

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OFF STREET CAR PARKING COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2012 AT THE OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, THE OLD COURT HOUSE, SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE

Present: Cllr M Russell (Chairman), Cllr D Lawrence, Cllr D Albane, Cllr R Skinner, Cllr Mrs W Smith, Cllr G Wilson
Rob McGregor – Town Clerk
Sue Crowther – Administrative Assistant
Sam Vernon – Biggleswade Chronicle
Fran Sharp – Biggleswade Twinning Society
Members of the public - 5

Also present: Cllr T Woodward, Cllr Mrs J Lawrence, Cllr P Vickers, Cllr B Briars, Cllr I Bond

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr S Watkins and Cllr Mrs H Ramsay

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests.

3. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no items discussed during the public open session.

4. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

The following 2 items were deferred from Council meeting on 24 January 2012

a. Request from Tuesday Market stall holders

The stall holders who support the Tuesday market have requested a reduction in rent during January, as it is a very difficult trading month, especially in the current economical climate.

It was **RECOMMENDED** to agree to a 50% reduction in rent for January and February 2012 and that this would not affect the Market Superintendants wages.

b. Request from James Harris Funfairs

Correspondence was received from James Harris Funfairs requesting permission to use White Hart car park on the following dates:

Saturday 18 and 25 February
Saturday 31 March
Saturday 21 April

It was **RECOMMENDED** to allow James Harris Funfairs to use White Hart car park on 5 dates throughout the year, as well as the Carnival, Christmas Lights switch on and any special Town celebrations but that he must give Council at least one months notice.

c. Ask Restaurant Trade refuse Bins

Members considered trade refuse bins for Ask restaurant, these bins are placed in the White Hart car park.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that Town Council write to Ask to request that they remove the bins from Town Council property.

d. Request from Amey

Amey have asked the Town Council to place an advert in the Biggleswade Bulletin and on the Town Council web site, regarding problems with gritting in Sun Street. Copy of the advert was attached.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that Town Council ask Amey to put leaflets through the doors of houses along Sun Street regarding the problems with gritting.

e. Parking restrictions Aldi Car Park

Members considered the Parking restrictions in Aldi Car Park. The Parking restrictions in both Aldi car parks have been reduced to 1.5 hours. Previous correspondence on the issue was attached.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Town Clerk seeks clarification from Town Council's solicitors in relation to the interpretation of the documents received from Land Registry documents before writing to ALDI.

f. Shortmead Street & Sun Street Mini Roundabout

Correspondence was received from a resident of Biggleswade asking Council when the mini Roundabout at the Junction of Sun Street and Shortmead Street is going to be put in. Attached was a response to the resident from Highways dated May 2011.

Cllr D Lawrence said that after 120 houses are occupied on the new estate, as part of the planning consent the developer will then be required to build a roundabout at the junction of Sun Street and Shortmead Street. 95 houses have been built so far.

Cllr Mrs M Russell suggested that CBC be asked if work on the roundabout could begin using CBC own funds on a loan basis, until the Section 106 money is available.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that Town Council write to CBC as well as the resident.

g. Commuter Parking – Tennyson Avenue, Chaucer Drive & Dickens Court.

A letter was received from a resident of Biggleswade highlighting issues of Commuter parking in Tennyson Avenue, Chaucer drive and Dickens Court. The resident is asking Council to persuade C.B.C to approve proposed parking restrictions on a six months trial Basis.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that Town Council write to CBC to ask if parking restrictions in this area could be part of the overall scheme, along the lines of restricted parking for an hour rather than a residents' parking scheme.

h. New Inn Walkway

Members were asked to consider Issues that have been raised around the walkway that runs from the market square through to Bonds Lane. Some of the issues raised are loud music, obstruction, intimidation and the use of a gazebo type structure across the passageway. These issues have been on-going since August 2011.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that Town Council write to Greene King Public Relations Department to ask them to take the gazebo down, with a copy of the letter sent the Landlord, and **ALSO** For Town Council to obtain Land Registry documents.

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

There were no items for information.

6. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

A member of the public spoke on the following issues:

- Parking issues around the town and in the Market Square
- Ownership of the Market

- Specialists Market in the town
- Paved area that runs alongside the New Inn

7. 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 is discussed.

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 about to be transacted.