

**Pre-meeting Reports**  
**4 December 2018**

**151. Leiston Primary School**

The Chairman introduced Lesley Cassie, Chair of Governors at Leiston Primary School. Lesley gave the meeting a very comprehensive update on how well the primary school were currently doing and their plans and vision for future success. The main points were that the school is currently rated GOOD by Ofsted and that pupils were improving academically year on year. Lesley explained the School Priority Action Plan which, in conjunction with the oversight of Avocet Academy Trust, will monitor the progress in the areas that still need some work and, indeed, continue to make the school the best it can be. Mrs Melissa Geater, the Head of School, detailed how she had moved into the school just as government changed the reporting indices etc. and how, currently, the school was above average nationally. The hard work of teachers and pupils alike, combined with the impressive enrichment programme had helped achieve this and, basically, the school was in a very good place indeed. Councillors asked questions regarding the pupil premium and exclusions and Cllr Last congratulated the school on its achievements and results. Cllr Cooper, a trustee, finished by pointing out that the school was run by members and trustees neither of whom took a single penny from the school budget for their work or travel. Every penny went to the children.

*During the above item, the time reached 7.30pm, it was proposed by Cllr Ginger and seconded by Cllr Harle and agreed that Standing Orders be suspended to allow the public session to complete.*

**152. County Councillor**

County Cllr Rainger reported that Highways budgets and how they are implemented are being looked at by the Policy Development Panel, to which he is a member. County Cllr Rainger mentioned the Scottish Power Renewables announcement that the preferred site was Grove Wood in Friston. He had also visited the site at Bawdsey where another windfarm project comes through which is vast. Cllr Harle asked if there was still a chance that the Sizewell project could be co-ordinated with Bawdsey and County Cllr Rainger explained this could be raised again at the stage 4 consultation. Questions were also raised on removal of road studs, cuts to road gritting, youth services and Citizens Advice funding. County Cllr Rainger confirmed health and safety for the roads would not be compromised and some special needs and youth mental health services had increased budget allocation and the CAB had 96% reserves which SCC felt could be used.

**153. District Councillor**

Cllr Geater gave her apologies. Cllr Cooper tabled a report. Cllr Howard queried if there was a JLAG update and Cllr Cooper confirmed the meeting had been postponed until January. Cllr Hodgson queried the new dog controls and Cllr Cooper would check that Leiston still had PSPOs in place.

**154. Public Forum**

Nothing was raised.

**At a meeting of the LEISTON-cum-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL  
held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE, King Georges Avenue, Leiston, on  
TUESDAY 4 DECEMBER 2018 at 8.00pm**

**PRESENT**

**Councillor Mrs L Hill (in the Chair)**  
**Councillor D Bailey**  
**Councillor Mrs S Betson**  
**Councillor D Boast**  
**Councillor A M Cooper**  
**Councillor C Ginger**  
**Councillor P Harle**  
**Councillor T E Hodgson**  
**Councillor W H Howard**  
**Councillor J N Last**  
**Councillor S Levermore**

**155. Minutes**

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

**156. Apologies**

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Geater, Cllr Morsley, Cllr Casagrande and Cllr O'Reilly.

**157. Chairman's Communications**

Cllr Mrs Hill reported as follows:

Firstly, I would like to convey congratulations to Cllr Last on winning the Stars of Suffolk Fire Service Award at a ceremony held last month. This was in recognition of 45 years of service to our community. I would like to thank John and all our local firefighters for the work they undertake to protect residents and properties in our area.

On 16 November, I accepted with two other councillors, an invitation from the Theberton and Eastbridge Action Group on Sizewell and their partners Minsmere Levels Stakeholders' Group and the B1122 Action Group to attend the launch of a video as part of their preparation for Sizewell C Stage 3 consultations.

Following an invitation from Sizewell residents to a meeting they had organised with Dr Therese Coffey on 23 November, I together with four councillors and the Town Clerk attended. This, in the main, related to Scottish Power Renewables proposals contained in the Stage 3.5 consultation. The meeting gave local residents the opportunity to address the MP and raise their issues and concerns regarding the proposals.

I would like to thank everyone involved with the production of Wartime Melodies held at Leiston Film Theatre on 24 November. I attended the

evening performance and felt the concept and how it was portrayed was excellent. It certainly lived up to being A Tribute to Leiston in Wartime and a special event to be remembered.

As many of you may already know, the re-brokerage of Alde Valley Academy from the Bright Tribe Trust to the Waveney Valley Academies Trust has been approved. I attended a meeting held for parents on 27 November and was informed that the leadership and staff of Alde Valley were very happy with the decision and subject to the usual due diligence process this would be finalised in February/March time. In the interim period the WVA Trust are already working with Alde Valley and Bright Tribe to ensure a smooth transition.

This afternoon I was pleased to attend the Rose & Sweet William Christmas Tea Party which was enjoyed by all the members. They were all waited on with lovely food and endless cups of tea and were entertained by a singer.

I would like to thank everyone involved in putting up the Christmas lights in readiness for the 'Leiston on Ice' event to be held this Saturday and Sunday. Please come along and support the Events Group who have spent a number of months organising a full programme of various activities and attractions. I am certain that 2018 will surpass the success they have already achieved in previous years.

#### **158. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Hill for Leiston Film Theatre, Cllr Cooper item 11, item 14 letter 6 and 8, Cllr Howard item 14, Cllr Ginger for Leiston Film Theatre.

#### **159. Leiston Together Update**

Cllr Hill gave apologies from Mrs Gibson and the Clerk gave a brief update on the work being progressed to re-launch the business association and notice of the Leiston Together meeting scheduled for 6 December.

#### **160. CLT Steering Group - Update**

Cllr Hill updated the meeting on this item thus:

The most significant item of news to date that I was very pleased to share with Councillors a few days ago was that the Westbrook Land in Sizewell Road had been purchased by Suffolk Coastal District Council. The District Council will be working through the Leiston Together Board, on which the Town Council and the Community Land Trust are represented, to deliver the town centre regeneration. I hope to hear more at the Leiston Together meeting on Thursday.

The Housing Needs Survey responses are being processed by AECOM and a report on the findings should be available before Christmas. Some 566 responses have been received, being approximately a 25% return.

Last week the CLT held a further promotion session in the Co-op to recruit new members and to advertise the first General Meeting of Members to be held on 11 December at 6.00pm at the Leiston Community Centre. Non-

members are also welcome to attend and will have the opportunity to join if they wish. The CLT currently has 93 members.

Some of the Trustees elect recently met with an Architect regarding the town centre regeneration. Following a site meeting, the ideas presented in the Neighbourhood plan were explained and the architect agreed to undertake, on a pro-bono basis, an initial plan. He also agreed to provide estimates as to costs for more detailed work and plans that would be required in the future.

A further meeting with a member of the Suffolk County Council External Funding Team at Endeavour House took place this afternoon regarding possible sources of funding. I was not able to attend this meeting but the Chairman of the CLT, Mrs Betson and Trustees Elect Mr Barry Norman and Mr Jim Florance attended. I am advised that this was a very useful meeting.

As Leiston Town Councillors I am sure we are extremely grateful to the District Council, as is the Leiston Community Land Trust, for securing the purchase of the land for the town centre regeneration. I would like to propose that a letter of thanks be sent to Suffolk Coastal District Council from Leiston Town Council, seconded by Cllr Betson and agreed.

#### **161. Highways Committee Meeting of 20 November 2018**

Members noted the minutes from the recent Highways Committee meeting.

#### **162. Proposed Film Theatre Foyer Expansion**

Councillors noted the report from the Film Theatre Manager which gave an estimated timescale and cost to expand the Foyer into number 72 High Street. The Clerk explained that the maximum cost of £20,000, should it be put into the Precept for next year, could be confidently offset by a contribution from the general reserve after another excellent year's performance by the venue this year. The Theatre had already made a profit in the third quarter which, set against the estimated deficit, would contribute £25,000 to the general reserve. Members noted the glowing comments that still come from new visitors to the venue and agreed that a revamp and expansion of the foyer was necessary to keep this user experience positive with the increased footfall the venue was now experiencing. It was proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Boast and agreed that the project continues as laid out in Mr Burns report.

#### **163. Sizewell C Stage 3 Consultation**

The Clerk briefed members on the likely timetable for the Council to be able to effectively respond to EDF's Stage 3 consultation in the new year. He earmarked likely dates for extraordinary meetings in March to meet the deadline of 29 March 2019 and had earmarked 19 February for a public meeting. Cllr Hodgson to attend Sizewell C Community Forum on 23 January.

#### **164. Finance and Personnel**

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

It was proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Betson and agreed that accounts presented in the sum of £27,428.56p along with £31,858.19p paid since the last meeting, be approved for payment.

- b) Internal Auditors interim report for 2018/2019  
Report previously circulated. It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Ginger and agreed to accept the Internal Auditor's report and to accept all the recommendations. It was further proposed by Cllr Betson, seconded by Cllr Boast and agreed that the Privacy Policy, recommended by the auditor, be adopted and included on the website.
- c) Brief on setting the Precept for 2019/2020  
The RFO briefed members on the timetable and procedure for setting the precept and asked that any requests for consideration for the precept be submitted by mid-December.

#### **165. Planning Matters**

- a) DC8/4603/DEM – Demolish former Sub-station Building (74) at Sizewell Power Station, Sizewell A, Sizewell Power Station Road, Sizewell  
It was noted to include vehicle movements and hours of working in the response.

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

#### **166. County Matters**

No items raised.

#### **167. District Matters**

Cllr Ginger asked if free parking in the High Street car park would be granted, especially as the pharmacy had moved. Cllr Cooper confirmed he had requested this several times but turned down. It was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed to request the District Council grant ½ hour free parking slots at the High Street car park and to mention the increased parking for the pharmacy.

#### **168. Correspondence**

##### JLAG Sizewell C Update and Notice of High Lodge Meeting

Councillors noted the newsletter from the Joint Local Authorities Group which gave an update on the Sizewell C consultation. In particular, there was notice of a meeting of towns and parish councils Suffolk Coastal would be hosting at High Lodge on 22 January. It was agreed that Cllr Hill and Cllr Betson would attend.

##### SCDC Budget Meeting

Councillors noted the invitation to the annual budget review.

##### Suffolk Accident Rescue Service (SARS)

Councillors noted the letter from SARS requesting the Councils continuing support for the work that they do in the area. This was a charity that LTC had supported over many years and, on a proposition from Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Harle, it was agreed to donate £500 again this year.

Citizens Advice

Councillors noted the letter from Leiston, Saxmundham and District Citizens Advice requesting support for their work in the town. On a proposition from Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Hodgson, it was agreed to donate £2,600 this year in recognition of the superb work they do helping Leiston residents through some tough issues. Cllr Boast against.

Letter from Leiston Town Football Club

Councillors noted the request from the Leiston Town Football Club and it was proposed by Cllr Boast, seconded by Cllr Bailey and agreed to send a letter of support for the funding application to improve the car park and facilities.

**169. Questions to the Chairman**

Cllr Levermore asked if the Sylvester Road car park could be cleared up again and also the parking on the grass to be addressed on Seaward Avenue. The Deputy Clerk would contact Flagship.

The meeting finished at 8.50pm.

Chair -----

Dated -----