

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 JUNE 2011 AT THE OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, THE OLD COURT HOUSE, SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE

Present: Cllr Mrs W Smith (Chair), Cllr Mrs J Lawrence, Cllr G Wilson, Cllr P Woodward, Cllr Mrs H Ramsay
Cllr Mrs M Russell, Cllr D Albone, Cllr R Skinner, Cllr P Vickers, Cllr I Bond, Cllr B Briars
Sue Crowther – Administrative Assistant
Members of the public - 2

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr T Woodward and Cllr S Watkins.

Cllr D Lawrence arrived late at the meeting.

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.

3. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no items discussed during the public open session.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. CB/11/01538/FULL – 21 Durham Close, Biggleswade

Remove existing boundary wall and erect new 1.8m high brick wall closer to footpath to side of property.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise no objection to this application **PROVIDED** that no amenity land is lost.

b. CB/11/01715/REN – Land & buildings on the North West side of Back Street, Biggleswade.

Erection of additional no.1 bedroom terrace dwelling to previously approved development 04/01185/FULL approved on planning permission MB/08/00514/FULL dated 19 May 2008.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise a **HOLDING OBJECTION** to this application. More information is requested regarding parking arrangements and questioned the necessity to build another dwelling on such a small site.

c. CB/11/01734/REN – Land to rear of 161/163, Hitchin Street, Biggleswade.

Erection of residential unit with stores & garaging for existing properties (All matters reserved except access).

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise a **HOLDING OBJECTION** to this application. More information is requested to ascertain the suitability of this site for development. Town Council would like to request information from Highways specifically in relation to the access and egress to this site.

d. CB/11/01760/ADV – 61 High Street, Biggleswade.

Non illuminated fascia sign.

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

- e. **CB/11/01778/FULL – 1 Willow Trees, Holme Mills, Biggleswade.**
Demolition of existing house & erection of barn style dwelling.

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.

- f. **CB/11/01798/FULL – 23 Hitchin Street, Biggleswade**
Replacement of shop front window

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise a **HOLDING OBJECTION** to this application. As Town Council has previously objected to a Takeaway on this site, more information is requested regarding the long term plans for these premises.

5. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- a. **Central Bedfordshire anti-drink driving campaign**

CBC Highways Dept has written to Town Council to ask permission to use the White Hart car park, one Saturday lunchtime during June, to launch their county-wide anti-drink driving campaign. The launch will consist of a Bar-B-Q and mocktails (non-alcoholic cocktails) being given out along with recipes that people can use at home.

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

- b. **Response from Amey re: Parking restrictions, Tennyson Avenue, Chaucer Drive and Dickens Court**

CBC Highways Dept has replied to Town Councils letter dated 6 April requesting restrictions to commuter parking on the above streets in the area of Biggleswade railway station.

Implementation of parking schemes in Biggleswade has not been highlighted as priority in the Local Transport Plan consultations and as such there is no specific allocation for such works within the current 3 year programme.

As an alternative, they have asked if Town Council may consider that this proposal would be a suitable use of its own resources. A more detailed cost estimate could be provided. The costs involved in a time restriction Traffic Regulation Order (ie single or double yellow lines) would be in the order of £6,000 to £8,000 including publishing an Order, processing objections and implementing signs and yellow lines. A Residents Parking Scheme would cost somewhat more.

The need to restrict opportunities for on-street parking near the railway station has strong support in the Draft Biggleswade Town Centre Strategy and Masterplan.

It was **RESOLVED** that no action be taken by Town Council at this time until the issue of parking for the whole of the town has been discussed by the Off Street Car Parking committee.

- c. **Request from The Salvation Army**

Correspondence was received from The Salvation Army requesting permission for their brass band to play Christmas carols and collect for their funds on Saturday 10 December in the market square.

They would like to stand with approximately 8 players and 2 collectors between 9.30 – 11.30am.

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

d. Request to clean memorials for Mary Tealby and Revd Edward Bates

- i) Mary Tealby (one of the co-founders of the Battersea Dogs Home) and her brother, Revd Edward Bates are both buried in St Andrew's Churchyard. A request has been received by Town Council, to help clean both of these memorials, especially as they are part of Biggleswade Town history. Other parties have also been invited to help: Biggleswade History Society, Rev Guy Scott, St Andrew's Church, Chairman and Chief Executive of Battersea Dogs Home.

A copy of the estimate from I R Quince Stonemason was attached.

ii) **Responses from Rev Guy Scott and Debbie Chapman, Battersea Dogs Home re 5d (i)**

Two responses have been received and are attached to this agenda. Both are in favour of the idea in principle. Battersea Dogs Home would like to explore the possibility of displaying information at the site and running a fund for members of the local community to contribute to the restoration of the memorial

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council agree in principle but request that another quote be obtained for the renovation of the memorials and may agree to contribute towards the cost once all the information is received.

e. The Big Library Debate

Correspondence was received from Biggleswade Library requesting space on the Saturday market on 2 July as part of the Big Library Debate. This will involve 2 or 3 Library staff gathering feedback from the public as part of the overall Library Service Review currently in progress.

They will have a small graffiti board with them and leaflets and questionnaires to give out to the public.

The Market Superintendent has agreed that there will be enough room for the stall on that day.

They have asked if there would be any cost involved.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council raise no objection to this request and that there would be no charge.

f. Ian Mantle Memorial Run – Sunday 10 July 2011

Correspondence was received from two Berkeley owners requesting permission to hold a driving event for Berkeley car enthusiasts on Sunday 10 July. The road run will be memory of Ian Mantle who sadly died this year.

Ian Mantle was heavily involved with Berkeley car development and was one of the most successful Berkeley drivers winning many driving test events.

They would like to finish the run in Biggleswade Market Square, they are expecting around 20 cars and want to involve ex employees and local people during the day and make it a fun social event.

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

6. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

a. Biggleswade History Society Newsletter

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

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

b. Thank you letters received

Letters were received from:

Rainbow Guide Unit
Biggleswade First Aid Club
Brigham Pre-School & The Den
Biggleswade Sports
Biggleswade Crab Lane Railway Embankment Committee
Friends of Abbotsbury
Ivel Stroke Club

To thank Town Council for their grant payments received.

A letter has also been received from Thursday Night Badminton Club to thank Town Council for the financial assistance received.

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

c. Proposed Temporary Road Closure – Victoria Place, Biggleswade

CBC informed Town Council of a Temporary Road Closure at the above location to enable patching works to be carried in safety, for one day between 6 and 30 June from 0730hrs to 1800hrs.

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

d. Proposed Temporary Road Closure – Bonds Lane, Biggleswade

CBC informed Town Council of a Temporary Road Closure at the above location to enable patching works to be carried in safety, for one day between 6 and 30 June from 0730hrs to 1800hrs.

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

e. Proposed Temporary Road Closure – B659 St Andrews Street and part of Teal Road, Biggleswade

CBC informed Town Council of a Temporary Road Closure at the above location to enable patching works to be carried in safety, for one day between 13 and 30 June from 0900hrs to 1530hrs.

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

f. Application for Street Trading Consent

CBC informed Town Council that they have received the above application from an Ice Cream seller to trade in Biggleswade.

It was **RESOLVED** that this be noted but ask whether the applicant is registered to sell food in Bedfordshire and request that he attends a Food Hygiene course.

g. Proposed Temporary Road Closure – A6001 Hill Lane, Biggleswade

CBC informed Town Council of a Temporary Road Closure at the above location to enable surfacing remedial works to be carried in safety, to take place overnight on Sunday 17 to 18 July from 1600hrs to 0600hrs.

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

h. Pride in Day – Biggleswade on either the 29th June or the 6th July 2011

A Pride in Day has been organised in Biggleswade with a co-ordinator from Central Bedfordshire Council. The day will consist of a multi-agency approach to tackle problems in the community that are generally overlooked.

Agencies involved will be, Police, Fire, Waste, Environmental Health, Trading Standards, Crime Reduction and D.V.L.A., as Biggleswade is a large town it has been agreed that the areas that will be covered are as on the map attached.

A central location for this operation will be the Bowls club at Drove Road where displays will be set up and manned in order that members of the public can come and seek advice on any issues of concern with the various agencies. The event will be publicised prior to the date.

Approval has been given for the use of the facility on either date by the Bowls Club Committee.

This event has been actioned by the Community Safety Tasking Group to take place in Biggleswade and Sandy.

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

7. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no items discussed during the public open session.