

**Pre-meeting Reports
1st December 2009**

- 116. Police Report.** Members were very pleased to hear that Sergeant Richard Gubbins had been awarded his promotion to Inspector and wished him well in his new post as the Inspector in Beccles. He explained that Lee Simons would be taking over as the acting Sergeant of the SNT and PC Carl Lawrence would be taking over Lee's role as the Leiston Officer. Members then welcomed PCSO Philip Marshall, Suffolk Constabulary, who gave a report of the crime statistics for November (attached). He also talked through the recent 3 month campaign targeting anti social vehicle misuse (boy racers). Although the official figures on tickets, fines and car confiscations issued during the campaign were not yet available, a questionnaire given to the most affected residents indicated that the problem had reduced and that the Safer Neighbourhood Team's (SNT) actions were having a positive effect. He reported that boy racers remained one of the SNT's three priorities along side underage drinking and road safety outside schools. The next public meeting to review these priorities is scheduled for 7.00pm on 7th January in the Community Centre. All residents would be most welcome and their help in determining priorities would be much appreciated.
- 117. County Report.** Members welcomed County Councillor Ron Ward who briefed members on items of interest affecting the Leiston and Aldeburgh Ward. The Chairman thanked Cllr Ward for his donation of £500 toward this years Christmas Lights and passed on members hopes that his recent turn of poor health was now behind him. Cllrs took the opportunity to highlight some County issues that residents had raised including the state of the footways around Ashfield Drive, the results of his walkround of Paxton Chadwick Close etc. and the safety barrier in Waterloo Avenue.
- 118. District Report.** Cllr Hawkins reported that a meeting was arranged for the following day with the Forestry Commission to discuss the Red Oaks raised at the last meeting. Cllr Nunn reported that over 82% of Suffolk Coastal houses were now on the 3 bin system and recycling rates now stood at 51.85% of all household waste. The programme should be completed by mid 2010 with Dinsdale Road being one of the final recipients of their new bins. He explained the "seven Suffolk streets" initiative and there was a broad and wide ranging discussion on all aspects of recycling.

During the above reports, the time reaching 7.30pm, it was proposed by Cllr Huxley, seconded by Cllr Hawkins and agreed that Standing Orders be suspended to allow the reports to be completed.

**At a meeting of the LEISTON-cum-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL
held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE, King Georges Avenue, Leiston, on TUESDAY,
1st DECEMBER 2009, at 7.54 p.m.**

PRESENT

Councillor A. M. Cooper (in the chair)
Councillor D. E. Bailey
Councillor B. A. Barnes
Councillor D Boast
Councillor J. L. Geater
Councillor Mrs S. M. Geater
Councillor C.S. Ginger
Councillor T. J. Hawkins
Councillor T. E. Hodgson
Councillor W. H. Howard
Councillor F. R Huxley
Councillor J Morrissey
Councillor Mrs A Nunn
Councillor A. J. Nunn
Councillor N. Parker

- 119. Minutes.** It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Hodgson, and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 3rd November 2009 be signed as a true record.

120. Apologies. All present.

121. Chairman's Communications. The Chairman began by correcting an incorrect statement which had appeared in a local paper following the last meeting. The article had given the impression that the Council had been derogatory about an employee of the District Council whereas there had been no comment from any Councillor making suggestions regarding our street cleaner needing lessons on how to use a broom. He apologised on behalf of the Council for any embarrassment or misunderstanding the report had caused our Street Cleaner. He then gave details of events he had attended since the last meeting. He encouraged more people to attend the annual Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance which, this year, he had attended on 4 November and was made even more poignant by the continuing loss of life suffered by our armed forces in Afghanistan. He had attended and been moved by the finalists in the Norfolk and Suffolk Young People of the Year awards at Norwich Airport and had also visited the "go with the flow youth bus" on its recent visit to Leiston. His final and most immediate duty had been to attend the Rose and Sweet William Christmas Party that very afternoon.

122. Allotment Association. Members noted the minutes of the meeting held with the Allotment Association on 19th November. There were no actions other than to bear in mind the request to include a provision in the estimates in January to carry out some of the projects discussed.

123. Safer Neighbourhood Team – Public meeting. Members noted the minutes from the Safer Neighbourhood Tasking Meeting held in public on 12th November. The priorities had been set based on what members of the public felt to be those that concerned them the most. The Clerk asked that members use e-mail or phone to bring any other items concerning them to his or PCSO Marshall's attention so they can be looked at quickly.

124. The Power of Well Being. After a short briefing on the nature and advantages of attaining the Power of Well Being it was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Mrs Nunn and agreed that Councillors should undergo the training necessary to achieve Well Being status. The Clerk was asked to look at an evening in January.

125. Sizewell Stakeholders Group. Members were very sad to hear of the unexpected death of Mr Brian Dowds, Station Director of Sizewell B Power Station. They asked the Clerk to pass on their condolences to his family and colleagues. Members noted the forthcoming meeting of the Stakeholder Group and heard from Cllr Howard that one of the main items on the Agenda would be the Groups constitution.

126. Finance.

a) Accounts for Payment. It was proposed by Cllr Huxley, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed that accounts presented in the sum of £9,679.96p along with £17,558.04p paid since the last meeting be approved for payment.

The meeting took a break from 8.30 – 8.50pm

127. Planning Matters.

a. C09/1704 – Construction of single-storey flat roof extension & conservatory, 1 Ash Tree Close, Leiston.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

b. C09/1726 – Construct walls to rear terrace, Ocean Cottage, Sizewell Gap, Leiston.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

c. C09/ 1710 – Formation of three new flats (alterations to ground floor front office to form one flat, construction of new third floor to form two new flats), Leiston Court, High Street, Leiston. Members were very concerned that no provision had been made for car parking. There is insufficient spaces with the current configuration and the addition of three more flats would require a further minimum of three spaces. The rear third floor flat overlooks 114 High Street and most of Central Road in a manner that is not considered acceptable. The extension and balconies on the front of the building might just be acceptable but the third storey was both too high and too intrusive. Councillor Hawkins abstained and Cllr Howard voted against due to the impact further residential development had on the emergency evacuation plan. He also sought assurance that the opinion of the NII was being sought on the application.

RECOMMEND REFUSAL

During the above item Cllr Parker declared an interest and remained in the room.

128. **County Matters.**

- a. **Highways.** The overhanging trees along the side of 23 Buller Road have been trimmed although a Buddleia still obstructs the path in Buller Road. Members asked the Clerk to write and request street lights be erected in Goldings Lane as it was on a Safe to School Route.

129. **District Matters.**

- a. **SALC AGM.** Cllr Huxley thanked Cllr Hodgson for representing the Council at the SALC AGM. Cllr Hodgson briefed members on the outcomes of the various resolutions and the other items of interest he had picked up at the event.

130. **Correspondence.**

- a. **Long Shop Museum.** Members noted the request for a grant from the Long Shop Museum and were very pleased to respond. It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Hodgson and agreed that, as allowed by LGA 1972 s137, £1,250 be donated to the Long Shop to help with their work.

During the above item Cllrs Nunn, Hawkins, Cooper, Huxley, Ginger and Mrs Nunn all declared an interest.

- b. **Headway.** Members noted the request for a grant from Headway and were very pleased to respond. It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Mrs Nunn and agreed that, as allowed by LGA 1972 s137, £50 be donated to Headway to help with their work.
- c. **Suffolk Age Concern.** Members noted the request for a grant from Suffolk Age Concern and were very pleased to respond. It was proposed by Cllr Boast, seconded by Cllr Mrs Geater and agreed that, as allowed by LGA 1972 s137, £50 be donated to Age Concern to help with their work.
- d. **Vitalise.** Members noted the request for a grant from Vitalise and were very pleased to respond. It was proposed by Cllr Huxley, seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed that, as allowed by LGA 1972 s137, £50 be donated to Vitalise to help with their work.
- e. **Leiston Girl Guides.** Members noted the request for a grant from the Leiston Guides and were very pleased to respond. It was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Huxley and agreed that, as allowed by LGA 1972 s137, £100 be donated to the Leiston Guide Association to help with their work.
- f. **Dog Mess on Sizewell Beach.** A concerned resident had written to the Council about the unthinking and anti social dog owners who did not clear up after their dog on Sizewell Beach. It gave the responsible owners a bad name and was also upsetting to them and the many other walkers who enjoyed the area. The Clerk was asked to pass the letter to SCDC for comment and to do an article in the next newsletter.

- 131. **Questions to the chairman.** Cllr Hodgson asked the Chairman, in view of the briefing Inspector Reid delivered in November on the future of policing, whether there wasn't a conflict with recent statements from the Home Secretary. Alan Johnson said on the 20th November, at a national launch of an advertising campaign for the policing pledge, that he believed that every victim of crime should be visited by a police officer no matter how minor the crime. The impression given at the last meeting was that, to save police time, victims of crime were going to just be asked whether they would like a visit from a policeman.

There being no more business the meeting finished at 9.40 pm.

Chair

Dated