

**LEISTON COMMUNITY LAND TRUST
NOTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON 10 DECEMBER 2019
LEISTON COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 6PM**

1. Mrs Betson welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their support on such a wet and windy night. Mrs Betson then gave a brief outline of the agenda and the evenings proceedings.
2. Mrs Betson encouraged all those present to take a membership form home with them to sign up at least one new member, explaining that it was vital to have the support of the community for the project and central to supporting applications for grants and funding.

FORMAL MEETING

3. The formal meeting commenced with an explanation of timescale relevant to the process and then the Trustees were introduced.
4. The notes of last year's meeting were distributed and reviewed. There were no corrections or alterations tabled. The notes were proposed by David Bailey and seconded by Selena Levermore and accepted by a show of hands.
5. The Chair's Report had been circulated and was reviewed. Mrs Betson noted the vast array and value of skills possessed by the Trustees and thanked them sincerely for all the time and effort they have already contributed to the project. Mrs Betson also noted thanks to East Suffolk Council (formerly Suffolk Coastal District Council) for their continued contribution to the project. Mrs Betson reiterated that the project is being done by Leiston for Leiston. It is a vital element of the Neighbourhood Plan which forms part of the planning law at East Suffolk Council.
6. The Secretary's Report had been circulated and was reviewed. Mrs Betson explained that LCLT now had a base at No. 22 Sizewell Road. The office was open on Tuesday mornings and funds were available to provide administrative support to cover the office and assist with clerical duties.
7.
 - a. The Financial Report had been circulated and was reviewed. It was evident that not a huge amount had been created in the first year. The report had been audited by the Town Clerk. Approval of the Financial report was proposed by Chris Nichols and seconded by Selena Levermore and accepted by a show of hands.
 - b. Resolution: The Membership agrees that a full Audit is not required for 2019-2020 accounts. This was proposed by Selena Levermore and seconded by Philip Harle and accepted by a show of hands.
 - c. Nomination for Financial Examiner was discussed. The Town Clerk has been approached and was in agreement. Therefore, the nomination was

proposed by Linda Hawes and seconded by John Hayward, accepted by a show of hands.

At this point Barry Norman wished to thank Mrs Betson for the enormous amount of paperwork and hours she has already undertaken, especially in applying for funding on behalf of the Trustees.

8. As Trustees required to retire in turn, Bing Boast and Russ Rainger stood for re-election. Bing Boast was nominated by Sammy Betson and seconded by Russ Rainger. Russ Rainger was nominated by Lesley Hill and Tony Cooper. Both were re-elected by a show of hands.

Tony Cooper had been co-opted as a Trustee during the year. Nominated by Bing Boast and seconded by Russ Rainger, he was duly elected as a full Trustee.

Barry Norman has decided to stand down as a Trustee for LCLT for personal reasons. He is moving away from the area but will continue to Chair Leiston Together for the time being. Mrs Betson wished to publically thank Barry for his contribution and support to the Trust.

Phil Edwards joined the Trust as an associate member and has been co-opted to the Trustees as Finance Director. However, as an associate member he is not allowed to vote.

9. Mrs Betson gave an overview of the progress on the project to date and plans going forward. Admin support is currently being funded through Leiston Together, and the Trust has been successful in other bids for funding. The Trustees are now concentrating on specific tasks; Russ Rainger will support marketing, Bing Boast and Mrs Lesley Hill will focus on increasing membership and getting younger people involved. Simon Merrett and Jim Florance will oversee the United Church garden project. Phil Edwards, together with Jim Florance will cover Finance. Tony Cooper has not yet been allocated a role but will work with the Trustees to deliver the Church project. Mrs Sammy Betson will be responsible for identifying and applying for funding.

Simon Merrett gave a presentation showing the conceptual designs for the three main areas to be developed within Leiston. David Morsley congratulated the Trustees, and in particular, Simon's vision for the project.

Questions and comments from the members

Q: Ownership of the housing

A: The properties will remain under the control of the Trust, there will be no right to buy and priority will always be given to local residents.

Q: Loss of parking at Post Office Square

A: There may be other land options available but will require full consultation. There are plans to include signage within the town to join up different parts.

Q: Concern about removal of the Co-op car park wall

A: The Co-op are in full agreement, as are Coopers.

Q: Would all or part of the wall be removed?

A: It may not be as it appears in the conceptual designs, and requires the skills of a good designer to take account of items such as suitable access ramps.

Q: Concern about traffic management within the town

A: Traffic management is within the plan; the Town Council and the Trust are having consultations with potential Sizewell C developers regarding traffic management as a whole picture.

Q: Some images suggest more retail. How will you encourage more visitors to the town?

A: The ground floor area in Market Square will be the Library and café, providing them with more opportunity for community activities. Possibly the CAB and Jobcentre could be located in a more central area. The vision is to make Leiston a destination. It has a lot to offer in terms of the film theatre, heritage museum, library, swimming pool, access to the beach, self-catering accommodation. Parking must be increased in the right place and the scheme must not be a threat to existing retailers. The design encourages people to move through all the town.

Q: Retaining old shopfronts

A: This has been raised with the Conservation Officer at East Suffolk Council. Although no final decision has been made it is possible that some of the architectural features will be incorporated into the new street scene.

Q: Could some murals be incorporated on various wall around the town

A: Not something that has been considered but will be looked at going forward.

Q: Timing of the AGM – could it be later?

A; Mrs Betson noted the comments and agreed to make the start time 7.30pm.

The meeting closed and Trustees, Members and Associates enjoyed some festive refreshments.