

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2012 AT THE
OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, THE OLD COURT HOUSE, SAFFRON ROAD,
BIGGLESWADE**

Present: Cllr T Woodward (Chair), Cllr Mrs J Lawrence, Cllr D Lawrence, Cllr Mrs W Smith, Cllr G Wilson, Cllr P Vickers, Cllr I Bond, Cllr Mrs M Russell, Cllr D Albone, Cllr B Briars, Cllr R Skinner
Rob McGregor – Town Clerk
Sue Crowther – Administrative Assistant
Sam Vernon – Biggleswade Chronicle
Fran Sharp – Biggleswade Twinning Society
Members of the Public – 5

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr P Woodward, Cllr Mrs H Ramsay and Cllr S Watkins

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

Peter Rook wished Council members a happy new year and thanked them for the card that he had received during his stay in hospital.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. CB/12/00201/FULL – 5 Watkin Walk, Biggleswade

Erection of single storey side and 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. Town Council ask that CBC monitor carefully the impact on the adjoining property.

b. CB/12/00236/FULL – 60 Holme Court Avenue, Biggleswade

Erection of a single storey side 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. Town Council ask that CBC monitor carefully the impact on the adjoining property.

c. CB/12/00266/VOC – Unit 3, Shortmead Industrial Estate, Sun Street, Biggleswade

Variation of Condition: Variation of condition 3 relating to planning permission MB/02/00781/FULL dated 17/06/02.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise no objection to this application **PROVIDING** no mechanical machinery is used and **AGREED** to **OCCASIONAL** use only of a Fork Lift Truck, this must be electric powered **NOT** diesel powered.

- d. **CB/11/04420/RM – Land South of Potton Road, Biggleswade**
Reserved Matters: Appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of block 27 for residential development of 27 dwellings and associated areas (pursuant to outline planning permission MB/03/1205/OUT dated 13 November 2006) previously approved on CB/11/02107/RM dated 13 September 2011.

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

- e. **CB/11/04055/FULL – 57 – 59 London Road, Biggleswade SG18 8ED**
Erection of 3 no 3 bedroom dwellings.

This planning application was discussed at Planning meeting on 10 January 2012 when it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise a **HOLDING OBJECTION** to this application and request clarification whether this replaces **CB/11/03526/REN** renewal of planning application **MB/08/01682/FULL**, erection of 4 no one bed flats and 2 no studio apartments and provision of new access. **CBC has now replied and a copy is displayed in the Chamber.**

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

- f. **CB/12/00412/FULL – 50 London Road, Biggleswade SG18 8EB**
Full: Demolition of existing garage & erection of new detached garage.

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

- g. **CB/12/00413/FULL – 50 London Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8EB**
Full: Erection of rear conservatory.

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

- h. **CB/11/04174/LB – 6 Station Road, Biggleswade, SG18 8AL**
Listed Building Consent: Single storey rear extension to premises

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council raise no objection to this application **PROVIDING** that the extension is in keeping with the surrounding area.

5. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- a. **Maintenance of Drum Clock, High Street, Biggleswade**

Members were asked to consider regular servicing of the Drum Clock by A James (Jewellers) Ltd from Saffron Walden, Essex.

A copy of the paperwork was attached to the agenda.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council pay for the work already carried out and obtain prices for upgrades and a service contract, these would then be taken back to Council for consideration.

- b. **Proposed Housing Needs surgery Biggleswade Town Council**

CBC Housing Needs service would like to operate a surgery from Town Council offices for part of one day each week from week beginning 2 April 2012. Initial thoughts are to operate a surgery on Thursday of each week, possibly 10am to 2pm or 12pm to 4pm – details to be confirmed. They realize that there will be a cost involved. Visits are generally to be by appointment.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council agree to this request to hold the Housing Needs surgery at Biggleswade Town Council Offices and that they are to be charged £2,500 per annum.

- c. **Local Fundraising Group for Marie Curie Cancer Care**

Members are invited to attend the launch of the above fundraising group on Wednesday 7 March at The Coach House, Potton at 10am.

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

6. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

a. **Street Naming and Numbering – Phase 2, Land South of Potton Road, Biggleswade**

Correspondence was received from CBC confirming postal addresses for 87 dwellings – Plots 713 – 799, Blocks 27 – 30.

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

b. **Street Naming and Numbering – Land of, Station Road, Biggleswade**

Correspondence was received from CBC confirming postal addresses for four offices at new two storey block at the above address.

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

c. **Biggleswade History Society newsletter**

Town Council received a copy of Biggleswade History Society Newsletter and a copy was attached to the agenda.

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

d. **Ageing Well in Ivel Valley**

Understanding Priorities for Ageing Well in Ivel Valley Workshops were held on 17 and 19 January 2012, the details were attached to this agenda.

Members are invited to attend the next meeting on **Thursday 18 February at Arlesey Village Hall, High Street, Arlesey**. Registration is at 9.30am for a 10.00 start (finishing at 13.30 with lunch)

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

7. **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

A member of the public said that the Drum Clock has been in the town for a long time and that there needs to be control on any bills for repairs etc.

Cllr T Woodward replied that at the moment any costs are not budgeted for but they would be added to next years budget.

Cllr P Vickers said that specialist contractors for the drum clock are few and far between. The remedial work for St Andrew's Church is to be carried out by a contractor from Cumberland.

Fran Sharp from the Twinning Society thanked Councillors for ensuring that one of the main roads on the new estate is named Erlensee Way. The Germans are visiting in May this year and he would surprise them with a visit to the site.

A member of the public asked the Mayor what was happening with the Town Council website as the closing date for comments was the end of October and seem to have gone into a Black Hole.

Cllr T Woodward explained that he had been in hospital and not in the best of health but things were now getting back on track and he expected to be issuing the specification to interested parties soon.

Any responses would then be discussed by sub-committee to decide about moving forward.

Cllr B Briars said that Town Council will going out to tender.