

**Pre-meeting Reports**  
**6<sup>th</sup> October 2009**

- 79. Police Report.** The Chairman welcomed PCSO Philip Marshall, Suffolk Constabulary, who gave a report on activity that had occurred since the September meeting (attached). Cllr Howard raised the problem of domestic violence. Philip had brought along an FAQ pack on how exactly the police deal with all the issues surrounding single and repeat domestic violence or domestic incident cases which he gave to Cllr Howard and offered to send to anyone else who would like to see it. He asked anyone who was worried about speeding in their road to contact the SNT and they would carry out speed checks for them to try and reduce the problem. Miss Oliver pointed out how intimidating it was to have cold callers arrive at the door in pairs, some were even a little aggressive which made it even worse. Philip pointed out that that was not against the law in itself unfortunately. After a discussion on irresponsible cycling around the town Philip informed the meeting that free cycle locks were available at the Police Station on presentation of a roadworthy bike (with lights). Mr Briggs asked about the proposed withdrawal of police from the Leiston Police Station next spring. PCSO Marshall asked that he be patient as Inspector Reid was coming to the next meeting to explain all about the hub system.
- 80. County Report.** Cllr Ward gave his apologies. Mr Briggs asked that Cllr Ward be requested to visit his officers and get an update on why the Traffic Order Review was taking so long.
- 81. District Report.** Cllr Hawkins had nothing to report. There was discussion on bins and Cllr Howard was sceptical about the way the District and County Councils were all talking about joint working whilst at the same time fighting the proposals for a unitary Council. Mr Briggs again highlighted the absence of a broom and cart in the armoury of our street cleaner. He felt that there was a lack of supervision as there did not seem to be the same standard of operation in Leiston as he had witnessed in Aldeburgh and Saxmundham.
- 82. Public Comment.** Mr Briggs informed members that the Leiston and District Community Partnership would soon be starting a careful review of the 2002 Town Action Plan and that he would report back when it was complete.

During the above reports, the time reaching 7.30pm, it was proposed by Cllr Ginger, seconded by Cllr Mrs Nunn 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,**  
**6<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2009, at 7.38 p.m.**

**PRESENT**

**Councillor A. M. Cooper (in the chair)**  
**Councillor D. E. Bailey**  
**Councillor B. A. Barnes**  
**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 J Morrissey**  
**Councillor Mrs A Nunn**

- 83. Minutes.** It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Hodgson, and agreed that the minutes for the meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009 be signed as a true record.
- 84. Apologies.** Apologies were received on behalf of Cllr Nunn, Cllr Boast, Cllr Huxley and Cllr Parker.
- 85. Chairman's Communications.** The Chairman had nothing to report.
- 86. Fairtrade Town.** Cllr Mrs Nunn was very pleased to announce that Leiston had now been officially accredited as a Fairtrade Town. She thanked everyone who had worked so hard to achieve the Fairtrade status for Leiston and reminded the meeting that there was still work to do. With publicity and a vibrant

committee however she felt that the base was there to expand membership in the town to bring in more retailers, caterers and schools etc. and really support the ethos. There was to be a coffee morning in the Theatre Foyer on 3<sup>rd</sup> December and a Fairtrade Day at the Community Centre on 25<sup>th</sup> February during Fairtrade Fortnight. There was also a suggestion that the Town might work towards erecting a sign at the town entrance announcing Leiston as a Fairtrade Town.

- 87. Minsmere Levels Stakeholder Group.** Members noted the report from Cllr Boast on the meeting the MLSG had had recently with the Environment Agency. Cllr Howard confirmed that it had been a positive one and that it appeared many of the issues that the MLSG had with the maintenance and physical condition of the sluice were being addressed by the appropriate agencies. It had been agreed to have a follow up meeting in due course however to monitor progress.
- 88. Town Appraisal.** Members noted the opinion of the majority of the residents who had attended the public meeting in September who had all thought that there was no need for another appraisal and that the results from the previous appraisal should be analysed further to see what had been achieved in the 7 years since that was completed. Cllr Howard, who had been unable to attend that meeting, was disappointed as he felt that there was a definite need for another appraisal as the Town had changed since then, residents had changed and there were new issues confronting society and Leiston that altered the dynamics of the Town perhaps. Members looked at the particular items that were aired at the meeting and agreed to put drop kerbs on a future agenda. Many of the other items were already being addressed or were on other agendas which would ensure they were discussed.

- 89. Film Theatre.** Members noted that planning permission had been granted, the sign ordered and the old frontage already removed.

During the above item Cllr Ginger declared an interest.

- 90. Suffolk Coastal District Council Efficiency Review.** Members thoroughly reviewed all the services that SCDC provided and ended up concluding that, if anything, they should increase the services they offered rather than cutting, reducing or farming any out – particularly public toilet provision. The Clerk was instructed to write and convey this view to Mr Baker.

During the above item interests were declared by Cllr Hawkins and Cllr Geater

- 91. Sizewell Management Meeting with SCDC.** Members noted the minutes from the meeting at Sizewell of 24<sup>th</sup> September and agreed to follow up on a couple of points. Firstly, they asked the Clerk to write to SCDC to point out, once again, that it was this Council's wish that the gate at Sizewell, leading onto the beach, be locked. Secondly, they all agreed that a back to back design for a new bench by the Café fitted the criteria that had been established at that meeting.

- 92. Sizewell Stakeholder Group.** Members noted that the main items that had been discussed at the meeting was the need for more information on how events were scaled, why no prosecution had been recommended after the pipe leak at Sizewell A and the release of gaseous tritium from Sizewell B. The next meeting will be on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

**93. Finance.**

- a) **Accounts for Payment.** It was proposed by Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Hodgson and agreed that accounts presented in the sum of £22,211.43p along with £15,476.03p paid since the last meeting be approved for payment.
- b) **Audit Report 2008/2009.** Members were pleased to note the External Auditors report on the Annual Return for 2008/2009 and, on a proposition from Cllr Howard, seconded by Cllr Ginger, it was agreed to accept and approve the return as presented.
- c) **Issues Arising from Audit Report for 2008/2009.** Members noted the issues arising report from BDO Stoy Haward regarding the accounts for 2008/2009. The Clerk presented an action plan to deal with those points which was accepted.

The meeting took a break from 8.30 – 8.45pm

**94. Planning Matters.**

- a. **C09/1334 – Erection of two-storey rear extension to provide kitchen and bathroom, 31 Prospect Place, Leiston.** The concern here was the party wall and the impact the proposed extension would have on its neighbour. The actual proposal was acceptable but the Clerk was asked to ensure that building regulations officers studied it for compliance.

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

- b. **C09/1346 – Erection of two-storey extension Leiston Surgery & Health Clinic, Main Street, Leiston.** There was still a major access problem from the road, there was still limited parking and manoeuvre on the site and, if walking, there was still a slope to get onto the site in the first instance. The lift was the clinching feature of this extension however as, without it, expansion would have just exacerbated the access problems that already exist. The top disabled space should be moved closer to the new ramp too

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

During the above item interests were declared by Cllr Ginger and Cllr Mrs Geater.

- c. **C09/1450 – Construction of ponds for wildlife conservation at Land North & Land South of Upper Abbey Farm, Eastbridge, Leiston.** There was some disquiet about the activities that were taking place which presumed that an application to build Sizewell C was a foregone conclusion. The paperwork with this application however pointed out that the timescales, should an application be submitted, meant that it would be prudent and in the wildlife's interest to start this project now.

**NO COMMENT**

- d. **C09/1447 – Erection of one bedroom single storey dwelling (demolition of existing building), at Land rear of 44 High Street, Leiston.** Members felt that this proposal would smarten the cul-de-sac up a bit if the correct materials were used. Cllr Howard voted against as he felt the NII had still not made a good case for allowing further building close to the power stations.

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

- e. **C09/1428 – Installation of recycled wet receivers adjacent to existing purge air compressor building & connection of overhead pipework, Sizewell A, Sizewell Power Station, Sizewell, Leiston.**

**RECOMMEND APPROVAL**

During the above item interests were declared by Cllr Bailey and Cllr Geater

**95. County Matters.**

- a. **Highways.** There was still concern that the barrier had not yet been moved by the zebra crossing in Waterloo Avenue. The Clerk had passed this on to Development Control at the County Council as this scheme was part of a Section 106 agreement.
- b. **Drop Pavements.** It was agreed to go pass this to the Highways Working Party.

**96. District Matters.**

- a. Nil raised

**97. Correspondence.**

- a. **Citizens Advice Bureau.** Members noted the request for grant aid from the Leiston Citizen Advice Bureau and, on a proposition from Cllr Hodgson, seconded by Cllr Bailey, everyone agreed to release the £1,600 set aside in this years estimates for that purpose.

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

- b. **Suffolk Coastal Local Strategic Partnership.** Members noted the details of this years Annual Forum and it was agreed the Clerk and Cllr Mrs Nunn would attend if possible.

**98. Questions to the chairman.** There was a discussion on underage drinking which the Chairman agreed to get some facts on.

There being no more business the meeting finished at 9.20 pm.

Chair

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Dated

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