



Ref: Agenda/Council-24/09/2019

19<sup>th</sup> September 2019

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 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019** at the **Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, Saffron Road, Biggleswade** commencing at **7.00 p.m.** in order to transact the under mentioned items of business.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob D McGregor'.

Rob D McGregor  
Town Clerk

Distribution: All Town Councillors  
Notice Boards (2)  
Central Bedfordshire Council  
The Editor, Biggleswade Today

Bedfordshire Constabulary  
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## 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.

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**

None.

6. **MEMBERS QUESTIONS**

7. **MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS**

- a. For Members to receive the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.
- b. For Members to receive the **Recommendations** and **Resolutions** of the Public Land and Opens Spaces Committee held on **Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> September 2019** at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.

8. **MATTERS ARISING**

- a. Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

9. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- a. **CB/19/02389/LB – White Hart Public House, 23-24 Market Square, Biggleswade, SG18 8AS**

Listed Building: Installation of replacement illuminated and non-illuminated signs to the exterior of the building.

- b. **CB/19/02482/FULL – Retail Unit 3, Purchell Place, Sullivan Court, Biggleswade, SG18 8SX**

Change of use: of commercial unit from A3 to A5.

- c. **CB/19/02583/FULL – 8 Dells Lane, Biggleswade, SG18 8LP**

Proposed 2 storey side and rear extension, Front Porch & Garage.

- d. **CB/19/02579/FULL – Garage site adjacent to 165 Stratton Way, Biggleswade**

Demolition of 20 garages and erection of 1 dwelling with associated parking.

- e. **CB/19/02629/FULL – Conservative Club, St Andrews Street, Biggleswade, SG18 8BA**

Conservation Area: Relocation of play equipment (retrospective) and construction of new masonry wall (following demolition of existing).

- f. **CB/19/02516/FULL – 126 Winston Crescent, Biggleswade, SG18 0HA**

Single storey front extension.

- g. **CB/19/02624/FULL – 4 Ouse Way, Biggleswade, SG18 8PZ**

Single storey rear extension.

- h. **CB/19/02885/FULL – 5 Presland Drive, Biggleswade, SG18 0FU**

Two storey front extension.

- i. **CB/19/02657/VOC – 21 Lime Tree Walk, Biggleswade, SG18 0DS**

Variation of Condition 2 (materials) of planning permission CB/14/03329/FULL – Erection of part single and part two storey rear extension and new front porch.

- j. **CB/19/02703/FULL – 12 Aston Croft, Biggleswade, SG18 8GR**  
Single storey side and single storey rear extension.
- k. **CB/19/02729/FULL – 7 Fennel Drive, Biggleswade, SG18 8WD**  
Existing conservatory extended by 2.5,2 and rebuilt with traditional masonry and tiled roof to match existing.
- l. **CB/19/02640/FULL – Land to the North of Wharf Mews, Biggleswade, SG18 0AW**  
Existing workshop to be replaced by 2 Dwellings.
- m. **CB/19/02531/FULL – 18 Lawrence Road, Biggleswade, SG18 0LS**  
Dual pitched roof, timber garden room.
- n. **CB/19/02709/REG3, 42 Fairfield Road, Biggleswade, SG18 0BS**  
Garage conversion and single storey side extension.
- o. **CB/19/02639/FULL - Land to the rear of 33 Shortmead Street, Biggleswade, SG18 0AT**  
Conservation Area: Existing workshop to be replaced by 1 dwelling.
- p. **CB/19/02783/FULL - 1B Saffron Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8DJ**  
Single storey rear extension.

10. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

a. **Bus services 85/85A and 188/190 in Biggleswade and East Bedfordshire**

The Council are asked to consider the Locum Clerk's email and the response from CBC. (Attached)

b. **New Developments in Biggleswade – Proposed Street names**

Email correspondence from Ms Ruth Bell MBE JP DL requesting consideration for Street names for new developments in Biggleswade. (Attached).

c. **Central Bedfordshire Council and Network Rail – Proposed Closure Lindsell's Level Crossing. Biggleswade Bridleway No 11**

To consider the Rescission of the following resolution 10 d as minuted for BTC Council Meeting of 27/08/2019, as follows:

"It was **RESOLVED** that there was **NO OBJECTION** to the Green Wheel as routed, both through Shortmead and via Sycamore Close."

Members are advised that the Town Clerk has received written notice with the names of 5 Councillors who support this. Cllr K Brown, Cllr L Fage, Cllr F Foster, Cllr M Foster and Cllr R Pullinger.

11. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

a. **Planning Application Outcomes**

Attached report of the Planning Application Outcomes as at 19/09/2019.

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.

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 item issue is discussed.

**Item 14a Minutes of Previous Meeting 10/09/2019 – Exempt Items**

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 10 SEPTEMBER 2019  
AT THE OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL,  
THE OLD COURT HOUSE, 4 SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE**

**PRESENT:**

- Cllr D Albone
- Cllr I Bond
- Cllr K Brown
- Cllr G Fage
- Cllr L Fage
- Cllr F Foster (Vice Chairman)
- Cllr M Foster
- Cllr M Knight
- Cllr M North
- Cllr R Pullinger
- Cllr M Russell (Chairman)
- Cllr D Strachan
- Cllr C Thomas
- Cllr J Woodhead

- Mr R McGregor – Town Clerk
- Mr P Truppin – Locum Clerk
- Miss H Calvert – Meeting Administrator, Biggleswade Town Council
- Members of Public – 10, including Simon Newton, Town Centre Operations Manager, BTC

**A10/0901            1.        APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr H Ramsay

**ABSENT WITHOUT APOLOGIES**

None

**A10/0902            2.        DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- A10/0902.1        a.        Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in any agenda item - None
- A10/0902.2        b.        Non-pecuniary interests in any agenda item – Item 9a – Cllr Strachan

**A10/0903            3.        TOWN MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

Cllr Russell attended the following events:

**2nd September, Re-Opening of Stratton House Hotel**

This was a soft launch for staff and others closely involved with bringing the Hotel back to life. It was a pleasure to meet the new management, who already run a hotel in Surrey and it was gratifying to

learn that they have been able to re-employ some of the staff who worked at Stratton House previously.

#### **9th September, Lord-Lieutenant's Honours Recipients Gathering**

This was held at the Woburn Hotel and gave the opportunity to recognise people from Bedfordshire who had received an award in the Queen's Birthday Honours 2019. An invitation came to the Mayor because one of the recipients is a resident of Biggleswade. Mrs Libby Jackson was awarded an MBE for Services to the Northern Ireland Economy and Innovation in Law. It was a very pleasant occasion with a musical interlude and followed by afternoon tea which gave an opportunity to get to know Mrs. Jackson and her husband.

Another recipient of an MBE was Eve Burt, wife of the MP for North East Bedfordshire, for public and political service.

It was pleasing to see the County flag alongside the Union Jack at the event.

**A10/0904**

#### **4. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

Dr Kerr spoke on the Planning Application for 99 Drove Road, Biggleswade (Item A10/0909.1). Dr Kerr is involved with the non-profit organisation that wishes to purchase this property in order to provide further charitable services. The organisation provides support services for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and semi-independent living services to young people. The organisation further supports children with disabilities, particularly autism. It was explained that there would be a maximum of 4 employees at the property and so this would not cause any issues with parking.

Mark Winwood of Sycamore Close wished to object to the proposed Bridleway to Sycamore Close in the plans for the closure of Lindsell's Level Crossing, Biggleswade Bridleway No 11. This item was discussed at the 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019 Council meeting.

**A10/0905**

#### **5. INVITED SPEAKER**

Members welcomed Paul Prosser, Head of Welfare Services at NOAH, and Martin Rooney, Central Bedfordshire Outreach Team Leader at NOAH.

Mr Prosser thanked Cllr G Fage for the invitation to present the work of NOAH to Biggleswade Town Council.

Mr Prosser explained the work that NOAH are doing to help those who find themselves homeless and the number of factors that can lead to homelessness.

Members were informed that a Street Outreach Team at NOAH is currently being developed in Bedfordshire. This team will provide a variety of support for homeless people in the area such as the arrangement of temporary accommodation and connection to healthcare services.

Concerns were raised over the presence of rough sleepers in Biggleswade Town Centre during the last six months. Mr Prosser informed members that there have been rough sleepers in Biggleswade before but that they have not been situated in public places. Mr Prosser stressed that there is a difference between people who are sleeping rough and those who are begging. Furthermore, people sleeping rough in public places, or begging, is largely an indication of a drug addiction. It was suggested that those who are rough sleeping/begging in public areas of Biggleswade may be attracted to this area because it is affluent, and the community may be known for its generosity. It was noted that NOAH is in the early stages of its work in Biggleswade.

Members asked what the Town Council can do to help the current situation. Mr Prosser felt that it would be beneficial for the Town Council and Councillors to raise public awareness on homelessness in Biggleswade. It was suggested that publicity is used to inform people that we are aware that there is an increase of rough sleepers in Biggleswade and to notify them of the work of NOAH and other support services that are available. Furthermore, Councillors could inform the public about Street Link, a mobile app that enables members of the public to connect people sleeping rough with the local services that can support them.

Members thanked Mr Prosser for the informative presentation and requested that the presentation is sent to the Town Clerk to circulate to Councillors and upload to the BTC website.

**A10/0906**

**6. MEMBERS QUESTIONS**

Cllr Knight said that a number of streetlights on Fairfield Road are still not working despite this being raised with CBC over a month ago. Cllr Bond informed members that he had raised this issue several times with CBC and has been assured that all seven streetlights will be working by the end of this week. Cllr Bond reassured members that he will continue to chase with CBC if this matter is not resolved.

**A10/0907**

**7. MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS**

A10/0907.1

**a.** Members received the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.

The following amendments were requested:

Item B27/0802.2: To amend to 'Non-pecuniary interests in any agenda item – Cllr Woodhead, Item 11d'.

Item B27/0807.1: To adjust the amendment of the item A13/0811.1 to include the following 'The Locum Town Clerk has written to CBC raising concern over the issue'.

Item B27/0807.3: To amend to include the numbering of 'A13/0811.3'.

Item B27/0810.2: To amend to the following: Replace '**NOTED**' with '**RESOLVED**'.

Item B27/0810.4: To amend to the following: 'It was **RESOLVED** that there was **NO OBJECTION** to the Green Wheel as routed, both through Shortmead and via Sycamore Close. Vehicular access should only be allowed for Network Rail staff.'

Item B27/0811.1: To amend to read 'Cllr Bond has looked into the Bonds Lane/Foundry Lane application. The initial application was withdrawn, and a following application has been submitted and approved. It was noted that the application would be subject to building regulations and would require the provision of sprinklers'.

**A10/0908**            **8.        MATTERS ARISING**

A10/0908.1        **a.**        Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

Cllr F Foster expressed strong objection to the proposed Lindsell's Level Crossing, Biggleswade Bridleway No 11.

A10/0908.2        **b.**        From the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on **Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019, B27/0808** on the subject of lighting provision on part of unlit Footpath 44 Southern Railway Crossing.

The Locum Clerk updated members that the work is expected to take 5 working days, however dates for this work to be completed have not yet been confirmed.

A10/0908.3        **c.**        From the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on **Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019, B27/0806** It was pointed out that residents have noted that the Biggleswade Bulletin is not reaching all residents of Biggleswade. It was confirmed that, although the Biggleswade Bulletin is not distributed by BTC, the Bulletin will be informed about this.

It was confirmed that the Bulletin is now published in tabloid form. The Locum Clerk has contacted the Bulletin who has asked that they be informed of specific addresses that are being out of the circulation.

**A10/0909**            **9.        PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

A10/0909.1        **a.**        **CB/19/02286/FULL – 99 Drove Road, Biggleswade, SG18 0HW**

The use of the outbuilding associated with the dwelling house to accommodate and provide care for 4 children between the ages of 7 and 12.

Concerns were raised over parking. The properties driveway has space for two cars. However there is likely to be a greater need for spaces due to staff and visitors. This application may lead to cars parking on what is a difficult corner. It was suggested that the Town Council could offer support on parking as the property is being purchased for a charitable cause.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council has **NO OBJECTION** to this Planning Application but registers a concern over parking on what is a difficult corner.



- A10/0909.2      b.      **CB/19/01566/FULL – 15 Spring Close, Biggleswade, SG18 0HL**  
Conversion of double garage for residential use.

It was noted that the proposal does not lead to loss of parking.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council has **NO OBJECTION** to this Planning Application providing the neighbours are consulted and that any comments they may make are considered by CBC in their deliberations. In addition, the Council is to ensure that their guidelines on the size of the proposed dwellings are complied with to eliminate detriment in respect of light and privacy of adjacent residents.

- A10/0909.3      c.      **CB/19/02442/FULL – White Hart Public House, 23-24 Market Square, Biggleswade, SG18 8AS**

Alter and adapt the bar back fitting, installation of new screens, remove existing fixed seating and install new fixed seating, installation of new external pergola, now planters and new festoon lighting.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council has **NO OBJECTION** to this Planning Application.

- A10/0909.4      d.      **CB/19/02374/ADV – White Hart Public House, 23-24 Market Square, Biggleswade, SG18 8AS**

Advertisement: Installation of replacement illuminated and non illuminated signs to the exterior of the building.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council has **NO OBJECTION** to this Planning Application.

**A10/0910      10.      ACCOUNTS**

- A10/0910.1      a.      For Members to receive and adopt the following accounts:

- i. Detailed Balance Sheet to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019.
- ii. Summary of Income & Expenditure 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019.
- iii. Income and Expenditure by budget heading 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019.
- iv. Current Bank Account, receipts and payments to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council adopt the accounts as presented.

**A10/0911      11.      ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- A10/0911.1      a.      **Bus services 85/85A and 188/190 in Biggleswade and East Bedfordshire**

The Public Transport Manager at CBC has written to BTC outlining bus service changes that will take effect from 30th September 2019. Members were requested to consider asking CBC to postpone the service changes while options to protect the service is urgently investigated and reviewed at Joint Committee. (attached).

Members expressed strong disappointment to the revised timetable. It was noted that CBC are now no longer offering a full day's service.

The following concerns were raised:

- The revised timetable will cause great issues for those relying on this service for work, and who may now have no other means of getting to their place of work.
- This will also add further to the issue of traffic and parking in Biggleswade.
- The timetable still lacks connectivity between the bus service and the train line despite plans in place to provide a Transport Interchange in Biggleswade.

The following was agreed/noted:

- This public service must be provided, and that greater support needs to be given towards bus services.
- The Baulk Bus Stop has recently been upgraded even though this stop is rarely used. It was felt that this money could have been better used elsewhere and that there is a lack of joined-up thinking at CBC.
- It is disappointing that CBC has to depend on S106 money, which is short-term funding, for a service that needs to be provided in the long-term.

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Locum Clerk would write to CBC expressing these concerns, and to request that CBC postpone the service changes while options to protect the service are urgently investigated and reviewed at Joint Committee.

A10/0912

12. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

A10/0912.1

a. **Central Bedfordshire Council and Network Rail – Proposed Closure Lindsell's Level Crossing, Biggleswade Bridleway No 11**

Members were advised that CBC has been informed of the views of BTC as resolved at the last Town Council meeting. An acknowledgement has been received

Once they have a finalised network and more details of the bridge CBC will provide an update for members.

It was noted that it will be some time before a decision is made and there will be a formal consultation before that happens. The funding comes from the HIF monies and the initiations meeting for the HIF project will be later in the month. Further information regarding the proposal will be received in due course. It was agreed that, if new information does come to light, the Council will revisit the decision from the Council meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

It was requested for this item to be added to the Council agenda for the 24<sup>th</sup> September meeting.

**A10/0913**

**13. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

Cllr Hayley Whitaker wished to add to Item 11a on the agenda. Cllr Whitaker shared the concerns raised by council. There is funding of £1.1m for the bus service and it costs close to £300k to run the Biggleswade service alone. It is hoped that as more money becomes available that the regular service can be resumed. Cllr Whitaker assured members that there is plenty of work being undertaken at CBC to resolve this poor service. Cllr Whitaker stated that the Passenger Transport Strategy is out of line with the CBC Environmental Impact Strategy.

**A10/0914**

**14. EXEMPT ITEMS**

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

15a. Staff Matters

15b. Minutes and Matters Arising from the Council Meeting 13/08/2019

15c. Minutes and Matters Arising from the Council Meeting 27/08/2019

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.

DRAFT



**RECOMMENDATIONS and RESOLUTIONS OF THE PUBLIC LAND AND OPEN SPACES  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 7.00 PM  
AT BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE**

**6. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**a. Biggleswade United FC**

Request to erect portable flood lights.

Matt Burgess, Head of Youth at Biggleswade United Football Club explained further the proposal for the floodlights and for the additional cupboard in the changing rooms.

Currently, Biggleswade United Football Club train out of town as a result of not having floodlights and this comes at a considerable cost.

The cost of the floodlights would be funded partly by Biggleswade United Football Club and by receiving grant money. The floodlights are portable which would help reduce the possibility of wear on the pitch. The floodlights are powered by a generator, but it was confirmed that this would make very little sound.

Members were reassured that the floodlights would have no impact on residents in terms of lighting or noise pollution.

The additional storage cupboard in the changing rooms would be used for storing additional training equipment.

Matt Burgess requested that the Town Council approves the proposal and asked for Council assistance on completing the grant application.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve both the proposal to erect portable flood lights and to build an additional storage cupboard in the changing rooms.

**b. Pitch Improvement Plan**

Members are asked to consider a request from Biggleswade United asking if the Town Council will complete a pitch improvement plan.

It was **RESOLVED** to support the request and to require that we get an assessment undertaken.

**c. Biggleswade Allotments – Additional Parking**

To consider a proposal for additional car parking at the allotment site, Kennel Road.

Cllr Pullinger informed members that he has spoken to an allotment holder who is in favour of the proposal.

Members were informed of the numbers of vacant plot and the number of people currently on the allotment waiting list. Members thanked the Town Clerk for providing these figures.

Concerns were raised over the demand for an allotment plot which we expect to increase with the expansion of the town. It was felt that we should consider further allotment provision in the long-term with the potential to take on an additional allotment site.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the proposal.

## 7. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

### a. **Rialtas Allotment Software update**

All tenants have now been uploaded on to the new software. The Admin Team are in the process of uploading the standard letters, including overgrown letters and notices to quit, to reflect the Allotment Terms and Conditions. We are currently allocating vacant plots to new tenants and will process those on the new software. The Admin staff will be receiving training from Rialtas on invoicing for 2019/2020 invoices.

Members were informed that the 2019/2020 invoices have been successfully produced using the Rialtas Software and have been posted out today.

### b. **Public Realm update**

To receive report from Works Manager, Bob Catchpole.

Cllr Strachan raised concerns that it has taken a long time for the water safety equipment to be repaired. It was confirmed that the equipment is now back up and running.

Members thanked Bob Catchpole for producing the informative report.

### c. **Drove Road Workshop Update**

To receive a verbal report.

Rob informed members that a draft document has been completed. Members agreed that we will need to draft a specification before this can be taken to the relevant committee.

It was noted that the specification would need to be taken to either F&GP or Council for approval. The next F&GP meeting is 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and it was agreed that the specification should instead be taken to Council so a decision could be made at an earlier date.

It was noted that work to the workshop would not be starting until September 2020, however it was preferred that we get the necessary documentation completed in due time.

It was **RESOLVED** to present the draft document and specification at the next possible Council meeting.

e. **Town Entrance Signs**

To receive a verbal report.

Rob informed members that Mike Thorn had previously been dealing with producing more effective signs.

It was suggested that we re-site the current signage so that the signs are higher up and therefore more likely to be noticed and read. It was agreed to initially get the signs refurbished, and then look into re-siting the signs. It was noted that as the town has developed, we will need to review on the most prominent places to put these signs. It was agreed to review the signs and the different options available. It was agreed to discuss and make any suggestions by email.

It was suggested that a sign for Biggleswade as a Historic Market Town is erected.

It was **AGREED** to review the signage and to email the Town Clerk with any ideas.

f. **Adoption of Play areas**

To receive a verbal report.

Rob informed members that Town Council Policy is to adopt the play areas from developers. However, Beds FA wish to adopt the play areas that are on Land of East Biggleswade and the developers of North of Potton Road have chosen an alternative route.

Cllr Knight suggested that an inventory of Town Council play areas is produced.

Concerns were raised over residents paying a service charge for the upkeep of play areas to developers when it should be developers that are paying this charge.

**From:** Philip Truppin <  
**Sent:** 11 September 2019 10:23  
**To:** Adrian Hardy **Cc:** Rob McGregor  
**Subject:** FW: Bus services 85/85A and 188/190 in Biggleswade and East Bedfordshire

Dear Adrian

I write in response to your email to Rob McGregor of 29<sup>th</sup> August informing the Town Council of forthcoming changes to the bus services 85/85A and 188/190 in Biggleswade and East Bedfordshire. The proposed timetable changes were discussed at the meeting of Biggleswade Town Council yesterday evening, the 10<sup>th</sup> September and members expressed considerable concern over the cuts to bus services serving the town and surrounding areas.

The cuts to the 85/85A were considered particularly severe, seriously affecting commuters who would use the bus service to Biggleswade train station in the morning and evening peaks. The lack of connectivity with train services, given the future plans for the bus/rail interchange, is a point that should have been taken into account. In the meantime bus stops are being refurbished with money that could be allocated to maintaining the bus services.

There were further concerns expressed over the bus routes, including the 188/190 service, that connect the surrounding areas, again for people who live in Biggleswade and work in surrounding towns and villages. Loss of early morning and evening services will affect people who rely on these bus routes to get to work and could threaten their livelihoods, not to mention the increases in private car traffic with the inevitable environmental impacts.

You mention the use of s106 funding in the past for these services. It seems bizarre that Central Bedfordshire Council would rely on such a temporary means of financing core public transport. The Council is urged to look for a more permanent solution to maintain the bus services at the current levels. Consequently, Biggleswade Town councillors voted unanimously to ask Central Bedfordshire Council to postpone the service changes while options to protect the service is urgently investigated and reviewed at the next Joint Committee meeting.

For your information the next Biggleswade Joint Committee is on the 19<sup>th</sup> September, so your urgent attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Philip Truppin  
Locum Clerk

**From:** Adrian Hardy <  
**Sent:** 13 September 2019 11:24  
**To:** Philip Truppin **Cc:** Rob McGregor Susan Childerhouse  
**Subject:** RE: Bus services 85/85A and 188/190 in Biggleswade and East Bedfordshire

Dear Philip,

Thank you for your email concerning forthcoming changes to the 85/85A and 188/190 bus services in the Biggleswade area.

As you will know, Central Bedfordshire Council's Passenger Transport Strategy, adopted in November 2016, states that the council will only support bus services between 08:00 and 18:30 on Mondays to Fridays and between 08:00 and 15:30 on Saturdays. The council does not support bus services on Sundays. The strategy was adopted by elected members after a full consultation on the proposals during the summer of 2016.

The changes that we are introducing at the end of this month will serve to bring the 188 & 190 services between Biggleswade, Sandy and Pottton fully into line with the strategy by withdrawing the current journeys which operate before 08:00 and which data confirms are in any case very lightly used: there will be no change to the level of service provided during the rest of the day. The service between Biggleswade and Hitchin will be provided on a commercial basis by Centrebus, with no support from Central Bedfordshire Council.

The fact that section 106 funding from the Kings Reach and Pottton Road developments has been available for the past several years has enabled us to provide a significantly enhanced town service in Biggleswade than would otherwise have been the case. Now that this funding has virtually all been used we have been able to retain a town service for Biggleswade but it will need to operate in line with our strategy, as is the case with all supported bus services across Central Bedfordshire. You will recall that previous Biggleswade town bus services before the section 106 funding was available operated at a level similar to what will be provided from the end of September. To give you some context, the current 85/85A Biggleswade town services cost £293,000 a year to provide and our total budget for supported bus services is £1.1m. It is simply unaffordable for us to maintain the current level of service and it would be impossible to justify committing virtually a third of our total budget to support one service in one town when we need to consider the needs of all towns and villages across Central Bedfordshire. The current service carries around 6000 passengers a month on average, generating approximately £2,900 in fares revenue and a similar amount in concessionary pass reimbursement so as you can see revenue attributed to the service covers barely 25% of the operating costs.

Funds that are available to improve infrastructure such as stops and shelters are often only available for that purpose and so cannot be used to support services themselves. In any event the amounts involved would not support a service for any length of time and the improved infrastructure will still be beneficial to passengers using bus services around the town.

I am afraid that it is not possible to postpone the service changes at this late stage, as you request. However Su Childerhouse, Assistant Director Public Protection & Transport and I will be attending the Biggleswade Joint Committee meeting next week at which we would be happy to discuss these matters further.

Kind regards,  
**Adrian Hardy**  
Public Transport Manager  
Passenger Transport Service



**From:** Bell, Ruth C1 (JITG-ResFin-SO1)  
**Sent:** 11 September 2019 08:24  
**To:** Kay Croft <  
**Cc:**; Biggleswade Secretary  
**Subject:** New Developments in Biggleswade - Proposed Road names

Good Morning Kay,  
It was good to see you after what does seem a long time.

As I briefly mentioned last week on behalf of the Biggleswade Branch of the Royal British Legion I would like to put forward a proposal for the next tranche of road names for any new estate currently being built/developed. I am proposing names are taken from our Town War Memorial and used for street/road names. I propose the new development could be called something along the lines of 'The Poppies' or perhaps 'Poppy Fields'. To further ensure this ties into our memorial and not the notion that the development was once fields of poppies may I further suggest that the road/street signs also have a poppy incorporated into/onto them. Furthermore with commemorations of VE/VJ day due next year, this could be quite timely.

I'd be grateful if you could please place my proposal in front of the Town Clerk/Town Council for their consideration.

Kind regards,

Ruth

**Ms Ruth Bell MBE JP DL**  
**0781 3468 526**

**OUTCOME OF CBC DETERMINED PLANNING**

Council 24/09/2019  
Items for Information  
Item 11a - Planning Application Outcomes

2018						
ADDRESS	APPLICATION NO.	COMMITTEE DATE	BTC DECISION	DESCRIPTION	CBC OUTCOME/ DATE	"CALLED IN"
Bonds Lane & Foundry Lane, Land at	18/02353/FULL	10/07/2018	Objection - BTC would like to see the derelict site developed, however proposal does not take account of parking issues ie Biggleswade does not have adequate parking to accommodate any further similar developments. There are factual errors in the application; Rose Lane car park will not be unrestricted and no parking available in public car parks for residents of this development. No sufficient public transport, the development is too dense and design not in keeping. Also serious concerns over access and egress, in particular for emergency services. Development is Key 4 in Biggleswade Town Centre Strategy and Master Plan	Demolition of existing vacant and derelict buildings and erection of 50 residential apartments with associated vehicular access, car and cycle parking	Awaiting Decision	
Bonds Lane and Foundry Lane, Lands at	18/02353/FULL	23/07/2019	Objection - on the grounds of access	Demolition of existing vacant and derelict buildings and erection of 50 residential apartments with associated vehicular access, car and cycle parking, refuse storage and landscape.	Awaiting Decision	
Pegasus Drive, Stratton Business Park, Biggleswade	18/02305/VOC	10/07/2018	No Objection	Variation of Condition 22 of planning permission CV/17/02166/OUT. Erection of up to 52,000 sqm of B2 and or B8 floor space with ancillary offices, together with associated car parking and landscaping	Awaiting Decision	
Ullswater Close, 2	18/04253/FULL	27/11/2018	No Objection	Single & two storey rear extension	Awaiting Decision	

2019						
ADDRESS	APPLICATION NO.	COMMITTEE DATE	BTC DECISION	DESCRIPTION	CBC OUTCOME/ DATE	"CALLED IN"
Broadmead, 24	19/02215/FULL	27/08/2019	No Objection	Single Storey rear Extension and conversion of 1 x 3-bed dwelling into 2 x 1-bed self contained flats with associated parking and amenity space	Consultation Period	
Drove Road, 99	19/02286/FULL	10/09/2019	No objections - although concerns raised about parking. However, it was suggested that BTC offer help on parking as property being purchased for a charitable cause	The use of the outbuilding associated with the dwelling house to accommodate and provide care for 4 children between the ages of 7 and 12	Consultation Period	
Drove Road, Storage Unit, Rear of 99	19/01909/FULL	23/07/2019	Objection - The information is incomplete, the application does not reflect the true proposal for the site and the concerns regarding car parking	Change of use from Workshop/Out building to D1 Premises for Education	Application Withdrawn 30/07/2019	
Eagle Farm Road, 6	19/01643/FULL	25/06/2019	No Objection	Two storey side and rear extension	Granted 19/07/2019	
Eldon Way, Units 9 -12	19/01118/FULL	28/05/2019	No Objection	Alterations to the roof height by 250mm to insulate and remove existing roof covering & Replacing Rear Elevation Gable Cladding to match existing	Granted 24/07/2019	
Eldon Way, Sunderland Units 9 to 12	19/01301/FULL	09/07/2019	No Objection	Proposed first floor rear extension, front porch, 2nd floor front dormer windows, 1st floor front and rear dormer windows and alterations to existing dwelling	Consultation Period	
High Street, 11	19/01502/FULL	11/06/2019	Objection - Due to insufficient parking, access and due to the construction being in a conservation area	Construction of three-storey building to create 3 No flats and change of use to A2 use of ground floor of existing building to A3 Restaurant and residential use into 1 No flat following partial demolition of single-storey rear extension with ancillary parking and access	Consultation Period	
High Street, 11	19/01503/ADV	25/06/2019	No Objection	Advertisement: Installation of 1 fascia sign and 1 projecting or hanging sign externally illuminated	Awaiting Decision	
Hitchmead Road, Ivel Valley School Secondary Site	19/01649/FULL	23/07/2019	No Objection	Installation of a Single Classroom 69m 2 Modular Unite on site for a Temporary Period of 5 years	Granted 02/08/2019	
Langford Road, Brookside Bungalow	19/01949/FULL	13/08/2019	No Objection	Loft conversion	Awaiting Decision	
Langford Road, Land at Cow Close	19/00590/MW	26/03/2019	No Objection	Construction of external covered picking line	Granted 27/08/2019	
Lilac Grove, 4	19/01519/FULL	11/06/2019	Objection - on the grounds of loss of parking due to business being run from there	Single storey front extension & garage conversion	Granted 22/07/2019	

ADDRESS	APPLICATION NO.	COMMITTEE DATE	BTC DECISION	DESCRIPTION	CBC OUTCOME/ DATE	"CALLED IN"
London Road, New Spring Farm	19/01865/FULL	23/07/2019	No Objection	Replacement of 22.5m High Mast and 2No. Equipment Cabinets with upgraded 27.5m High Mast supporting Radio Apparatus and 8No. Upgraded Equipment Cabinets within Modified Site Compound, Plus Ancillary Works	Awaiting Decision	
London Road, 234	19/01554/FULL	11/06/2019	Objection - On the grounds of lack of parking and poor access	Demolition of an existing residential dwelling and construction of two semi-detached dwellings	Application Withdrawn 09/08/2019	
London Road, Unit 2 Omega Centre, Stratton Business Park	19/01286/FULL	11/06/2019	No Objection	Creation of 2nd storey floor space and rear fire escape	Awaiting Decision	
London Road, 17	19/01911/FULL	23/07/2019	No Objection	Two storey side Extension	Granted 02/08/2019	
Market Street, 23-24, White Hart Public House	19/02442/FULL	10/09/2019	No Objection	Alter and adapt the bar back fitting, installation of new screens, remove existing fixed seating and install new fixed seating, installation of new external pergola, new planters and new festoon lighting	Consultation Period	
Market Street, 23-24, White Hart Public House	19/02374/ADV	10/09/2019	No Objection	Advertisement: Installation of replacement illuminated and non illuminated signs to the exterior of the building	Consultation Period	
Orchard Close, 4	19/01906/FULL	23/07/2019	No Objection	Single storey front extension	Granted 05/08/2019	
Pegasus Drive, Stratton Business Park	19/01495/RM	11/06/2019	No Objection	Reserved Matters following Outline Application CB/17/02166/OUT (52'000SQM OF B2 and B8 use) details relating to access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for Building 4 (Phase4) consisting of warehouse building and associated car, cycle and lorry parking; dock levellers; security fencing and barriers; and landscaping at Phase 4	Granted 01/08/2019	
Pegasus Drive, Stratton Business Park	19/01497/RM	25/06/2019	No Objection	Reserved Matters following Outline approval of CB/17/02166/OUT dated 18/10/2017 - Submission of details relating to on-site access road to serve Buildings 4 and 5 including: landscaping; road; drainage; levels; and lighting	Granted 24/07/2019	
Pegasus Drive, Stratton Business Park	19/01510/RM	25/06/2019	No Objection	Reserved Matters following Outline approval of CB/17/02166/OUT (52,000 B2 & B8 use) for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for Building 5 (Phase4) consisting of warehouse building and associated car, cycle and lorry parking; dock levellers; security fencing and barriers; and landscaping	Granted 01/08/2019	
Potton Road, Edward Peake School	19/01211/FULL	28/05/2019	No Objection - Providing that the following works are carried out to ensure safe walking routes to school: a new pedestrian crossing across Potton Road pavement and improvements along Potton Road	Double-storey teaching block to provide 8 no. additional teaching facilities with associated toilet provision & support facilities. Internal Refurbishment of existing building. New Extension to the north and the west of the existing school building which will further provide an additional four classrooms. Provide additional car parking space and cycle rack for increased staff and pupil occupancy. Existing Access road to be developed to provide a new footpath and Bus drop-off layby. Associated external works to provide level access around the site to comply with Part M and make good to affected area	Granted 14/08/2019	

ADDRESS	APPLICATION NO.	COMMITTEE DATE	BTC DECISION	DESCRIPTION	CBC OUTCOME/ DATE	"CALLED IN"
Saxon Drive, Land off	19/02032/RM	09/07/2019	Objection - On the grounds of insufficient space, concerns over flooding, and pressure on the road network	Reserved Matters following outline application CB/17/01277/OUT Erection of 200 residential dwellings with associated access, landscaping, open space and ancillary works	Awaiting Decision	
Sorrell Way, Land at Biggleswade	19/02029/RM	09/07/2019	No Objection	Reserved Matters following outline application CB/17/01236/OUT Erection of building(s) to provide extra care accommodation comprising up to 93 units with associated access, landscaping and ancillary works	Awaiting Decision	
Shortmead Street, 49-51	19/01779/FULL	23/07/2019	No Objection	Change of Use and Construction of a Detached Double Garage	Refused 24/07/2019	
Shortmead Street, 49-51	19/01781/LB	23/07/2019	No Objection	Erect Double garage	Application Withdrawn 07/08/2019	
Shortmead Street, 81	19/01715/LB	23/07/2019	No Objection	Listed Building: Replace Rear Wooden Patio Doors with New Elite Engineered Hardwood Door	Granted 22/08/2019	
Shortmead Street, 33 Land Behind	19/01682/FULL	25/06/2019	No Objection	Existing workshop to be replaced by 3 dwellings. Dwellings include 2 x 2.5 storey with 1 x 2 storey buildings	Application Withdrawn 12/08/2019	
Spring Close, 15	19/01566/FULL	10/09/2019	No Objection - it was noted no issues with parking	Conversion of double garage for residential use	Consultation Period	
Sunderland Hall Farm Cottage, 1	19/01301/FULL	28/05/2019	To defer to the next meeting due to Insufficient information/full plans etc.	Proposed first floor rear extension, front porch, 2nd floor front dormer windows, 1st floor front and rear dormer windows and alterations to existing dwelling	See below	
Sunderland Hall Farm Cottage, 1	19/01301/FULL	11/06/2019	No Objection	Proposed first floor rear extension, front porch, 2nd floor front dormer windows, 1st floor front and rear dormer windows and alterations to existing dwelling	Consultation Period	
Windermere Drive, 7	19/00086/FULL	12/02/2019	No Objection	Single storey rear extension and first floor side/rear extension	Awaiting Decision	
Windmill View, 6	19/01892/FULL	23/07/2019	No Objection	Single storey side extension	Granted 02/08/2019	