

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 9 AUGUST 2011 AT THE  
OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, THE OLD COURT HOUSE, SAFFRON ROAD,  
BIGGLESWADE**

**Present:** Cllr Mrs W Smith (Chair), Cllr G Wilson, Cllr P Vickers, Cllr I Bond, Cllr Mrs H Ramsay,  
Cllr R Skinner, Cllr D Albone, Cllr B Briars, Cllr Ms S Mulchrone  
Rob McGregor – Town Clerk  
Juliet Brookes – Finance Assistant  
Members of the Public - 2

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs J Lawrence, Cllr D Lawrence, Cllr P Woodward,  
Cllr T Woodward, Cllr S Watkins, Cllr Mrs M Russell, 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 registered an interest as a member of the Central Bedfordshire Management Development Committee in respect of planning applications listed on the agenda and items 4d and 4f.

Cllr B Briars registered an interest in items 4d and 4f.

**3. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

There were no items discussed during the public open session.

**4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**a. CB/11/02375/FULL – Land to rear & side of 161 & 163 Hitchin Street, Biggleswade**

Demolition of existing single storey out building & erection of two storey detached dwelling on land to rear & side of 161 & 163 Hitchin Street.

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/11/02327/RM – Land South of, Potton Road, Biggleswade.**

Blocks 25 ,26, 29, 34 & 36 of development for 103 new dwellings & associated areas (pursuant to outline planning approval MB/03/01205/OUT dated 13 November 2006).

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise no objection to this application **BUT** need reassurance that there will be sufficient public open spaces on this development.

**c. CB/11/02610/FULL – 34 Franklin Road, Biggleswade.**

Porch extension to front.

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.

**d. CB/11/02640/Full – The Lawns Early Excellence Centre, The Baulk, Biggleswade**

The external installation of 1 no Gazebo Style cover to existing bike pods.

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

- e. **CB/11/02625/FULL – 4 Walnut Close, Biggleswade**  
Conservatory to rear

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

- f. **CB/11/02641/FULL – The Lawns Early Excellence Centre, The Baulk, Biggleswade**  
The external installation of one Hyperbolic Sun Sail 6m x 10m

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

5. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- a. **Biggleswade 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Sports Meeting – 14 July 2012**

Town Council received correspondence from Biggleswade Sports to advise that they plan to hold their 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sports Meeting on Saturday 14 July 2012 commencing at 1.00pm, at Fairfield Sports Ground. They are requesting permission to use the Sports Ground as well as the Pavilion and Toilets.

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

- b. **Proposal for a Stratton Business Partnership**

Stratton Upper School are seeking to strengthen and develop links between the community, school and local businesses in order to foster a relationship that will be beneficial to all parties and send thanks to Council for the recent contribution to their work experience program and offering placements to Stratton students.

Given the current economic climate and the austerity measures that have hit services such as Connexions, they are looking to develop links with local and national businesses in order to provide the young people in Biggleswade with a high quality careers and work related learning experience.

They are looking for local companies to work with then on one or more of the following:

- Be part of a mentoring scheme with young people at Stratton Upper School
- Offer extended work experience for individual pupils
- Work with pupils and 'cherry pick' candidates for apprenticeships now or in the future
- To promote apprenticeship vacancies to Stratton students.
- Offer some insight into Councils industry either through a school visit and talk or offering the opportunity for a small group of students to visit.

The school would like Council to meet with them in September 2011.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council support this initiative and would be pleased to meet in September.

6. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- a. **Biggleswade History Society Newsletter**

A copy of the Biggleswade History Society Newsletter was attached to the agenda.

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

- b. **Minutes of Biggleswade Town Plan Steering Group meetings**

A copy of the Biggleswade Town Plan Steering Group meetings minutes from 14 March and 16 May 2011 were attached to the agenda.

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

c. **Appeal by Biggleswade Town Council – CB/10/00518/OUT APP/P0240/A/11/2155625 – Site at Land East of Saxon Drive and North of Stratton Park, Saxon Drive, Biggleswade**

CBC advised Town Council that a hearing into the above appeal will take place on **12 October 2011** for **1 day** at the Council Offices at Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford SG17 5TQ starting at 10.00am.

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

d. **Members' Customer Service Bulletin for period 20/06/2011 – 17/07/2011**

Town Council received the Members' Customer Bulletin for period 20/06/2011 – 17/07/2011 and it is available to view in Council offices.

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

e. **Local Development Framework Newsletter**

CBC supplied Council with the above newsletter and a copy is attached to this agenda.

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

7. **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

There were no items discussed during the public open session.

8. **EXEMPT ITEMS**

Pursuant to section 1 (2) of the public bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Council resolved to exclude the public and the press by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.