

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 13 OCTOBER 2009 AT THE
OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, THE OLD COURT HOUSE, SAFFRON ROAD,
BIGGLESWADE**

Present: Cllr G Wilson (Chair), Cllr Mrs W Smith, Cllr D Smith, Cllr P Woodward, Cllr P Vickers,
Cllr Mrs R Forbes, Cllr Mrs S Grayston, Cllr D Albone, Cllr Mrs R Kerfoot, Cllr R Skinner,
Cllr P Rook
Rob McGregor – Town Clerk
Sue Crowther – Administration Assistant
Laura Hutchinson – Biggleswade Chronicle

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs J Lawrence, Cllr D Lawrence, Cllr T Woodward and
Cllr S Watkins

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 registered an interest as a member
of the Central Bedfordshire Management Development Committee in respect of planning
applications listed on the agenda.

Cllr P Vickers declared an interest in item 5a as listed on the agenda.

Cllr Mrs S Grayston declared an interest in item 5a as listed on the agenda.

3. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no items discussed during the public open session.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. CB/09/05676/FULL – 43 High Street, Biggleswade.

Full: Change of use to fish & chip shop and insertion of extractor flue.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council **OBJECT** to this planning application as it would be the loss of a
valuable retail unit.

b. CB/09/05889/FULL – Land South West of Albone Way, Langford Road, Biggleswade.

Full: Change of use from agricultural to Class B2 for stone fabrication.

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

c. CB/09/06041/FULL – 17 Coppice Mead, Biggleswade

Full: Renewal of planning permission MB/08/00480/FULL for the erection of wooden log cabin for the
use as a beauty therapy business & garden shed to the rear of property (retrospective).

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

d. CB/09/06064/FULL – 100 Holme Court Avenue

Full: Single storey front extension

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 CBC in their
deliberations. In addition, the 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.

e. **CB/09/06091/FULL – 10 Stratton Way**

Full: Two storey side extension

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 CBC in their deliberations. In addition, the 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.

5. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

a. **Hitchmead School, Biggleswade**

Members received correspondence from a parent of a child who attends Hitchmead School to praise the school and voice concerns regarding the possible proposed merger with Sunnyside School.

Hitchmead School are having an 'Open Day' on Friday 16 October and Members are invited attend on this date or any other convenient date.

Members received the invitation and those who are able to, will attend Hitchmead School 'Open Day' on 16 October.

b. **The Licensing Act 2003 – Review of Licensing Policy**

Members received correspondence from Central Bedfordshire Council regarding the above policy. As a new unitary authority they are required to consult with statutory consultees, and interested parties on its new Licensing Policy Statement, and they have taken this opportunity to amend and update the existing policies.

A copy of a draft copy of the new Licensing Policy was attached for Members consideration.

It was **RESOLVED** that Members raise **NO OBJECTION** to the updated Licensing Policy.

c. **Land off Saxon Gate**

Request from developer for release of covenant from site off Saxon Gate, land originally set aside for Community Centre for Biggleswade Town Council.

Cllr P Vickers informed Members that this item goes back 10 years or more when it was agreed that the Developer would first build Saxon Gate Estate and shops and then a Community Centre for use by the residents of Biggleswade.

Cllr Vickers stated that if the covenant is removed then any monies should go directly to Biggleswade Town Council for the benefit of Biggleswade residents, and not to Central Bedfordshire Council.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council only **AGREE** to the removal of the covenant if the financial benefit comes to Biggleswade Town Council and not to Central Bedfordshire Council.

d. **Request for Market Stall to raise funds and donations for troops in Afghanistan**

A Biggleswade resident has requested a Market Stall on the Saturday Market to raise funds and to collect donations for the troops in Afghanistan.

She would like the stall as soon as possible to give her time to get the items boxed up and sent in time for Christmas.

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

6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

a. Biggleswade History Society Newsletter

Town Council is has received a copy of Biggleswade History Society Newsletter and a copy is attached to this agenda.

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

b. Safer Neighbourhood Team Autumn Newsletter

Town Council has received a copy of Safer Neighbourhood Team Autumn Newsletter and a copy is attached to this agenda.

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

c. Planning decisions

Council decision

i.	BC/CM/2009/9 – Kingsway Golf Centres Ltd	GRANTED	No objection
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It was **RESOLVED** that this be noted.

d. Notification of proposed temporary Road Closures

Central Bedfordshire Council have notified Town Council of proposed temporary road closures as listed below:

- i. South Walk, Biggleswade – 3 days between 16 and 18 November to enable surfacing work to be carried out.
- ii. B1040 Potton Road, Biggleswade – one weekend from 2000hrs on Friday 20 November to 2000hrs on Sunday 22 November to enable surfacing work to be carried out.
- iii. Dells Lane, Biggleswade – 3 days between 16 and 20 November from 0730hrs to 1800hrs to enable surfacing work to be carried out.

Specific dates will be advertised locally closer to the time.

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

7. 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.

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.

