council meeting, which are attached to and form part of the minutes of this meeting.

14. HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES

There were no health and safety issues.

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COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
26TH OCTOBER 2026

15. PERSONNEL ISSUES

The Clerk informed members the local government pay increase for 2026/27 had been agreed at 3.3%. This was noted by members. She also reminded members that several of them had outstanding training that needed to be completed. The Deputy Clerk will circulate a list of who has outstanding training to ensure that this is completed as soon as possible.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on the 26th October 2026.

The meeting closed at 9.09 pm.

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COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
26TH OCTOBER 2026



**CITY OF ELY COUNCIL - 2026/2027 FINANCIAL YEAR
PERSONNEL, FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT AWARDS**

<u>APPLICANT</u>	<u>Requested</u>	<u>Recommended</u>
1. Voluntary & Community Action East Cambs (VCAEC)	£1649.95	£1649.95
2. Ely Foodbank	£1000	£1000
3. Pos+Ability	£2000	£2000 but will be informed that future applications will not be considered for any element of room hire and they must seek other avenues for running costs
4. Ely Splash Pad	£1400	No award as did not meet criteria
5. The Princess of Wales Hospital (Ely) Charitable Trust	£1525	£1525
6. Prickwillow Village CIC	£2523	No award as CIC to fold soon. The Clerk will suggest they consider whether they should offer the phone box back to the council
7. The Friends of Ely St John's	£1000	£1000
8. City of Ely Amateur Swimming Club	£6000	No award as felt they had funds available for what they had requested
9. Diversity Tennis CIC	£2500	£2500
10. Highfield Friends and Parents Assoc	£1000	£1000
11. East of England Ambulance Service Charity – Ely Community First Responders	£2500	£2500
12. Ely Methodist Church	£500	£500
13. Ely Arts Festival	£free hire of SH for 6 sessions free hire of maltings for 1 session and £600 for outreach programme	free hire for 6 sessions at SH and 1 session at Maltings plus £600 for outreach programme
14. Friends of Jubilee Gardens Ely	£1620	No award as felt ECDC should be responsible for this work or at least covering the cost of it
15. Chill & Chat Café (Countess Church)	£2600	£500
16. Cambridgeshire Artistic Roller Skating Club	£1000	£1000 but will be informed that future applications will not be considered for any element of room hire and they must seek other avenues for running costs

17. All In Sound	£1000	£1000
18. Friends of the Lantern School	£20000	No award as felt the amount requested exceed the total grant budget and was too large a project. Also felt the application did not give specific costs for any elements of the project proposed
19. Cambridgeshire Cricket Ltd	£1000	£1000 towards the Super 1's disability hub and should not be spent on hire costs and they must seek other avenues for running costs
20. Youth Ely Hub CIO	£1000	£1000
21. Littleport and District Timebank	£1210	No award as felt did not meet criteria as not within parish. Recommend they contact Littleport Town Council for a grant
22. Cruse Bereavement Support	£915	£915 but will be informed that future applications will not be considered for any element of room hire and they must seek other avenues for running costs
TOTAL REQUESTED	£54,542.95	
RECOMMENDED AMOUNT BE AWARDED		£19,689.95

Your Ely, Your Priorities

City of Ely Council Resident Survey

City of Ely Council wants to hear what residents would like to see improved across Ely, Prickwillow, Stuntney, Queen Adelaide, Chettisham and Shippea Hill.

The Council is responsible for local services and community assets such as The Maltings, Ely Cemetery, allotments, recreation areas, floral displays, grants, tourism support, civic events and community facilities.

Some issues, such as highways, major road schemes, schools, social care, policing, waste collection and planning decisions, are mainly the responsibility of other councils or public bodies. However, City of Ely Council can still speak up for residents, lobby for improvements, support community projects and use its own money where it has the power to act.

This survey will help councillors understand how residents would like the Council to use local council tax, extra unspent money and any available community infrastructure funding.

1. About you

1. Where do you live?

- Ely North
- Ely South
- Prickwillow
- Stuntney
- Queen Adelaide
- Chettisham
- Shippea Hill
- Outside the parish, but I regularly visit, work or shop in Ely
- Prefer not to say

2. What is your age group?

- Under 16
- 16–24
- 25–60
- 60+
- Prefer not to say

3. Are you responding as:

Tick all that apply.

- Resident

- Parent or carer
 - Young person
 - Business owner or worker
 - Community or voluntary group representative
 - Visitor
 - Other:
-

2. What matters most to you?

4. What are the three biggest things you would like City of Ely Council to focus on?

Please choose up to three.

- Parks, play areas and recreation spaces
- Young people's activities and facilities
- Support for older residents
- Community safety, lighting and CCTV
- Climate, nature and biodiversity
- Better public spaces, seating, bins and signage
- The Maltings and community facilities
- Tourism, heritage and city centre promotion
- Support for local community groups
- Keeping the City Council's share of council tax as low as possible
- Other:

5. What do you most value about Ely and the surrounding villages?

3. Spending local council tax

7. City of Ely Council receives part of your council tax to fund local services and community projects. Which areas should be the highest priority for regular spending?

Please rank your top five.

- Maintaining parks, open spaces and recreation areas
- Maintaining Council buildings and facilities
- The Maltings
- Ely Cemetery

- Community grants
 - Youth activities and facilities
 - Events
 - Floral displays, planting and public spaces
 - Tourism and Visit Ely
 - Climate and environmental projects
 - Community safety measures
 - Public toilets and visitor facilities
 - Keeping council tax as low as possible
 - Other:
-

4. Using extra unspent money

8. City of Ely Council may have allocated money from previous years. How should this money be used?

- Spend more of it on visible local improvements
- Keep most of it for emergencies and financial security
- Use it mainly to repair and improve existing Council buildings, land and facilities
- Use it as match funding to attract money from other organisations
- Use it to create a larger community grants fund
- Not sure

9. Which one-off projects would you most support if extra unspent money were available?

Choose up to five.

- New or improved play equipment
- Outdoor gym or fitness equipment
- Youth shelter or youth activity space
- More benches and accessible seating
- Better lighting in appropriate public places
- Tree planting and shade
- Wildflower areas and biodiversity projects
- Better signs and wayfinding
- Improvements to public toilets
- Improvements to The Maltings

- Improvements to cemetery paths, seating or planting
 - Public art, murals or heritage trails
 - Small grants for local groups
 - Feasibility work for larger future projects
 - Other:
-

5. Parks, open spaces and environment

10. How satisfied are you with local parks, play areas, recreation areas and green spaces?

- Very satisfied
- Fairly satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Fairly dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- I do not use them

11. What improvements would you like to see in parks and open spaces?

Choose up to five.

- Better play equipment
- More inclusive play equipment
- Safer surfaces
- More seating
- More shade and trees
- Better lighting
- Better maintenance
- More bins
- Better paths for wheelchairs, pushchairs and mobility scooters
- Outdoor fitness equipment
- Teen/youth facilities
- Wildlife and biodiversity areas
- Other:

12. Which environmental projects should the Council prioritise?

Choose up to three.

- Tree planting

- Wildflower and pollinator-friendly planting
 - Better care of green spaces
 - Reducing energy use in Council buildings
 - Solar panels or renewable energy on Council assets
 - Water refill points
 - Community food growing
 - Better recycling at Council venues and events
 - Environmental community action days
 - Other:
-

6. Young people, families and older residents

13. What would make Ely and the surrounding villages better for children and young people?

Choose up to five.

- Better play areas
- More youth activities
- Teen-friendly outdoor spaces
- Sports and fitness facilities
- Arts, music and creative activities
- Safe places to meet
- Holiday activities
- Volunteering opportunities
- Better lighting and safety measures
- Other:

14. What would make Ely and the surrounding villages better for older residents?

Choose up to five.

- More accessible seating
- Better paths and step-free access
- Social groups and activities
- Support for digital access
- Better public toilets
- Dementia-friendly initiatives
- Community grants for groups supporting older people

- Better lighting and safety measures
- Other:

15. Are there any groups of residents whose needs are currently overlooked?

7. Community facilities, events and grants

16. What would encourage you to use The Maltings or other City Council facilities more often?

Choose up to three.

- More community events
- More affordable hire for local groups
- Better publicity
- Café or community hub use
- Arts and cultural events
- Youth activities
- Older people's activities
- Better accessibility
- Better evening use
- Weddings and private events to raise income
- Other:

17. What types of community groups should be prioritised for Council grants?

Choose up to five.

- Youth groups
- Older people's groups
- Disability groups
- Arts and culture groups
- Sports clubs
- Environmental groups
- Community safety initiatives
- Food poverty or hardship support
- Mental health and wellbeing groups
- Heritage groups
- Events and festivals

- Other:

18. What local organisation, project or activity do you think deserves more support?

Free text.

8. City centre, tourism and local economy

19. What would improve Ely city centre?

Choose up to five.

- Better signs and wayfinding
- More planting and public seating
- More events and markets
- Cleaner public spaces
- Better public toilets
- Better visitor information
- More support for independent businesses
- Heritage and cultural trails
- Better accessibility
- Better links between the riverside, station and city centre
- More evening events
- Other:

20. How important is tourism to Ely's future?

- Very important
- Fairly important
- Not very important
- Not important
- Not sure

21. How should the Council balance tourism with the needs of residents?

Free text.

9. Issues City of Ely Council should lobby on

22. Some issues are mainly the responsibility of other councils or public bodies. Which should City of Ely Council most strongly speak up about?

Choose up to five.

- Safer crossings

- Road maintenance
- Pavement maintenance
- Cycle routes
- Bus services
- Rail station access and connectivity
- Parking
- Policing and anti-social behaviour
- Planning and developer contributions
- Health services
- Schools and education
- Flooding and drainage
- Affordable housing
- Waste and street cleansing
- Other:

23. Is there a specific location or issue you want City of Ely Council to raise with another authority?
Free text.

10. Communication and final priorities

24. How do you currently hear about City of Ely Council news, meetings or decisions?

- Council website
- Facebook
- Other social media
- Local newspaper
- Councillors
- Word of mouth
- Community groups
- I do not hear about them
- Other:

25. How would you prefer the Council to communicate with you?
Choose up to three.

- Email newsletter
- Facebook updates

- Printed newsletter
- Noticeboards
- Local press
- Public meetings or drop-in sessions
- Short online videos
- Ward councillor updates
- Other:

26. Would you attend a public workshop or drop-in session about future spending priorities?

- Yes
- Maybe
- No

27. If City of Ely Council could fund one improvement in the next year, what should it be?

28. If City of Ely Council could plan one major improvement over the next five years, what should it be?

29. Any other comments?

Suggested closing text

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

Your answers will help City of Ely Council understand residents' priorities and make better decisions about local council tax, extra unspent money, Council facilities, community grants and future projects.

The results will be reviewed by councillors and used to help shape future spending and priorities.



The City of Ely Council's Hot Weather Working Policy

1. Purpose

This policy sets out the Council's approach to protecting the health, safety, and wellbeing of staff during periods of high temperatures. It ensures that suitable adjustments are made to working practices when heat may affect staff comfort, health, and productivity.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all Council employees working in offices, administrative buildings, outdoor environments, and maintenance or operational roles.

3. General Principles

The Council recognises that excessive heat can pose risks such as dehydration, fatigue, and heat-related illness. Measures include provision of drinking water in all buildings, encouraging hydration, appropriate clothing, and monitoring staff wellbeing.

4. Adjustments to Working Hours – Excessive Temperatures

Staff may start earlier and finish earlier when the temperature reaches excessive levels.

Maintenance and outdoor staff must start and finish early, with physically demanding work scheduled for cooler periods of the day. Essential staff at the Maltings facilitating events must have short shifts with regular hydration breaks. Oliver Cromwell's House can adjust opening hours for staff to start and finish earlier.

5. Breaks and Rest Periods

Additional breaks are permitted during hot weather. Outdoor and maintenance staff must take regular breaks in shaded or cool areas to prevent heat-related illness.

6. Provision of Water

Drinking water will be readily available in all Council buildings. Outdoor staff must have access to or carry sufficient water and are encouraged to hydrate regularly.

7. Temperature Threshold

For those affected, if indoor temperatures reach 28°C, appropriate measures will be implemented to help manage temperatures and maintain a safe working environment.

Offices and buildings may only close, and staff may only be permitted to return home, where these measures are deemed insufficient or where conditions cannot be safely maintained.

8. Manager Responsibilities

Managers must monitor conditions and liaise with the Clerks if adjustment to working hours and opening hours are required. They must ensure breaks are taken and prioritise staff wellbeing.

9. Employee Responsibilities

Employees must follow guidance, stay hydrated, take breaks, report concerns, and cooperate with adjusted arrangements.

If employees would prefer not to work during such hot periods they may be permitted to use annual leave or TOIL, if suitable cover can be arranged.

10. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated in line with best practice and extreme weather events.

Signed Chairman

Cllr R Denness

Date:- 14th September 2026



CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
SESSIONS HOUSE
LYNN ROAD
ELY CB7 4EG
Telephone 01353 661016
Fax 01353 667057

CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT 7.00 PM, AT SESSIONS HOUSE, LYNN ROAD, ELY
ON MONDAY 10TH AUGUST 2026

PRESENT:

Cllr C Whelan Cllr R Denness Cllr D Warman Cllr P Coutts Cllr R Ward Cllr R Trent
Cllr C Phillips Cllr M Wade

Bold indicates a voting member of the Committee.

Two members of the public were in attendance.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST *to receive declarations of interests from Councillors.*

No declarations of interest were received.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 18TH OF MAY 2026 & MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 18th of May 2026 were agreed and signed as a true record. Pages C&E 81 & 82 refer. There were no matters arising.

4. BUDGET UPDATES

Members noted the budget updates, dated 31st July 2026. There were no significant variances.

5. ACTION PLAN

Cllr Whelan proposed that Cllr Coutts, Cllr Denness and Cllr Trent will form the Action Plan sub-group. This was seconded by Cllr Ward and agreed by all. It was also agreed that Cllr Bebu-Vijianu would be invited to join because of his interest in the Council's Climate Change and Environment Policy.

Members were asked to review the Council's Climate Change and Environment Policy. Prior to the meeting, Cllr Bebu-Vijianu had proposed amendments. It was agreed that the Action Plan sub-group would review the document and report back at the next meeting.

The carbon reduction strategy final report for the year 2024-2025 has now been received from Team Energy. Part of the order was a review for the year 2025-2026 but as no major changes have been implemented yet as a result of the building surveys, it was agreed that this would be postponed for a year and the final review would be for the year 2026-2027. Cllr Ward asked if the Committee should be budgeting for the implementation of the recommendations of the surveys and the report. Cllr Whelan said that this should be considered in October.

6. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Coutts, the Highways Lead, has proposed a list of possible highways projects for 2026-2027. Cllr Coutts presented his notes for discussion and guidance. Please see attached.

Items 3-6 – possible LHI applications. Members made the following comments on some of the proposals.

Item 3 – It was noted that this should have read to extend the 30mph limit not 40mph on Lynn Road in Chettisham, past the level crossing.

Item 4 – Mrs Barbara-Ann Brown had previously been co-opted to advise the Committee on cycling issues, in her capacity as the local representative of Cycling UK. The recommendations would improve safety for the cyclist

and would deter cars from overtaking the cyclist at this junction. In law, there is enough space at this junction for the signage and lines to be installed.

Item 5 – Cllr Whelan suggested that as this application had already been submitted and only missed securing the funding by one point, it would be a good idea to review the application.

Other comments concerning items 9 and 10, possible applications for private LHI works included:

Item 9 – It was agreed that this is a possibility, but the use of the ‘smiley face’ speed reinforcement sign was not supported. The use of the traditional mvas would be preferable.

Item 10 – Cllr Whelan advised that County Council would not contribute to this.

Cllr Wade suggested that the Council should investigate ways to solve the problem of the low bridge at the railway station and that it would be a great achievement for the Council.

7. FLORAL DISPLAYS

The summer planting has been carried out. The baskets arrived a little late this year, almost a month after they are usually delivered. When the next contract is awarded, it will be required that the hanging baskets should be ready for the beginning of June.

8. INSTALLATION OF SOLAR LIGHTING BETWEEN ELY LEISURE CENTRE AND ALEXANDER CHASE – UPDATE

Cllr Whelan confirmed that Full Council reviewed the quotes at the meeting on 27th July 2026, and it was agreed that the contract would be awarded to Solar Eye. The surveyor has confirmed that the ideal layout of the studs would be for them to be laid in the middle of the path as opposed to the edge.

East Cambs District Council will be organising the repairs to the path that are necessary before the work is carried out. We are still awaiting the legal agreement from East Cambs District Council. Cllr Trent suggested that the work should be ordered with Solar Eye as their lead time is approximately 8-10 weeks. The contact at Solar Eye will be put in touch with East Cambs in order to discuss a start date.

9. FUTURE MAINTENANCE OF NEW BUS SHELTERS AT HIGHFLYER DEVELOPMENT

County Council Officers have been in contact with the Council regarding the adoption of new bus shelters for the Highflyer development and also a prior development in the north of Ely. Planning references E/11/01077/ESO and E/13/00785/ESO. Members agreed to the adoption of the shelters when installed which will result in the receipt of £25,301.68 for the maintenance of shelters at the Highflyer development and £19,169.88 for any new shelters in the north of Ely development.

10. REQUEST FOR ENDORSEMENT OF FLAG OF THE FENS.

The Council had been approached by a community group that has asked the Council to consider endorsing the flag of the Fens which is close to gaining official recognition. To date, 12 Councils has endorsed the flag, including East Cambs District Council, South Holland District Council, Peterborough City Council and Downham Market Town Council. The flag has also been supported by 5 MPs, including the MP for Ely and East Cambridgeshire. Members felt that they could not endorse the flag without more research and agreed to refer the decision to Full Council.

11. REQUEST FOR TWO FURTHER DOG WASTE BINS IN PRICKWILLOW AND DEBDEN GREEN

The requests were agreed subject to suitable locations being agreed with East Cambs District Council and agreement that the emptying of them can be added to their schedule.

12. WAR MEMORIAL – CRIME & POLICING ACT 2026 UPDATE AND ADDITION OF INSCRIPTION

Members noted a communication from the Home Office advising that Section 161 of the Crime and Policing Act 2026 introduces a new offence of climbing on specified memorials, with those memorials set out in Schedule 17 of the Act. The government introduced this offense in response to incidents where memorials have been climbed on, including during protests, causing distress, and undermining commemorative purpose. The Minister of State for Policing and Crime requested that we consider installing a sign to warn that climbing on the memorial is an offence. Members agreed that a sign was not necessary at this time but would review the decision if there are reports of any incidents.

Members also noted that a further inscription will be added to the memorial at the request of the Royal British Legion. This was agreed at the Full Council meeting on 27th July 2026.

13. UPDATE FROM THE CCTV WORKING GROUP

The Clerk is constantly chasing both our consultant and contractor to resolve the outstanding issues so that phase 1 can be signed off. They have been informed that it's unacceptable and that we need a firm date for signing off. The Clerk also met with the local police Sergeant and raised issues with him as to the feedback we receive from the police on footage that we have submitted to assist them with investigating cases. It was agreed that he would try and get feedback that we could then publicise.

The CCTV Co-ordinator had received thanks from the police for supplying footage that assisted in the arrests of those individuals connected to a network spanning six locations across England that involved the control and exploitation of women at so called massage parlours.

14. UPDATE FROM THE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

Cllr Denness provided an update. The association has not met for two months. The new Chair, Mr Les Turner is doing a brilliant job. The Orchard Green site has now been ploughed and will be rotavated.

15. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is Monday 12th October 2026 at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.21pm

As a long-time resident of Ely I am writing to ask if City of Ely Council would consider endorsing the flag of the Fens, which is now quite close to gaining official recognition but needs more support from elected representatives. So far we have received endorsements from 12 councils, including East Cambridgeshire District Council, South Holland District Council, Peterborough City Council and Downham Market Town Council. The flag is also backed by 5 MPs, including Charlotte Cane.

Attached are photos of the flag at Aquafest and being held by members of the Rotary Club of Ely.

I can provide any information required, and please also see the flag's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064382843482>

Yours sincerely,

James Bowman





MINUTES OF A MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 3RD AUGUST 2026 AT 7.00 PM AT SESSIONS HOUSE, LYNN ROAD, ELY.

PRESENT: Mrs S Jay– Deputy Clerk to the Council

Bold font indicates voting member of committee.

The Mayor, Cllr R Denness

Cllr C Bebu-Vijianu

Cllr R Ward

Cllr R Trent

Cllr M Banyard

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr M Hucker

Cllr R Moss-Eccardt

Cllr P Coutts

Cllr C Phillips

1. Apologies for absence.

There were no apologies received.

2. To receive declarations of interests.

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on the 12th May 2026 and matters arising.

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 12th May 2026 were agreed by members and signed as true record by the Chairman. Pages A91, A92 & A93 refer.

Matters arising – Item 5. Members agreed that Cllr Phillips can continue as the lead member for the Cemetery following his nomination as Chair of the Tourism committee which resulted in him no longer being a member of the Assets committee.

4. To note budget updates for Cemetery, Recreation, Christmas Lights, Local Needs Housing and the Maltings complex dated 31st July 2026.

Members noted the budget updates dated 31st July 2026 for Cemetery, Recreation, Christmas Lights, Local Needs Housing and the Maltings complex and were advised to note any variances within them.

5. Recreation Areas - To receive an update.

i) Skate Park

Members noted the estimates received to repair the Skate Park. Cllr Moss-Eccardt proposed that the Estates Team should provide interim repairs at an estimated cost of £10k, this proposal was seconded by Cllr Coutts and unanimously agreed by members. This will enable the facility to continue to be provided, whilst the Communications & PR working group consult with residents and groups as to the type of facility they would like as a replacement. Cllr Trent will take this consultation forward.

ii) To discuss request for use of recreation area for fitness boot camps

Members discussed a request to use St Johns Recreation area for commercial fitness boot camps. Allowing a business to operate from this space may not only set a precedent for similar requests in the future, but could also restrict residents' ability to use the area for informal recreation such as children's play, football etc.

Therefore, in considering this request members agreed not to permit it for the requested use as it is important to preserve the space primarily for the benefit and enjoyment of residents rather than for commercial use.

iii)High Barns

The Deputy Clerk reported the repairs to the wet pour will be started in the next few weeks.

iv) To note issue with complaint regarding Paradise Play area

The Deputy Clerk informed members regarding a complaint about ball games in Paradise play area. When Palace Green Homes finished the adjacent development, it was agreed the original fence would be reinstated that borders the perimeter and the new houses. Unfortunately, this did not happen, however they have now agreed to do this which should prevent the issue with ball games.

6. Cemetery to receive an update.

Cllr Phillips and the Deputy Clerk updated members on the new woodland burial area and the Sensory Garden. The sundial is now in place.

7. Christmas Lights - to receive an update.

The Deputy Clerk reported additional Christmas lights have been ordered at a cost of £4066.17 from Festive Lights. As the lights match the existing connections it is not possible to obtain these elsewhere or obtain additional quotes. Everything is going to plan for this year's display.

8. To note schedule of maintenance supplied by Estates Manager

Members noted the maintenance schedule circulated with the agenda. Cllr Banyard advised members he would be looking to implement a more detailed schedule of works to enable a maintenance plan for future budgeting for the council's buildings.

9. Local Needs Housing – to discuss a matter relating to the lease.

The Deputy Clerk updated members regarding the issue with a breach of the lease and that following a letter to the homeowner, they have agreed to complete the removal of the wall and fence. Any breach of hedges more than 60cm in height will be followed up in the autumn.

10. Sessions House.

Update regarding Cambridgeshire Registrars and hire of Sessions House.

The registrars have agreed to hire Sessions House. A duty manager will be provided from casual staff. The Deputy Clerk advised she is due to meet with the registrars to show them the building again and finalise details.

11. Scout Hall

The Scout Group had requested formal permission to hire their hall to local groups. Members agreed to this request as per the advice from the council's Solicitor in that despite the covenant in the lease restricting such use, the council will not take enforcement action against the Scouts. An email will be sent to the Scouts advising of this.

12. To receive update regarding the purchase of Maltings Complex and Oliver Cromwell House

ECDC are due to appoint a property solicitor to then deal with the sale of the buildings to City of Ely Council.

13. The Maltings Complex.

The fire doors and repairs to front doors of the Maltings are due to be repaired shortly. There may be a slight increase to the cost of this due to a variation to the work planned. The new kitchen floor will be laid this week.

The Deputy Clerk, Cllr Banyard and the Venue Manager will look at disabled access options for the stage.

14. Date of next meeting:

Monday 5th October 2026 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm.



**CITY OF ELY COUNCIL
TOURISM COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT
SESSIONS HOUSE, LYNN ROAD, ELY AT
7.05 PM MONDAY 17TH AUGUST 2026**

PRESENT:

Bold indicates a voting member of the Committee

Cllr C Phillips, Cllr S Sandhu and Cllr M Hucker

Mrs Anna Bennett -Tourism and Events Manager

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from **Cllr D Warman, Cllr C Bebu-Vijianu, Cllr M Wade and Cllr R Denness.**

2. Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Hucker proposed Cllr S Sandu, and Cllr C Phillips seconded the proposal. He was therefore elected as the Vice Chairman.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes of the last Tourism Committee Meeting held on Tuesday June 2nd and Matters Arising

The minutes of the Tourism Committee meeting held on Tuesday June 2nd were unanimously approved by attending members and signed by the Chairman, Cllr C Phillips. Pages T122 and T123 refer. There were no matters arising.

5. Budget Update

Members noted the budget updated, which was up to the 30th June. Cllr M Hucker raised a question about pitch fees and whether these we should consider raising these to increase the income received. The Tourism and Events Manager explained to Cllr M Hucker that by raising pitch fees, Visit Ely Events run the risk of losing traders due to cost of attending events/rising cost of fuel etc. However, it would be considered at the budget meeting. Cllr M Hucker raised a question regarding the equipment spend which he felt was high and ask for clarification. The Tourism and Events Manager said she would refer to the Clerk and provide nominal ledgers offering Cllr M Hucker specifics. There were no further comments regarding the budget update.

6.To Receive an Update on Tourism and Events

The Tourism and Events Manager presented the report discussing admissions over the 8-week period to Oliver Cromwell's House, noting the increase due to VAT reductions for Family/Children admissions during the peak summer season. Cllr M Hucker requested comparables to the last report as the stand-alone figures were irrelevant. The Tourism and Events Manager agreed to supply these.

An event update was provided for the Autumn and Orchard Fayre, to be held on the 10th and 11th October 2026 on Palace and Cross Green. The Tourism and Events Manager encouraged the Tourism Committee to attend as representatives of the City of Ely Council, which would also benefit from press and PR opportunities. The Tourism and Events Manager told the members that we had good sponsorship support from local businesses, a new 'Children's activity gazebo' and many new and exciting traders – an average of 20% change from the 2026 event.

The Tourism and Events Manager explained that the Heritage Open Days bookings for 2027 were already complete, and that she was mindful again this year of tours, limiting City Tours to just two this season.

Ely Foodie Week was suggested by the Tourism and Events Manager to the members with a full explanation regarding the initiative, costs, outcome and what Visit Ely hoped to achieve. The idea was met with much enthusiasm, and it was agreed that the initiative would be further developed with the aim to grow the event year on year.

A brief update was given regarding the re-launch of the Ely Passport together with the discount offered by town centre traders alongside the passport, now valid for 5 days. The attending members all agreed this was a good idea and looked forward to hearing more about it at the next meeting in October.

Concluding the report was a brief update regarding Digital Signage.

7. To receive and update on Cambridgeshire and Peterborough LVEP

The Tourism and Events Manager told the committee that since her presentation at Full Council, there had not been any significant changes and that the working group were still finalising the brand identification and brand narrative. She explained that there was some hesitation from one of the partners, and this was in discussion regarding full inclusion into the partnership.

8.To note the building schedule of works required for OCH, following annual inspection by Estates Manager.

The schedule of works for Oliver Cromwell's House was noted and there were no comments made.

9. Update of the Building Work Project for OCH

Cllr C Phillips mentioned the start date for the project and issues were arising regarding the use of materials during the autumn and winter, prolonging the project. He also raised the subject of scaffolding and the current delay with confirmation of this to be erected on consecrated ground. This matter should be resolved by the end of September, and the committee hoped that the front building work could commence without any further delays.

10. To discuss possible conflict with a member of the Tourism Committee working as a volunteer guide for the City of Ely Council/Visit Ely

Cllr C Philips opened this conversation with how the Council are being open and transparent regarding said Councillor and could not foresee any issues.

Cllr Hucker disagreed, quoting cases and employment law stating he had considerable knowledge of tribunals. He stated that 57% of cases were lost when employed personnels sued organisations for employment offered to volunteers, when shifts could be offered to paid employees. He deemed that this was a risk to the Council.

Cllr Sandhu appreciated his concern and remained impartial. The Tourism and Events Manager explained the process of how tour guides are booked, and both Cllr Phillips and the Tourism and Events Manager remained positive that this would not pose a risk given the very small team. She also went on to explain to Cllr Hucker that the *Councillor in training* would only be used if all other avenues of employment had been exhausted, otherwise the true risk to the council would be loss of tours, loss of income as not enough staff to cover, so risk was very minimal. The decision as to whether the Councillor should be permitted to be a volunteer guide and also remain on the Tourism Committee will be referred to the next Full Council.

11. To discuss the outcome of the Digital Signage consultation on Forehill.

Cllr Philips explained to the committee that the above issue was still on-going, with the local MP, Charlotte Cane now involved. A meeting was held at the property on Forehill to discuss. Cllr Phillips explained to those in attendance that the board would not be removed. To compensate, the suggestion of a decorative decal could be purchased by the Council to cover the back of the board, however the shrubbery was still in its infancy, therefore in due course, this will cover the board, and it would not be in plain sight. The Tourism and Events Manager explained she had received an email from Cllr Trent regarding the consultation as he attended the meeting. Cllr Trent gave an estimate of cost of producing the decal. She responded that her team had researched this request and found a more suitable supplier. The issue would be progressed in house with the Visit Ely team and updates would be provided at the next meeting.

12. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be on the 19th October 2026.

The meeting concluded at 8.05pm

Cambridgeshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) Stakeholder Engagement Survey

Closes 11 Oct 2026

Opened 25 Aug 2026

Contact

rowip2026@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Overview

Background

Cambridgeshire County Council is your local highway authority, and is responsible for managing over 3,200km of public rights of way. A public right of way is a legally protected route across land that the general public have a right to freely use. There are four classes of public right of way:

- Public Footpaths (open to use by people on foot or using mobility aids)
- Bridleways (open to use by people on foot, those using mobility aids, cyclists and horse riders)
- Byways Open to All Traffic (open to use by all types of user, including motor vehicles, but are generally unsurfaced)
- Restricted Byways (open to use by people on foot, those using mobility aids, cyclists, horse riders and horse-drawn vehicles)

You can view a map of public rights of way in the County using our My Cambridgeshire portal, [here](#)

The **Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP)** is a statutory document that every local highway authority has to produce. It sets out how the authority will manage and enhance its public rights of way and countryside access. The

ROWIP must also consider cycle tracks in accordance with the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

Every ten years a local highway authority is required to review its ROWIP to assess:

- the extent to which the local network meets the present and future needs of the public;
- the opportunities the network presents for exercise and outdoor recreation;
- the accessibility of the network to people with mobility or sensory impairments.

This questionnaire is to help Cambridgeshire County Council understand the concerns and priorities of key stakeholders in our local public rights of way network, to support us in undertaking the above assessment.

This will allow us to develop an updated ROWIP that identifies the needs of our communities in relation to public access, so we can plan and publish our intended actions to meet those needs over the next ten years.

There will be a full public consultation further on in the process, during which the general public will have the chance to comment on a drafted Plan.

Completing the survey

Wherever possible, please answer the questions on behalf of the organisation that you are representing. When answering on behalf of an organisation, such as a parish council or a charity, please take care to ensure only one response is provided.

The survey is divided into sections and if you feel a section is not relevant to you/your organisation, you can move to the next section.

Whilst you are not required to answer every question, please answer as many as you can to enable us to gather a wide range of input. This will help our understanding of key issues to be as broad as possible.

If you have any questions about completing this form, or if you require a printed version, you can email rowip2026@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

The deadline for completing the survey is Sunday 11th October 2026.

Data protection notice

You do not have to give us any personal information. We will not publish any personal details you do give us, but may publish your response, and include it in public reports, with personal details removed. Personal data will be held securely, in accordance with data protection legislation. We will only store it for 12 months after the results have been analysed and the report is published.

We may share your responses with our consultants, AtkinsRéalis, our partners in this work. Personal information such as your name or email address will not be shared.

For more information on how we collect and protect your data, please visit: [Privacy statement](#) | [Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

Why your views matter

By taking part you will help to shape the future of public rights of way and countryside access in Cambridgeshire for the coming years. We are grateful for your input into this process.

[Share your views](#) >

Section 3 – External Auditor's Report and Certificate 2025/26

In respect of **City of Ely Council – CA0081**

1 Respective responsibilities of the auditor and the authority

Our responsibility as auditors to complete a **limited assurance review** is set out by the National Audit Office (NAO). A limited assurance review is **not a full statutory audit**, it does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and hence it **does not** provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would. The UK Government has determined that a lower level of assurance than that provided by a full statutory audit is appropriate for those local public bodies with the lowest levels of spending.

Under a limited assurance review, the auditor is responsible for reviewing Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with NAO Auditor Guidance Note 02 (AGN 02) as issued by the NAO on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General. AGN 02 is available from the NAO website – <https://www.nao.org.uk/code-audit-practice/guidance-and-information-for-auditors/>

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2026; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

2 External auditor's limited assurance opinion 2025/26

Except for the matters reported below on the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with *Proper Practices* and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

The AGAR was not accurately completed before submission for review. The smaller authority has confirmed that the response to Section 2, Box 11 is incorrect and should be 'yes'.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:

The smaller authority has not published the full and correct information in the 'Notice of Public Rights', as notice regarding the period for the exercise of public rights published is for the exempt authority. Please ensure that the correct information is published in future years.

3 External auditor certificate 2025/26

We certify that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2026.

External Auditor Name

PKF LITTLEJOHN LLP

External Auditor Signature

Paul Littlejohn

Date

03/09/2026

Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2025/26 for

ENTER NAME OF AUTHORITY

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2025 £	31 March 2026 £	
1. Balances brought forward	1,974,172	2,082,445	Please round all figures to nearest £1. Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or Nil balances. All figures must agree to underlying financial records. Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	798,600	822,558	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	926,790	869,185	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.
4. (-) Staff costs	777,793	895,703	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	19,016	19,016	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	820,305	876,229	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	2,082,445	1,983,240	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	2,097,769	2,004,033	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	1,091,447	1,155,637	The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.
10. Total borrowings	44,849	27,434	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).

For Local Councils Only	Yes	No	
11 Do the figures in the accounting statements above exclude any trust transactions?		✓	For guidance refer to the Practitioners' Guide sections 2.31 to 2.33.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2026 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval.

Date

08/06/2026

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

08/06/2026

as recorded in minute reference:

2235

Signed by Chair of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved



Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2025/26

We acknowledge as the members of:

CITY OF ELY COUNCIL

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2026, that:

	Agreed		"Yes" means that this authority:
	Yes	No*	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	☒	☐	prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	☒	☐	made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3. We have assured ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	☒	☐	has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	☒	☐	during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	☒	☐	considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	☒	☐	arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	☒	☐	responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	☒	☐	disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	N/A
	☐	☐	☒
10. We have put in place arrangements for the effective IT and data management in accordance with proper practices during the year under review.	☒	☐	has made suitable arrangements for its IT and data management and has complied with proper practices in doing so.

*Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

08/06/2026

and recorded as minute reference:

2235

Signed by the Chair and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Chair

Clerk

www.ely.gov.uk