

**Pre-meeting Reports
7 February 2017**

198. County Councillor

Cllr Smith stated he had allocated the remaining funds of £1,000 from his locality budget to CATS. Cllr Smith reported SCC Cabinet would be meeting on Thursday to discuss the SCC budget but are awaiting Government figures at the end of February which may require a slight adjustment to the budget figures. Cllr Taylor asked if the Sizewell C accommodation report Cllr Smith mentioned at the previous Council meeting was available to which Cllr Smith acknowledged the report was being finalised and would then be sent to EDF in the next 2/3 weeks. He hoped it would then be in the public domain on the website. Cllr Taylor asked if SCC have a dedicated officer or councillor to deal with Brexit issues and Cllr Smith confirmed Cllr Colin Noble is involved on a national basis where Brexit matters are discussed but there is no dedicated officer. Cllr Harle asked if the Highways budget would be increased this year and Cllr Smith explained 65% of the budget goes on statutory duties of social care and young people so unfortunately the Highways budget would not be increasing. He thought £40m had been allocated for the coming year but would confirm this figure. Cllr Last asked if that figure included central government funding and Cllr Smith confirmed £1.75m from Government is extra to the £40m. Cllr Ginger queried if there is a shortfall on previous years' budgets and Cllr Smith confirmed the budget is slightly less than this year.

Post-meeting note: Cllr Smith confirmed the Highways budget for 2017/18 is £55.6m (including the Government funding). This is an increase of £2.75m over the current financial year.

199. District Councillor

Cllr Cooper had circulated a report for the meeting. Cllr Pratt reported he had granted £1,000 from his enabling budget for the Sizewell sign. Cllr Morsley thanked Cllr Pratt on behalf of the Sizewell residents. Cllr Howard mentioned that the Town Pastors had highlighted rough sleepers in the town and asked how the District Council would deal with this problem. Cllr Cooper will raise this at a housing meeting tomorrow and will report back. Cllr Ginger asked where the headquarters for the new district council would be located and Cllr Pratt said that had not been agreed. Cllr Cooper explained both District Councils will put a recommendation on a new Council to the Secretary of State who would then make a decision. Cllr Harle asked how the boundaries would change and Cllr Cooper commented that this will be investigated.

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.

200. Public Forum

Mr Hawkins requested the public have a copy of the District Councillor's report at Council meetings. Cllr Cooper will ensure he will have more copies available at meetings.

A resident was concerned about the new parking arrangements at the Co-op and feels this will have a detrimental effect on shops in the town and needs

monitoring closely. The Clerk explained extra disabled spaces would be made available near Coopers/Post Office. The Co-op had offered residents living in Long Row and Prospect Place permits for parking their cars at £100 per year. Taxis and community cars will be exempt from charging once they have registered their details. Cllr Ginger declared an interest in this issue and felt the car park had been abused in the past. Cllr Cooper stated that those attending events at the United Church were also exempt. The Clerk advised the resident to seek assurances from the Co-op on her concerns.

**At a meeting of the LEISTON-cum-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL
held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE, King Georges Avenue, Leiston, on
TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2017 at 7.50pm**

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs L Hill (in the Chair)
Councillor D Bailey
Councillor Mrs S Betson
Councillor D Boast
Councillor T Cooper
Councillor Mrs S Geater
Councillor C Ginger
Councillor P Harle
Councillor W M Howard
Councillor J Last
Councillor Mrs S Levermore
Councillor D Morsley
Councillor M Taylor

201. Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Bailey and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 24 January 2017 be signed as a true record.

202. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Nichols and Cllr Hodgson.

203. Chairman's Communications

The Chairman recently attended a meeting of the Patient Participant Group at Leiston Surgery and reported following the resignation of Irene Ralph, Alistair McElroy will act as interim Chairman until the next meeting on 1 March. New terms of reference were agreed including regular committee meetings every six weeks. She reported the Group will be actively looking for additional members for the committee and are considering virtual PPG members who can support in areas they have a special interest in without having to commit to regular meetings. The Chairman will circulate the minutes of meetings to councillors once they have been approved. The Chairman was pleased to report that the Leiston and District Community Partnership had been successful in their application to achieve Coastal Community Team status for

Leiston and Sizewell. A confirmed grant of £10,000 from the Department for Communities and Local Government is an agenda item for the Leiston First Partnership Board meeting on 10 February. The Chairman highlighted a recent report that the Local Government Association wanted lorries banned from using sat-navs specifically designed for cars and wanted legislation brought in to make sure lorry drivers in England and Wales use a GPS system suitable for HGVs. The Chairman reported the Leiston Pastors Scheme is in operation in the town and thanked Cllr Harle for his updates. Finally, the Chairman reminded councillors the Referendum on the Neighbourhood Plan takes place on Thursday. Cllr Betson will be attending the count at Suffolk Coastal District Council offices on Friday.

204. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Cooper item 16 and 19 (Long Shop Museum), Cllr Boast item 19 (Long Shop Museum), Cllr Levermore item 11, Cllr Hill item 15b, Cllr Betson item 15a cheque 313162, Cllr Ginger item 15b.

205. Fairtrade

Report previously circulated. Cllr Howard updated members on the town's Fairtrade status and asked for the Council's approval to join the Suffolk Association of Fairtrade Towns, no cost involved, and councillors agreed. He highlighted two dates which were 8 March for the RBL band concert and a coffee morning on 11 March.

206. Ground Maintenance Meeting of 18 January 2016

Members noted the report from the meeting.

207. Closure of the Norwich and Peterborough

Cllr Harle raised concerns regarding the closure of the building society. After further discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Harle, seconded by Cllr Ginger and agreed the Council will write to the Chief Executive of the Yorkshire Building Society to request a review and ask for a Yorkshire Building Society branch to be in the town.

208. Health and Care Directory for Leiston and Aldeburgh

The Clerk had sent a link to councillors to view the Health and Care Directory online. Cllr Betson felt it was a good concept but is concerned it will be out of date quickly. She suggested the directories would be best placed in public places, ie the library, cinema and pubs and thought a leaflet should be distributed to all households. Overall though councillors felt it was a good initiative. It was proposed by Cllr Morsley, seconded by Cllr Ginger and agreed to support funding of £324.75 towards the cost of 1,000 booklets.

209. Sizewell Village Sign

Members noted the report from Cllr Morsley on the progress with the design and funding of the village sign that he was taking forward on behalf of the Sizewell residents. Cllr Howard felt this is a divisive measure and does not support the project. Cllr Bailey thought the location for the sign is wrong and felt it should be in the village. Cllr Morsley advised he will be attending a

meeting tomorrow with the residents who will decide where the sign will be placed in conjunction with Highways recommendations. It was proposed by Cllr Betson, seconded by Cllr Geater and agreed the Council will support this project.

210. South Close – Update on Flagship Housing Plan for the Garage Site

Cllr Ginger updated members on correspondence he had recently received from Flagship Housing regarding their intentions for the garage site in South Close. It was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed the Council will write to Flagship asking for a road to be put in behind the houses along Seaward Avenue when the site is developed. Cllr Cooper abstained.

211. Leiston First Update

Report previously circulated. The Clerk updated members on the progress being made in forming the Board for the new Leiston First Partnership.

212. Future Speakers at Council Meetings

Cllr Howard suggested that members may wish to invite Healthwatch to come and address a future meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded Cllr Ginger and agreed to invite Healthwatch to a future meeting. The Clerk asked councillors if they were agreeable to Tom McGarry from EDF attending the Council meeting on 4 April, all agreed.

213. Energy Saving Projects

Cllr Taylor briefed members on some of the ideas he wished to investigate for making energy savings around the Council's estate. The Clerk confirmed the cinema had LED lights but new fittings would be needed in the Community Centre. Cllr Ginger felt solar panels should be investigated for the cinema and asked the Clerk to obtain costs. Cllr Morsley said this was discussed at a Film Theatre Working Party meeting last year but not progressed as it would not be cost effective. It was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Harle and agreed that the Council will contact Sunrise Energy for advice and progress further.

214. Finance and Personal

a) Accounts for Payment

It was proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed that accounts presented in the sum of £15,835.77 along with £12,859.78 paid since the last meeting, be approved for payment.

b) Film Theatre – Admission Price Review

Members noted the report from Mr Burns which recommended a 25p increase in ticket prices. It was proposed by Cllr Betson, seconded by Cllr Morsley and agreed to accept the report.

Break 8.43pm to 8.50pm

215. Planning Matters

DC/17/0305/FUL – Form a new vehicular access to highway, parking with vehicular turning area 70 Waterloo Avenue, Leiston

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Hopkins Red House Lane Development

Cllr Hill and the Clerk recently met with Hopkins Homes to discuss the further development of the site. Hopkins offered to attend the March Council meeting to brief members but councillors preferred to wait for the planning application.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Referendum is on Thursday. The Clerk encouraged everyone to vote.

216. County Matters

Cllr Ginger asked if there was further information on the lorry sat-nav issues which the Local Government Association raised recently in the media. Cllr Hill stated this was reported on the news and no further information was currently available. Cllr Morsley mentioned there were still problems with the street lights on Aldeburgh Road. The Clerk advised him to report it on the SCC website.

217. District Matters

Cllr Howard wanted to register our concerns with rough sleepers in the town which the Town Pastors had highlighted. It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Harle and agreed the Council would write to Suffolk Coastal District Council. Cllr Taylor asked how SCDC would address the responses about Sizewell C from Natural England, Environment Agency etc. Cllr Cooper will investigate and report back.

218. Correspondence

Letter from Fresh Start

It was proposed by Cllr Geater, seconded by Cllr Betson and agreed to grant £100.00.

Letter from Long Shop Museum

It was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed to release the grant set aside of £1,600.00. An invitation had been extended from the Long Shop for a meeting with the Town Council to showcase their facilities, projects and events. It was proposed by Cllr Betson, seconded by Cllr Morsley and agreed to arrange a meeting with the Long Shop Museum.

Letter from Mr Crawford regarding Aldhurst Farm Habitat Creation Site

Letter dated 30 January previously circulated. Councillors felt they had done everything they could and after further discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Taylor, seconded by Cllr Morsley and agreed a copy of this letter would be sent to Suffolk Coastal for their records and Mr King.

Leiston and District Community Partnership

Councillors noted the events meeting invitation.

Bright Sparks

Councillors noted the letter of thanks regarding the refurbishment of the dressing rooms at Leiston Film Theatre.

219. Questions to the Chairman

Cllr Cooper asked if the Jubilee Gates would be refurbished. The Deputy Clerk explained N&A Engineering had visited the site and had been asked to quote for the refurbishment of the Jubilee Gates before Christmas. The Deputy Clerk would chase this up.

Cllr Betson informed Council the Housing Group would meet on 13 February and councillors would be updated at the next meeting. Cllr Betson stated she is having difficulty contacting the Estates Manager at Suffolk Coastal regarding the caravan park, but will keep trying!

Cllr Howard asked if the footpath being built at Colonial House was in the conservation area. The Clerk will investigate.

The meeting finished at 9.20pm.

Chair

Dated
