

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 11 NOVEMBER 2008 AT THE OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, THE OLD COURT HOUSE, SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE

Present: Cllr G Wilson (Chair), Cllr Mrs W Smith (Vice Chair), Cllr D Albone, Cllr Mrs R Forbes, Cllr Mrs S Grayston, Cllr Mrs R Kerfoot, Cllr D Lawrence, Cllr Mrs J Lawrence, Cllr P Rook, Cllr R Skinner, Cllr D Smith, Cllr P Vickers, Cllr S Watkins, Cllr P Woodward.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr T Woodward

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

(a) **Prejudicial interests in any agenda item** - There were no prejudicial interests declared.

(b) **Personal interests in any agenda item** - Cllr PF Vickers and Cllr D Smith registered an interest as a member of the District Council Development Control Committee in respect of planning applications listed on the agenda.

3. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no items discussed during the public open session.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. 08/02011/FULL - 36 Derwent Avenue, Biggleswade

Full: Two storey side extension following demolition of existing garage.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise no objection to this application provided the neighbours are consulted and that any comments they may make are considered by MBDC in their deliberations. In addition, the District Council is to ensure that their guidelines on the size of the proposed extension to the principle dwelling are complied with in order to eliminate detriment in respect of light and privacy of adjacent residents.

b. 08/02038/FULL – 2 Sandpiper Close, Biggleswade.

Full: Removal of overgrown conifer trees and erection of close boarded wooden fence.

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

c. 08/01927/FULL – 5 Nursery Close, Biggleswade.

Full: Rear extension for use as a Wet room (retrospective).

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

5. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

a. Cozy Tours

Members consider correspondence received from Cozy Tours requesting the hire of a stall on Biggleswade Market, to promote their business, offer their 2009 brochure and inform members of the public what their company has to offer.

It was **RESOLVED** to raise no objection to this request **PROVIDING** that it isn't a charity stall.

b. **Street Naming and Numbering – Postal addresses for 1 pair semis and 12 flats at the corner of Blunham Road and Holme Crescent.**

Members considered correspondence received from Mid Beds District Council informing Council that the developer of new properties at the corner of Blunham Road and Holme Crescent, has suggested the name of **Carr Gardens**. The Carr family owned the land for at least 100 years and were market gardeners. One member of the Carr family lives nearby.

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

c. **Biggleswade Christmas Lights switch-on night**

Members considered correspondence received from James D Harris Fun Fairs, requesting that after the lights switch-on on 27 November, they be permitted to extend the use of the White Hart car park for Friday 28 November, all day Saturday 29 November and the evening. They will dismantle the rides on Saturday evening and vacate the site. They have offered to make a donation towards the Christmas lights.

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

d. **Proposed Temporary Road Closure of Market Square, Biggleswade – 27 November 2008**

Members considered correspondence received from Mid Beds District Council after receiving a request from Biggleswade Chamber of Trade seeking permission for a temporary road closure of Market Square, Biggleswade, on 27 November for the Christmas Lights switch-on.

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

6. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

a. **Planning Decisions**

Council Decision

i.	08/01719/FULL – Furzenhall Barn, Furzenhall Road.	APPROVED	No objection
ii.	08/01311/FULL – Land West of Bleak Hall, London Road (Erection of 60m high Meteorological Monitoring Mast)	APPROVED	Not rec'd by T.C.
iii.	08/00634/FULL – 44 London Road	APPEAL DECISION-DISMISSED	Object
iv.	08/01662/FULL – 163 Mead End.	APPROVED	No objection
v.	08/01629/FULL – 7 Anne Street.	APPROVED	No objection
vi.	08/01709/FULL – 9 Chapel Fields.	REFUSED	No objection
vii.	08/01942/CC – Cow Close, Langford Road.	NO OBJECTION	Strongly object
viii.	08/01973/CC - Sunnyside School.	NO OBJECTION to COUNTY MATTER	No objection

It was **RESOLVED** that a letter be sent to Mid Beds District Council with reference to item **vii**, stating that Biggleswade Town Council **STRONGLY OBJECTED** to this application for removal of restrictions on HGV movements to and from Cow Close, Langford Road, and to their subsequent approval.

b. **Thank you letter received from a resident**

Members received correspondence from a local resident, thanking the Works Manager, Rob McGregor, and all Council staff involved, for the fast response in helping to resolve the flooding problem experienced in Holme Court Avenue recently.

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

Cllr Mrs J Lawrence felt that the Town Council should thank Rob McGregor and all the Town Council staff for showing what the Town Council can achieve.

Cllr Mrs W Smith personally thanked Rob McGregor and the Town Council Staff and was grateful that as Chair of Public Lane and Open Spaces Committee, she was kept up to date with the progress on this matter.

c. **Design Guide for Mid Bedfordshire; Launch of Public Consultation**

Members received correspondence from Mid Beds District Council informing Council of a Design Guide for Mid Bedfordshire: Launch of Public Consultation documentation that is available to view online or at Mid Beds District offices at Chicksands or POP in Ampthill or Biggleswade.

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

d. **Mid Beds Site Allocations Development Plan Document: Issues and Options - update**

Members received correspondence from Mid Beds Environmental and Planning Services department to update Council on the progress that has been made on the preparation of this document.

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

e.

Confident Communities Fund – Public Space Lighting – Eagle Farm Road

i. Members received correspondence from Beds County Council informing Town Council that the lighting column applied for is already erected; albeit without its connection work completed.

Their correspondence confirms that the column is erected on Beds County Council-owned land and will be maintained as part of the public highway system. They have supplied a copy of the lighting design plan.

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

ii. **Confident Communities Fund – Vehicle Activated Signs- Holme Court Avenue**

Members received correspondence from Beds County Council updating Council regarding the Vehicle Activated Signs applied for. The products are currently on order with suppliers, and were ordered in good time to be able to meet the programmed delivery date of December 2008.

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

7. **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

There were no items discussed during the public open session.

8. **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.

