

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 10 AUGUST 2010 AT THE
OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, THE OLD COURT HOUSE, SAFFRON ROAD,
BIGGLESWADE**

Present: Cllr Mrs W Smith, Cllr P Woodward, Cllr P Vickers, Cllr S Watkins, Cllr Mrs R Forbes
Cllr Mrs S Grayston, Cllr R Skinner, Cllr G Wilson, Cllr D Albone, Cllr P Rook, Cllr T Woodward
Rob McGregor – Town Clerk
Juliet Brookes – Finance Assistant
Rob Ellis – The Co-operative Group
Members of the Public – 2

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr D Smith, Cllr D Lawrence and Cllr Mrs J Lawrence

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

(a) Prejudicial interests in any agenda item - no prejudicial interests were 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 Woodward, Cllr Mrs W Smith, Cllr S Watkins, Cllr G Wilson and Cllr PF Vickers registered a personal interest in item 5a as listed on the agenda.

3. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no items discussed during the public open session

4. INVITED SPEAKER – Rob Ellis from Co-op re proposed Wind Farm

Mr Rob Ellis gave a brief presentation and update on the current Wind Farm application.

He advised that the application had reduced the wind turbines from 16 to 10. They are working very closely with the local authorities and have addressed all issues.

He invited Councillors to visit another Wind farm in Burton Lattimer which is designed on the approximate location and vicinity as the proposed Langford site. If this would be of interest to them a visit could be arranged.

The current application would go before Central Beds Management Committee during the month of October where residents and Councillors from both Biggleswade and Langford Parishes would be able to attend.

He handed out leaflets to all based on the brief presentation.

Cllr Mrs W Smith thanked Mr Rob Ellis for attending the meeting and for giving a brief presentation

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. CB/10/02575/LB – Conservative Club, St Andrews Street, Biggleswade.

Listed Building Consent: Replace windows & French doors to rear.

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

b. CB/10/02051/FULL – Oak Tree Farm, Potton Road, Biggleswade.

Full: Change of use of first floor of garage/workshop from recreational to residential use.

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

- c. **CB/10/02698/FULL – 16 Eagle Farm Road, Biggleswade.**
Full: Two storey side & front extension. Single storey rear 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.

6. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

a. **Letter from Walker's Pitch**

Correspondence has been received from Walker's Pitch, Biggleswade High Street, regarding the White Hart Car Park being closed on some Saturdays to accommodate Harris's Fun Fair.

He says that he loses considerable trade on which should be the busiest day of the week, and that with the economic climate as it is; he feels that the Council is further affecting trade in the town.

He asks that the Fun Fair be erected on the Market Square instead, as this would not have such a negative financial effect on the Business Rate payers of the town.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council **REFUSE** this request and a letter be sent to the proprietor of Walker's Pitch

Cllr P Rook asked that his name is recorded against this decision.

b. **Proposed reintroduction of two-way traffic flow on Bonds Lane, Biggleswade**

On 30 July Central Bedfordshire Council published notice of its intention to reintroduce two-way traffic flow on the length of Bonds Lane between its junction with Foundry Lane and Station Road. This will improve access and egress to the car park on Bonds Lane.

It was **RESOLVED** that members agree to the proposals subject to pedestrian education by way of signage when plans are finally implemented.

Cllr P Rook objected to the name of the street. Cllr W Smith advised Cllr P Rook that this information had been checked twice before by Town Council and that it was all correct.

c. **Request by Central Bedfordshire to use market**

We have had a request from Central Bedfordshire to bring a mobile stall to the Saturday market on 21st August for the purpose of handing out leaflets and speaking to the public about the Local Transport Plan.

It was **RESOLVED** that Members **AGREE** to this request.

d. **Methodology & fee proposal for Heritage Statement, Land East of Saxon Drive**

Correspondence from Albion Archaeology has been received regarding the Heritage Statement to accompany the Council's planning application, 10/00518/OUT Land East of Saxon Drive. The proposal sets out two principal sections: Heritage Asset description and assessment of significance and Impact assessment and mitigation. The costing to prepare the Statement would be £1,800.00 + VAT and completion would be 3-4 weeks from commissioning. A copy is attached to this agenda.

It was **RESOLVED** that Members **AGREE** to this proposal

7. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

a. **Biggleswade History Society Newsletter**

Town Council has received a copy of the Biggleswade History Society Newsletter for July 2010, and a copy is attached to this agenda.

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

b. **Proposed Temporary Road Closure – Footway adj 12 Hitchin Street, from Hitchin Street to St Andrews Street, Biggleswade**

Correspondence has been received from Central Bedfordshire Council regarding proposed temp closure as detailed above. This is to enable excavation for electrical work to be carried out in safety and is expected to take place on 1 day between Monday 16 and Friday 21 August 2010 between 1300 and 1700hrs.

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

c. **Street naming and numbering – Rising Sun Court, Sun Street, Biggleswade**

Central Bedfordshire Council Building Control have confirmed the postal addresses for the new dwellings on the site of the Rising Sun, Sun Street, and a copy is attached to this agenda.

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

d. **Central Bedfordshire Major Roadwork's – 3 week programme**

Central Bedfordshire Council have provided a copy of their major roadwork's schedule, to run from 31 July for 3 weeks, and a copy is attached to this agenda.

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

e. **Biggleswade Ivel Rotary Club**

Biggleswade Ivel Rotary Club have contacted Council regarding a National Rotary project the aim of which is to raise awareness of Rotary's final push to end polio throughout the world.

The project will get local community groups and individuals involved in planting 'Ruby Giant' crocus bulbs in as many places as possible across the UK. The bulbs reflect the colour of the purple dye painted on children's fingers when they are immunised against polio in the last few remaining countries where polio is still endemic. The aim is to have all the bulbs in flower in 23 February 2011 which is Rotary Day.

As well as the opportunity to plant bulbs in all sorts of location there will also be an attempt to get an entry in the Guinness Book of Records for the most people planting bulbs across the UK at the same time, in a single location, on Saturday 2 October 2010, and the Rotary Club wondered if Town Council would be interested in getting involved.

A copy is attached to this agenda.

It was **AGREED** that the Council would like to support this project and purchase a number of Ruby Giant crocus bulbs and would identify sites for planting at the P.L.O.S walkabout.

8. **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

There were no items discussed during the public open session

