**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ALDEBURGH TOWN COUNCIL**

**SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**HELD ON MONDAY 24TH JANUARY 2022 AT 7.27 PM IN THE CHURCH HALL**

**Present**: Cllr Palmer took the Chair.

**Committee Members Present:**

Cllr Fellowes     Cllr Webster

Cllr Howard-Dobson Cllr Lewis

Cllr Digby

There were no members of the public present at this meeting.

**1. Apologies:** Cllrs Osben and Fox

**2. Approval of Previous Minutes**

The draft minutes of the Services Committee meeting held on Monday 22nd November 2021 were approved unanimously by a show of hands.

**3. Matters for Discussion**

The next SWG meeting to be held on Thursday 3rd February at 10am by Zoom.

SWG meeting held on 13/01/2022 via Zoom.

**3.1 SCC and 3.2 East Suffolk Council**

Cllr Palmer reported on the response regarding current issues received from Highways:

Issues relating to speed limits and parking restrictions have been referred to the Road Safety and Speed Team to contact you directly once they have had a chance to review.

The approximate cost for speed tables and cushions can be provided once we give them the locations where they are to be installed. Costs can vary a lot based on location so this will provide us with the most accurate result.

Additional funds for drains has been added to the current ESC budget and will be allocated along the current list of prioritised locations. Aldeburgh is on that list, but we cannot say when this will be picked up as yet..

The extra funding for footways has been added to the current maintenance ESC budget to maintain the condition of existing footways, there is no budget currently for making changes to the existing footways. They are happy to explore locality funding changes if ATC would like.

Cllr Palmer reported on information following request for new access footpath at the seafront side of the Wentworth Hotel. It is not so simple to "purchase" land that is Highway Maintained at Public Expense. You would need to apply for a stopping up order https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/highway-maintenance/road-adoption/highways-and-private-roads/ which if is successful will cause the land to revert to the original land owner, but as this is publicly accessible land it is unlikely that this will be agreed. As previously mentioned there is no budget availability for these types of improvements from Suffolk Highways so these would need to be funded from other means, County Cllr LHB or Parish/Town funds for example.

Highways have determined that the Choppings Hill railings are still sound. We recognise that they are deteriorating but are not yet unsafe or requiring replacement. As you have requested that they are replaced with a more enhanced aesthetic railing you have been asked to fund this. If the railings were in a condition whereby they needed to be replaced we would look to do this with a standard tube and socket type of railing. If at that point you wished for the enhanced railings it would be reasonable to expect Suffolk Highways to assist with the cost. Cllr Palmer will request a Risk Assessment from SCC for Choppings Hill railings.

**3.3.1 Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPS)**

Cllr Palmer reported:-

SPR Friston hearings: closed on the 6th July – decision delayed 6 weeks.

*For information only – Likely developments on the back of National Grid Substations - not all are certain.*

*At Friston*

*EA1N Substation*

*EA2 Substation*

*National Grid substation 1*

*National Grid substation 2*

*(8-10 acres each)*

*At Snape behind the church*

*3 interconnectors:-*

*Nautilis*

*Eurolink*

*Sealink (used to be called SCD1)* – this is going to consultation.

*(Each bigger than a substation at 24m high. 12 acres each.)*

*Still to be placed*

*SCD2*

*Northfalls*

*5 Estuaries*

*Not mentioned yet* - *3 Hydrogen storage tanks.*

Sizewell “C” DCO Hearings: Decision delayed 6 weeks.

N.B. The meeting with Declan Burke from BEIS in the Britten Studio, Snape Maltings on 29th November at 1pm has been moved to Friday 4th February at Snape Maltings' Britten Studio. This meeting is about Sizewell “C” and ATC will be represented.

The TC reported that she has not heard back from Sealink having contacted them requesting presentations in Aldeburgh.

Discussion followed about interconnectors and some will take power from windfarms located here to supply Kent. Possibly a decision based on lowest cost means for developers. National Grid plans could affect Snape just as much as Friston. Talked about the shear size of land needed for just one equivalent to 45 areas the size of Kings Field. Considering they are proposing not just one by eleven sites. No mention yet as to hydrogen production sites although these will almost certainly be needed.

**The Services Committee meeting ended at 7.45 pm**

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ALDEBURGH TOWN COUNCIL**

**GRANTS, REQUESTS & EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**HELD ON MONDAY 24TH JANUARY 2022 AT 7.47 PM IN THE CHURCH HALL**

Present: Cllr Webster took the Chair

Cllr Fellowes Cllr Jones

Cllr Howard-Dobson Cllr Lumpkin

Cllr Lewis Cllr Piers-Hall

Cllr Palmer Cllr Digby

There were no members of the public present.

**1. Apologies:** Cllrs Blackbourn, Smith, Fox and Osben

**2. Approval of Previous Minutes**

The draft Minutes of the Grants and Requests Committee meeting held on Monday 22nd November 2021 was agreed unanimously by a show of hands and signed by the Chair Cllr Webster.

**3. Grants:**

No grant requests received.

**4. Requests:**

**4.1** We have received requests for 4 car clubs to meet at Moot Green of different dates. The following dates discussed and agreed so as not to affect any events we are planning for the Queens Platinum Jubilee: -

24th April, Sunday 29th May, Friday 3rd June, Friday 5th June

**4.2** Permission has been requested by Chris Bradley of Runaway Adventures to use Aldeburgh as the finish line for a 50k run. This would start at Lowestoft at 9am and the first runner estimated to finish is at 12.30pm with the last runner 4pm. Expected to be a maximum of 150 runners. He estimated 20 or 30 spectators at any one time at the finish line. Cars would park at Thorpe Rd car park from 7am as there is a coach being offered to transport runners to the start location in Lowestoft. A donation of £2 per runner will be donated to our chosen charity.

Cllrs discussed this and in favour as long as we fully understand how the event will be managed. Car sharing should be promoted by the organisers and they must be aware of how busy the town will be in September. We will also talk with East Suffolk and infrastructure. Chris Bradley will be invited to a meeting to discuss more fully.

4.3 Cllr discussed trialling a “Talking Bench”. We have been offered a free bench from ESC to place in a community area. The benches are to encourage conversation and promote community spirit.

**5. Events:**

**5.1** TC talked about the importance of ATC leading on the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations. There are many organisations in the town who want to hold events and TC has been in touch with:-

The Jubilee Hall

Old Generator Station

Britten-Pears

Yacht Club

Aldeburgh Music

Other organisations that are keen will by:-

RNLI

Aldeburgh Gardening Group

Aldeburgh Society

Library

Golf Club

We also need to understand any plans that the Church has and the Nursery and School. The ABA may also want to get involved and The Fairfield Centre.

TC has a meeting on Friday to discuss “Bandstand on the Beach” with picnic. We have registered for lighting a Beacon on Thursday 2nd June at 9.45pm and we have booked David Gillingwater to play his bagpipes.

TC plans then to invite the organisations to a zoom meeting to pool some ideas. It is inevitable that there will be some events that clash. TC will circulate to Cllrs the “Festival of Suffolk” video. We should focus on what makes Aldeburgh special.

Cllr Howard-Dobson talked about an Exhibition to be in the Moot Hall to celebrate on behalf of the Museum. There are many photos of Aldeburgh that can be displayed.

The Yacht Club are having an afternoon of racing and a special tea.

The Old Generator Station is planning a Funday with Band and children’s activities.

TC finished by saying that if you represent an organisation in the town then please find out what they are planning to do.

Cllr Webster confirmed that the carnival will take place this year. He will also ask the carnival committee if they can help in any way with the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

**6. Any Other Business:**

There was no new business to report.

**There was nothing further to discuss and the meeting ended at 8.02pm.**

**MINUTES OF THE ALDEBURGH TOWN COUNCIL**

**PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**HELD ON MONDAY 24th JANUARY 2022 AT 8.05pm PM IN THE CHURCH HALL**

**Present**: Cllr Webster took the Chair

**Committee Members Present:**

Cllr Fellowes Cllr Howard-Dobson

Cllr Palmer Cllr Piers-Hall

Cllr Jones Cllr Fox

Cllr Digby Cllr Lumpkin

Cllr Lewis

   There were no members of the public in attendance.

**1. Apologies:** Cllrs Blackbourn, Smith, Fox and Osben

**2. Approval of Previous Minutes**

The draft Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 22nd November 2021 were approved unanimously by a show of hands.

**3. Matters for Discussion:**

Cllr Webster reported that a Planning Committee meeting took place last week for which the minutes have been circulated. There was one application that we refused our support for holiday rental. This is because we previously supported an application very recently for the garage to be altered into accommodation for elderly parent. At the time we stipulated familial use only.

There are two possible breaches of licensing conditions being investigated for Fishers Gin relating to sales out of hours. We will be informed when the outcome if known.

**4. New Planning Business:**

Cllr Webster talked about a normal planning application for anchor points etc. at Sizewell. He will monitor the planning website to see if Leiston Town Council add their comments. Cllr Webster will keep committee updated.

**The Planning Committee meeting ended at 8.15pm**

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ALDEBURGH TOWN COUNCIL**

**PROPERTY & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**HELD ON MONDAY 24th JANUARY 2022 AT 7PM IN THE CHURCH HALL**

**Present:** Cllr Jones took the Chair

**Committee Members Present:**

Cllr Lumpkin Cllr Digby

Cllr Piers-Hall Cllr Howard-Dobson

Cllr Palmer Cllr Lewis

Cllr Fellowes Cllr Webster

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**1. Apologies:** Cllrs Blackbourn, Smith, Fox and Osben

**2. Approval of previous Minutes**

The draft Minutes of the Property and Finance Committee meeting held on Monday 22nd November 2021 were approved unanimously by a show of hands.

**3 Matters for Discussion**

**3.1 Finance and Property**

Cllr Jones now has the Income and Expenditure and Nominal for 31st Dec and so will now be able to prepare the usual Variance Analysis ready for our next meeting. This month we have received the Grant monies for the Pocket Park Kemps Field Scheme of £25K and £14,308 from Sport England for Kings Field.

**3.2 Sports**

Cllr Jones is trying to get a date from Norse to move the goal posts however the bottom pitch is too wet currently too wet. The Veterans are playing on the existing pitch as are the Youth teams.

**3.3 Management/Maintenance of Council Property and Land**

Cllr Jones reported that she and Cllr Webster had met representatives of the Environment Agency to discuss the pump and pipe currently going over the river wall. Our tenant was given until 21st January to apply for a permit. The tenant advised Cllr Jones that he was going to complete a repair by that date and Cllr Jones has been chasing to see if that repair has happened.

The TC has been in contact with Giles Bloomfield who had been contacted by both our tenant and the Environment Agency regarding the pump. He has suggested meeting with us to discuss the possibility of the Internal Drainage Board applying to the Government to replace the facility and them then taking ownership. There would be a need for us to contribute towards this cost. Therefore, we are trying to arrange a meeting with Mr Bloomfield to understand the potential contribution required.

Apparently, the marshes have been assessed as high priority for eels by the environment regulator and the Environment Agency. We are likely to be subject to full compliance of the Eel Regulations 2009, which will require screening to the pump. Costs were mentioned at £750k minimum plus significant maintenance costs. Mr Bloomfield quoted a similar pumping station system costing £2-£2.5m. This will be discussed with him when the meeting is arranged.

After contacting the landscaper Cllr Jones will put a plan together with Cllr Blackbourn about the path and the remaining tasks at Kemps Field.

Cllr Jones I will chase the Builder regarding the insulation works for the small roof section on the Groundsman’s Cottage.

The TC updated the committee regarding the boiler in the Moot Hall. Two sets of plumbers have visited and both access that the flue is blocked. It is unlikely that we will be permitted to replace this with a modern flue which means replacing the old-fashioned flue possibly our only option. This then restricts us to limited choice of boilers which are compatible but may be more expensive and an unusual make/model. This could also restrict our choice of companies who are able to service. The Conservation Officer at ES recommends we get in a Structural Engineer.

Cllr Jones has agreed a start date for the refurbishment of the toilets at Kings Field of 31st January. She will be in contact with them this week to make sure they still intend to be on-site on that date and ensure they have full access to begin work. The OGS have been advised as they provide the power to the facilities.

The tree surgeon has been reminded to remove of the dead elms near the Tennis Courts and advised about a branch hanging from one of the poplars on the Kings Field boundary. Cllr Jones would also like to ask Haydens to complete another Tree Survey. It is about 5 years since the last report. They produce a full report on every tree advising what, if any, work is required and the degree of urgency. It has proved to be very useful when we have had residents ask for works to our trees as we can quote from the report.

**RESOLUTION** to **APPROVE** obtaining a quote from Haydens for a full Tree Survey with the view to going ahead. Cost not expected to be in excess of £2,000.

**PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL** by Cllr Webster and **SECONDED** by Cllr Piers-Hall

**In Favour 8**

**Against 0**

**Abstentions 0**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Cllr Jones has arranged for the hedge beside the tennis courts to be cut back today ahead of the nesting season.

Clr Lumpkin has offered to help with progressing works to the old Tractor Shed. The TC has written to the Estate Agents and to the Planning Consultant and we are awaiting a response from both. We can start to identify the works and the priority order for progressing them.

The TC is arranging a meeting in April with Stephanie Baxter who is the Housing Strategy and Enabling Manager at ESC as she has offered to come and speak to us about Community led housing. We also need to refocus on the housing needs survey and the next steps to progressing that. The mayor went to a presentation last week about Housing Needs Issues and Community Led Housing. He feels it can work but a major problem is to obtain land or to find a building.

A discussion followed about the need to keep social housing in the town and not to sell privately. Unfortunately, there is nothing in Flagship’s policies to prevent them from selling as they see fit. Cllrs also thought that Flagship should offer properties to be bought by ESC in the first instance however again they are not obliged to do this. We need to work with Flagship and convince them to retain all their properties in Aldeburgh. Another point discussed is the need to get the point across to Flagship that people should be able to live in Aldeburgh although Flagship still class Aldeburgh and the surround area to include Leiston and Saxmundham.

**4. New Property and Finance Business**

There was nothing to report this month.

**The Committee meeting ended at 7.25 pm**