

Pre-meeting Reports
3rd July 2007

- 33. Mr Bob Kury – Site Director Sizewell A.** Mr Bob Kury introduced himself and gave a detailed update on the progress of the decommissioning of Sizewell A. The main point covered was the 2 year delay expected before defuelling could start on the Sizewell reactors. He explained the situation at Sellafield, why Dungeness was being defuelled first and gave an overview of the new management structure for Magnox sites round the UK. The meeting heard that the current objective was to achieve Phase 3 cooling whereby the reactor core was sufficiently benign to stay cool by natural convection thereby allowing all the plant machinery normally involved in the cooling operation to be dismantled. Mr Kury himself worked for a company called Energy Solutions but the site licence was still held and run by Magnox. He explained that the NDA had not had a cut in funding (as some believed) but that they had made a decision to re-align the distribution of the government funding to apportion much more to Sellafield and Dounraey as the two top priorities. Sizewell therefore was to receive less than originally envisaged and Mr Kury was having to cut his cloth accordingly. In his talk and in response to questions he did make clear that the funding was sufficient not to affect the safety case whatsoever and, if it ever were to come to it, he would go over budget (and was obliged to go over budget) to ensure safety was never compromised. The reduction in budget meant that, after the safety case, he had a lot less for project work now and that this may slow down the decommissioning. He answered questions on personnel and conditions and undertook to petition Network Rail to keep the railway line open once the defuelling was eventually completed.
- 34. County Report.** The Chairman welcomed Cllr Ron Ward who briefed the meeting on some ongoing on and offshore fishing issues before answering questions. The Chairman thanked Cllr Ward for his generous contribution toward the new Community Centre roof of £1,000. Cllr Cooper asked what progress was being made in getting 20's Plenty signage outside the Middle School and in getting the promised double yellow lines up from the east end of Waterloo Avenue. Cllr Ward was unable to give a positive response to this but undertook to enquire of his officers where the projects stood. Cllr Ginger asked that Cllr Ward give his support to the current initiative of trying to obtain community use of the Middle School Playing Field.
- 35. Police Report.** Police Community Support Officer Jacqui Abbott sent her apologies and a new format for crime statistics which she asked members comments on. It was hoped that it would be possible to separate domestic violence crimes out of the common assault figures but otherwise the format was acceptable. Cllr Ginger reminded the meeting that he had raised the issue of criminal damage to fences in the footpath from Sylvester Road to the Primary School at the last meeting. There was still a problem in that particular area and he asked the Clerk to request that PCSO Abbott continue to monitor the situation.
- 36. District Report.** Cllr Nunn covered some green issues and Cllr Hawkins briefed members on the major plant renewal currently taking place at the Leisure Centre. Cllr Geater briefed the meeting on District initiatives to tackle childhood obesity and gave details on the activities being promoted on the new website www.coastalpotato.co.uk which were designed to encourage youngsters to get out and about. He also explained that, from 27th June, a new system had been put in place designed to make the process of doing a search (for house buying etc.) much easier. Cllr Howard reminded the District Councillors of the current homelessness figures in the area as he was concerned they were increasing as there were not enough rented or affordable accommodation coming on line. Cllr Ginger asked whether SCDC could build houses themselves but Cllr Geater didn't think they were able to under current legislation, even if they took out a loan. He did point out however that the District were very active in encouraging and enabling new housing in needy areas.

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,
3rd July 2007, at 8.34 p.m.**

PRESENT

Councillor Mrs A. V. Nunn (in the chair)
Councillor D. Bailey
Councillor B. A. Barnes
Councillor A.M Cooper
Councillor J. L. Geater
Councillor C.S. Ginger
Councillor T. J. Hawkins
Councillor T. E. Hodgson
Councillor W. H. Howard (until 9.40pm)
Councillor F. R. Huxley
Councillor J. Morrissey
Councillor A J Nunn

Before the formal proceedings the Chairman called for a minutes silence in memory of Mr Brian Button. Brian, who died very recently, had been a much respected and liked Councillor from 1971 – 1983 and had remained actively interested in the Town and Council affairs ever since.

- 37. Minutes.** Cllr Ginger pointed out that his comments on bus shelters had been omitted from minute 30a and that members agreement to pursue the erection of a sign to warn motorists to slow down as they approach the Station Road level crossing from the North was also not recorded. With those amendments it was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Huxley and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 5th June be signed as a true record.
- 38. Apologies.** Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Cllr Mrs Geater, Cllr Boast and Cllr Blowers.
- 39. Chairman's Communications.** The Chairman reported that the most notable event (and most difficult!) had been her invitation to judge the fancy dress competition at the Primary School. Surviving this Cllr Mrs Nunn had also represented the Council at the Sizewell Stakeholder AGM and had attended the latest Greater Gabbard briefing. At the Sizewell Stakeholders Group she had invited Mr Franz Boyden (NII) to visit Leiston again to update members (at a public meeting) on just where we stood with regards to the Nuclear Installation Inspectorate and their views on population expansion in the vicinity of the Sizewell Power Stations. At that meeting she had also obtained Mr Dowd's (Station Director, Sizewell B) positive support for British Energy to provide some land around the Household Waste Site to try and get the site's customers off the road and out of danger at busy times or when it was temporarily closed. Finally members heard how the Chairman had been fortunate enough to attend the High School 6th Formers prom. She had been very impressed with their positive outlook, their achievements and the affection they showed for their teachers and the town.
- 40. Chairman's Badge of Office.** The Clerk updated members on the progress in investigating the purchase of new badge of office and chain. He confirmed that British Energy had agreed to fund the new equipment and he had sent off some photographs and ideas to a firm who offered a free design service. Although nothing had yet been received it was hoped to have something to show Councillors at the next meeting.
- 41. In Bloom and visit of Mr Collard.** Members were pleased the small posts had finally been put in at the end of Cross Street and discussed plans for the Anglia in Bloom judging day on 11th July. With regard to the notes from the meeting with Mr Collard members were very concerned at the time it was taking to get a decent toilet on site at the cemetery. There were 200 odd mourners on the site for a funeral the previous day and the nearest facility was over half a mile away. It was agreed to write to the Chief Executive at Suffolk Coastal and ensure he was fully aware of the plight of the many users of Leiston Cemetery.
- 42. Safer Neighbourhoods Meeting.** The main item from this meeting was the discussion on ways to combat the nuisance caused by selfish and anti-social young car drivers who congregated on the Sizewell Road Car Park. Members were very aware that this problem had been visited many times before but were hopeful that the SNT (Safer Neighbourhood Team) could progress a solution. Members again gave their support to the SNT in their efforts to try and get the Middle School to open up their playing field for community use. The other item was the congregation of youths on the steps and ramp at the opening from Seaward Avenue onto the King George Playing

Field. The group, although inherently harmless, intimidated young mothers and their toddlers heading for the Primary School and Children's Centre by the size of the group. It was felt that a seat just by but not too close to the steps might help move the group away from the passageway. This would be looked at more closely plus continued pressure on the Housing Association to tidy up the ragged netting fence alongside the passageway. Cllr Ginger reported that the footpath from Kiln Lane down, past the Primary School to Sylvester Road would be on the next SNT agenda which would include a request to get the wire mesh gate onto the Primary School field toward the east end of that lane, tidied up – perhaps the mesh removed altogether or a different sort of gate.

The meeting was suspended for 10 minutes for a natural break from 9.10pm to 9.20 pm

- 43. Patient Participation Group.** Cllr Ginger, who sits on the group, reported that he had asked for a temporary or permanent ramp to be made available or installed at the Leiston Clinic. At present some residents bring their own with them! He was told it was the responsibility of the PCT and persuaded the group to write and ask for one. Members agreed to wait and see how the PCT replied then give their support if needed.
- 44. Community Centre Roof.** Members discussed the various estimates for re-roofing the community centre and, on a proposition from Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Hawkins, agreed to go with the estimate provided by Mr Gordon Read in partnership with R G Leverett for £10,600. This includes new soffits and guttering and new boards. Members noted that there was £7,000 in the earmarked reserve for this project plus £1,000 donated from the Locality Budget. The other £2,600 would come from contingencies.
- 45. Finance.**
- a. **Accounts for Payment.** It was proposed by Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Nunn and agreed that accounts presented in the sum of £7650.85p with £11,843.18p paid since the last meeting be approved for payment.
 - b. **Accounts for 2006/2007.** Members were content that the accounts for 2006/2007 were correct and, on a proposition from Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Hawkins, it was agreed that the accounts for 2006/2007, as presented, be accepted as a true and accurate record.
 - c. **Statement of Assurance.** Members worked through the questions on the Statement of Assurance in the Annual Return and, on a proposition from Cllr Cooper, seconded by Cllr Huxley, it was agreed that all could be answered in the affirmative and that the Chairman should sign as such on their behalf.

(Cllr Howard left the meeting)

46. Planning.

- a. **C07/1026/FUL – Erection of garage (existing garage to be demolished) at 11 Garrett Crescent, Leiston.**

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

During the above item Cllr Mrs Nunn and Cllr Nunn declared an interest, remained in the room but took no part in the discussion or vote. Cllr Bailey took the Chair.

- b. **C07/1078/FUL – Erection of pitched roof over flat roof & dormer windows to form additional accommodation in roof space at 3 Victory Road, Leiston.**

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

- c. **C07/1154/FUL – Erection of conservatory, 5B King Edward Road, Leiston.**

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

- d. **C07/1129/FUL – Erection of wall/fence to Station Road frontage at Colonial House, Station Road, Leiston.**

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

- e. **C07/1142/FUL – Erection of first floor side extension above existing ground floor extension at 44 Roberts Road, Leiston.**

RECOMMEND APPROVAL

- f. **C07/1144/FUL – Erection of rear extension on 42 St Margaret’s Crescent, Leiston.**
RECOMMEND APPROVAL
- g. **C07/1166/ADV – Erection of 2 advertisement boards at Site of Proposed Sign, Opposite 150 King Georges Avenue, Leiston.**
RECOMMEND APPROVAL
- h. **C07/1160/FUL – Erection of replacement external fascia signage at Barclays Bank, 19 Main Street, Leiston.**
RECOMMEND APPROVAL

47. County Matters.

- a. **Cyclepath to Sizewell.** This needed a sweep as the newly resurfaced road to Sizewell had thrown up a lot of chippings on to the Cyclepath.

48. District Matters.

- a. There were no District matters raised.

The time reaching 10.00pm it was proposed by Cllr Huxley, seconded by Cllr Hawkins and agreed that Standing Orders be suspended to allow business to be completed.

49. Correspondence.

- a. **Lloyds Pharmacy.** Members noted the responses to the consultations on possibly having two pharmacies in Leiston and were disappointed to hear that Lloyds, despite their submission, were still unable to provide a seamless service in their current pharmacy.
- b. **SSG.** Cllr Hodgson kindly offered to stand in for Cllr Nunn at the Sizewell Stakeholder Group EGM on 12th July.
- c. **Allotment Walkround.** As requested by the Allotment Association this was rescheduled to Wednesday 25th July at 6.30pm.
- d. **Swimming Club.** Members noted the request for further financial assistance from the Swimming Club but felt they needed further details before they were able to assess the situation.
- e. **Tithe Map.** Members noted the progress on trying to find a suitable and affordable restorer for the large wall map in the Council Chambers and asked the Clerk to continue and investigate whether any funding is available for this.

50. Questions to the Chairman.

- a. The Chairman asked for members’ views on a suitable date for Mr Boyden (NII) to come and address them. Tuesday 7th August was agreed as the first choice. The Clerk was asked to try and arrange this.

There being no more business the meeting finished at 10.20pm.

----- Chair

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