

Ref: Agenda/Council090615

3 June 2015

To: All Town Councillors

Dear Sir or Madam

I hereby give notice that a meeting of the **Biggleswade Town Council** will take place on **Tuesday 9 June 2015** at the **Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, 4 Saffron Road, Biggleswade** commencing at **7.00 pm** to transact the undermentioned items of business.

Yours faithfully



R.D.McGregor
Town Clerk

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

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

Members may participate in and vote on matters before the Central Bedfordshire Council Development Control Committee on which they have already expressed a concluded view in their position as a Town Councillor so long as they declare their membership of the Town Council and the way they voted on the Town Council consideration of the application.

In addition, the decisions of the Town Council in respect of planning applications would not be binding on those members of the Council who hold office at the Town Council and the Central Bedfordshire Council Development Control Committee.

3. TOWN MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

A period of up to 15 minutes is permitted to allow members of the public to ask questions that are pertaining to matters listed on this Agenda.

5. INVITED SPEAKER

Mr David Lamb, Planning Manager (East), Central Bedfordshire Council.

6. **MEMBERS QUESTIONS**

7. **MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS**

- a. For Members to receive and approve the minutes of the Annual Statutory meeting held on 19 May 2015 at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade

8. **MATTERS ARISING**

- a. From the Annual Statutory meeting held on 19 May

9. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

a. **CB/15/01755/FULL – 174 DROVE ROAD, BIGGLESWADE**

Single storey side/rear extension.

b. **CB/15/01808/FULL – 23 NURSERY CLOSE, BIGGLESWADE**

First floor extension to rear and side.

c. **CB/15/01818/ADV – UNIT J, RETAIL PARK, LONDON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE**

Advertisement: 1 illuminated front fascia sign and 2 digitally printed vinyl logos applied to glass shop front (non illuminated). 4 digitally printed logos applied to totem.

d. **CB/15/01904/FULL – 24 DROVE ROAD, BIGGLESWADE**

Loft conversion with rear dormer and raising ground floor rear roof.

e. **CB/15/01923/FULL – 16 DROVE ROAD, BIGGLESWADE**

Single storey rear extension (including demolition of existing single storey extension).

f. **CB/15/01933/FULL – 33 NURSERY CLOSE, BIGGLESWADE**

Single storey side extensions.

g. **CB/15/01906/FULL – 7 DROVE ROAD, BIGGLESWADE**

Single storey rear & side extension.

h. **CB/15/01989/FULL – 7 FENNEL DRIVE, BIGGLESWADE**

First floor extension over existing garage.

10. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

a. **Dispensations**

An application has been received from Councillor D A Strachan asking for a dispensation, relating to a Disclosable Pecuniary interest in discussions relating to parking in the Dells Lane area of Biggleswade.

A consultation is currently being undertaken by Central Bedfordshire Council relating to on street parking measures in Biggleswade, measures in which the Town Council will be asked to participate, the on street parking consultation in terms of **pecuniary interests** does affect one third of the Council.

Guidance

The rules allow the council in certain circumstances to grant a dispensation to permit a member to take part in the business of the Council even if the member has a disclosable pecuniary interest relating to that business. These circumstances are where the council or authority considers that;

without the dispensation so great a proportion of the council or authority would be prohibited from participating in that business as to impede the council's or authority's transaction of that business,

without the dispensation the representation of different political groups dealing with that business would be so upset as to alter the likely outcome of any vote, the granting of the dispensation is in the interests of people living in the council's or authority's area, without

the dispensation each member of the council would be prohibited from participating in the business.

Regulations specifies that dispensations may only be granted if half the members entitled or required to participate in the business of the Council would not otherwise be able to, or the Council would not be able to comply with political balance principles. It specifies further that a member must submit a written request for a dispensation explaining why it is desirable and that the Council must conclude that having regard to these matters and all the other circumstances of the case, it is appropriate to grant the dispensation.

Members will need to weight up the risks and consequences of both granting or refusing an application, the extent to which the request could have been avoided, whether other arrangements could be made, the effect on public perception and confidence in local governance, the extent to which there is some personal benefit and the extent of public benefit obtained by agreeing to a dispensation.

As set out above the committee must consider, having regard to all the circumstances, whether the granting of the dispensation is “appropriate”; it would need to act reasonably in reaching that decision. Ultimately the Council would need to be concerned that serious harm would result from the giving of the dispensation and contrast the consequences of granting the dispensation with the consequences of a refusal.

Members are asked to consider the request for a dispensation.

b. Langford and Biggleswade Community Fund Group

The Langford/Biggleswade Wind Farm comprises 10, 110m high wind turbines and a substation building. The wind farm will have a life span of around 25 years after which the site will be returned to its original condition.

The Langford and Biggleswade Community Group has been established and is made up of representatives of the following:

Central Bedfordshire Council
Langford Parish Council
Biggleswade Town Council
The Developer (Co-operative)
One Co-opted member

The Community Fund Group is supported by officers of Central Bedfordshire Council.

Two representatives of Biggleswade Town Council served on the group, Cllr Mrs J and Mr D Lawrence.

The Town Council are now required to elect two representatives to sit on the Langford and Biggleswade Community Fund Group; the term of office will be 4 years or up to the next election.

c. Street naming and numbering – Land at Potton Road, Biggleswade – 301 dwellings

CBC has received the above application for Street Naming. The developers in this instance have advised that that Biggleswade Town Council propose Street names. **This application is not part of the Kings Reach Development.**

Ten to fifteen new street names need to be created for this development so Members are asked to supply a minimum of fifteen street names.

CBC have requested that Town Council confirm suggestions by 26 June 2015.

11. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

a. Proposed temporary road closure of London Road, Biggleswade.

This closure is expected to take place from Monday 17th August to Friday 28th August 2015 from 2000-0600hrs.

Copy attached to agenda.

12. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

A period of up to 15 minutes is permitted to allow members of the public to ask questions.

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.

Agenda Item (14a) Minutes of meetings

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.