

Pre-meeting Reports
6th September 2016

Before the meeting the Chairman presented Mr Arthur Whiting with the Town Council's award for Best Kept Allotment which he had been unable to receive at the recent Allotment Holders and Gardeners Association Annual Show.

63. Police report.

The Clerk introduced the short update from the SNT (on the table) regarding the progress they had made in addressing the ASB and the drug dealing issues raised at the last meeting and highlighted by the multi-agency forum. 3 people had since been arrested and extra resources were in place to continue the crackdown. Some members were dismissive as they had not seen a policeman in the town at all whereas others had. It was clear though that, although members were very supportive of our SNT and the response team and the work they were doing, their issue was that the PCC had cut resources and continued to reduce the number of officers making their job much more difficult.

64. Mrs Amber Brinkley – EDF.

Mrs Brinkley gave an update on the current situation regarding the proposals for Hinckley C and Sizewell C. Her report is attached to these minutes.

After her briefing Cllr Howard and others brought up the ditch (on the Aldehurst farm site) behind the bungalows at the bottom of Carr Avenue. There was an unresolved issue regarding the possible clearing of the old ditch put in by the previous owner. Mrs Brinkley explained the situation and told the meeting that no more intervention was considered necessary or intended. It was agreed to visit the site to talk to the engineers during the next days scheduled visit and walkround of the site. Cllr Taylor asked whether Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT) would be looking after the new Habitat Creation Area at Aldehurst Farm. Mrs Brinkley reported that Freedom, who had the contract to look after the EDF estates, was currently looking after this site although they were used to working with SWT over the rest of the estate and probably would do so in the future on Aldehurst Farm once it was established.

65. District Council.

Cllr Cooper had tendered his apologies but had put a report on the table to update members on various issues currently being addressed by SCDC. Cllr Pratt also tendered his apologies.

66. County Councillor.

Councillor Smith gave his apologies.

67. Public session.

Mr Coe was concerned at instances of drug dealing on the allotments and he was also concerned that, when he rang 101 he was told he would not get any response and would have to phone 101 five or six times before a response was considered. Cllr Boast had rung 101 and no-one answered. Cllr Howard suggested that all these issues were collected and put to the PCC when he next agrees to meet the Council (or at his November 29 public meeting).

**At a meeting of the LEISTON-cum-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL
held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE, King Georges Avenue, Leiston, on
TUESDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2016 at 7.30pm.**

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs L Hill (in the Chair)
Councillor D E Bailey
Councillor D Boast
Councillor S M Geater
Councillor C Ginger
Councillor P Harle
Councillor T E Hodgson
Councillor W M Howard
Councillor J Last
Councillor Mrs S Levermore
Councillor D Morsley
Councillor M J Taylor

68. Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Boast, seconded by Cllr Ginger and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 2nd August 2016 be signed as a true record.

69. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Cooper and Cllr Nichols.

70. Chairman's Communications

The Chairman reported that she had recently attended and presented prizes at the Leiston Allotment Holders and Gardeners' Association Annual Flower Show on 13 August. This year, the show celebrated its 30th year and the Chairman thanked the organisers and exhibitors for all their efforts. On 20 August the Chairman, along with hundreds of other members of the community, enjoyed a very successful evening with the Cinema in the Park, which was followed by a spectacular firework display. This was to mark the 40th anniversary of when Leiston Town Council took ownership of the Film Theatre. The Chairman extended her sincere thanks to the Management Team at the Film theatre for organising this high profile event for Leiston. The Chairman attended the AGM of the Leiston Youth Club on 5 September where the Town Council were thanked for their financial support which enabled the Youth Club to continue. The Chairman reported that two candidates will be standing for the by-election on 29 September.

71. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hill in 10b (LFTSC), Cllr Ginger in 10b, Cllr Last in 10b and 11a, Cllr Levermore in Leiston Forward, Cllr Hodgson and Cllr Harle in LOFO and Cllr Howard as a member of TASC.

72. Nuclear New Build.

Members were given the opportunity to discuss the items covered by Mrs Brinkley in her presentation. Nothing was forthcoming but Cllr Taylor made some comments on the current situation and how the Government really

needed to review the Hinckley project costs etc. Overall though members just awaited the PM's decision so there was clarity and a consultation for Sizewell C could start or not as the case may be.

73. Highways Committee – 22nd August.

Members noted the minutes from the Deputy Clerk and agreed that they pursue the installation of a zebra crossing by the Catholic Church in due course along with the crossing point stipulated in the Neighbourhood Plan down by Goldings Lane. Both would be subject to a safety audit and would need to be worked up and submitted for CIL funding as appropriate. The Victory Road Zebra Crossing could do with brighter lights which Mr Chenery was looking into and Cllr Morsley had completed the white line survey for Mr Chenery. Members accepted Cllr Ginger's report regarding the HGV problem in the town and, after some discussion, left it to the Clerk to put together a suitable motion to send to SALC to take to NALC for Government consideration. It was hoped that the over reliance on Sat Nav, the lack of enforcement and the relative ineffectuality of Trading Standards on the issue could be addressed within it. Members asked the Clerk to write to Mr and Mrs Rudkin to thank them for their help in progressing Lorry Watch with Cllr Nichols to date.

74. Middle School Site – future use.

Members who were unable to attend the recent visit to the Middle School noted the Clerk's report of that visit which outlined the possible future uses of the school should the Secretary of State give his consent to remove it from educational use. Cllr Taylor was worried about parking and Cllr Bailey wanted some work done on a 5 year maintenance plan should the Council consider ownership as part of the costings. Overall though members felt that the opportunity to take on the gym and new classrooms of the old Middle School was too good to miss and, on a proposition by Cllr Levermore, seconded by Cllr Morsley it was agreed, in principle, to take ownership of the section of the school being offered by the County Council. This would of course be subject to a conditions survey and the Clerk was asked to try and access the likely cost of ownership and its effect on the precept. Cllr Howard asked the Clerk not to do any secret deals.

75. Sizewell Beach – danger of adders.

Cllr Last drew members attention to the proliferation of adders on Sizewell beach this year and the number of incidents when dogs and some owners have been bitten. The signs erected by SCDC are for general advice rather than warning of the danger and should, in his opinion, contain information on what to do and where to go should a bite be received. He suggested that the NHS explore the provision of anti-venom to surgeries close to Sizewell (like the Leiston vets carries for dogs). Cllr Geater felt this to be unnecessary though as the usual treatment did not include anti-venom as this could possibly do more harm than good in some cases. Adder bites could, in effect, be treated as serious wasp sting. The Clerk was asked to liaise with the Coasts and Heaths Team to see if a standard warning/information sign could be produced for the worst affected areas.

76. Leiston Forward Project.

Members noted the officer report submitted to the SCDC Cabinet recommending support for a new partnership.

77. Finance and Personnel

- a) Accounts for payment – It was proposed by Cllr Boast, seconded by Cllr Levermore and agreed that accounts presented in the sum of £39,151.15p along with £23,625.46p paid since the last meeting, be approved for payment. The accounts were accompanied by the final breakdown of the accounts for Cinema in the Park.
- b) Review of Charges 2016-2017. – Members noted the report from the Clerk reviewing the charges for the various activities the council are responsible for.
- c) Allotments – Members noted the report from the Clerk which highlighted the need to increase the water charge on the allotments to cover the cost of supply although, with the rent included, this cost was covered albeit with little left over for maintenance now that the Council owned the site. Cllr Ginger felt however that the Council should continue to subsidise the allotments and hoped members wouldn't raise the rent this year. Cllr Howard proposed that the status quo remain for a further year which Cllr Ginger seconded and agreed.
- d) Community Centre – Members noted the report and, on a proposition from Cllr Boast, seconded by Cllr Last, it was agreed to keep the rental charges the same for a further year.
- e) Cinema Hire - Members noted the report from the Theatre Manager and his recommendation that the daily and weekly hire fees stay the same. On a proposition from Cllr Boast, seconded by Cllr Levermore this was agreed.

The meeting took a break from 8.40 pm until 8.45pm

78. Planning

- a) **DC/16/3004/FUL – Retention of a 2 storey modular building used as training rooms. Existing planning permission reference C/07/0281 to be renewed until our care and maintenance in 2027 when this building will be removed at Magnox, Sizewell A Site, Sizewell Power Station**
RECOMMEND APPROVAL
- b) **Neighbourhood Plan.** The Clerk went over the recommendation to appoint Mr McGurk as the Independent Examiner for the Leiston Neighbourhood Plan and, on a proposition from Cllr Morsley, seconded by Cllr Boast this was agreed. Mr McGurk had done several plans including Rendlesham so he was familiar with Suffolk Coastal and his CV was very comprehensive.

79. County Matters.

Members were very concerned at the continuing hazard presented to motorists by queueing traffic when the HWRC (the dump) closed for bin change or was just full of cars. The stationary cars on Lovers Lane were particularly vulnerable when queueing to the north below the brow of the hill there. Members asked for this to go on the highways agenda and that a 40mph speed limit be considered perhaps. Aldringham Court Bus Stop was still not clearly marked although drivers had been instructed to stop there if requested. It was hoped Cllr Smith could get an update on the efforts to establish this stop for the next meeting.

80. District Matters

Cllr Morsley informed members that Steve Burch, our Scout leader, had been nominated as a finalist in two categories at the forthcoming Suffolk Coastal Business and Community Awards being held on 15th September and all wished him luck.

81. Correspondence

Suffolk Accident Rescue service

Members welcomed the update from SARS on the work they do across our area and were pleased, on a proposition from Cllr Last seconded by Cllr Boast to grant £100 toward their costs.

Leiston Old Folks Outing.

It was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Bailey and agreed to once again support this excellent venture with a grant of £250.

Sizewell Parish Liaison Group

Members noted the e-mail and minutes from the SPLG regarding their meeting of 4th August and their plans for activation once a Hinckley decision is finally reached. They also noted the General meeting advertised for October.

Cinema in the Park

Members were very pleased that residents had appreciated and enjoyed the event so much and had also contributed over £1,100 in the retiring collection. This had gone a long way toward helping covering the costs of the event alongside the generous donation of £6,000 from EDF. The Clerk was asked to write to the theatre management team to thank them for all their hard work and initiative in putting this event on.

Boundary Commission

Members noted the parliamentary boundary change consultation beginning on 12th September.

Community Public Access Defibrillator (CPAD)

Members noted the letter from Miss Hawes which outlined her intention to raise money for and to obtain a CPAD for possible siting on the Children's Centre in Waterloo Avenue. The one on the Co-op is very good and members agreed that another one at the other end of town would not go amiss. Members discussed what level of involvement the Town Council should have in the project and agreed that they offer to hold the funds for Miss Hawes whilst she progressed the project. There would be no other involvement other

than that however. It was also agreed, on a proposition from Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Morsley that the Council contribute £500 to kick start the fund raising.

82. Questions to the Chairman

Election

Cllr Taylor asked about the forthcoming election. He was informed Mrs Betson and Mr Parker were the only two candidates after the nomination period closed and, therefore, residents would be asked which one they would like to represent them on the Council at the poll on 29th September.

CCTV

The clerk updated members on the installation of the CCTV at the Skatepark. The power supplies were in, the broadband to the scout hut was almost on line and the cameras should be up in a couple of weeks.

Sizewell Cycle Track

Cllr Bailey (and all members) asked the clerk to write to Mr Friend and Mr Cooper to thank them for their excellent work on the Sizewell Cycle Track down to Halfway houses. It really shows up the lack of maintenance and care currently being shown around the county for other hedges and verges. It was hoped that the landowner the other side of Halfway Houses would cut back his hedges soon.

Jubilee gates

The Clerk was asked about progress in getting the Jubilee Gates in Waterloo Avenue refurbished. He was still having difficulty getting a contractor since being let down by Mr Pegg of Aldeburgh.

The meeting finished at 9.35pm.

Chair -----

Dated -----

Project Update since July

- On the 28th of July, the EDF Board approved the final investment decision for Hinkley Point C which means, the conditions have now been met to allow EDF to sign the contracts with the British Government, EDF's historic partner China General Nuclear Power Generation (CGN), and the main suppliers of the project.

However, as you may know, there are still some steps before these signings can take place.

- After FID was announced, the new UK Government said that it needed a little more time to examine the deal before the signings can take place which we can understand and fully respect the Prime Minister's method.

We will of course support the Government in their considerations.

- The very good news is that we are ready to build Hinkley Point C. The Board's decision means that when the Government is ready to go ahead, we are ready too.
- We remain busy on the Hinkley Point C site and with the Sizewell C technical assessments and ongoing preparation for Stage 2 consultation.
- I will not be giving any indication on the timings of Stage 2, purely on the basis that the Government has to conclude its process before we can build HPC and progress to further consultation at Sizewell. Speculation on timing, in public and private, simply wouldn't be helpful to the project or community.
- From here in our Leiston office we continue engaging with communities and businesses about the proposals as well as promoting the education and skills opportunities that would arise from the development of Sizewell C.
- To that end, we will be sponsoring the Suffolk Skills Show again in October as well as the Festival of Learning, a new event targeted at teachers and school administrators to link up schools and business in Suffolk.

Aldhurst Farm

- The wetland areas are greening up nicely
- Heras fencing has been removed from site
- New signage around the site directs the public to the designated footpaths
- The plans for the remainder of 2016 include:
 - Management of basin water levels
 - Sward management – weed control and grass cutting
 - Vegetation management around site boundary
 - Scrub planting to begin potentially in winter 2016/17
 - Soil pH will be kept under review.
 - CA Blackwell will be retained for 3-year aftercare period
 - Freedom will assume responsibility for land management

- Lastly, we look forward to hosting Leiston Town Councillors for a walking tour of Aldhurst Farm Habitat Creation tomorrow and hope most if not all of you can join us.

Community Fund

- We were delighted to fund Cinema in the Park in August. Congratulations to Wayne and the town for hosting another successful community event.
- The next round of applications for the Sizewell C Neighbourhood fund are due in by 30 September (the last one is 1 December if funds are remaining)
- There is still funding available for grass roots organisations very local to Sizewell (e.g. Leiston, Saxmundham, Aldeburgh and neighbouring villages)

Ongoing studies and assessments

Since the beginning of July we have also continued with technical assessments and surveys which will inform further stages of the consultation. These include:

- Traffic Surveys
- Marine traffic surveys
- CEFAS aerial surveys on the Sizewell foreshore
- UXO and Buried Services investigations
- Summer Bird Surveys

Coming up this month, we have noise impact surveys planned and possibly archaeology.

Amber Brinkley