

**MINUTES OF THE ALDEBURGH TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 14 JANUARY 2019
AT 7:00 PM IN THE MOOT HALL**

Present: Cllr Digby- The Mayor, took the Chair

Cllr Bond	Cllr Cox
Cllr Fellowes	Cllr Fox
Cllr Harris	Cllr Jones
Cllr Kiff	Cllr Osben
Cllr Oxby	Cllr Palmer
Cllr Partel	

Also present: Cllr Maureen Jones – SCDC.

Two members of the public were in attendance.

1. Apologies:

Cllr Russ Rainger – SCC, Cllr T.J.Haworth-Culf (SCDC), Cllrs Walker and Worster – ATC.

2. Councillors' Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To approve the draft Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10 December 2018

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 10 December 2018 were **APPROVED** by a show of hands and duly signed.

4. SCC report and Correspondence

Cllr Rainger was unable to attend the meeting. His report can be read in full at <https://russrainger.wordpress.com/>

5. SCDC Report and Correspondence

In the absence of Cllr T.J.Haworth-Culf, Cllr Jones briefed the meeting on a number of issues, including the Suffolk Coastal Final Draft Local Plan which required a response by February 25, proposed parking procedures, the Sizewell C and SPR consultations, proposed cuts to the Citizens Advice Bureau budget and a boost in the funding for local community projects.

Cllr Fellowes asked about the impact changes to business rate revenue would have on the District Council's ability to fund future community projects. She was assured by Cllr Jones that money would still be available for the Enabling Communities Budget, Exemplar Grants and other grants, though she warned that community projects would need to be approved without delay. In response to a question from Cllr Oxby about clarification of CIL payment funds, Cllr Jones said that information was available online, but that the merger of Waveney and Suffolk Coastal District Councils would result in a different process.

Full SCDC report: **See Appendix 1**

6. Police Report

No Police report had been submitted, but the Town Clerk informed the meeting that the constabulary's Community Engagement Officer would be addressing the February meeting of the Town Council.

7. Public Forum

The Mayor suspended Standing Orders for the Public Forum.

A member of the public asked if there were any plans for public meetings to gauge the opinion of local residents on the Sizewell C consultation. He was assured by the Town Clerk that if there was sufficient interest in such meetings, they would be organised. ATC welcomes the views of all residents and their input is a vital factor in the consultation process.

There were no further questions and the Mayor reinstated Standing Orders.

8. COMMITTEES REPORTS:

8a. PROPERTY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

8ai) Report from Chairman of Property & Finance Committee

Cllr Jones reported that a number of contractors were being chased to complete work, including potholes outside the Community Centre, the condition of the lower tennis courts and ditch clearance at Dump Road. Overgrown land at Kemp's Field was being dealt with by a local contractor.

8b. SERVICES COMMITTEE

8bi) Report from Chairman of Services

Cllr Palmer told the meeting that new costings for the Alde and Ore Estuary Plan would be revealed shortly and that a meeting of the Services Committee Working Party had discussed a number of issues relating to highways.

Cllr Fellowes asked if a formal response could be made on behalf of ATC to proposals by SCC to cut funding to the county's Citizens Advice Bureau. She was advised by the Town Clerk that this would happen.

8c. PLANNING

8ci) Report from Chairman of Planning

In the absence of Cllr Worster, Cllr Bond confirmed that a planning inquiry into a proposed development at Fenlands in Aldeburgh had dismissed an appeal by the applicant. Two further contentious applications in respect of 75 High Street and Bank House were under consideration by SCDC planners. It was her view that both applications should be determined at Committee level and not by Planning Officers. She called for greater clarity in the criteria used to determine planning outcomes.

8d. GRANTS, REQUESTS & EVENTS

8di) Report from Chairman of Grants, Requests and Events Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

9. Representatives' Reports.

- Cllr Jones attended an OGS Board meeting and chaired a Trust meeting on December 13 to discuss business initiatives at the Community Centre. Among

items agreed were the introduction of a loyalty card, new signage, a pool table in the bar area and free pool and snooker evenings.

- Cllr Fox reported on a meeting of the Aldeburgh Museum Trustees who had discussed the awarding of building contracts for the redevelopment programme and the possibility of Open Days to enable members of the public to view the Museum before work commenced. She confirmed the Chairman of the Museum Trustees and the Project Manager would address the January Committees meeting.
- Cllr Palmer attended a meeting of the Alde and Ore Partnership to discuss funding, with a further meeting to be held imminently.
- Cllr Harris was also present at the Museum Trustees meeting attended by Cllr Fox.
- Cllr Bond, with Cllr Oxby, attended a briefing on the District Council's budget plans and a meeting to outline the Suffolk Coastal Final Draft Local Plan. Feedback to these proposals needed to be submitted online by February 25. Cllr Bond, with the Town Clerk, also attended a meeting of the Jubilee Hall Trustees to discuss future plans.

10. Town Clerk's Report

The Town Clerk briefed the meeting on a number of current consultations:

1. **Citizens Advice Bureau:** a response would be prepared to address future funding issues caused by cuts to the CAB budget in Suffolk.
2. **Suffolk Coastal First Draft Local Plan:** Representations were now required relating to the soundness of the FDLP. The consultation process ends on February 25 with responses completed on-line. The Town Clerk observed that changes to the current plan were minimal for Aldeburgh, with land to the rear of Rosehill being the only site identified for potential development.
3. **EDF Energy:** The Stage Three consultation was now in progress and responses had to be submitted by March 29. However, in reality, the ATC response had to be signed off at the Council Meeting on March 11 to meet the EDF deadline. The Town Clerk drew attention to two forthcoming exhibitions on Friday January 18 highlighting different aspects of the Sizewell C proposals – one presented by EDF at the Community Centre and an alternative exhibition by the B1122 Action Group in the Church Hall. She encouraged all to attend. Planning Aid England, appointed by EDF as independent advisors, would be holding a briefing at Leiston Community Centre, with a second event on January 19th at Saxmundham Market Hall. ATC representatives would also be required to attend a presentation and workshop on Tuesday January 22 hosted by SCC and SCDC to examine the implications of the Sizewell C proposals, with further workshops organised by PAE between February 6-8 and February 20-22, to be attended by ATC delegates. The Town Clerk called for Cllrs to volunteer for a small working party to prepare ATC's response to the Sizewell C plans. This was a matter which would affect the whole community, she commented, and which would require considerable commitment from individual Cllrs. It was vital, that a balanced response, reflecting the views of the town as a whole, should be submitted. Under the leadership of Cllr Palmer, Cllrs Fellowes, Oxby and Osben volunteered to form the working group. Cllr Fellowes expressed disappointment that, in preparing the way for Sizewell C, EDF were planning to move some facilities from the B site to adjacent greenfield land.
4. **Scottish Power Renewables:** The Town Clerk said that the fourth and final phase of consultations relating to SPR's onshore developments would commence on February 11 and end on March 26. ATC's response to this consultation would also have to be approved at the Council Meeting on March 11 to meet the deadline. The emphasis of ATC's response would be on traffic management, particularly as SPR seemed intent on bringing HGVs along the main access routes into Aldeburgh. She believed that the concurrent consultations relating to Sizewell and SPR were

causing a great deal of confusion among residents and it was important that ATC was clear in addressing the issues affecting the town in responses to them both. There will be an impact on the whole community and the Council's views should reflect this.

The Town Clerk told the meeting she would be attending a briefing by Suffolk Association of Local Councils & SCDC's Democratic Services team on January 28 to discuss arrangements for local elections in May.

She also notified Cllrs that the Alde and Ore Association would be seeking to address the Town Council shortly on revised costings for the Estuary Plan.

Cllr Fellowes asked if material relating to the Sizewell and SPR consultations could be displayed at the Annual Town Meeting on March 6 to ensure that all members of the public were appraised of the issues raised. She was assured this would happen.

Cllr Oxby asked if dates had been agreed when the Town Clerk and her staff would be vacating the Moot Hall to accommodate the redevelopment of the Museum and the Council Chamber. The Town Clerk said plans were still being formulated but that, irrespective of where staff were temporarily housed, it would be business as usual.

11. Mayor's Notes

Cllr Digby attended the following events:

December 24 - Garrett House, Christmas visit

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December 26 – Attended, but didn't take part, Boxing Day Swim

12. Correspondence

The Town Clerk said that all correspondence had been dealt with during the course of the meeting.

13. Gifts and/or Hospitality Received by Councillors

There were no gifts or hospitality declared by Cllrs.

14. Items to pay – details had been previously circulated to Cllrs.

All payments were **PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL**

PROPOSED by Cllr Jones and **SECONDED** by Cllr Harris.

In Favour 12

Against 0

Abstentions 0

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There being nothing further to discuss the meeting ended at 7.42pm.

**The next meeting of Aldeburgh Town Council will take place on Monday
February 11 2019 at 7.00 pm in The Moot Hall.**

