

**Pre-meeting Reports
4 February 2020**

168. County Councillor

The Chairman welcomed County Cllr Rainger who gave an update on recent activities. He reported that the Care Quality Commission (CQC) had rated Suffolk favourably with 89% of adult social care rated as good or outstanding. The Ipswich northern bypass route had raised concerns and not been recommended to Cabinet. Further transport options will be investigated. County Cllr Rainger also mentioned a new scheme for permitted roadworks by utilities, ie road closures, diversions etc and levies if the work is not completed on time which should make life better for motorists. Cllr Betson attended the TEAGS film event last Sunday and asked County Cllr Rainger his views. He confirmed SCC made representations to EDF and identified 300 areas for more clarification. Cllr Last raised concerns of the recent notification that the dental practice in Crown Street was closing due to lack of dentists. District Cllr Haworth-Culf confirmed Therese Coffey MP was aware and investigating this issue. Cllr Harle commented that TASC had requested a judicial review for Pillbox Field and Coronation Wood. Cllr O'Reilly thanked County Cllr Rainger for dealing with a highways issue promptly.

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.

169. District Councillor

A report was tabled and Cllr Jocelyn Bond and Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf were both in attendance. Cllr Haworth-Culf reiterated to be vigilant on scam telephone calls and emails. Cllr Morsley queried the parking enforcement arrangements and Cllr Haworth-Culf confirmed this was being finalised at Cabinet tonight. Cllr Last asked if parking enforcement would be policed outside of office hours, ie 8-5 Monday to Friday and if the Town Council would have any input into the areas policed. Cllr Haworth-Culf confirmed there will be 20 parking enforcement officers patrolling at different times of the day/evening, including weekends and motorists will be issued with a ticket if they are parked illegally. There will be a dedicated email set up in due course for councillors and residents to report problem areas.

170. 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 4 FEBRUARY 2020 at 7.40pm**

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs L Hill (in the Chair)
Councillor D Bailey
Councillor Mrs S Betson
Councillor D Boast
Councillor D Dix
Councillor Mrs S M Geater
Councillor C Ginger
Councillor P Harle
Councillor T Hawkins
Councillor J N Last BEM
Councillor D Morsley
Councillor S O'Reilly
Councillor Ms M A Woolf

171. Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Hawkins, seconded by Cllr O'Reilly and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 7 January 2020 be signed as a true record.

172. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Levermore and Cllr Cooper.

173. Chairman's Communications

Cllr Hill reported as follows:

On 24 January I attended the Town and Parish Planning Forum at the ESC offices at Melton. The event was led by Philip Ridley, Head of Planning and Coastal Management. The agenda included presentations on Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). There is an opportunity for a further training session which the Deputy Town Clerk is looking into as a new CIL strategy was approved on 7 January. The Committee Management Information System (CMIS) which is a web-based platform to host information on ESC business and where Committee papers, Cabinet decisions etc are published was explained. To have access to this site you need to register and you can personalise the information you require to a particular Ward or committee. Information on the Planning Portal was also provided and it was explained that as from 1 April 2020, there will only be electronic planning consultations. I was advised that for larger planning schemes a request could be made for a paper copy to be made available for councillors to view. With so much information reported on at the forum, councillors have been notified of the link to all the presentation material which is available on the ESC website.

The Community Partnership Workshops were held in the 8 areas between 27 October and 27 November and three priorities for each area were arrived at. The first round of meetings, following the workshops, started with the

Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and villages Community Partnership on 27 January and will conclude on 27 February. The Deputy Town Clerk and I attended the first meeting and a report will be given under Item 11 on the agenda.

Yesterday, I attended the East Suffolk Community Safety Partnership Planning Event at The Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew. The Chairman, Councillor Mark Jepson opened the meeting which was followed by presentations from the Suffolk Constabulary, the Local Government Association and officers from Suffolk and East Suffolk Councils. This led into four workshops on the topics raised of Anti-Social Behaviour and Modern Slavery, Hate Crime, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence, Criminal Exploitation and County Lines. Everyone took part in the workshops which was an opportunity to share information and ideas which would be looked at when formulating the Community Safety Partnership Plan. Copies of the power point presentations are to be sent to delegates and I will forward these to councillors when available.

174. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hill for Leiston Film Theatre and item 19 letter 2, Cllr Betson for item 19 letter 2, Cllr Boast for item 19 letter 2, Cllr Geater for item 15 and item 16, Cllr O'Reilly for item 15 and Cllr Ginger for item 10 and item 19 letter 1.

175. Leiston Together Update

No update. The next Leiston Together meeting was scheduled for 18 February.

176. CLT Trustee Board

Cllr Hill updated the meeting on this item thus:

The CLT, from the 3 quotes obtained, have agreed a preferred landscape design and construction contractor for the United Church project. The quote covers the preliminary design stage with initial drawings including 3D images and a detailed cost projection for the project. Funding applications have been made to our County Councillor and 3 District Councillors which would enable the CLT to secure the contractor and allow the work to proceed. A topographical study which is not included in the quote is also required. With the bird nesting season coming up and with the consent of the Co-op and the United Church, the ivy from the wall that borders the church garden and Co-op car park will be removed.

The funding application I mentioned at the last meeting for the Town Square project was looked at by Ben Porter from ESC and a few additions suggested. The application to The Fore is for £29,920 (including VAT) to cover the costs of an initial plan and site survey to inform estimated costs. The application was submitted by the deadline of 13 January and the Chairman has since been invited to take part in a telephone conversation with a Consultant Grant Assessor working for The Fore. This will be an opportunity for the plans of the CLT to be further explained and how our request for funding would have a transformative impact. Their decision will be known in March.

In order to reach more members of the community regarding our project and to gain further membership, the CLT took the plans to three sessions of Slimming World last Thursday and gained 17 new members with a number of membership forms being taken. A lot of interest was shown and very positive comments made regarding the proposals.

On Thursday, the Trustees will again have a stand at the Leiston Co-op displaying the plans and seeking to increase our membership. A presentation is to be given to the Trustees of the Leiston Works Railway on 18 February. There are other plans to talk to local groups and organisations and for a display of the plans at the Leiston Leisure Centre. Membership is currently 204 full members and 25 associate members. Associate members are people who do not live or work in Leiston but support the town centre project.

This morning the CLT met with the officers of East Suffolk Council and advised them of the progress made in all areas of the project. The Officers agreed to provide Land Registry plans and up dated information regarding an Economic Survey including retail capacity which were needed by the architect and for the Business Plan. We were also advised that subject to Cabinet approval this evening, plans for the next stage of the People and Places initiative will be put in place to work with the stakeholders regarding the data collected in Leiston and 10 other towns in our area.

Cllr Ginger commented on the report as he personally felt a new footpath into the garden area and car park was not needed and raised concerns this could lead to anti-social behaviour.

177. Allotment Working Party

Cllr Dix expressed an interest in joining the Allotment Working Party and on a proposition from Cllr Bailey, seconded by Cllr Last this was agreed.

178. Grounds Maintenance Meeting – 15 January 2020

Councillors noted the minutes. Cllr Ginger had suggested not asking for sponsorship of the baskets this year due to the reduction in number. After some discussion it was proposed by Cllr Woolf, seconded by Cllr Morsley and agreed that we still ask for sponsorship but explain the changes in the letter. Cllr Ginger against.

179. Open Spaces Committee – 21 January 2020

Councillors noted the minutes and discussed the items for approval.

Haylings Pond - It was proposed by Cllr Betson, seconded by Cllr O'Reilly and agreed to proceed with the quote from Harry Stebbing for a nature board at Haylings Pond and it was further proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Boast and agreed to have a history board in the same format in the future.

Community Orchard – It was proposed by Cllr Betson, seconded by Cllr Morsley and agreed to proceed with the quote from Harry Stebbing for a welcome board at the Community Orchard and it was further proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Harle and agreed to have a history board in the same format in the future.

180. Film Theatre Working Party – 23 January 2020

Councillors noted the report.

181. Community Partnership – 27 January 2020

The Deputy Clerk reported further to the initial workshop at the end of November where 3 objectives were agreed, she attended with the Chairman the Community Partnership meeting on 27 January. This was the first one of the eight Community Partnership meetings to take place to discuss their priorities. Funding of £10,000 is available until 31 March and we need to allocate this to a project, quick wins with priorities on long-term projects.

Three main priorities are:

- Transport links and access to services
- Economic regeneration/High Street
- Housing to meet local needs

There were 3 groups working on these priorities and after considerable discussion transport links/access to services and economic regeneration/high street were taken forward. Two small task and finish groups would work up a viable project and report back to the next meeting. The housing objective was felt too big and needed much more thought and would be looked at further after April and perhaps link in with the other community partnerships groups. The next meeting will be held on 23 March.

182. SSG Meeting – 9 January 2020

Cllr Betson gave an update from the meeting with a small positive that the redundant areas at Sizewell A could possibly be re-licenced to Sizewell B to use as their outage carpark instead of Pillbox Field. A judicial review has gone in regarding Coronation Wood.

183. SALC Meeting – 23 January 2020

Draft minutes had been previously circulated. Cllr O'Reilly attended as our representative but all councillors and clerks are welcome to attend.

184. Inspire Suffolk Awards – Sponsor Award

The Town Council has sponsored the Student Community Engagement Award for the past two years. Unfortunately, there is no group programme from Leiston this year but future programmes will again be held in Leiston. It was proposed by Cllr Betson, seconded by Cllr Last and agreed to sponsor the award at a cost of £100.00. There were no volunteers to attend the awards ceremony.

185. Finance and Personnel

a) Accounts for Payment

It was proposed by Cllr Boast, seconded by Cllr Last and agreed that accounts presented in the sum of £18,538.98 along with £36,908.51 paid since the last meeting, be approved for payment.

186. Planning Matters

a) DC/20/0006/FUL – Construction of 3 houses and conversion of existing buildings to 4 houses, with new shared access off Red House Lane at The Red House, Red House Lane, Leiston

The Clerk explained that the ESC Conservation Officer was concerned about the impact of the proposal on the listed building and that Highways had recommended refusal on vehicle access. It was agreed to concur with these findings and recommend refusal as members still thought it was an overdevelopment and that the access onto Red House Lane was not suitable.

RECOMMEND REFUSAL

b) DC/20/0014/TPO – Norwegian Larch (T1) in rear garden – fell because main growth is on one side of the tree due to proximity to other mature trees. This has caused the tree to lean extensively towards the property. Do not wish to replant as a lot of other trees in the garden. Holly (T2) – fell because of proximity to Scots Pine and hindering growth on one side of tree at 12 Haylings Grove, Leiston

REFER TO TREE WARDEN

The Clerk asked councillors if they wished for him to refer TPO applications straight to Mr Newton (Tree Warden). It was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Harle and agreed to keep the status quo. Cllr Hill suggested asking for his views on TPO applications prior to the meeting.

c) DC/20/0169/FUL – First floor extension to provide dressing room and bathroom, replace existing flat roofed canopy with new pitched roof at 1 Haylings Grove, Leiston

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

d) DC/20/0246/TPO – Common Lime T4 – Prune back branches overhanging property to suitable growth point at 150 Carr Avenue, Leiston

REFER TO TREE WARDEN

e) DC/20/0268/FUL – Construction of a two storey front extension and internal remodelling works at 21 Haylings Grove, Leiston

Councillors were very concerned at the scale of the incursion in front of the building line, 4m. It was also an unremarkable extension which would be thoroughly out of character and damaging to the street scene.

RECOMMEND REFUSAL

- f) DC/20/0342/FUL – Removal of front boundary wall, provision of dropped kerb and paved frontage parking area, construction of new front porch and single storey rear extension, re-roofing of conjoined outbuilding and formation of canopy at 132 King Georges Avenue, Leiston

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

- g) Land at the Cupola

The Clerk advised that the owner of the Cupola had consulted the Town Council in 2018 regarding a development of houses and workshops around the curtilage of the Cupola. Although he had not come forward during the call for land when the Neighbourhood Plan was in consultation it was felt that this sort of thing would have been considered. The latest plans were more ambitious but not overly so. The inclusion of retirement homes very close to where the Neighbourhood Plan had made provision was welcome and the concerns members would recommend ESC look at are whether Church Road is adopted (for the increased traffic), the retention of significant trees and how best the project could provide the intended public benefit to outweigh any possible perceived harm to the setting of the adjacent listed buildings. Overall though generally very supportive.

187. County Matters

Cllr Ginger queried if the White Horse junction had been mentioned in the recent meetings with EDF on traffic management in the town. The Clerk confirmed this was part of the discussions and would be raised at the meeting next week with EDF.

188. District Matters

No questions were raised.

189. Correspondence

Funding Request from Leiston Ex-Service Club

Councillors noted the request from Leiston Ex-Service Club asking for a donation towards new fire exit doors. It was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Bailey and agreed to grant £500.00.

Funding Request from CLT

Cllrs Hill, Boast and Betson left the room. Cllr Last assumed Chairmanship for this item.

Councillors noted the request from the CLT to fund the topographical study for the garden area. It was proposed by Cllr Morsley, seconded by Cllr O'Reilly and agreed to grant £495 using the CIL reserve. Cllr Ginger against.

190. Questions to the Chairman

Cllr Bailey queried minute 156 and making Kemps Hill a pedestrian access only, stating there has been no consultation with the public other than for the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Harle commented about a letter to a resident in Valley Road regarding a possible compulsory purchase order of their garden by EDF. Cllr Morsley congratulated Russell Cooper on his hard work cleaning

up in the town and Cllr Hill, on behalf of Leiston Town Council, thanked him. Cllr Harle mentioned a Nuclear Free Local Authorities meeting on 14 March at Saxmundham. Cllr Harle thanked the Chairman for organising the recent CPR training which was very good and Cllr Hill said 40 people had the training and it was great success. Cllr Harle suggested another defibrillator could be placed in the telephone box in the post office square and said the First Responders also thought this was a good idea. The Clerk advised this is unlikely to happen until the telephone service is removed. Cllr Betson advised Leiston Works Railway could apply for a new Government funding initiative to support their project. Cllr Ginger reported that ornaments and such like have unfortunately been stolen from the cemetery.

The meeting finished at 9.15pm.

Chair

Dated
