

**MINUTES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2010 AT
THE OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, THE OLD COURT HOUSE, SAFFRON ROAD
BIGGLESWADE**

Present: Cllr Mrs W Smith (Chair), Cllr D Smith, Cllr J Lawrence, Cllr G Wilson, Cllr T Woodward,
Cllr P Woodward, Cllr S Watkins, Cllr Mrs R Forbes, Cllr Mrs S Grayston, Cllr P Rook,
Cllr R Skinner
Rob McGregor – Town Clerk
PC Ian Wilson – Bedfordshire Constabulary
Members of the Public - 1

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr D Albone and Cllr P Vickers. Cllr D Lawrence arrived late due to meeting at Borough Hall.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

(a) **Prejudicial interests** – There were no prejudicial interests declared.

(a) **Personal Interests** – Cllr Mrs W Smith, Cllr D Smith, Cllr P Woodward, Cllr T Woodward, Cllr S Watkins, Cllr G Wilson and Cllr D Lawrence registered an interest in items 9G and 9H as listed on the agenda.

3. TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Mayor's announcements.

4. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no items discussed during the public open session.

5. BEDFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY

PC Ian Wilson said that the crime figures were the same as last month. There were 6 burglaries in September and 6 in October.

Operation Peak meant that there were extra patrols in trouble hotspot areas.

There had been an assault in Drove Road plus 2 more incidents of GBH, 4 offenders had been arrested and are on bail. There was a stabbing last Saturday with a bottle this was classed as violent disorder.

A member of the public asked if the Police would ticket offenders breaking traffic regulations on Palace Street as someone may get hurt.

PC Ian Wilson replied that the PCSO's do not have the power to issue tickets.

Cllr Mrs W Smith said that all the legal work has been completed for two-way traffic to be able to traverse Bonds Lane between Aldi's and Station Road.

Cllr Mrs J Lawrence said that cyclists travel the wrong way down Hitchin Street.

Cllr Mrs J Lawrence asked if there was a pattern to the burglaries.

PC Ian Wilson replied that the burglaries are happening normally during daylight.

6. INVITED SPEKERS

There were no invited speakers.

7. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

- a. Members received and adopted Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 26 October 2010 at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.
- b. Members received and adopted Minutes of the Personnel meeting held on 9 November 2010 at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.
- c. Members received and adopted Minutes of the Planning meeting held on 9 November 2010 at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.
- d. Members received and adopted Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes meeting held on 16 November 2010 at the offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.

8. MATTERS ARISING

- a. Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 26 October 2010 - none
- b. Minutes of the Personnel meeting held on 9 November 2010 - none
- c. Minutes of the Planning meeting held on 9 November 2010 - none
- d. Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes meeting held on 16 November 2010 – none

9 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. **CB/10/03465/FULL – Unit 4 Omega Centre, Stratton Business Park, London Road.**

Full: The addition of two windows to upper storey offices (retrospective)

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.

b. **CB/10/03486/FULL – 27 Nursery Close, Biggleswade**

Full: 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.

c. **CB/10/04005/FULL – 6 Mallard Walk, Biggleswade**

Full: Single storey frontage extension

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

d. **CB/10/03946/FULL – 2 Eagle Farm Road, Biggleswade**

Full: Single storey rear extension & two storey side extension with porches

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

e. **CB/10/04082/FULL – 13 St Margarets Gardens, Biggleswade.**

Full: Erection of 6ft closeboard wooden fence to replace overgrown conifer hedge (retrospective)

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

f. **CB/10/03847/FULL – Land to rear of 29 Holme Crescent, Biggleswade**

Full: Proposed new office development.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise no objection to this application **PROVIDED** that the buildings are not too large in comparison to nearby buildings.

- g. **CB/10/04151/LB – Conservative Club, St Andrews Street, Biggleswade.**
Listed Building Consent: Children’s garden play equipment of traditional swings, activity house & small items of sprung seats & others (retrospective).

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

- h. **CB/10/04150/FULL – Conservative Club, St Andrews Street, Biggleswade.**
Full: Children’s garden play equipment of traditional swings, activity house & small items of sprung seats & others (retrospective).

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

10. **ACCOUNTS**

a. **Financial Administration**

Members received and adopted the following accounts:

- i. Detailed Balance Sheet to 31 October 2010
- ii. Summary of Income & Expenditure.
- iii. Current Bank Account, receipts and payments to 31 October 2010

11. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

a. **Christmas Eve Market**

Market Traders asked the Market Superintendent if they would be able to hold a Christmas Eve Market, the majority of which have their own stalls. It should be noted that there would be no refuse collection or cleaning on this day and the Traders would have to take home their own refuse and ensure the area was cleaned. A road closure would need to be applied for.

Also, Saunders could be asked to provide the organ again for some extra festive cheer.

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

b. **Tuesday Market rents**

The stall holders of the Tuesday Market asked if their rent for January dates could be halved. As they will have missed two markets over the Christmas/new year period, and January is always a difficult month, they are hoping to offset some of the lost revenue.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council **DECLINE** this request.

c. **Request from The Mansion House, Old Warden Park**

Members received correspondence from The Mansion House, Old Warden Park requesting a Charity Stall on Saturday 27 November. They would like to sell tickets for the Christmas banqueting events, to include a Charity Ball for Ridgeway School, themed party nights, Christmas Carvery and New Years Eve events.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council **DECLINE** this request.

d. **Request from St John’s, Moggerhanger**

Correspondence was received requesting permission to perform carols on the market square in aid of St John’s, Moggerhanger, on Saturday 18 December between 11.30 and 2.00 for approximately one hour. They have played there for the last three years, raising a lot of money for this worthwhile cause.

They are applying for a licence from CBC.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council **GRANT PERMISSION** for the carol singers to perform in the Market Square and that the Town Clerk works out an itinerary to accommodate the various groups attending on the day.

12. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There were no items for information.

13. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no items discussed during the public open session.

14. 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(s) is discussed.