

**Pre-meeting Reports**  
**3 April 2018**

**242. County Councillor**

County Cllr Rainger reported that Nicola Beech had been appointed as the new Chief Executive of Suffolk County Council. He also reported that sadly Tony Buckingham, our Highways representative, had passed away recently. County Cllr Rainger is discussing the outstanding Highways issues with Denise Mortimer, who it seems will be taking over this role, and he will update the Clerk in due course. County Cllr Rainger confirmed the potholes on Kemps Hill are due to be resurfaced and letters to residents regarding overgrown hedges will give advice on bird nesting season. County Cllr Rainger informed councillors CATS are 2 years into a 5 year contract and he will meet them tomorrow to discuss licencing changes and give guidance to help them through the process. He reported the Wind Farm public information event on 18 March had a good turnout. Cllr Howard asked about the changes in the CATS contract and County Cllr Rainger explained a new qualification/licence is required for drivers to ensure competency to do the job. Cllr Boast stated the costs were £1,000 per driver and County Cllr Rainger agreed there were financial implications for CATS which would be part of the discussions. Cllr Casagrande felt this was a vital service for people and County Cllr Rainger explained that is the reason why he wants to help CATS through the process. A resident reported potholes in Sizewell Hall Road had been repaired recently but were already breaking up. County Cllr Rainger will investigate.

**243. District Councillor**

A report from Cllr Cooper was tabled as well as a Police funding report and news release on the SCC reform. Cllr Ginger mentioned that Cllr Pratt had recently resigned. Cllr Hodgson asked what the rationale was behind the new 'super' district having 55 members and whether that was a fair representation. Cllr Cooper replied that it was the Boundary Commission and Government who set this figure. Cllr Harle queried if a petition had been received regarding the Con Club development and Cllr Cooper said it had been received and would be discussed at Committee in due course. Cllr Ginger asked why there had been no consultation on the unitary authority proposals and Cllr Cooper stated that all the District Councils were unaware of the County's reform ideas and a joint letter had been sent calling for a stop to the review. Cllr Ginger reported a property in Sylvester Road had damage to the wall and the resident was told as there was no CCTV evidence nothing could be done. He requested the Chairman raise this at the next SNT meeting.

**244. Public Forum**

No questions were raised.

**At a meeting of the LEISTON-cum-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL  
held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE, King Georges Avenue, Leiston, on  
TUESDAY 3 APRIL 2018 at 7.30pm**

**PRESENT**

**Councillor J N Last (in the Chair)**  
**Councillor D Bailey**  
**Councillor D Boast**  
**Councillor Miss F Casagrande**  
**Councillor T Cooper**  
**Councillor C Ginger**  
**Councillor P Harle**  
**Councillor T Hodgson**  
**Councillor W H Howard**  
**Councillor Mrs S Levermore**  
**Councillor D Morsley**  
**Councillor C Nichols**

**245. Minutes**

It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Bailey and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 6 March 2018 be signed as a true record.

**246. Apologies**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Geater, Cllr Betson and Cllr Hill.

**247. Chairman's Communications**

On behalf of Cllr Hill the Chairman read out the following report:

On 10 March I went along to the Fairtrade Coffee Morning at the United Church and later that day attended the event organised by the Leiston & District Branch of the Suffolk Regiment Old Comrades Association to mark Wilf Goddard's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday held at the Community Centre. I gave a framed photograph to Wilf of him receiving the Town Council's birthday card. I represent the Council on the Leiston and Suffolk Community Benefit Fund and last year I expressed an interest in visiting one of the organisations that have benefitted. I was pleased therefore to receive an invitation to attend, with a member of staff from the Suffolk Community Foundation, an Open Day at the Groundwork Suffolk session at the Fromus Centre, Saxmundham. Groundwork supports those suffering from mental health issues and although based in Saxmundham has clients from Leiston and Sizewell. This event was billed as a Pizza Picnic but turned out to be so much more. A group of people called Musica were running a workshop which gives disadvantaged people the chance to have new experiences through the power of music. An ITV film crew also arrived to record an item for the Peoples Millions charitable fund. At the last meeting, the Council agreed to sponsor the Student Award for Community Engagement for an Inspire Suffolk Awards evening. Last Tuesday I attended the ceremony which was hosted by Terry Baxter the Chief

Executive of Inspire Suffolk. On arrival I was advised that the Leiston Team were one of three nominees along with the Stowmarket and Lowestoft Teams. It was very much like being at the Oscars and upon opening the envelope I presented the award to the Stowmarket Team. It was a very uplifting evening celebrating the achievements of students and staff and to hear how young people have benefitted from the opportunities provided by Inspire Suffolk. I will also be attending the Inspire Suffolk Leiston Team Programme Graduation event on 12 April at the Community Centre. Following a request from 1st Leiston Guides I gave a talk on my role as Chairman of Leiston Town Council. I also explained the roles and responsibilities of the Town Council and how as councillors we operate for the benefit of our community. The Guides have indicated they would like to attend a meeting of the Council. Following an invitation, I together with Cllr Last, will be attending a ceremony regarding the Laying Up of the Standard of the Leiston Branch, Women's Section of the Royal British Legion at St Margaret's Church on 15 April. The Daffodil Celebration and Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday 7 April 10.00am – 12.00pm at the Community Orchard. The Leiston Guides will be providing refreshments.

**248. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Cooper for item 14 and item 17 letter 1, Cllrs Morsley and Levermore for item 17, letter 3 and Cllr Nichols for item 17, letter 2.

**249. Leiston Together Update**

Mrs Gibson gave councillors an update on forthcoming events with the 'Pop-Up' event from 9 April until 4 May in the United Church, the CLT information event on 17 April and on 25 April a business network event. Mrs Gibson was pleased to announce the Sizewell parkrun is progressing well and has gained significant interest through social media promotions. She reported a 'good neighbour' scheme is starting and also a user group giving advice on health and wellbeing for all ages. Cllr Casagrande said there was already a group called Leiston neighbours and Mrs Gibson will follow this up.

**250. CLT Steering Group - Update**

The Clerk updated the meeting on the progress being made by the CLT Steering Group of Trustees Elect. The group were progressing incorporation and were in contact with SCDC through Leiston Together regarding the High Street land. They had also recently met with Mr Westbrook, the owner of the other large tract of land in the Town Centre. The group were now looking to consolidate and recruit new trustees and, to this effect, the Clerk reminded councillors that they were invited to attend a public drop in event on Tuesday 17 April between 3pm and 6.30pm at the United Church. He also suggested councillors encourage other residents whom they felt could be helpful to the endeavour to attend too. This would be an opportunity for the public to find out more about the Leiston CLT and the proposals for the town centre.

## **251. Housing Group**

Councillors were very pleased with the recent presentation by the Homechoice officers on the gateway system which was informative and gave a good understanding on how the system works. Weekly reports are also now being circulated to councillors. They were also pleased to note that a surgery of sorts would be organised by the Housing Group in the future where the public could attend and meet with the Homechoice team.

## **252. Allotment Walkround - 21 March**

The allotments were generally looking good and councillors noted that just a few plots needed an action letter. With no waiting list and several vacant plots, an article was placed in the newsletter which brought new tenants and now only 3 plots remain vacant!

## **253. Suffolk Day – 21 June**

There were still discussions taking place with the Long Shop on how the Town Council can be part of the proceedings. County Cllr Rainger confirmed the Museum will be open for free all day and organisations are being invited to participate. Cllr Last asked councillors to convey any ideas to Cllr Hill.

## **254. Middle School – Authorisation to Sign Lease**

The Clerk gave an overview of main points of the proposed lease for the Middle School. He explained there will be two leases, one for the building and one for the playing fields, playground and entrance. The Council's solicitor is checking the leases carefully and will issue a report shortly. After further discussion it was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed (7 for, 3 against) to convene a meeting at an appropriate date to look at the final lease for the Clerk and Chairman to sign.

## **255. Dementia Training – 24 April**

Councillors were reminded of the training with Sharon Cuthbert on Tuesday 24 April, 7pm in the Council Chamber.

## **256. CCTV**

The Clerk informed councillors he had spoken to Melbek and advised the equipment was in place but not operational at the moment. Cllr Bailey was disappointed Melbek did not complete the project and proposed this be discussed at the Open Spaces Committee for investigation on the way forward, seconded by Cllr Cooper and agreed (10 for, 1 against).

## **257. Finance and Personnel**

### **a) Accounts for Payment**

It was proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Boast and agreed that accounts presented in the sum of £10,963.72 along with £48,403.65 paid since the last meeting, be approved for payment. Councillors also noted

the accounts report from Leiston Events Team for the Big Weekend in June.

*The meeting took a break from 8.45pm to 8.55pm*

## **258. Planning Matters**

- a) EA2 and EA1N Windfarms Stage One Statutory Consultation  
Members noted the draft response put together by the Clerk and agreed that it broadly covered all the points of concern that were given to Scottish Power Renewables at their recent public exhibition. It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Casagrande and agreed that the letter be sent, leaving out the first paragraph on the second page.

- b) DC/18/1120/RG3 – Redevelopment of the existing leisure centre to include three number extensions to form single storey new thermal suite, two storey extension to existing gym areas together with an extension to existing foyer. Decoration of existing roof and wall cladding. The proposals also include refurbishment of internal areas – Leiston Leisure Centre, Red House Lane, Leiston

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

- c) DC//18/1126/ADN – Non illuminated advertisement consent – temporary hoarding with marketing information on face – Abbey View Lodges, Orchard House, 105 Abbey Road, Leiston

**RECOMMEND REFUSAL**

- d) DC/18/0548/FUL – Two new dwellings, revised design to that approved under DC/15/3616/FUL – The Old Vicarage, 2 King Edward Road, Leiston

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

## **259. County Matters**

No questions were raised.

## **260. District Matters**

Cllr Harle queried the banding of a new property for Council Tax purposes. The Clerk advised him to contact the Council Tax department for advice.

## **261. Correspondence**

### Primary School Parking issue

Members noted the letter from a parent to the Principal of the Avocet Academy which suggested the use of street furniture to combat anti-social parking outside the school at drop off and pick up times. Mrs Geater, the principal, had passed this on the members for their information and consideration. Cllr Cooper will check if this area is owned by the District Council.

Bright Sparks

Members noted the letter from Bright Sparks who had now agreed to hire the Film Theatre for next January's pantomime. The letter was asking members to consider reducing the hire fee as they were an amateur group of volunteers. After a short discussion it was proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Hodgson and agreed (8 for, 1 against, 1 abstained) to keep the hire fee as previously agreed, which was at the old rate. The Clerk advised councillors that, should they wish to help the group, financial support could be given through the grants procedure.

Leiston Events Group

Councillors noted the letter from Leiston Events Group requesting funding for the portable toilets for the Big Weekend in June. It was proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Bailey and agreed to grant funding.

**262. Questions to the Chairman**

Cllr Cooper asked when the Navigus report would be available and the Clerk confirmed he will circulate the draft report, which arrived last week, to councillors. Cllr Howard suggested a welcome pack for new residents to the town should be made available. Councillors generally felt that with the newsletter, other free publications and also the visit-Leiston website, that there was plenty of information about the town for new residents. Mrs Gibson is part of a group called Suffolk Greeters and she may have more information on this. Cllr Levermore reminded everyone that the Daffodil Celebration and Easter Egg Hunt was this coming Saturday, 10am-12pm at the Community Orchard and asked for volunteers to help from 9.30am.

The meeting finished at 9.43pm.

Chair -----

Dated -----