



Ref: Agenda/Council-22/02/2022

17th February 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

All Members of the Town Council are hereby summoned to the Council Meeting of Biggleswade Town Council that will take place on **Tuesday 22nd February 2022** at the **Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade** commencing at **7:00pm**, for the purpose of considering and recommending the business to be transacted as specified below.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Tarrant".

Peter Tarrant
Town Clerk & Chief Executive

Distribution: All Town Councillors
Notice Boards
The Press

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive Statutory Declarations of Interests from Members in relation to:

- a. Disclosable Pecuniary interests in any agenda item.
- b. Non-Pecuniary interests in any agenda item.

3. **TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

4. **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

To adjourn for a period of up to 15 minutes to allow members of the public to put questions or to address the Council, through the Chairman, pertaining to matters listed on the agenda.

Please register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XcgDIfATTtOuWLX0t1aEKw

Each Speaker will give their name to the Chairman, prior to speaking, which will be recorded in the minutes, unless that person requests otherwise. Each Speaker will be allowed **(one) three-minute slot**.

5. INVITED SPEAKER

- a. For Members to receive a presentation from Tom Price, Senior Sustainable Transport Officer on the pilot scheme for electric vehicle charge points and what this means for Biggleswade. More information can be found on the CBC website [here](#).
- b. For Members to receive a presentation from Tom Leeming, Development Director of Tritax Symmetry.

6. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

7. MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS

- a. The minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on **Tuesday 8th February 2022** at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.
- b. The minutes of the Public Land and Open Spaces Meeting held on **Tuesday 1st February 2022** at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.

8. MATTERS ARISING

- a. From the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on **Tuesday 8th February 2022**.

9. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

a. **Amendment to Standing Orders**

Formal notice is given for an amendment to Standing Orders. Members are requested to consider revocation of the following provision in Standing Order 29:

‘A Member shall stand when speaking at Council meetings unless permission to remain seated is given by the Chairman.’

Members are asked to note that, under the current Standing Order 70, a resolution to add, vary or revoke a Standing Order shall, when proposed and seconded, stand adjourned without discussion to the next ordinary meeting of the Council, unless a written draft of the changes has been prepared by the Town Clerk and has been circulated with the agenda.

This amendment has been prepared by the Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships. In view of this, a proposer and seconder for the changes is required in order to proceed for consideration, and to be deferred to the meeting of Council to be held on 8th March 2022.

b. **Litter Picking Initiative**

For Members to consider an "Adopt a Street", Biggleswade litter picking initiative, set out in the email attached to the agenda pack.

c. **Luton Rising Consultation**

For Members to respond to the Statutory Consultation as previously circulated. This is an opportunity to have a say about Future LuToN, on the proposal to expand London Luton Airport’s maximum passenger capacity to 32 million, building a second terminal, and making best use of the single runway. To find out more on the consultation click [here](#).

10. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

You can view details of applications and related documentation such as application forms, site plans, drawings, decision notices and other supporting documents for planning applications. Click on the hyperlink on the heading of each planning application listed below.

a. **CB/21/05527/FULL - 45 High Street, Biggleswade, SG18 0JF**

Installation of bird deterrent spikes to selected sections of the pipework and brickwork at the side and rear of the building, and installation of bird spikes and bird netting to the parapet at the front of the building.

b. **CB/22/00300/FULL - 151 London Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8EJ**

Two-storey side extension, dormer extension to the rear. Rear single-storey flat roof extension with parapet and roof lanterns, new door elements in aluminium anthracite. (Re-submission of application CB/21/04173/FULL)

Previously on Council Agenda

CB/21/04173/FULL – On Council agenda 12/10/2021. First floor and loft side extension with a dormer and a rear single storey extension. Outcome as objection due to the lack of parking based on the change to five bedrooms. Application was withdrawn 5th October 2021.

c. **CB/22/00196/FULL - The Clubhouse, Langford Road, Biggleswade, SG18 9RA**

Erection of 12 no. 12 metre high floodlight columns with associated lighting units.

11. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

a. **Town Centre Management Budget 2022/2023**

For Members to receive an oral update from the Town Clerk & Chief Executive.

b. **Public Notice - Bridleway No 13, Bridleway No 10, Furzenhall Road, Potton Road and Vice Versa**

The attached notice is hereby given that Central Bedfordshire Council intend not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit any person proceeding on foot or on horseback or lead a horse or cycle along the length of Bridleway No 9, Biggleswade which extends from Ordnance Survey Grid Reference (OS GR) TL 1986 4557 to OS GR TL 1969 4594.

This temporary closure is required to enable works to occur safely on the crossing area. The closure is expected to take place from 19th February to 4th March 2022.

c. **Biggleswade Carnival**

The Biggleswade Carnival is taking place on 18th June 2022. As part of the carnival the fun fair will be on the market square over that weekend.

A request has been made to make allowances for the fair to pull on to the Market Square from the evening of Tuesday 14th June 2022 and to pull off on the evening of the 19th June 2022. Staff will ensure the parking bays on the north side of Market Street remain empty.

12. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

To adjourn for a period of up to 15 minutes to allow members of the public to put questions or to address the Council, through the Chairman, in respect of any other business of the Town Council.

Please register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XcgDifATTtOuWLX0t1aEKw

Each Speaker will give their name to the Chairman prior to speaking, which will be recorded in the minutes, unless that person requests otherwise. Each Speaker will be allowed **(one) three-minute slot**.

13. EXEMPT ITEMS

The following resolution will be **moved** that is advisable in the public interest that the public and press are excluded whilst the following exempt items are discussed.

None.

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the public bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Council **resolve** to exclude the public and press by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.



MINUTES OF THE BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 8th FEBRUARY 2022
AT 7.00PM AT BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES,
THE OLD COURT HOUSE, 4 SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE SG18 8DL



PRESENT:

Cllr M. Russell (Chairman)
Cllr D. Albone
Cllr I. Bond
Cllr K. Brown
Cllr L. Fage
Cllr F. Foster
Cllr M. Foster
Cllr M. Knight
Cllr H. Ramsay
Cllr M. North
Cllr D. Strachan
Cllr C. Thomas
Cllr J. Woodhead

Mr P. Tarrant – Town Clerk & Chief Executive
Mr K. Hosseini – Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships
Mr P. Truppin – Head of Place Shaping & Town Centre Management
Mrs W. Solomon – Head of Finance & Planning – via Zoom
Ms. H. Calvert – Administration & HR Manager
Ms. S. Jolly – Meeting Administrator

Members of the Public - 5

Meeting Formalities:

Following a reminder to meeting attendees that this is a formal meeting, the Mayor advised that members of the public will be given an opportunity to speak during public open session but not at other times. The meeting is being filmed and by being present attendees are deemed to have agreed to be filmed and to the use of those images and sound recordings. The Mayor advised that attendees should not disclose any personal information of individuals as this would infringe the Data Protection Rights of that individual.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr G Fage and Cllr R Pullinger.

ABSENT WITHOUT APOLOGIES

None.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

a. Disclosable Pecuniary interests in any agenda item:

None.

b. Non-Pecuniary interests in any agenda item:

None.

3. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. It was **RESOLVED** to suspend the relevant Standing Order for the purposes of this meeting so that Councillors and Officers need not stand when speaking during the meeting. It was agreed that a permanent amendment to Standing Orders would be on the agenda of the next meeting.

b. Sod-Cutting Ceremony – 3rd February 2022

Tritax Symmetry, who brought the Co-Op to Biggleswade, are now building four more units on Stratton Business Park and the Mayor was invited to the Sod-Cutting Ceremony. Tom Leeming of Tritax will be the guest speaker at the next Town Council Meeting to update on this new project.

c. Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr M Russell was delighted to announce that the Neighbourhood Plan was finally submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council on 7th February 2022, together with the Consultation Statement; a Basic Conditions Statement (i.e. a statement that the Plan is compliant with legislation); the Biggleswade Green Infrastructure Plan; the Biggleswade Town Centre Masterplan; and a map of the Plan area, i.e. the parish boundary.

Council approved the plan on 25th January and it had been hoped to submit it the following day. However, there were GDPR issues to sort out since CBC asked for contact details for all those who had responded to the Regulation 14 Consultation so that CBC could contact them about the Regulation 16 Consultation, which they will conduct over six weeks.

There was also an issue about a new First Homes requirement in Planning Practice Guidance which requires 25% of Affordable Homes to be First Homes. CBC were concerned that there was no statement about First Homes in the Neighbourhood Plan. However, the Council's consultant, Dave Chetwyn, having spoken to CBC, advised that 'inclusion of First Homes is not a binding requirement in terms of meeting the Basic Conditions and the addition of such a policy would need evidence on housing need and viability to be commissioned and a repeat of the Regulation 14 Consultation, which would delay the Neighbourhood Plan by some 4/5 months'. He further advised that Central Bedfordshire should take the lead on First Homes through the Local Plan process and recommended that our Neighbourhood Plan should be submitted.

The Council now waits to hear that the Regulation 16 Consultation has gone live and about possible arrangements for the Examination by a Planning Inspector.

4. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

None.

5. INVITED SPEAKER

a. Lisa King, Community Agent from Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity, was unable to attend. She will attend a future Town Council meeting.

6. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

a. Derelict Industrial Site

Cllr Knight informed Members of a derelict industrial site located half a mile from Baden Powell Way. The buildings on the site were not secure, were in a dangerous condition, and children were playing on the site. Cllr Knight asked how the Town Council might address this situation.

It was agreed that an informal discussion would take place after the meeting to discuss how the Town Council should proceed.

b. **Waste Sacks**

Cllr Woodhead asked about the withdrawal by CBC of the supply of recycling material to the Town Council for distribution to residents. It was agreed that the Mr. Tarrant would investigate.

c. **Bedfordshire Bulletin**

Cllr F Foster asked whether the Town Council would continue to advertise in the Bulletin, as it had previously. Mr. Tarrant confirmed that advertising would continue.

7. **MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS**

- a. Members received the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on **Tuesday 25th January 2022** at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, 4 Saffron Road, Biggleswade.

The Minutes were **APPROVED** as a true and accurate reflection of discussions.

8. **MATTERS ARISING**

Item 13a – Cllr Ramsay asked for an update regarding the lack of response from GP practices. Mr. Tarrant said that he would engage with the GP practices in person.

9. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- a. **NALC Policy Consultation Briefing - OFCOM Postal Regulation Consultation**

The document was **NOTED**.

- b. **CBC's Village Halls & Community Buildings Survey 2021**

It was noted that the Town Council had responded to this survey regarding the Orchard Community Centre. The survey was **NOTED**.

10. **ACCOUNTS**

- a. **Financial Administration**

Members received and **ADOPTED** the following accounts:

- i. Detailed Balance Sheet to 31/12/2021.
- ii. Summary Income and Expenditure by Committee 31/12/2021.
- iii. Detailed Income and Expenditure by Committee 31/12/2021.
- iv. Lloyds Bank Payment listing December 2021.

11. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- a. **CB//21/05233/FULL - 19A High Street, Biggleswade, SG18 0JE**

Proposed kitchen extract system.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council **OBJECT** to this planning application and would support the comments of the Highways Officer relating to safety. There is also a concern about noise and possible odours from the premises.

Members also queried why there did not appear to be a Planning Application for change of Use from Class E to Class A5 (takeaway).

b. **CB/21/04624/FULL - 29 Osprey Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8DZ**

Retrospective erection of 1 metre high fencing.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council has **NO OBJECTION** to this planning application provided the neighbours are consulted and that any comments they may make are considered by CBC in their deliberations.

c. **CB/2200261/FULL – 212 London Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8PJ**

Proposed single storey rear extension replacing existing conservatory. Second floor side extension over existing ground floor extension. External changes to roof, external materials and porch.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council has **NO OBJECTION** to this planning application provided the neighbours are consulted and that any comments they may make are considered by CBC in their deliberations.

12. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

a. **Erlensee Twinning Association AGM**

Cllr Woodhead attended the Annual General Meeting of the Erlensee Twinning Association on 31st January 2022. It had been agreed at the AGM that the Twinning Association would be less formal in future. Any structural changes would be reported to a future Town Council meeting. However, the links with Erlensee would remain and exchange visits would continue.

b. **Grants 2022/2023**

The thank you letter for the grant awarded to Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity, Kings Corner and Biggleswade Baptist Church was noted.

13. **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

Mr Reynolds referred to the poor condition of the road surface in Bonds Lane and asked when it would be repaired. It was agreed that Cllr Bond would find out if repairs would be made on completion of the building site as part of the S.106 and, if not, when the road would be included in CBC's maintenance schedule.

Mr Reynolds also referred to the number of commercial waste bins in Bonds Lane. It was agreed that contact would be made with CBC regarding this matter.

14. **EXEMPT**

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Council resolves to exclude the public and press by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.

There were no exempt matters.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 7.23pm



**MINUTES OF THE BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC LANDS & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2022
AT 7PM AT BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES, THE OLD
COURT HOUSE, 4 SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE, SG18 8DL**



PRESENT:

Cllr F Foster (Chair)
Cllr C Thomas (Vice Chair)
Cllr K Brown
Cllr G Fage
Cllr M Foster
Cllr M Knight
Cllr M North
Cllr D Strachan
Cllr I Bond (Non-Committee Member)

Mr P. Tarrant – Town Clerk & Chief Executive, Biggleswade Town Council
Mr K. Hosseini – Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships, Biggleswade Town Council
Mr P. Truppin – Head of Place Shaping & Town Centre Management, Biggleswade Town Council
Mrs W. Solomon – Head of Finance & Planning, Biggleswade Town Council
Ms H. Calvert – Administration & HR Manager, Biggleswade Town Council (Meeting Administrator)

Members of the Public - 0

Meeting Formalities:

Following a reminder to meeting attendees, both panel and public, that this is a formal meeting, the Chairman advised that members of the public will be given an opportunity to speak during public open session but not at other times. The meeting is being filmed and by being present attendees are deemed to have agreed to be filmed and to the use of those images and sound recordings. The Chairman advised that attendees should not disclose any personal information of individuals as this would infringe the Data Protection Rights of that individual. The Chairman asked everyone to mute their microphones when not speaking.

The Chairman advised that the following items on the Agenda have been moved to the exempt session as a result of consideration by the Committee:

Item 7e: Wildflower Meadow

Item 7f: Apollo Gardens Play Area and Financial Settlement

Item 7g: Future adoption of Play Areas

Item 7i: Drove Road Chapel / Cemetery

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr M Russell, Cllr R Pullinger.

ABSENT WITHOUT APOLOGIES

None.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

a. Disclosable Pecuniary interests in any agenda item:

None.

b. **Non-Pecuniary interests in any agenda item:**

Cllr D Strachan – Item 7f - Apollo Gardens Play Area and Financial Settlement.

3. **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

None.

4. **MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS**

- a. Members received the Minutes of the Public Lands & Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on **Tuesday 28th September 2021** at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, 4 Saffron Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8DL.

Cllr North should be added as an attendee.

Subject to this change, the Minutes were **APPROVED.**

5. **MATTERS ARISING**

- a. From the Minutes of the Public Lands & Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 28th September 2021.

None.

Cllr G Fage entered the Council Chamber at this point.

6. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- a. **Play Areas Strategy:**

i. **YEAR ZERO 2021/2022**

Buttercup Mead:

The Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships stated that Members are asked to consider recommendations in the report set out in the Agenda for this play area following a Consultation with residents on this street, which ran between 9th November 2021 and 6th December 2021. The proposal is for the play park to either be replaced by a landscaped seating area, or with plain grass. Two responses were received from residents to the consultation, both effectively calling for some of the current play park features to be incorporated into any proposed landscaping plans. Officers would undertake to update all residents of Buttercup Mead on the outcome of this item at this Committee Meeting.

The Town Clerk & Chief Executive advised Members that S106 funding of approximately £5k will be drawn down from Central Bedfordshire Council towards the cost of this project.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council remove all current play equipment from the site and grass over the whole area and provide a small seating area.

ii. **YEAR ONE – 2022/2023**

Updating and refurbishing of two smaller play areas

The Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships and the Public Realm Manager introduced their proposals relating to the playground equipment items for Poppyfields 1 and Playfield Close.

The Town Clerk & Chief Executive reiterated to Members that the funding for these proposals would be drawn down from the anticipated Public Works Loan agreed in a previous Town Council Meeting.

Members requested all paperwork relating to finance for projects be included in the agenda. There was discussion around understanding the demographics of the population around those play areas to help Members understand whether these plans meet the needs of the population. Members suggested potentially reviewing demographics via a Post Office PAF File or the results of the 2021 Census which have now been published. The Public Realm Manager stated he had spoken with residents around those play areas and taken feedback on their desires for the play park. The proposal Members were being asked to consider includes the desires of those who participated in the discussions.

The Town Clerk & Chief Executive confirmed that there is one quote for £14k that provides an indicative sense of the cost for Members.

Cllr Knight requested that all future proposals that form part of the Play Areas Strategy include demographics and three costings for the proposals.

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** a) the recommendation that the Town Council proceed with upgrading the play areas at Poppyfield 1 and Playfield Close with an indicative sum of £14k, b) replacing two units in each playground, c) proceeding with drawing down the funds from the Public Works Loan to progress the upgrades to both parks at the appropriate time.

Cllr G Fage asked the Committee to consider making good the wooden structures being removed from play areas and including those in the Green Wheel as items of interest.

Franklins Play Area

Cllr F Foster advised Members that he had examined the plan and the related pictures/prices for the individual equipment items and had arrived at a figure of around £68k and pointed out that this figure, together with the £14k already discussed for the Playfield Close and Poppyfield 1, is considerably less than the overall £122k budget for the 2022/23 play area improvements.

The Head of Governance and Strategic Partnerships then advised the meeting that actually, the £122k figure would be almost used up on Franklins alone because of the labour costs involved.

The Town Clerk then clarified the position that the expenditure on Franklins will have to be reduced by £14k to keep the overall expenditure to the £122k budget.

Cllr M. Foster wished to record his concern about the lack of information and clarity provided by the agenda and the accompanying papers. He requested that in future, as a matter of course, all relevant information be included in a clear understandable manner bearing in mind that the information provided should be designed to be helpful to public at large as well as to

Members. Members should not have to ask for relevant information at the meeting when it could and should have been included with the agenda. Cllr M. Foster was verbally supported by Cllr Knight, Cllr Strachan, and Chairman Cllr F. Foster with visual indications of support from other Members.

Members discussed a number of issues relating to this proposal, including having colour co-ordinated play equipment which would look more professional; Officers will need to investigate disabled access to this site as there is a kissing gate allowing entrance to the park, detail to be provided relating to soft equipment costs to support the play areas; information on what will be happening with the pool area on the park; opportunities for residents to be able to purchase memorial plaques and minimum donation on benches installed in play areas.

It was **RESOLVED** that the PLOS Committee support the principle of upgrading Franklins Recreation Ground but defer the final decision for a more detailed review to be made at the next PLOS Committee meeting of 7th June 2022. The review should include:

- a clear vision for the Franklins Recreation Ground as a whole;
- with more detailed scale drawings for the whole park;
- including information on different zones for different age groups and different equipment zones;
- details on the areas where adults and carers will wait for and observe their children;
- equipment warranties and estimated longevity are clearly outlined;
- the play surfaces to be accommodated are stipulated;
- any necessary landscaping is clearly identified; and
- financials are provided to Councillors in accordance with Financial Regulations.

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

a. Jubilee Recreation Area

The Head of Governance & Strategic Partnerships updated Members on the current status. Officers have written to Bellway about the fence/hedge across the pathway between Jubilee Recreation Area and the Larkinson Avenue development site.

Members and Officers discussed potential ideas for the pathway, soft seating and landscaping.

Officers will provide an update at the next PLOS Committee meeting of 7th June 2022.

b. Allotment Storage Building

The Town Clerk & Chief Executive updated Members that this item has been added to the annual budget for 22/23. The Public Realm Manager is collating quotes and these will be presented to the next PLOS Committee meeting of 7th June 2022.

c. Allotment Track Improvement and Maintenance

The Town Clerk & Chief Executive updated Members on this item. The Public Realm Manager has been liaising with Central Bedfordshire Council relating to responsibility for the track and roadway on the allotments. Officers will escalate this to the appropriate CBC Director if there is no information forthcoming in the next week.

d. **Allotment Directional Signage**

The Public Realm Manager advised Members he is still awaiting a response from Central Bedfordshire Council for directional signage from Saxon Way roundabout.

Cllr F Foster asked that when an update is available on this item that an email be sent to all Committee Members to update them.

e. **Wildflower Meadow**

It was **RESOLVED** that this item would be discussed separately under the Exempt Session of this Meeting.

f. **Apollo Gardens Play Area and Financial Settlement**

It was **RESOLVED** that this item would be discussed separately under the Exempt Session of this Meeting.

g. **Future adoption of Play Areas**

It was **RESOLVED** that this item would be discussed separately under the Exempt Session of this Meeting.

h. **Tree Inventory**

The Public Realm Manager updated Members that the Tree Inventory, conducted by a professional organisation, was completed in 2021. Most of the trees are in good condition and some minor recommended arborial work will commence in April 2022.

The Public Realm Manager stated he would provide Members with a full Notice of Works for all tree works going forward. Cllr F Foster asked for all works to be advertised on the Council website going forward.

i. **Drove Road Cemetery / Chapel**

It was **RESOLVED** that this item would be discussed separately under the Exempt Session of this Meeting.

13. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

a. None.

14. EXEMPT

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the public bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Council resolve to exclude the public and press by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.

(15a: Wildflower Meadow)

(15b: Apollo Gardens Play Area and Financial Settlement)

(15c: Future adoption of Play Areas)

(15d: Drove Road Cemetery / Chapel)

15. **EXEMPT**

a. **Wildflower Meadow**

Members received an update from the Town Clerk & Chief Executive. Central Bedfordshire Council has confirmed it does not wish the Town Council to use any part of the Wildflower Meadow to extend the allotment offer.

Officers are continuing to search for alternative allotment sites.

b. **Apollo Gardens Play Area and Financial Settlement**

Members were given an oral update on the current status on this play area. Officers are in contact with the developer's legal representatives to progress transfer of this playground within the 21/22 financial year.

c. **Future adoption of Play Areas**

The developer has opened dialogue relating to the transfer of various play areas across Biggleswade to BTC. Officers will continue to engage with them to progress the adoption of these play areas on the Kings Reach Estate.

d. **Drove Road Cemetery / Chapel**

The Town Clerk & Chief Executive updated Members on the planned Drove Road Cemetery and Chapel Works. Officers are working towards the funding strategy as agreed by the Town Council Meeting of 11th January 2022. The Intention to Offer letter has been submitted to the successful tender provider. A provisional start date will be agreed in due course.

It was noted that Financial Regulations may need to be suspended as only one quote can be sourced for the project management aspect.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 8:43pm

From: Susana Rice

Sent: Monday, February 7, 2022 2:58 PM

To: Michael North <

Subject: "Adopt a Street, Biggleswade" litter picking initiative

Good Afternoon Cllr North,

I have been advised to contact you in relation to the "Adopt a Street" litter picking initiative I have set up in Biggleswade.

My name is Susana Rice and I live on xxx, Biggleswade. My children, age x and x, attend Biggleswade Academy.

I am a passionately strong believer in respecting our surroundings, keeping our environment clean and litter free.

Over the years, I have become increasingly aware of the amount of litter strewn across paths and parks. I started litter picking regularly, both with and without my children/dog, over 3yrs ago. Being a parent, the ease of daily life partly depends on convenience. As such, despite litter picking wherever our walks took us, I mainly litter pick around Dells Lane, Holme Court Avenue and Kitelands Park. I often get approached by local residents who wish to express their gratitude for my actions, but also feel the need to mention their frustrations at the amount of litter generally found around Biggleswade and the little action the council take in order to tackle such issue. I usually try to respond from a mutual viewpoint, thereby I understand such sentiments there is only so much Council staff can do to keep the town clean. On the other hand, I often politely hint that everyone can pick up litter they see "abandoned" in the street and put it in a nearby bin.

Fast forward 3 or so years, and on the 15th January 2022 I decided to take my "less moaning, more doing" moto by launching Biggleswade's "Adopt a Street" litter picking initiative via Facebook. I read about this initiative in other parts of the country, ran both by community members and local councils, and thought it was a fantastic idea. Each individual who joins the initiative "adopts" a full (or section of) a street/road/alleyway/park and litter picks it as regularly as necessary/available so as to keep it clean.

Since launching the initiative, 100 Biggleswade residents have joined (both by contacting me directly and by joining the Facebook page "Adopt a Street, Biggleswade") and 81 full/sections of streets/roads/alleyways/parks have been adopted. There is a fantastic uptake on the initiative, within less than 3 weeks, and residents are already reporting cleaner areas on their walks. However, with over 400 named streets in Biggleswade, there's quite a way to go yet.

I have been in contact with Central Bedfordshire Council, namely Victoria Smith (Community Engagement Team) and Harry Adams-Rimmer (Waste Services Team), with requests from the initiative volunteers for support from the Council with litter picking equipment, better waste disposal facilities/options for the litter picked and queries relating to incentives from the Council for the initiative to continue its successful journey.

Unfortunately, to date, I have been advised that there is no available equipment to loan out to residents (either on short or long terms loan) and no incentives were in place to support volunteers (and tax payers) carrying out tasks that are included in their council tax.

I was directed to Biggleswade Town Council as a possible route to be able to receive support for the initiative and local residents. Subsequently, I wondered if there is any available litter picking equipment that could be provided, or any way to fund it. Is this something you could potentially help with, please? Perhaps there is a way we can work collaboratively on this matter?

I am aware that the Great Spring Clean is fast approaching in March/April, as well as The Queen's Jubilee. It would be wonderful to celebrate The Jubilee in a tidy, clean, community and council engaged Biggleswade and continue for many years to come.

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

Kind regards,

Susana Rice

PUBLIC NOTICE

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14(1)

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

(BIGGLESWADE: PART OF BRIDLEWAY NO 9)

(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2022

Notice is hereby given that Central Bedfordshire Council intend not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit any person proceeding on foot or on horseback or lead a horse or cycle along the length of Bridleway No 9, Biggleswade which extends from Ordnance Survey Grid Reference (OS GR) TL 1986 4557 to OS GR TL 1969 4594

This temporary closure is required to enable works to occur safely on the crossing area. The closure is expected to take place from 19th February to 4th March 2022.

The alternative route for bridleway users while the closure is in operation will be:

Bridleway No 13, Bridleway No 10, Furzenhall Road, Potton Road and Vice Versa

Further details, including a map, can also be found on the Council's website at:

https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/82/countryside/431/rights_of_way/2

The proposed Order will come into operation on 19 February for a period not exceeding six months or until the works which it is proposed to carry out on or near to the bridleway have been completed, whichever is the earlier. If the works are not completed within six months the Order may be extended for a longer period with the consent of the Secretary of State for Transport.

For further information please contact Chris Dorow, Tel: 0300 300 6906,

Christopher.Dorow@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

DATED 4 February 2022

Priory House, Monks Walk
Chicksands, Shefford
Beds SG17 5TQ

DARYL HARVEY
Head of Highways