

Pre-meeting Reports
3rd November 2015

- 105. Police Report.** The Chairman welcomed PCSO Sam Maples who gave a brief summary of the crime figures for October (attached).
- 106.** The Chairman introduced Tom McGarry who updated the meeting on developments regarding the Nuclear New Build programme. His brief is attached. There were two questions from Cllr Taylor enquiring about the possible number of workers on any new build site and what their shift patterns might be. Mr McGarry confirmed that there might be up to 5,600 workers at the peak of the 7-9 year build but the shift patterns would be determined through consultation as they would be very closely associated with all the transport issues.
- 107. County Council.** Cllr Richard Smith reported that, since the last meeting, he had been busy working on the forthcoming County Council draft budget. This would not be available in public for another 10 days. Details of this and the Chancellor's Autumn Statement (25th November) will be central to future spending plans so more will be known by Decembers meeting. He was pleased to report that the Sylvester Road soakaway had finally been installed and, hopefully, it would be effective. He had also chased up the Unsuitable for HGV signs needed at the entrance to Buller Road. Cllr Taylor established that the Community Transport strategy had remained unchanged after the recent call in (the original proposals stand). Cllr Smith then informed the meeting that there was currently a consultation on cuts to the Fire Service – this would go on until mid December. At the current time there were no changes being proposed for Leiston's Station. Cllr Nichols ensured that Highways were still looking at the problems around the level crossing in Station Road and Abbey Road. Cllr Smith was awaiting correspondence from the most recently affected resident but was progressing the investigation into what could be done. He also confirmed that the resurfacing of the High Street was still on the cards but was unsure of the new timetable.
- 108. District Council.** Cllr Ian Pratt gave his apologies. Cllr Cooper reported that the Cabinet were meeting soon to confirm a £50,000 contribution to the County Councils' study into the 4 villages by-pass. They were also proposing to agree not to charge for brown bin collections in the coming year. Cllr Harle was pleased to hear that and thanked Betty Harland and the St Margarets Shop for their work in raising a petition on this point. A meeting with the SCDC Estates Officer was confirmed for 11th November to discuss the Caravan Park.
- 109. Public.** Mr Briggs hoped that, on the "Public Participation" Agenda item, that the public would not be constrained too much in the future by any decision reached.

**At a meeting of the LEISTON-cum-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL
held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE, King Georges Avenue, Leiston, on
TUESDAY, 3rd NOVEMBER 2015 at 7.30 p.m.**

PRESENT

Councillor D. E. Bailey (in the Chair)
Councillor A. M. Cooper
Councillor Mrs S. M. Geater
Councillor C. Ginger
Councillor P. Harle
Councillor T.E. Hodgson
Councillor W.M. Howard
Councillor H Jackson
Councillor D. Morsley
Councillor C. Nichols
Councillor M.J. Taylor

- 110. Minutes.** It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Cooper and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 6th October 2015 be signed as a true record.
- 111. Apologies.** There were apologies from Cllr Hill, Cllr Boast, Cllr Last and Cllr Levermore.
- 112. Chairman's Communications.** The Chairman reported that he had represented the Council at the Harvest Festival Service in Bury St Edmunds and had also attended a Civic Ceremony in Bungay.
- 113. Declarations of Interest.** Cllr Cooper in 10 (all planning), Cllr Ginger in 9b, Cllr Howard and Cllr Taylor as members of TASC and CANE.
- 114. Mr McGarry's Presentation.** Cllr Taylor informed members that, as far as he was aware, there would be no detailed information on the project until Stage 2 consultation.
- 115. Flashing Speed Sign –** Members noted the report on the viability of using a solar powered unit and also the cost and performance analysis of the two leading mobile units used by Highways. The solar powered options are unfortunately fixed but members agreed that a further unit would be beneficial and therefore, on a proposition from Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Cooper it was agreed to use the £3,000 in the earmarked reserve to purchase a further RadarLux unit for use around the town.
- 116. Sizewell Parishes Liaison Group (SPLG) –** Members continued to agree that all meetings of the SPLG and SPLG Steering Group should be open to all the group's members and that they should be open to the public. Currently, the officers were still suggesting that there should be a small Steering Committee. It was felt that this made it difficult for the often divergent opinions and concerns of the members to be coherently put together and represented at those meetings. They were not at all comfortable with these meetings being held in a private residence either as a principle should be that publicly funded bodies should meet in public. The Council agreed to offer the Council Chambers or Community Centre for meetings and hoped that this would be helpful. It was

proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Ginger and unanimously agreed that all meetings of the SPLG should be in public and that the Council works to help this happen.

117. Public Participation. Members discussed the report from the Clerk which was requested to look at ways to more efficiently use the public section of the meeting to ensure it does not go on too long. Recent meetings had not been able to complete all the business due to the public session lasting over an hour. Leiston has always been held up as an exemplar to other Parish and Town Councils for being inclusive and open as most councils only allocate 15 minutes for questions and representations to be heard from the public (with no debate). Members felt however, that if discussion and debate were kept relevant to Town Council business and items for highways and the police were directed to the correct forums etc. then the current regime was manageable and, hopefully, encouraged residents to come to meetings. Members would also be careful when inviting guest speakers to ensure that this section was managed carefully too. Members unanimously agreed to keep the status quo.

118. Finance and Personnel.

a) **Accounts for payment.** It was proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed that accounts presented in the sum £72,840.40p along with £12,602.04p, paid since the last meeting, be approved for payment.

b) **Salaries and wages review and Personnel Committee Report.** Members noted the report and recommendations from the recent meeting of the Personnel Committee which reviewed salaries, wages and terms and conditions for all staff. The main item was a 2.6% increase in wages to retain parity with the National Living Wage and salaries aligned to the National Joint Council agreement from December 2015. Other personnel business was also included in the report and, on a proposition from Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Morsley, it was agreed to accept the report and confirm the recommendations.

c) **Confirmation of Reserves and Budget Review.** Members noted the report from the Clerk which explained the General reserve and the Earmarked Reserves which the Council currently held. They also noted the six monthly figures for 2015/16 (included as part of the estimates) and could see that these were as expected. Members were comfortable with the current financial situation and on a proposition from Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Cooper, it was agreed to accept the report and confirm the reserves as presented.

119. Planning.

a) **DC15/3791/TPO To cut 3-4 trees back as a seasonal activity and to fell one self-set tree now a danger/hazard to a wall at Old Coach House, 17 Dinsdale Road, Leiston.** Members agreed to leave the decision to Mr Newton (SCDC Tree Surgeon).

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

b) **DC15/3778/VOC Variation of condition nos 8, 11 and 12 of C/04/1826 to enable an amended layout of parking areas/landscaping to the site (CO4/1826 – erection of 8 dwellings) at 15 High Street, Leiston.** (Cllr Taylor declared an interest and abstained).

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

- c) **DC15/15/4149/LBC Extensions/alterations to Unit 2 Upper Abbey Farm** involving rebuilding of east facing dormer and installation of two new dormers to improve usability/escape for the attic rooms at Upper Abbey Farm House, Eastbridge Road, Leiston.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

- d) **DC154168/ADI 1 x Internally Illuminated Folder Aluminium Fascia, 1 x Internally Illuminated Folder Aluminium Projecting Sign, 2 x Non Illuminated Digital Printed Window Graphics** at Lloyds Pharmacy, 62 High Street, Leiston /.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

- e) **DC15/15/4153/FUL Installation of A/C condensers to the rear elevation, installation of new shop front at 62 High Street, Leiston.** Members were comfortable but asked that any noise the installation might make be taken into account with regards to the neighbouring flat.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

- f) **Neighbourhood Plan.** The Clerk updated members on the Neighbourhood Plan. Once comments have been looked at, assessed and any necessary changes made it will hopefully go to SCDC just after Christmas.

120. County Matters.

- a) **Real Time Information at bus stops.** Cllr Taylor suggested that the County Council progress their plans to develop a package which could be used in Tesco's at Saxmundham and possibly in Old Post Office Square somewhere (or Barclays)
- b) **HGV problems.** The County Councillor addressed this in his report and members were hopeful that the promised "Unsuitable for HGV" signs would soon be at the entrance to Buller Road. Cllr Ginger asked the Clerk to look up the other locations that were suggested for signage at the last Highways meeting.

121. Correspondence.

- a) **LDMAS.** Members noted the letter from LDMAS asking for support handed to them at the last meeting. They were very pleased to be able to offer their support and a vote of thanks was passed for all the excellent work they have done and continue to do in the Town. A request for details of the implied practical rather than just moral support in that letter was handed to members at this meeting so will be an Agenda item in December.
- b) **Visit-leiston.co.uk** Members discussed the request from Mr Burns to help with the start-up costs of a new website for the town which he had commissioned with a local company. He believed passionately that the town's attractions and businesses needed a home that promoted Leiston as a positive and unique tourist destination to compliment the established ones nearby. He had funded the start-up himself with a view to making the site a non-profit making one for businesses to advertise on using revenue to fund an ongoing advertising campaign to ensure it gets to the top of Google by next spring. Members noted that they themselves ran a business which was sure to be advertised on the site and were supportive of the venture. The Town Council website would get a link as would all the other local organisations who requested one as there would be a community section. It was proposed by Cllr Morsley, seconded by Cllr

Nichols and agreed that £500 from the Partnership reserve be donated to Mr Burns to help offset the start-up costs. Cllr Howard and Cllr Ginger against. Cllr Taylor abstain.

- c) **Thorpeness Rugby Club.** Members noted the request from the Rugby Club to help do up the old Scout Hut in Aldeburgh as their new base. It was agreed to see what support they had from elsewhere before considering a response.
- d) **Wonderful Beast.** Members noted the plans for more storytelling and a community opera being planned by Wonderful Beast and, on a proposition from Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Ginger, it was agreed to support these with a £50 donation.
- e) **Suffolk Accident Rescue Service (SARS).** Members have always supported the work that this organisation undertakes and, on a proposition from Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Hodgson it was agreed to donate £100 toward their costs.
- f) **Leiston Long Shop Museum.** Members were pleased to be able to support the Museum and, on a proposition from Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Howard, it was agreed to grant them the £1,600 set aside in the estimates. A further proposition was put to ask the museum to come to the AGM in May to report on how they expected to be able to operate with the proposed 30% cut to their core funding from the County Council over the next 3 years as this was a big concern. Cllr Cooper declared an interest and did not vote.
- g) **LOFO.** Cllr Howard proposed a big vote of thanks to Cllr Bailey and all the LOFO committee for organising yet another excellent day out for our residents recently

122. Questions to the Chairman.

- a) **Open Spaces and Highways meetings.** These were scheduled for 8 December and 23 November respectively in the Community Centre.
- b) **Aldeburgh Hospital.** In response to a question as to whether Aldeburgh Community Hospital might be under threat like others in the district members heard that, currently, there was no reason to think that this was the case.
- c) **Galloper Wind farm.** Cllr Taylor asked the Clerk to get some detail on the S106 agreement that had been signed for Galloper.
- d) **CYDS.** Members heard that there was still no news on the major grant applications that were crucial for CYDS development.

The meeting finished at 9.20pm.

Chair _____

Dated _____

Intro: Good evenings thanks etc

Strategic investment agreement

On 21 October EDF and China General Nuclear (CGN) signed a Strategic Investment Agreement for the construction and operation of the proposed HPC in Somerset.

Conditions to allow the project to go ahead are now in place. All the agreements between EDF and the UK Government are in a final agreed form, as are the contracts with the key suppliers. Under this agreement, EDF's share in Hinkley Point C will be 66.5% and CGN's will be 33.5%. Without reducing this initial stake below 50%, EDF intends in due course to bring other investors into the project.

EDF and CGN have also agreed the Heads of Terms of a wider UK partnership for the joint development of new nuclear power stations at Sizewell and Bradwell in Essex.

The Strategic Investment Agreement paves the way for the Hinkley Point C project to go ahead and sets the steps for a final investment decision subject to:

- Finalisation of long form documentation based on Head of Terms agreed on 21 October.
- Finalisation by EDF of its financing plan.
- Approval by the boards of EDF and CGN.
- Clearance by merger control and other governmental authorities in China and Europe.

It is anticipated that there are some weeks to go before completing the process and announcing FID, but this is of course a huge milestone for our project.

Who are CGN?

China General Nuclear Power Corporation (CGN) is a leading energy company, specialising in the production of nuclear energy, solar and wind power. EDF has a thirty year history of working with CGN and other partners in China.

The group is headquartered in Shenzhen, China. CGN currently has 14 nuclear units in operation with a capacity of 14.92 GW- equal to 61% of China's installed nuclear power. There are 12 units currently under construction by CGN with a capacity of 14.45 GW. CGN has an excellent safety record in nuclear power operation. To put that in context, the Ling Ao

Unit 1 is rated the world's safest reactor in its class, having run for 3,500 days with no safety-related reactor shutdown.

What does it mean for Sizewell?

CGN have agreed to a 20% stake in Sizewell C, which would take us up to the decision point following submission of the Development Consent Order application for the new station. The construction and operation of Sizewell C would, like HPC, be subject to a final investment decision.

So for now, here in Suffolk we are preparing for and looking forward to Stage 2 public consultation for Sizewell C. We have a little more work to do to confirm the period of time when the consultation will start but we expect to be able to do that in the coming weeks. As you can imagine, we have a lot to prepare now but soon the further detail and information you have been looking for will be presented to the public.

Aldhurst Farm Update

- We are delighted with progress on the project
- We will begin to demobilise operations next week, although earthworks will continue for 2 to 2 ½ weeks subject to agreeable weather conditions
- Once demobilised, there will be a reduction in site setup including the removal of all heavy plant equipment and some port-o-cabins
- The programme is largely complete. Any remaining works (incomplete due to unfavourable site conditions and planting conditions) will be carried out in the Spring. Basically, if there is any rain on the site, it becomes nearly impassable and works grind to a halt.
- We look forward to welcoming to Councillors to site (suggest in the spring of next year).

Upper Abbey

Work is going well and still on target to be complete in April.

Other work on site

- Ecology surveys continue in associate development sites.
- There has been some clearance in the marshes SSSI area to allow access for some ground investigations. This work continues.
- A second wave of noise monitoring is underway in various locations.

Skills and Education

- Suffolk Skills Show – Energy Sector Sponsor. We engaged with hundreds of students from across the county. All schools were present this year – nearly 5,000 young people in total. Our apprentices really did a great job engaging with the students.
- EDF Energy launched the apprentice recruitment campaign this week for the 2016 intake - those interested can apply on line via the careers website.

Alde Valley Academy

- We met the headteacher at the skills show to begin planning the employment skills programme that we will be sponsoring at the school.
- We have a meeting soon to confirm content, costs and materials.
- I would encourage you to visit edfenergy.com and our latest news page. There is a short film on there of a recent visit of AVA geography and science A-level students to Aldhurst Farm, which feedback suggests went down very well indeed, offering a practical educational experience outside the classroom. It is early days but a good example of things to come should Sizewell C go ahead.