

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ALDEBURGH TOWN COUNCIL
SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY JULY 22nd 2019 AT 7.40PM IN THE CHURCH HALL**

Present: In the absence of Cllr Palmer, Cllr Lewis took the Chair.

Committee Members Present:

Cllr Cox	Cllr Digby
Cllr Fellowes	Cllr Harris
Cllr Howard-Dobson	Cllr Osben

There were two members of the public present.

1.Apologies: Cllrs Blackbourn and Palmer.

Absent without apology: Cllr Piers-Hall

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The draft Minutes of the Services Committee meetings held on Tuesday May 28th and Monday June 24th 2019 were approved by a show of hands and duly signed.

3. Matters for Discussion

3.1 SCC - Highways

Cllr Lewis suggested that further meetings of the Services Working Group might be required to arrive at a consensus on actions needed following the recent speed surveys. He also echoed Cllr Palmer's belief that corroding street signs represented a danger to the public and should be replaced.

3.2 East Suffolk Council

Cllr Lewis called for further discussions on how to tackle trade waste litter on the High Street. He pointed out that Norse had written to all businesses twice this year, but the issue remained a constant problem.

Cllr Harris agreed saying that, at times, the High Street was a disgrace and could discourage people from visiting Aldeburgh.

Cllr Smith offered to visit all shops on the High Street to try and make staff aware of the problems of waste disposal. Cllr Fox offered to accompany her.

The Town Clerk told the Committee that she had received two complaints about litter before 7am that morning and photographs of the mess had been posted on Facebook - an image of the town it could well do without, she commented.

Cllr Cox, with Cllr Fox, promised to raise the matter at the next meeting of the Aldeburgh Business Association.

3.3 Police Matters

The Town Clerk confirmed that she had attended the quarterly Town Clerk's meeting where civil parking enforcement had been discussed. It was her understanding that from April 1 2020, responsibility for on-street parking enforcement would transfer from the Police to ESC. In the meantime, she had been promised an increased police presence in the town, particularly during July and August.

A number of Cllrs touched on local parking issues - Cllr Digby believed that the staff and owners of High Street businesses contributed to the problem by parking their vehicles all day on the High Street. Strict enforcement was the solution, he believed.

Cllr Cox pointed out that off-street parking facilities were under-used and there was little merit in people complaining about the lack of parking spots on the High Street when they could, at a very modest cost, park easily just a few metres away from the main shopping centre.

Cllr Fellowes believed more should be done to encourage greater use of off-street car parks by residents and shop workers.

Cllr Lewis suggested that, in addition to parking issues, the police should take a more active role in preventing speeding in the town, a view supported by Cllr Howard-Dobson.

3.4 Museum/HLF Update

Cllr Fox, a Museum Trustee and a member of the Museum Redevelopment Project Board, told the Committee that first-fix work was virtually complete, the floors had been sanded and varnished and that new display cabinets should be delivered during the week of August 12. She saw no reason why, at this stage, the project should not be finished by the end of September. Issues surrounding the use of the building during the Carnival period had now been resolved, she assured Members.

Both Cllrs Cox and Fox thanked the Town Clerk for the responsibilities she had assumed during a highly-disruptive period, a sentiment reinforced by Cllr Harris, a Museum Trustee. Cllr Fox highlighted the difficulties surrounding the project - a Project Manager based in London, contractors from Glasgow and an architect with offices in Norwich. It was little wonder, she commented, that gaps had appeared in the timeline of the work.

Cllr Howard-Dobson, the Museum Curator, recognised the project was behind schedule but felt sure the finished product would be of enormous benefit to the town. The Museum and the Moot Hall will look brilliant, she enthused.

4. Committee Finance Business

There was no Committee Finance Business.

5. New Services Business

The Town Clerk told the meeting that the Sizewell C Stage 4 Consultation had been launched by EDF Energy and that a response from ATC would be required by the final submission date of September 27th 2019. Planning Aid England had offered its services to ATC in the preparation of the response, she added.

She confirmed that Cllr Fellowes had indicated she would be attending the next meeting of the Joint Local Authority Group (JLAG) where the Stage 4 Consultation would be discussed. Another ATC representative was required, the Town Clerk stated.

Cllr Fellowes called for more volunteers from ATC to sit on the Town Council's Infrastructure Working Group to prepare responses to both EDF and other large-scale energy projects. The task of reading through documents and preparing responses was enormous, she said, and the Working Group needed at least one more person.

The Town Clerk reminded the meeting that while Sizewell C was to the forefront of people's minds, there were other large-scale projects - Scottish Power Renewables and National Grid plans - which could have a major impact on Aldeburgh.

Cllr Lewis called for a reappraisal of the Emergency Plan for Aldeburgh and suggested that he and Cllr Palmer should begin preliminary discussions on how this could be achieved.

There was nothing further to discuss and the meeting ended at 8.05pm.