

Pre-meeting Reports
6th August 2013

- 51. Police Report.** The Chairman informed the meeting that PCSO Maples would try and attend the meeting later in the evening. In actuality PC Hayley O'Donnell was able to attend at 7.48pm (see minutes) and gave the attached report. Cllr Howard asked whether the reported assaults were outside any particular premises. PC O'Donnell explained that, if an assault takes place near licensed premises, there is a very clear procedure for the constabulary to interact with the premises and the licensing authority. The assaults this month were not in any one place or linked to any premises however. Cllr Howard and Cooper were keen to understand the procedures and safeguards with regard to the recurring domestic incidents reported. PC O'Donnell explained how other agencies were brought in and how the incidents were dealt with. Cllr Bailey felt that more effort was needed, not just from the PCSO, but all ranks to issue more parking tickets in the town. Cllr Hodgson asked for a follow up at some future date on the incidents in the report that were still under investigation.
- 52. Public session.** Cllr Ginger asked Cllr Nunn whether there was any news regarding the erection of CCTV cameras in the Sizewell Road Car Park. Cllr Nunn reported that funding had now been found to purchase the equipment. There were just a few more loose ends to tie up regarding ongoing maintenance costs before they are put up however. Members expressed their disappointment that the Youth Club had been evicted from the Middle School far too early as no work had yet started to convert the building. The Clerk informed the meeting that this was due to the bats that had been found in the building. The Children's Centre were also frustrated that their move to the new premises had been delayed. Cllr Cooper confirmed to Cllr Howard that the ONR reservation on the Hopkins Home (Aldeburgh Road) development and the Badger Home (Valley Road) development had now been removed. Cllr Nunn assured Cllr Boast that a site for the CATS buses in Woodbridge was being looked at and was getting close to resolution. Mr Briggs gave the meeting an update on the issues and state regarding Haylings Pond. He also asked Cllr Nunn what was being considered for the King George Avenue Caravan Park and whether it could be used as a mobile home park again. Mr Huxley asked what the state of play was with the renovation of Upper Abbey Farm.

During the above discussions, the time reaching 7.30pm, it was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Hawkins, and agreed, that standing orders be suspended to allow the public part of the meeting to be completed.

**At a meeting of the LEISTON-cum-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL
held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE, King Georges Avenue, Leiston, on TUESDAY,
6th August 2013, at 7.32p.m.**

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs A. V. Nunn (in the chair)

Councillor D. Bailey

Councillor R. Bailey

Councillor D. Boast

Councillor A. M. Cooper

Councillor R. J. Geater

Councillor Mrs S. M. Geater

Councillor C. S. Ginger

Councillor T. J. Hawkins

Councillor T. E. Hodgson

Councillor W.H. Howard

Councillor J. N. Last

Councillor A. J. Nunn

Councillor N. Parker

Councillor J. Sparrow

53. Minutes. It was proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Ginger and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 2nd July 2013 be signed as a true record.

54. Apologies. There were no apologies.

55. Chairman's Communications. The Chairman began by congratulating Cllr John Last, and thanking him, on behalf of the town and its residents, for having given 40 years dedicated service to the Fire Brigade in Leiston. In her report for July Cllr Mrs Nunn thanked the Business Association for organising a very successful Town Tidy. Over 30 volunteers had picked the small amount of litter up around the Town Centre but, more importantly, had cleared all the weeds – the town looks really smart now. On 17th July she attended the Leiston CAB AGM and later in the month had walked around the allotments with the Allotment Association. The allotments looked really good with a lot of pride taken in many of the plots.

56. Declarations of Interest. Cllr R Bailey and Cllr Nunn declared an interest in Haylings Pond.

At 7.48pm it was proposed by Cllr Ginger seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed that standing orders be suspended to allow PC O'Donnell to give the police report. At 8.08pm, on completion of the report, Standing Orders were resumed.

57. Dinsdale Road Toilets. Members discussed the deteriorating condition of the toilets and the real need for a replacement facility in the area somewhere close by. The ideal would be to demolish the current block and erect modern ones but, as this was on SCDC land, this would need their co-operation. It was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Bailey and agreed that the lease be signed for a further three years but that talks be sought with the District Council on a the future of the toilets.

58. Haylings Pond. The Clerk reported that Cllr Cooper had kindly sent a detailed risk assessment of the park to SCDC and that they, in turn, were now addressing the issues. A renegotiation of this Council possibly taking on the meadow would wait until the works were complete.

59. **Highbury Footway** – The Clerk updated members on progress. It was hopeful that the land owner was now in possession of a draft agreement to look through. Update in September.
60. **Town Twinning.** Cllr Howard put forward a suggestion to the meeting that, with the WW1 centenary coming up next year, it might be a nice idea to investigate the possibility of twinning with Neuve Chapelle in France as Leiston men had fallen there during the conflict. Captain Stephen Garrett of the 4th Suffolk Regiment died at Neuve Chapelle in 1915. Twinning has been shown to promote co-operation, understanding and friendship as well as being an educational tool for local schools. The Clerk was asked to investigate the procedure, feasibility and costs should members wish to take this further forward.
61. **“Show Me” event – 28th September.** Members heard that the “Show Me” event being organised by Mr Boulter was coming together. Local groups and organisations will be invited to showcase themselves and their work while the Neighbourhood Planning Team raises issues and consults with as many residents attending as possible. It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Cooper and agreed that the event organisers be given permission to use Victory Road Recreation Ground for the event under the normal terms and conditions.
62. **Boundary Commission Consultation.** Members discussed the ongoing consultation from the Boundary Commission with regard to ward boundaries for Suffolk Coastal now that they have agreed to reduce the number of District Councillors from 55 to 43. Members were still unhappy that this reduction was effectively a reduction in democracy as each Councillor would be representing more people. The Commission will be trying to spread the wards to ensure each Councillor represents approximately the same number of residents which will spread the rural wards even further. Members felt that, for ourselves, we should put forward a suggestion that Leiston Ward be the Parish Boundary and that 2 Councillors represent the town. (Currently 3 councillors but Knodishall included in the ward). This was proposed by Cllr Hodgson, seconded by Cllr Ginger and agreed.
63. **Fairtrade.** A meeting of the Fairtrade Steering group was announced for Friday 6th September at 7pm in the Community Centre. It was hoped that members of the public would come along and join in. Cllr R Bailey reported that he had run a successful Fairtrade stall at two recent events at Summerhill school where he had received a lot of interest and comments.

The meeting took a break for refreshment from 8.33pm – 8.53pm

64. **Finance.**
- a) **Accounts for payment.** It was proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr R Bailey and agreed that accounts presented in the sum £11,468.80p along with £1,225.70p paid since the last meeting be approved for payment.
- b) **Banking Arrangements.** The Clerk explained to members that he was currently reviewing banking arrangements. The Council currently used the Co-operative Bank as they had provided an excellent service over many years. It might be prudent now however, with so much in earmarked reserves, to spread the risk a bit more and investigate depositing some funds with another secure institution. The Clerk thought that the FSCS covered all deposits up to £85,000 but Cllr Ginger (correctly) informed the meeting that Local Government was not covered by this scheme. The Clerk was asked to investigate some options and report.
65. **Planning.**
- a) **Neighbourhood Plan update.** The Clerk reported that the groups were now meeting to put together thoughts and displays ready for the consultation event on 28th September.

66. County Matters

- a) **Fairtrade signs.** The Clerk reported that the four “A Fairtrade Town” signs had now been ordered.
- b) **Road surfaces around town.** Councillors pointed out some of the deteriorating and poor road surfaces around the town, some were very uncomfortable and precarious to ride over if cycling. The Clerk asked for particular instances to be e-mailed to him so he could make a proper report to the Highways Team.

67. District Matters.

- a) Nothing raised.

68. Correspondence.

- a) **Ogilvie Almshouses.** Members noted the letter from the Aldringham Almshouses (by the Church) asking for grant aid toward the purchase of a greenhouse. Although able to support worthy causes etc. outside the parish, members were keen to hear whether Aldringham or Aldeburgh had contributed toward the project before making a decision.
- b) **Optua East Anglia.** Members were pleased to note the letter from Optua explaining the work they do in the community supporting disabled people. It was proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed that £100 be donated to Optua in appreciation of what they do in Leiston. Cllr Boast declared an interest.

69. Questions to the Chairman.

- a) Nothing of note.

There being no more business the meeting finished at 9.28 pm.

Chair

Dated
