

**Pre-meeting Reports**  
**5<sup>th</sup> August 2008**

- 49. Police Report.** The Chairman welcomed PCSO Jackie Abbot. PCSO Abbot gave a report on activity and statistics over the previous month (attached). Jackie then outlined the steps that were being taken to reduce the nuisance caused by drunks in the town centre which was discussed at the last meeting. Cllr Howard thanked Jackie and noted how Social Services were playing a part in providing welfare support too. Jackie also assured council that if people were found in possession of alcohol within the designated zone it would be taken off them.
- 50. District Report.** Nothing to report from Cllrs Hawkins and Geater. Cllr Nunn reported on Encams – they would be sponsoring a big tidy up across the country in September and he asked if Leiston intended to take part, he thought that Leiston High school would be involved and wondered if anyone knew of any other organisation who might wish to take part.
- 51. Questions for Councillors.** June Oliver asked about the graffiti around the town - in particular the garages at Heathview and on the letter boxes outside the Sorting office. Cllr Nunn reported that if it is on public property it is the council's responsibility, otherwise it is the responsibility of the owners. Cllr Ginger commented that he had been assured by the manager of the Housing Association that the graffiti on the garages would be cleared. The Chairman asked if everyone had received the Town Newsletter, three in attendance had not.

**At a meeting of the LEISTON-cum-SIZEWELL TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Held in the COMMUNITY CENTRE, King Georges Avenue, Leiston, on TUESDAY,**  
**5<sup>th</sup> August 2008, at 7.30 p.m.**

**PRESENT**

**Councillor Mrs A. V. Nunn (in the chair)**  
**Councillor B. A. Barnes**  
**Councillor D. R. Boast**  
**Councillor J. L. 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 A. J Nunn**

A minute's silence was observed in memory of Councillor Clive Blowers who passed away on 24<sup>th</sup> July after a long illness. Clive first became a Councillor in 1999 and served continuously until his death.

- 52. Minutes.** It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Hawkins and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008 be signed as a true record.
- 53. Apologies.** Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Cllr Bailey, Cllr Cooper and Cllr Susan Geater.
- 54. Chairman's Communications.** The Chairman addressed the meeting reporting that she had attended the SCDC Parish Liaison meeting on the Boundary Committee. The first meeting of the Fairtrade working party had been held and the next meeting will be at the end of August. Cllr Cooper had gone to considerable efforts to compile a comprehensive list of retailers in the town and Solar had been contacted as the major supplier of Fairtrade in the town. Sizewell B was also pleased to take part as one of the leading employers. The Chairman stated "This time next year we will definitely be a Fairtrade Town".
- 55. Minsmere Levels Stakeholder Group** – Cllr Howard considered it wise to have a member of the council on this group and it was proposed by Cllr Hawkins, seconded by the Chairman and agreed that Cllr Howard be that representative.
- 56. Play Your Part – Have members used this – did it work?** The chairman asked had anyone used this number? Cllr Andrew Nunn reported he had emailed and received a quick response but the problem had not yet been resolved thoroughly. Cllr Howard had also reported a problem regarding blocked gullies had received a response but the problem had still not been resolved. Cllr Ginger had also called the number but it was not working. The Clerk agreed to report back to the provider on all these problems.
- 57. Fairtrade Town Update.** As reported in the Chairman's Communications.
- 58. Boundary Committee – initial discussions on unitary proposals.** Cllr Howard attended the recent Parish Liaison meeting and reported that there was quite a bit of resistance to the published proposals. He felt that Leiston was not

best served by SCDC or SCC at moment and that the new proposals were not good for Leiston either. He felt that the current proposals would strip us of our identity. He believed that our natural boundaries give an East and West Suffolk solution. Cllr Huxley commented that the term “rest of Suffolk” kept coming up and that the whole focus seemed to be to make sure Ipswich was well served, possibly without much sympathy for how the “rest” of Suffolk ends up. Cllr Hodgson felt the proposals were not best suited to local democracy or local voices. Without Ipswich or Felixstowe the new authority would become a toothless authority and have no influence in the wider world; he felt that we needed local decisions made at local level i.e. street cleaning, grass cutting. There was a need to press for more decisions to be made locally that effect local peoples lives and outlook. He felt that he would prefer Suffolk left as a whole. Cllr Ginger agreed with the previous two councillors and felt that we should try hard not to lose Lowestoft, which is naturally a Suffolk town, and that we should go for one Unitary Authority as this would be the better of the two evils. The Chairman felt that if we did lose Lowestoft we would lose a lot of our Police Force and if we haven’t got Ipswich then we would be under Bury St Edmunds. Cllr Andrew Nunn commented that he thought that an East and West Suffolk with a separate Ipswich on its own would be far too large a proposal to work and the timescale allowed to sort this out was far too small and did not favour a realistic answer. He felt that we needed to stick together and support SCDC’s proposal. Cllr Geater was horrified that, with education alone, there would be prohibitive costs in forming two unitaries. Cllr Huxley asked, “Who will decide if it is affordable”? Cllr Nunn reported that workbooks were being done by all the principal councils to cost affordability. Cllr Hawkins commented that he had looked at the proposals very seriously and that he didn’t like any - he felt that there were serious flaws in them all. He felt we should take the least worst – Ipswich & East/West Suffolk. The Clerk was asked to write a letter based on comments of tonight’s meeting and to put a copy in the September pack for Councillors to amend then.

**59. Finance.** There had been excellent income from the cinema takings and admissions had been so high that people had had to be turned away from more than one performance.

- a) **Accounts for Payment.** Cllr Andrew Nunn asked about the payment to CEA (subscription to the Cinema Exhibitors Association) and Cllr Ginger asked about the Newspaper payment which was a new subscription to allow the Town Clerk to keep copies of the Anglian in the Office. It was proposed by Cllr Huxley, seconded by Cllr Hawkins and agreed that accounts presented in the sum of £16,280.86 along with £7,565.59 paid since the last meeting be approved for payment.

**60. Planning Matters.**

a. **C08/0968 – Retention of garden shed & summerhouse 3 Ash Tree Close, Leiston.**  
**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

b. **C08/1010 – Replacement dwelling (resubmission of C07/2243) 3 Woodbine Cottage, Sizewell Gap, Leiston.**  
**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

c. **C08/1054 – Erection of one bungalow (existing house to be demolished) 97 Abbey Road, Leiston.**  
 Members felt that the new position of the dwelling (much further back on the plot) was too intrusive on all its neighbours and caused an unacceptable reduction in their amenity.  
**RECOMMEND REFUSAL**

d. **C08/1087 – Erection of extension to provide games hall & terrace (existing temporary portable sheds to be removed) Leiston Town Athletics Association, Victory Road, Leiston.**  
**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

During the above application Cllrs Hawkins, Howard and Boast, declared an interest, remained in the room but took no part in the discussion or vote.

e. **C08/1354 – Erection of two storey dwelling and carport 42 Paradise Place, Leiston.** Members considered this to be a poor design which was too big for the plot, too intrusive on the neighbours and did not accord with the street scene in either Paradise Place or Southfield Drive. It was an overdevelopment and overlooked many of its neighbours in an unacceptable fashion.  
**RECOMMEND REFUSAL**

f. **C08/1344 – Change of use from Shop (A1) to non-residential institution (D1) 98 High Street, Leiston.**  
**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

g. **C08/0714 – Change of use of land to residential development (36 two storey, 2 or 3 bedroom dwellings) with associated site access, parking & play area, Land between 55 & 81 and land adjacent 87 Valley Road, Leiston.**  
 Cllr Ginger was concerned about the parking for surrounding residents and asked if there was anyway it could be insisted on for a roadway to be provided to the back of Roberts Road. Cllr Hawkins thought that the planned entrance was a highways disaster. Cllr Boast commented that it added to problems in the area and made parking in Valley Road even worse than it is now; there had also been two accidents over past weekend

on the Crown Street/Valley Road. Cllr Howard felt it was a gross overdevelopment and was concerned that there was now no play space at all. Cllr Geater commented that he too thought it was an overdevelopment and hoped that firm assurance could be obtained to ensure 30% of the houses were affordable. Cllr Huxley was concerned that the current greenspace (which soaked up surface water very effectively) would be replaced by houses and asphalt causing all that water to run off downhill into Valley Road.. This would certainly be a problem with the increasingly heavy downpours that are blighting the country – a lot of work would have to be done to counter this happening.

**RECOMMEND REFUSAL**

- h. C08/1338 – Erection of extension to existing garage to provide workshop, 4 Daneway Gardens, Leiston.**  
**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

- i. C08/1384 – Demolish block and timber lean to, change of use of shop to residential use, alterations to existing flat, form 3 No, 2 bedroom maisonettes, 31 Haylings Road, Leiston.**

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

During the above application Cllrs Huxley declared an interest and also declared an interest in the next item, and left the room.

- j. C08/1401 - Erection of single-storey rear extension, 64 Waterloo Avenue, Leiston.**

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

During the above application Cllr Howard and Cllr Huxley declared an interest and left the room.

- k. Pedestrian crossing Waterloo Avenue – update.** Nothing more had been heard. Cllr Ginger proposed that a letter be written to the Council insisting that this crossing must be completed Cllr Howard seconded. Cllr Huxley commented that there was no harm in digging our heels in. Seven for none against.

**61. County Matters.**

- a) Cllr Boast brought to the councils' attention the fact that Daneway House was being closed due to lack of funding. Cllr Howard expressed his concerns about abandoning support for the vulnerable in our society. It was agreed to put Support for Vulnerable People on the September agenda. The clerk was asked to write and ask where the residents would be going.
- b) Comment had been received from King George Avenue residents - very pleased with road surface but there was concern about the residual tarmac that had been left on pavements.
- c) Cllr Morrissey asked if the damage to the pedestrian crossing lights had been addressed. She was also concerned about the road markings at junction of Waterloo Avenue.
- d) Cllr Huxley was concerned about the number of lorries coming into Leiston. The clerk pointed out that this was not a Police matter but that anyone who sees a lorry should note the registration number and name of company and report it to SCC.

- 62. District Matters.** Cllr Huxley went on Green Print outing to Stone House Farm, Thorington and found the process of making bio fuel from oil seed rape very interesting.

**63. Correspondence.**

- a. The Clerk reported that a notice had been put up to advertise a Councillor Vacancy in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
- b. Members noted the forthcoming meeting with the Boundary Committee at the Trinity Park Conference Centre on 1<sup>st</sup> September – it was proposed that Cllr Hodgson to attend.
- c. Aldeburgh Productions and CYDS were due to meet with the Clerk and the Chairman to discuss plans for workshops on the Victory Road recreation ground for the end of August. This would include music, drama and a graffiti wall. Cllr Huxley proposed that the clerk be given approval to give permission for this as and when needed, with the proviso that the normal conditions be put in place and the users insurance cover be sufficient to protect this council. This was seconded by Cllr Howard and agreed.
- d. Cllr Huxley thanked everyone for turning up in foul weather the evening before In Bloom judging day and for helping to clear up before the judging.

**64. Questions to the chairman.** None

There being no more business the meeting finished at 9.45 pm.

----- Chair

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