

**MINUTES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 26 AUGUST 2008 AT THE
OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, THE OLD COURT HOUSE, SAFFRON ROAD
BIGGLESWADE**

Present: Cllr P Woodward (Chair), Cllr G Wilson, Cllr T Woodward, Cllr P Rook, Cllr R Skinner,
Cllr Mrs S Grayston, Cllr Mrs R Forbes, Cllr P Vickers and Cllr S Watkins.
Ian Wilson – Bedfordshire Constabulary
Rob McGregor – Works Manager
Juliet Brookes – Finance Assistant
Sue Crowther – Administration Assistant
Members of the Public - 1

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs J Lawrence, Cllr D Lawrence, Cllr D Albone,
Cllr Mrs R Kerfoot, Cllr Mrs W Smith and Cllr D Smith.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

(a) **Prejudicial interests -**

(a) **Personal Interests**

Cllrs P F Vickers registered an interest as members of the District Council Development Control
Committee in respect of planning applications listed on the agenda.

3. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. The Mayor distributed to Members the itinerary for the walkabout that will be taking place on Thursday 4
September 2008.
- b. The Mayor also thanked all Biggleswade Town Council staff for all their efforts and support during the
Town Clerks recent sick leave.

4. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no matters discussed during the public open session.

5. BEDFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Members received a report from Bedfordshire Police showing that reported crime figures had fallen
during the month of August.

Cllr Vickers stated that he was concerned about the extended opening hours of Public Houses in
Biggleswade as he had received complaints about anti-social behaviour in certain areas and asked
PC Wilson if he knew how many drink related crimes had been reported. PC Wilson said he would
check.

PC Wilson also informed Members that the next meeting of the Community Safety Forum is to be on
Monday 20 October at Biggleswade Baptist Church.

Cllr Grayston stated that progress had been made as a result of the Community Safety Forum meetings.
Most people are very positive and are taking responsibility for their own areas, Furzenhall Residents
Association was a prime example.

6. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

- a. Members received Minutes of the Council meeting held on 22 July 2008 at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.

It was **RESOLVED** that amendments be made to item to 13 on the agenda.

- b. Members received and adopted Minutes of the Planning meeting held on 12 August 2008 at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.
- c. Members received d Minutes of the Public Lands and Open Space committee meeting held on 12 August 2008 at the offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.

It was **RESOLVED** that an amendment be made to list of Councillors present.

7. MATTERS ARISING

- a. Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 22 July 2008 - None
- b. Minutes of the Planning meeting held on 12 August 2008 - None
- c. Minutes of the Public Lands and Open Space committee meeting held on 12 August 2008 - None

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a. **08/01403/FULL – 12A Hitchmead Road, Biggleswade.**
Full: Extension to form new annexe ancillary to main dwelling

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council **OBJECT** to the application as it considers it to be an overdevelopment and there are concerns about sewerage. Cllr P Vickers requested to 'call in' this application.

- b. **08/01511/FULL – 52 Fairfield Road, Biggleswade.**
Full: First floor rear extension.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise no objection to this application.

9. ACCOUNTS

- a. **Financial Administration**

Members received and adopted the following accounts:

- i. Detailed Balance Sheet to 31 July 2008.
- ii. Summary of Income & Expenditure.
- iii. Current Bank Account, receipts and payments to 31 July 2008.

10. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- a. **Rosemary Close fencing**

Members were asked to consider correspondence from Raglan Housing Association requesting permission to erect a 'Ball Stop Fence' at Rosemary Close. The original fence is to be left in situ and the new fence would be on Town Council land. This has become necessary following receipt of numerous complaints from residents regarding criminal damage, youths congregating, and also using the area as a shortcut. Raglan Housing Association will take full responsibility for all future maintenance of the fence.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise no objection to this request **SUBJECT** to written confirmation from Raglan regarding the funding for future maintenance of the fence.

b. Confident Community Fund application - Public Space Lighting

Councillors were asked to recall the application for Public Space Lighting funding for Mill Lane, Bonds Lane and Eagle Farm Road and to consider the reply regarding the design of the lighting, which has been amended by Beds County Council.

. It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise no objection to these amendments.

c. Tree Lopping in Sandy View, Biggleswade

Members were asked to consider correspondence received from a Sandy View resident requesting that a Sycamore Tree be lopped as the leaves and seeds cause problems in their garden.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise no objection to this request, but Rob McGregor to confirm with resident which tree is to be lopped.

11. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

a. Parking Enforcement and Street Penalty notices issued in Mid Beds

Members received a graph from Mid Beds District Council showing the number of hours spent on Parking Enforcement and the number of Street Penalty notices issued in Mid Beds.

It was **RESOLVED** that this be noted.

b. Flutters Bingo

Members were informed that correspondence had been received from Flutters Bingo Club regarding retrospective planning application after discussion with Mid Beds planning officer.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council would discuss this further when a revised planning application had been submitted.

c. Minutes of CCTV liaison meeting

Town Council received Minutes of CCTV Liaison Meeting held on 3 July at Mid Beds, Chicksands.

It was **RESOLVED** that this be noted.

d. Replacement Street Nameplates

Town Council were informed by Mid Beds that there is a spend limit of £30,000 for replacement street signs, year one of 10 year programme has been prioritised.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise no objection.

12. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no matters discussed during the Public Open Session.

13. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

