

**Pre-meeting Reports
4 September 2018**

74. County Councillor

County Cllr Rainger informed members he was now on the Citizens Advice Board. He covered the SCDC/SCC response to the Scottish Power Renewables substation proposals and explained to members how the County expected to have an overspend of £8.6m (1.7% of its budget) by year end. To that end he would be attending a budget review meeting shortly where this will be discussed. Councillors discussed the finer points of this deficit and all urged him to fight knee jerk reactions and to safeguard and ringfence funding for the vulnerable members of our society. They hoped that the early intervention funds for adult and children care could also be protected. Councillors and members of the public were all able to cite examples of where they thought SCC had spent money unwisely in the past.

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.

75. District Councillor

Cllr Cooper gave his apologies and Cllr Geater reported that she had attended a joint meeting of Suffolk Coastal District Council and Waveney District Council at High Lodge and explained that, when East Suffolk has new Councillors, they will be mentored, trained and be given continuous professional development during their tenure in future. Cllr Geater mentioned a new logo has been designed in-house and will find out costs for Cllr Casagrande.

76. 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 SEPTEMBER 2018 at 7.40pm**

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs L Hill (in the Chair)
Councillor D Bailey
Councillor Mrs S Betson
Councillor D Boast
Councillor Miss F Casagrande
Councillor Mrs S M Geater
Councillor C Ginger
Councillor P Harle
Councillor T E Hodgson
Councillor W H Howard
Councillor J N Last
Councillor D Morsley
Councillor S O'Reilly

77. Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Betson and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 3 July 2018 be signed as a true record.

78. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Levermore and Cllr Cooper.

79. Chairman's Communications

Cllr Mrs Hill reported as follows:

Unfortunately, I was not able to attend the first event in this month's report. Cllr Last kindly attended the Licensing and Installation Service of Rev Richard Finch at St Margaret's Church, Leiston on Sunday 8 July, and as part of the proceedings welcomed the new Vicar Richard Finch, his wife and family to Leiston Cum Sizewell on behalf of Leiston Town Council. The service on a very warm evening was followed by refreshments and an opportunity to talk to Richard. Yesterday, I was pleased to be able to meet the Rev Finch at a meeting held to discuss plans for the Remembrance Service in November.

I was invited to attend a Leiston Good Neighbour Tea Party on 11 July at the United Church held to welcome people who had expressed an interest in being volunteers for the Good Neighbour Scheme. The event was an opportunity for the organisers to explain how the scheme works and to find out more about how the volunteers would like to get involved. To help with funding for this project they are one of the organisations in the 'green token' scheme in the Co-op store.

On 23 July a Tea Party to celebrate the NHS 70th Birthday was held in The Long Shop Museum. This event was organised by a number of local organisations with Leiston Surgery inviting patients who celebrated their 70th

birthday. Around 40 guests were welcomed to the event by Cllr Russ Rainger and organisers were on hand to make sure everyone enjoyed the celebrations. This was an excellent example of the community working together to mark an important occasion.

I was invited to attend the Leiston Allotment Holders and Gardeners' Association Annual Flower Show on 18 August to present the trophies. This was my third visit to the show and although entries were down this year, due to adverse weather conditions, there was still a splendid array of flowers, vegetables and crafts on display and as always, an enjoyable event to attend. I thank the organisers for putting on this annual show and for making me so welcome.

I was very pleased to see that there were three positive articles on Leiston in the Bank Holiday Monday issue of the EADT. With the front page indicating an article inside the paper with photographs of the first wedding to take place at Leiston Film Theatre since obtaining a licence. Another first was the Park Run held on the Saturday morning at Sizewell with 214 completing the 5k course. A lot of time and planning had gone into meeting the necessary requirements to be able to put on a Park Run event and I am delighted for the organisers. The final article was on the Leiston Leisure Centre which would close at the end of August to allow the planned £3.5 million refurbishment works to commence and outlined some of the improvements. A drawing of how the Leisure Centre would look was pictured.

I have been invited by the Dementia Project Officer to attend Project Group meetings. As Leiston has been recognised under the Alzheimer's Society Dementia Friendly Community Scheme as 'working towards in 2018/19' to being a Dementia Friendly Town and Councillors as part of that have undertaken training to become a Dementia Friendly Council, I welcome the opportunity to support the Group. This invitation is also open to all councillors. The Group meets four times a year and the next meeting is on 27 September at 2.00 pm at the Council Offices.

The next Town Council Newsletter will be delivered to residents shortly and contains further information on some of the items I have brought to your attention in my report. There are many other articles of interest in the publication with the front page being used to give news from the Leiston Community Land Trust regarding the Leiston Town Centre Redevelopment and how they can support the work that is being undertaken.

The Chairman, on behalf of all councillors, congratulated the Deputy Town Clerk on passing her CiLCA qualification.

80. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hill for Film Theatre, Cllr Morsley for item 8, Cllr Ginger for item 7 and item 10.

81. Leiston Together Update

Mrs Gibson was pleased to report the Park Run at Sizewell had a good response with over 200 participants for the first run on 25 August. It is hoped Leiston surgery will become a park run practice. Mrs Gibson confirmed there are 29 enrolments for Suffolk New College on the Coast which is very encouraging. A launch event takes place on 18 September at 10am and all councillors are invited to attend. East Suffolk Business Festival takes place from 29 October to 9 November where it is hoped to re-launch Leiston Business Association. Mrs Gibson will give details to the clerk for circulation. Mrs Gibson informed councillors a bid of £44,000 had been submitted to the Coastal Revival Fund to improve the ground floor of the council building to create an information access point, improved kitchen facilities and disabled access.

82. CLT Steering Group - Update

Cllr Mrs Hill updated the meeting on this item thus: The Leiston CLT Steering Group have been heavily involved with meetings and paperwork since the last Council meeting in July. Careful preparatory work has been undertaken to assist with an application for incorporation of the Leiston CLT as a Community Benefit Society. This was signed by 3 members of the Steering Group on 17 August and the paperwork sent to be processed. We understand from the Solicitor dealing with our application that we should become a legal entity on 1 October and would then be in a position to start recruiting members.

SCDC recently gave us information on a price range for the value of their land within the proposed Town Centre Development. They have also signposted us to ACECOM's a company that will be able to help us in preparing a Housing Needs Survey and to analyse the data received. It is planned for forms to be delivered to every Leiston household this Autumn. This information will allow the CLT to know what the particular needs are and assist with bids for funding. Following a meeting with the Chief Executive of Orwell Housing Association in July, a letter has been received confirming that Orwell is interested in the Town Centre Development, subject to finances and other considerations at the time.

The new CEO of Suffolk Libraries, Bruce Leeke met with us recently and confirmed his predecessor's interest in the town centre plan for a large modern library and agreed to contact his County Council with a view to them helping to seek funding for this element of the project.

For several months it had been very difficult to make contact with BT regarding our plans. Recently, a useful contact had been found and we were very pleased that their Property Manager came up from London for a site visit. We are also in communication with the Post Office and hope that a site visit can also be arranged.

As Councillors will know the CLT recently became aware that land in Sizewell Road owned by a family trust had suddenly been put up for auction. The Steering Group had been keeping in touch with the Trustees as to our progress and had no prior knowledge that this was to happen. The auction date has been confirmed as 26 September and a copy of the information pack will be obtained.

The Steering Group planned to have a further public information session about the Town Centre Development when the CLT had become a Community Benefit Society, with a view to updating residents on where we were and to seek membership of the CLT. We consider it to be important to continue with the public information session which will be held on Saturday 27 October from 9.00am – 4.00pm in the Leiston Co-op when the outcome of the auction should be known. Whatever the outcome of the auction the Leiston CLT need the support of the community to see the redevelopment of the town centre.

After a short discussion, where it was questioned if SCDC were intending to place a bid for the site, it was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Harle and agreed that the Clerk write to SCDC requesting their intentions on the site and if they would be putting in a bid for the land. Cllr Hill confirmed the results of the Housing Needs Survey will be shared with the Trustees of the Ogilvie Homes.

83. Waterloo Centre

Members noted the update from the Clerk on the activity going on to make the premises safe and ready for hire. The lease was finally signed on Friday 31 August. There have been a number of enquiries to book the gymnasium and also discussions with the Leisure Centre on utilising one or two of the classrooms for exercise classes during the day. The field has been cut and marked out for two football pitches for the start of the season on Saturday for the youth teams. Members agreed to have a meeting of the Steering Group on 17 September at 4pm at the Waterloo Centre to get a feel for the state of play before the first potential bookings began to arrive. As there are no kitchen facilities at the moment, Cllr Geater suggested having vending machines to dispense hot and cold drinks. Cllr Last queried when the fire risk assessment would be completed and the Clerk confirmed all equipment and detectors would be in place next week. Cllr Last proposed to retrospectively confirm purchase of this equipment (£5,000), seconded by Cllr Morsley and agreed.

84. Leiston Business Association – Handover of Assets

Members noted that the Leiston Business Association, currently dormant, had agreed for the Leiston Events Team to continue to use their assets in the form of Christmas lighting and flags. The LBA were still content to store the items but no longer had insurance. It was requested that the Town Council take on the third-party liability insurance for the Events Team to use the assets. In this regard the Clerk reported that he had already added the Events Team as volunteers to the LTC policy. It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Hodgson and agreed if a risk assessment was provided for the erection and removal of the assets, then the Council insurance would cover this. Cllr Hill also mentioned the CCTV in some business premises and the Clerk is awaiting an audit report from Sgt Beresford.

85. Meeting with EDF Socio Economic Team

Members noted the minutes from the recent meeting with Rebecca Calder and Quod to discuss possible socio-economic concerns that might arise from the EDF new build programme should it go ahead.

86. Film Theatre – Proposed Enhancement

Members noted the minutes from the recent Film Theatre Committee meeting where a solution was proposed to the frequent problem they have with large queues on some performances. This had caused some irritation with customers as it was not easy for pre-paid ticket holders to just walk in. With a larger and increasing clientele over the last few years the Manager proposed that members consider using the lock up unit at 72 High Street to extend the foyer and allow better access and management of front of house for the future. The Clerk explained that this would need the tenant to be given 6 months' notice and, should members wish to explore the possibility, then he would get costs for the project to be put to members before the precept is considered in December. He would have a good idea by then too as to whether the Theatre would need this years' deficit or not which could then be put toward the project if it wasn't. The tenant is actively looking for alternative premises and is fully supportive of the film theatre proposals. It was proposed by Cllr Morsley, seconded by Cllr Hodgson and agreed to allow the Film Theatre Manager to obtain quotes and plans for the foyer improvements. Cllr Casagrande against and Cllr Ginger abstained.

87. Highway Committee – 14 August 2018

Councillors noted the report from the meeting.

88. Grounds Maintenance Meeting – 11 July 2018

Councillors noted the report from the meeting.

89. January 2019 Meeting Date

Councillors agreed the Council meeting date of 8 January 2019.

90. Finance and Personnel

a) Accounts for Payment

It was proposed by Cllr Hodgson, seconded by Cllr Betson and agreed that accounts presented in the sum of £18,831.39p along with £91,238.24p paid since the last meeting, be approved for payment. This included two months, July and August.

The meeting took a break from 8.50pm to 9.00pm

b) Personnel Committee - Creation of New Post

Members noted the minutes of the recent Personnel Committee meeting where it was recommended that Council consider the employment of a third member of office staff to primarily run and co-ordinate the Council's extensive grounds and buildings portfolio. With large allotments, three recreation spaces, a film theatre and two community centres the workload on the Clerk and the RFO is becoming untenable and a dedicated Facilities Co-ordinator, as laid out in the job description brought forward from the Personnel Committee, was felt to be worthy of consideration. It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Morsley and agreed to go ahead to recruit this post.

91. Planning Matters

a) Planning Committee Meeting - 7 August

It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Betson and agreed that the minutes from the Planning Committee meeting of 7 August be accepted as a true record.

b) SCDC Draft Local Plan Consultation

Cllr Howard raised concerns regarding insufficient affordable homes in the Plan and felt the Plan does not detail the infrastructure needed for the housing which is proposed. Cllr Howard felt the Plan did not take into account the Sizewell emergency evacuation plans or public transport improvements. It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Hodgson and agreed for the Clerk to write to SCDC detailing our concerns.

c) DC/18/3447/TPO – T1, T2, T3 – 3 x Acer (maples) in rear garden – Crown reduced by approximately 1.5 to 1.75 metres to improve aesthetics from previous poor pruning, crown clear and light thin by 10% to improve light and air penetration through the canopy at 4 Woodlands, Leiston

It was agreed to refer this to Nick Newton, the Arboriculture Officer.

d) DC/18/3463/FUL – Erection of prefabricated concrete garage style building to be used as a mobility scooter store, to be located on site of existing bin store area which in turn is to be relocated behind the new store at Charles Miller Court, Cross Street, Leiston

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

92. County Matters

Cllr Howard raised the proliferation of the roadside hoardings.

93. District Matters

Nothing raised.

94. Correspondence

Request for Grant Aid from Rose and Sweet William Club

Councillors noted the letter from the Rose and Sweet William Club. It was proposed by Cllr Bailey, seconded by Cllr Boast and agreed to donate £100.00.

Letter from Leiston Men's Shed

Councillors noted the letter from the Chairman of the Men's Shed. It was agreed for the Clerk to speak to him.

Letter from Pat Hogan – Safeguarding Sizewell

This will be raised at the Sizewell Beach Management meeting on 12 September.

95. Questions to the Chairman

Cllr Howard asked if detailed reports were available from the Police. Cllr Hill advised informative newsletters are available on the Police website and a Police Locality meeting is due to be held October/November. Cllr Hill is currently trying to arrange for PC Simon Green to attend the October Council meeting to talk about his role.

Cllr Morsley conveyed thanks to the cinema staff for all their hard work through the summer.

Cllr Harle asked if the Chairman was aware of children jumping on garage roofs in South Close. Cllr Harle mentioned he was speaking to the British Legion regarding a metal tommy to be installed on the War Memorial.

The meeting finished at 9.45pm.

Chair

Dated
