



EAST
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Asset Development Committee held in the Council Chamber, The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely on 25th March 2019 at 4:00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor Bill Hunt (Chairman)
Councillor Ian Bovingdon (as a Substitute)
Councillor Paul Cox
Councillor Lorna Dupré
Councillor Mike Rouse (as a Substitute)
Councillor Mathew Shuter
Councillor Lisa Stubbs

IN ATTENDANCE

Maggie Camp – Legal Services Manager and Monitoring Officer
Spencer Clark – Open Spaces & Facilities Manager
Emma Grima – Director, Commercial
Adrian Scaites-Stokes – Democratic Services Officer

38. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no public questions.

39. APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies had been received for Councillors Christine Ambrose Smith and David Ambrose Smith. Councillors Ian Bovingdon and Mike Rouse substituted for this meeting. Apologies had also been received for John Hill and Phil Rose

40. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

41. MINUTES

It was resolved:

That the minutes of the Asset Development Committee meeting held on 17th December 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

42. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- It was sad to announce that former Councillor Andy Wright had passed away during the last 24 hours. He had only been created an Alderman recently, due to his long service with the Council. Further details would be provided at the next full Council meeting.
- An extra 6 parking spaces would be shortly available in the Newnham Street, Ely car park. This was because the unused motorcycle bays, an area with trees that had been pulled down due to disease, would be converted to provide 4 disabled parking spaces. This would enable nearer access for people using those spaces and would allow at least an additional 6 spaces to be provided at their previous location
- The Government's budget announcement that business rates would be given back to local authorities, for use to provide and maintain public toilets, would benefit this Council. Consequently, work had started on refurbishing the toilet in Barton Road, Ely.

43. **ASSET MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME 2018/19**

The Committee considered a report, reference T221 previously circulated, updating Members on the Asset Management Planned Maintenance Programme for 2018/19.

The Open Spaces & Facilities Manager advised the Committee that a lot had been achieved during the year. Going forward, a focus would be given to the work related to Ely Museum. As the Council had work to do there, it was hoped to tie that work in with the work the Museum would be doing and tied in with external work required on The Grange. Thanks were then given to the Committee for its support and guidance over the last few years.

The Director Commercial updated the Committee about the Mepal Outdoor Centre, stating that, although it had been hoped for further progress, the operator had completed survey works on the site. It wanted to explore the possibility of obtaining the freehold of the property and this proposition would be reported to the relevant committee at a later date.

Councillor Lorna Dupré asked if there was an indicative timescale for this, as she was concerned the issue would not be straight forward. The Director Commercial said it had been made clear to the operator that the matter had to go back to committee to consider offering the freehold. Conversations were ongoing with the Council considering securing the long-term view.

Councillor Mathew Shuter joined the meeting at this point, 4:10pm.

The Director Commercial agreed to circulate a briefing update to all Members

Councillor Mike Rouse declared a personal interest at this point, as he was a Trustee of Ely Museum.

Councillor Bill Hunt noted that the work Ely Museum wished to do would be expensive and the Council should work with it during the works period. This could lead to a temporary loss of car parking spaces

Councillor Lorna Dupré noticed that there was some formatting errors on the second page of the Appendix and the Open Spaces & Facilities Manager agreed that there should have been corrected.

It was resolved:

That the actual spend (at 28th February 2019) set out in Appendix 1 be noted.

44. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESS**

It was resolved:

That the press and public be excluded during the consideration of the items 8 to 12 because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during the item(s) there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of Categories 1, 2 and 3 of Part I Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

45. **ELY RIVERSIDE MOORINGS – REPORT 1**

The Committee considered an Exempt report, reference T222 previously circulated, concerning the riverside moorings in Ely.

The Director Commercial advised the Committee as to the background of the report, the actions that had been taken by the Council, the current situation and future considerations.

The Committee were content with the recommendations excepting one issue and consequently the Director Commercial was instructed to complete some investigation work.

It was resolved:

That the recommendations, as amended by the Committee, in the report be agreed.

46. **ELY RIVERSIDE MOORINGS – REPORT 2**

The Committee considered an Exempt report, reference T223 previously circulated, concerning the riverside moorings in Ely.

The Director Commercial advised the Committee as to the background of the report, the actions that had been taken by the Council, the current situation and future considerations.

It was resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be agreed.

47. **ASSET IN THE PARISH OF ELY**

The Committee considered a report, reference T224 previously circulated, relating to an asset in Ely.

The Director Commercial advised the Committee as to the background of the asset, the actions that had been undertaken, the subsequent options available and the considerations to be taken into account.

The Committee asked questions of clarification and on one issue sought additional information. Consequently the Director Commercial was instructed to complete some investigation work.

It was resolved:

That the recommendations in the report be agreed.

48. **LAND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND ASSET DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE 2018/19**

The Committee considered an Exempt report T225, previously circulated, that provided an update on land development opportunities and the asset development programme.

The Committee made no comments.

It was resolved:

That the progress in relation to the Land Development Opportunities and Asset Development Programme be noted.

The meeting concluded at 4:51pm.