

Sizewell C Stage 2 Consultation Proposals – 10 January 2017

**At an Extraordinary meeting of the LEISTON-cum-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL
held in the Garrett Room, Leiston Long Shop Museum, Main Street, Leiston on
TUESDAY 10 JANUARY 2017 at 7.00pm**

PRESENT

**Councillor Mrs L Hill (in the Chair)
Councillor D Bailey
Councillor D Boast
Councillor Mrs S Betson
Councillor T Cooper
Councillor Mrs S 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 Taylor**

The Chairman informed the Council that Mrs Betty Bloomfield, who was a regular attendee at Council meetings, had recently passed away and wished to have our sadness at her passing noted in the minutes.

166. Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Bailey and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 20 December 2016 be signed as a true record.

167. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Nichols. Planning Aid also submitted their apologies.

168. Chairman's Communications

The Chairman was pleased to report a seat to commemorate Barry Skelcher had now been installed, with a plaque, in front of Sizewell A. The Chairman had received the 2015/16 Annual Review from the Suffolk Community Foundation listing all the grants awarded to local charities and community groups over the past year. A total of 608 grants were awarded with a combined value of £2.4 million. A copy of their 'Shine a Light' storybook gave examples of the impact the voluntary sector can make in communities which included the work being undertaken at The Wardens.

169. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Howard on TASC.

170. Discussion on Draft LTC Response

The Clerk had circulated an amended draft prior to the meeting. He had received feedback from Planning Aid where some points had been duplicated and the document needs to be formatted correctly to a consultation response.

The following points refer to the draft which accompanies these minutes.

Summary

Cllr Howard felt Stage 2 had not got better detail in the consultation and needs better mapping. Cllr Taylor suggested a statement be included to say we deplore the way the timing of the consultation over the Christmas period had been carried out and it must not happen in Stage 3.

Introduction

Point 1.2 - Cllr Howard asked if 'majority' of views should be inserted but it was felt this was not necessary as this was a formal Council response.

National Energy Statement

Point 2.4 – Cllr Taylor felt the Planning Inspector makes the recommendation and the Secretary of State makes the decision. The Clerk will reword slightly.

Point 2.7 – Cllr Hodgson would like a stronger response regarding the land take putting pressure on sensitive habitats which has been learnt from previous experience. Cllr Taylor requested the impact on the heritage coast and other designated areas should be taken into account.

Location of Leiston and Sizewell

Point 3.1 – Cllr Betson suggested adding small 'market' town. Cllr Last proposed the Long Shop also be included in this point.

Point 3.2 – Cllr Taylor suggested deleting first few words of this point, starting 'The proximity'.

Point 3.4 – Cllr Taylor felt reword 'a' major concern in second sentence. Also the impact of this and other projects in the area should be used as examples, ie Sizewell A and Galloper Wind Farm.

Point 3.5 – Cllr Taylor suggested questioning the relocation of facilities, especially how timing of any Sizewell C is relating to Sizewell B relocation of facilities.

Loss of Amenity Facilities

Point 4.3 – Cllr Ginger felt access to beach and Kenton Hills should be kept open and requested we add this. Cllr Last suggested expanding on our concerns and cross-referencing with other points. Cllr Taylor said to remove ‘impact on the beach’ and add ‘many rights of way including access to the beach’.

Point 4.7 – Cllr Taylor felt the jetty needs constant monitoring due to the environmental issues and felt adding at the end ‘as long as it is there’. Cllr Ginger concerned about access on the shingle and suggested requesting a walkway.

Point 4.8 – Cllr Cooper said this point needs to be enforced. Cllr Bailey felt the Town Council should be involved in all discussions.

Socio-Economic Factors

Point 5.3 – Cllr Last suggested adding ‘increased risk associated with increase in traffic and hazardous material’ and to amend ‘retained firefighters’ to ‘on-call firefighters’. Cllr Last raised concerns regarding how EDF will support ambulance response times during construction.

Point 5.4 – Cllr Howard pointed out that Sizewell A and Sizewell B had slumps in local employment after construction and need confirmation there will be employment opportunities once the project is completed.

Community Benefits

Point 6.3 – Cllr Ginger unhappy with bridleway 19 closure and he proposed, seconded by Cllr Howard that we request it is kept open. This was not carried.

Point 6.4 – Cllr Hill felt the recycling centre is an asset and must be kept open. Cllr Cooper added that EDF accepted the need for improvements to this area need to be done.

Transport

Point 7.1 – Cllr Cooper concerned that Network Rail would only allow 2 trains a day, at night, which could mean more lorries on the road. The Clerk to include a sentence regarding uninterrupted of the regular hourly services.

Point 7.9 – Cllr Harle adding a piece regarding union control. The Clerk confirmed a similar union to that at Hinckley will be put in and will add some words.

Point 7.13 – Cllr Morsley felt it should be noted that the park and ride looks good and is positive. Cllr Taylor added this needs to be carefully assessed to avoid conflict with the users of the main road.

Point 7.15 – Cllr Levermore raised air pollution controls if this is up to modern standards and to cross reference this with point 7.19. Cllr Betson suggested adding air quality monitoring to this point.

Point 7.16 – Cllr Cooper stated that EDF cannot say where the controls end. Cllr Hodgson confirmed EDF have controls on materials arriving on site but not leaving site. The Clerk will add the point that HGVs must use B1122 when leaving the site.

Point 7.19 – Include air quality controls in this point and also in the heading. Cllr Taylor felt the vehicle movements within the site need to be mentioned for environmental impact and Cllr Betson added vibrations and dust should also be included. A benchmark of what the air quality is now prior to construction should be carried out.

Cllr Cooper requested rail should be included from the previous minutes, which the Clerk had unfortunately omitted. He will add this in. Cllr Cooper also felt to firmly emphasis non-closure of Buckleswood Road, as this will affect a major business in the town and there are legal implications to the business for this road to remain open.

EDF Energy Options

Cllr Ginger felt accommodation could be realised on the Sizewell A site. Cllr Taylor agreed and felt that as Sizewell A is Government owned by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, it would make sense if Government was determined to back Sizewell C for all of Sizewell A, including buildings which can be dismantled, to be considered as part of the Sizewell C options, thus saving taxpayers money. Cllr Howard proposed this be included in our response for EDF to investigate the possible use of the Sizewell A site for accommodation.

Cllr Hodgson felt Sizewell traffic should not have priority on access to B1122 to other traffic leaving Leiston and preferred a T-junction to a roundabout. Cllr Morsley felt a roundabout was the better option and supported the green route option. The Clerk to add in comments regarding the green route from the previous minutes to the response.

Cllr Last commented on traffic management and suggested EDF consult with Highways for traffic improvements around the Leiston area, ie widen roads to accommodate the impact.

Point 8.17 – Cllr Taylor felt traffic lights at the A12 junction off the B1122 would be the better option to avoid traffic congestion.

Point 8.18 – It was agreed to amend wording to ‘residents of Farnham to decide’.

Point 8.19 – Cllr Howard proposed, seconded by Cllr Taylor that reference to the 2 villages bypass be taken out and this point deleted.

Transport

Point 9.2 – Cllr Taylor suggested EDF look at other environmentally friendly options. Cllr Cooper commented that the site being moved forward and further east. Cllr Taylor said it should not go forward of a building line agreed as an undertaking in 1959. There was discussion on the effect on transport that the Borrow Pits might have.

Point 9.3 – to be taken out.

Point 9.5 – Cllr Taylor concerned regarding the town water availability and the Environment Agency are the regulating authority for this. The potential loss of Minsmere sluice and impact on Leiston river is a major concern.

Consultation Process

Cllr Cooper mentioned there may be a further 2A Consultation.

Conclusions

Point 11.1 – Cllr Taylor suggested to include environmental amenities and habitat.

Point 11.7 – Cllr Cooper felt this needs to be strongly worded on design as it could be very different to the existing structure. It needs to be compatible.

Appendix 1

Cllr Hill suggested the Lover's Lane Recycling Centre be included.

Cllr Cooper asked for the reference to the Sizewell Sports and Social Club be taken out and replaced with community.

Cllr Betson suggested reference be included to the Neighbourhood Plan and the Town Centre Regeneration.

Cllr Taylor felt tourism will decline and could a rail link to Thorpeness be considered. It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Hodgson (?) to reinstate the rail link to Thorpeness to mitigate the effect on tourism. This was not carried.

Cllr Taylor suggested a visitor's centre/energy centre be in the town. Cllr Last felt this could be combined with a TIC. Cllr Betson agreed and it may open doors to other possibilities.

Cllr Morsley thanked the Clerk for all his hard work in preparing the response.

171. Date of Next Extraordinary Meeting

It was agreed the next meeting to discuss the final draft be held on Tuesday 24 January 2017, 7pm at the Community Centre in King Georges Avenue, Leiston. Cllr Levermore and Cllr Last gave their apologies.

The Clerk requested all queries/amendments to be given to him prior to the meeting to ensure the response is completed. A further draft will be sent to Suffolk Coastal District Council and Suffolk County Council.

Members were disappointed that Cllr Ian Pratt had not attended any of the Sizewell C Consultation Response meetings.

172. Questions to Chairman

Cllr Cooper mentioned on 31 January the approved draft from SCDC will go to EDF, so LTC will need to get this to them by 24 January if possible.

A resident did request to mention to the Council his concerns. He runs Old Abbey Farm and will lose 40 acres of land for the rail line. The noise and pollution will affect them terribly and he also has concerns over tractor movements and wide loads.

The meeting finished at 9.22pm.

Chair -----

Dated -----