

Pre-meeting Reports 1st July 2014

With the Chairman and Vice Chairman away it was proposed by Cllr Hodgson, seconded by Cllr Ginger and agreed that Cllr Mrs Ann Nunn take the Chair for the meeting.

- 35. Police Report.** The Chairman welcomed Sergeant Mark Beresford, Suffolk Constabulary, who gave members a brief report on the crime statistics for June (attached). Cllr Howard asked about cuts to the force and whether, like reports from other forces, it was affecting the frontline and morale in Suffolk. Sgt Beresford reassured the meeting that there were currently no cuts to the front line in Suffolk and morale was bearing up extremely well. The Chief Constable would soon have to make some important decisions however with regard to the future cuts he will be asked to make and he will be consulting on them shortly. Cllr Ginger notified the meeting that there was a problem with boy racers in Red House Lane and around the Leisure Centre. Cllr Sparrow wondered where the 20's plenty sign had gone in Seaward Avenue. Mrs Borrett was pleased with the response from officers who, when they were in Leiston, did not move on cars illegally parked on pavements and double yellows in the High Street. Mr Jackman Graham wondered whether, like Speedwatch, letters could be sent to offenders who carried out this anti social parking.
- 36. County Report.** Councillor Smith expressed his gratitude for the support he had received from the Town Council in his efforts to get the approach road to the Sewage works metalled. Everyone was disappointed with the poor response from Anglian Water to the offer of help to take the road up to Highways Standard and now just hoped that they would do anything at all to improve the situation there. Cllr Smith announced that he had £8,000 in his Highways Budget for Leiston now with the possibility of more from the parking fund. He reported that he had attended the AGM of CATS who were doing very well at the moment and he apologised that he would not be able to attend the Great War Commemorations on the 19th July. Cllr Ginger wondered whether there was any possibility of using the Highways Budget to help with metalling Orchard Road. Cllr Smith thought this would be unlikely unfortunately. Cllr Ginger then reported an issue between residents of Paxton Chadwick Close and the Primary School which Cllr Smith agreed to work with Cllr Cooper to investigate. Members were concerned about the Academy process for Alde Valley High and were wondering whether there would be a consultation at all at any stage. Finally, Mrs Hawes was very concerned about delivery vans and lorries using Dinsdale Road as a rat run to avoid the traffic lights. There were also a lot of vehicles speeding down Dinsdale Road and she felt that there should be a 20mph speed limit in that area.
- 37. District Report.** Cllr Hawkins had nothing to report. Miss Oliver enquired as to whether the Hopkins Homes development on Aldeburgh Road had got permission yet. Cllr Hawkins informed her that it had.
- 38. Public.** Members and the public were asked whether there were any more items that they felt should be discussed with the Highways Team other than those already raised. Mrs Betson hoped that the question of signage could be raised on behalf of the Town Team. It was felt that better signage (and finger posts) were needed to help visitors find their way around (Solar, car park, Library etc.)

During the above discussions, the time reaching 7.30pm, it was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Hawkins, and agreed, that standing orders be suspended to allow the public part of the meeting to be completed.

**At a meeting of the LEISTON-cum-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL
held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE, King Georges Avenue, Leiston, on TUESDAY,
1st JULY 2014 at 8.01 p.m.**

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs A.V. Nunn (in the chair)
Councillor R. Bailey
Councillor D. Boast
Councillor Mrs S. M. Geater
Councillor C. S. Ginger
Councillor T. J. Hawkins
Councillor T. E. Hodgson
Councillor W. H. Howard
Councillor J. N. Last
Councillor N. Parker
Councillor Mrs J. Sparrow

39. **Minutes.** Cllr Hawkins asked that the minutes note that he and Cllr Cooper had abstained from voting on any planning applications. With that addition he was happy to second Cllr Ginger that the minutes for the meeting of 3rd June 2014 be signed as a true record. Cllr Sparrow was also added to the attendees..
40. **Apologies.** There were apologies from Cllr Nunn, Cllr R Geater, Cllr Cooper and Cllr D. Bailey.
41. **Chairman's Communications.** The Chairman was on a visit to Ypres with the RBL.
42. **Declarations of Interest.** Cllr R Bailey declared an interest in Haylings Pond and Cllr Howard in cheque number 312029 (RBL) and as a member of TASK and CANE.
43. **Open Spaces Committee Meeting (17th June).** Members noted the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 17th June. The specific items raised that carried recommendations were;
- a) Haylings Pond. Possibility of getting a water connection and meter installed.
 - b) Boules Court. Install one in Victory Road Recreation Ground on the Park Hill side.
 - c) Outdoor Fitness Equipment. Cllr Last to canvas for interest in the next newsletter.
 - d) Bollard for Recreation Ground gate. Install
 - e) Meeting with young people. Arrange.

On a proposition from Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Howard it was agreed to accept the report and recommendations.

44. **Emergency Resilience Planning Meeting (24th June).** Members noted the minutes from the meeting which were a brief resume of a presentation given to the Committee by Steve Pinnion. The next meeting would be after the workshop on 8th July.

45. **Bus Shelter – High Green.** The new base will cost £1,700. The Clerk was just gaining permission from and negotiating a lease with SCDC to erect the shelter on their land.
46. **Defibrillators.** The Clerk informed members that he would soon be ordering the difibrillators for the Cinema and the Community Centre. Staff training at the cinema would be organised but there were no volunteers, to date, from the community groups who use the Centre. Cllr Howard volunteered from his group and the Clerk noted other users he hadn't contacted yet. The machine would be available though in case it was needed.
47. **August Meeting.** Members thought it prudent to pencil in a meeting on 5th August.
48. **Community Rail Partnership.** Cllr Howard attended the AGM where officers for the Partnership were elected but did not attend the board meeting that followed. He explained that the partnership was set up to involve local people in their railway lines and was funded by the operators, County and District Councils. He outlined many of their aims and plans and how they were actively working toward a Sizewell C legacy of a passenger service to Leiston.
49. **Sizewell Parishes Liaison Group.** The Clerk briefed members on a meeting of the SPLG Steering Group he had recently attended where the group had reported back on their visit to Hinckley.

The meeting took a break from 8.25 – 8.45pm for refreshment

50. **Finance.**
 - a) **Accounts for payment.** Members noted the cheques for payment. Cllr Ginger was concerned that one was for the renewal of the Council's subscription to the SPLG as he felt that this needed discussion. There were several reasons for this which were backed up by Cllr Parker who requested that he step down as the Council's representative for the group as he had, for some time, felt out of the loop. It was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed that the subscription be withheld for the time being until members had had a chance to discuss whether to continue membership of the Group. With Cheque 312043 held over it was proposed by Cllr Hodgson, seconded by Cllr R Bailey and agreed that accounts presented in the sum £29,276.59p along with £3,522.12p paid since the last meeting be approved for payment.
 - b) **Risk Assessment review.** Members discussed the report presented by the Clerk and asked relevant questions to assure themselves that they were satisfied with its content. The date in the report for submission of the precept was removed and just left as "on time". It was then proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr R Bailey and agreed that members accepted that a proper and thorough risk assessment had been carried out covering all physical, financial and governance risks which the Council could reasonably be expected to encounter and that appropriate measures were in place to cover or reduce those risks where possible
 - c) **Internal Auditor Review.** Members noted the report on Internal Controls and the Clerks recommendation for appointment of Internal Auditors for 2014-2015. It was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Hodgson and agreed that Heelis and Lodge be appointed as Internal Auditors to the Council for 2014/2015.
 - d) **Financial update and review of reserves.** Members noted the review of earmarked reserves submitted by the Clerk. It was agreed to leave the Devolution Reserve intact for the time being.

51. **Planning.**

- a) **DC14/1430/FUL – Erection of new eco house with associated landscaping and highways access and comprising integral equine stabling provision – Land adjoining Elmwood Nurseries, Haylings Road, Leiston.** . Members noted the innovative design and supported the eco credentials of this proposal. It would not be visible from the road or the adjacent footpath but members were very concerned about the site entrance and how it crossed the cycletrack. They felt that the entrance onto Leiston Road should have the bank cut back enough to give adequate splay to allow vehicles egressing the property to see bicycles coming from each direction (faster downhill). There should also be a discreet but prominent warning sign so visitors leaving the property stop in the correct place to look out for cycles too. Cllr Hawkins and Ginger abstained. Cllr Howard voted against.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

- b) **DC14/1725/FUL – Extension to bungalow (one and half storey) to accommodate garage, two bedrooms with ensuites and store at 21 Southfield Drive, Leiston.** Cllr Howard declared an interest and Cllr Hawkins abstained.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

- c) **Neighbourhood Plan.** The Clerk updated members on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan and, in particular, the intention to hold a community event on the Victory Road Recreation Ground on 27th September for consultative purposes.

52. **County Matters**

- a) **Highway Committee meeting.** Last meeting members wondered whether to have a meeting of their own before meeting with the County Council on 15th July. This was unable to be accommodated however and members were asked to raise items for the agenda and take into account items raised by the public at the earlier session.

53. **District Matters.** Nothing raised

54. **Correspondence.**

- a) **Sizewell Emergency Arrangements.** Members noted the letter from Andy Osman requesting a meeting with members to go through the latest Emergency Arrangements. They hoped he could come to the 5th August meeting with a back up of a special meeting on 29th July if that was not suitable.
- b) **ESTA.** Members noted the letter from East Suffolk Travellers Association which offered to come and brief the Council on their proposals for the Saxmundham Interchange Hub. The clerk was asked to invite them to come to October meeting.

55. **Questions to the Chairman.**

- a) **Alde Valley School.** Members asked the Chairman to try and establish what was happening at Alde Valley School with regard to Academy Status. They hoped there would be some sort of community consultation.
- b)

There being no more business the meeting finished at 9.40 pm.

Chair

Dated