

**MINUTES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2013 AT  
THE OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, THE OLD COURT HOUSE, SAFFRON ROAD  
BIGGLESWADE**

**Present:** Cllr T Woodward (Chair), Cllr I Bond, Cllr G Wilson, Cllr M North, Cllr S Watkins, Cllr S Mulchrone,  
Cllr Mrs H Ramsay, Cllr D Albone, Cllr B Briars, Cllr R Skinner  
Rob McGregor – Town Clerk  
Sue Crowther – Administrative Assistant  
Sam Vernon – Biggleswade Chronicle  
David Bowie – Head of Service – Traffic Management, CBC (arrived late)  
Members of the public - 31

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs W Smith

**2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

- (a) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in any agenda item – there were no Disclosable Pecuniary interests declared
- (b) Non-Pecuniary interests in any agenda item – there were no Non-Pecuniary interests declared

**3. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

A member of the public, MOP 1, addressed Members in support of item 8b, planning application, 157 Potton Road. He said that the site extends .17 hectares and will consist of 4 houses with a shared drive. He has been liaising with Andrew Gwillam, CBC regarding the existing rights of way.

Cllr Mrs H Ramsay asked what size is .17 hectares.

MOP 1 replied that it equates to 2.47 acres and that it is permitted to build 10 houses per acre of land.

A member of the public, MOP 2, voiced concerns about road safety and visibility around Nursery Close.

MOP 1 replied that the area would be safer, they have exceeded safety requirements.

**4. INVITED SPEAKER**

There was no invited speaker.

**5. MEMBERS QUESTIONS**

There were no Members questions.

**6. MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS**

- a. Members received and approved the Minutes of the Council and Precept meeting held on 22 January 2013 at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.

Cllr B Briars said that on page 2, 3<sup>rd</sup> row from the bottom of the page, should read 'Cllr B Briars seconded Cllr Mrs M Russell's proposal.

Cllr Briars said page 5 item 12a 'extended to other areas of the town' should be added.

**7 MATTERS ARISING**

- a. Minutes of the Council and Precept meeting held on 22 January 2013.

Cllr B Briars said that the definition between footpath and roadway in Hitchin Street is not clear. He questioned the colours of the bricks that have been used and asked what the original plans had shown.

Cllr D Albone said that he understood that this is to be discussed at the next Joint Committee and asked when the next meeting is due to be held. The scheme is not working; cars are driving on the path.

Cllr Mrs M Russell said that the next Joint Committee meeting will be held in April

Cllr T Woodward said that there is still work to be done; it will be discussed at Joint Committee.

Cllr D Albone agreed that there are some restrictions in place.

## 8. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

### a. **CB/13/00144/ADV – 19 Market Square, Biggleswade**

Advertisement 1 illuminated fascia sign to front, 1 non illuminated projecting sign to front, one foamex back door sign.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council raise no objection to this planning application **PROVIDED** the illuminated sign is **EXTERNALLY ILLUMINATED**

### b. **CB/12/04440/FULL – 157 Potton Road, Biggleswade**

Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and erection of four replacement properties with garages & parking, landscaping and associated works.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council raise no objection to this planning application and would like to take this opportunity for the footpath to be widened along Potton Road to enable it to be used by everyone.

### c. **CB/13/00193/VOC – Land South of Potton Road, Biggleswade**

Variation of Planning Permission: variation of condition 8 attached to planning permission reference CB/11/00066/RM for the erection of 228 dwellings and ancillary works on parcels 8 – 14 (pursuant to outline planning permission MB/03/01205/OUT dated 13 November 2006) dated 12/0/4/2011 so as to remove drawing numbers 1049-02C, 1049-71A, 1049-72A, 1049-78A, 1049-79A, 1049-125, 1049-126, 1049-127, 1049-128, 1049-134B, 1049-138A and 1049-141A and replace them with drawing numbers 1049-02D, 1049-71B, 1049-72B, 1049-78B, 1049-79B, 1049-125A, 1049-126A, 1049-127A, 1049-128A, 1049-134C, 1049-138B and 1049-141B.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council **REQUEST MORE INFORMATION** before this application can be discussed.

### d. **CB/13/00041/FULL – The Old Print Works, Church Street, Biggleswade**

Change of use from vacant offices (B1) to personal training studio (D2)

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

### e. **CB/13/00239/FULL – New Inn Public House, 16a Market Square**

Erection of steel gates and fence to North & South elevation. Erection of timber framed shelter to replace existing shelter to East Elevation. Installation of new food prep extract and air input ductwork. Installation of timber planters to delineate external seating area. Installation of new hanging baskets for plants and heaters. Removal and replacement of 1 no satellite dish.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council **STRONGLY OBJECT** to this application as it is a public right of way and in accordance with Highways Act 1980 Sect 130 (1+3+7) The Town Council ask that Central Bedfordshire Council as the Highways Authority; under the Highways act 1980 section 130 (1), (3) & (7) prevent the stopping up or obstruction of this historical unrecorded PROW.

In terms of compliance with planning policy (section **1.4 Planning Policy**), it is clear that the proposals fail to meet the requirements of the stated policies:

**Policy CS14:** The introduction of the planters and security gates would isolate the retail unit 'clearly does not 'create an attractive, accessible mixed use public realm'

**Policy CS15:** The proposed development significantly alters the character of a Grade II listed building;

**Policy DM3:** The proposed development clearly fails to 'respect the amenity of surrounding properties' or 'enhance community safety'

**Policy DM13:** the passage and through route adjacent to the New Inn is a distinctive aspect of this historic element of the Market Square and the proposed development would significantly affect its character.

f. **CB/13/00261/FULL – 60 Beech Avenue, Biggleswade**

Rear two storey hipped roof extension to create additional lounge area and new bedroom.

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.

g. **CB/12/03418/ADV - Appeal by Co-operative Food Group – site at 6 Kingsfield Road, Biggleswade**

The planning application above was refused by CBC and the applicant has appealed against this decision. Town Council considered this application on 9 October 2012 and raised no objection.

A copy of CBC reasons for refusal was attached to this agenda.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council make no further comment.

9. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

a. **National Citizen Service (NCS), Bedfordshire East School Trust**

As part of the Government's national strategy linked to 'The Big Society' implemented through the National Citizen Service (NCS), Bedfordshire East Schools Trust (BEST) has been asked to deliver the programme throughout Bedford Borough and Central Bedfordshire (excluding Luton)

The objective of the initiative is to help Year 11 and 12 Form students, or equivalent age young people not in education, build skills for work and life while taking on new challenges and meeting new people.

BEST would like to involve Town Council in the recruitment of young people for this exciting new programme.

Additionally they are recruiting Team Leaders and volunteers to support young people on their journey. Team Leaders are paid roles and both need to be over 18 years old.

For further information they have a website: [www.ncsyes.co.uk](http://www.ncsyes.co.uk)

It was **RESOLVED** that the information is forwarded to local groups.

b. **Meeting Dates – May 2013 – April 2014**

Members considered meeting dates for May 2013 – April 2014. Option 1 is the current format; option 2 has Council and Sub-Committees on separate dates.

Cllr D Albone proposed that option 2 be adopted, this was seconded by Cllr Mrs M Russell therefore it was **RESOLVED** that option 2, Council and Sub-Committee meetings are on separate dates.

c. **Request from the Dan Albone Memorial Group**

At a meeting of the P.L.O.S. Committee 11<sup>th</sup> December 2012 Correspondence was received from the above group who requested permission to erect a Monument to Dan Albone, they are enquiring whether Town Council would agree to the idea in principle.

They would like to use the small area near the old cottage that stood in the entrance to Dan Albone car park, if this is acceptable they would apply for Lottery Funding.

The O.S.C.P Committee recommended to Council 12 January 2013 that more information is provided before a decision can be made.

Members considered the further information that was attached to the agenda.  
It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council support in principle the request for a monument to Dan Albone to be erected.

**d. Request from the RNLI**

The RNLI has written to Council requesting permission to hold their Flag Day in the Market Square on Saturday 6 July 2013. All monies collected will go towards supporting the Volunteer Lifeboat.

It was **RESOLVED** that permission be granted

**e. Town Council logo**

Members were asked to consider options for the re-design of the Town Council logo.

A copy of the current logo and three alternatives were attached to the agenda.

It was **RESOLVED** to keep the blue cross, use the crown from option 1, possibly swap the words and the crown and to produce copies in letterhead size as well as black and white.

Members would then re-consider the design

**10. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**a. Street Naming and Numbering – former Public house The Hop Bine – Drove Road, Biggleswade**

CBC has confirmed postal addresses for two semi detached dwellings and The Hop Bine Public House following conversion to private dwelling.

Plot 1: (The Hop Bine PH, 21 Drove Road)	108 The Baulk, Biggleswade SG18 0QA
Plot 2:	19B Drove Road, Biggleswade SG18 8HD
Plot 3:	19A Drove Road, Biggleswade SG18 8HD

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

**b. Thank you letter received**

A letter has been received from Upper Caldecote Scouts thanking Town Council for the donation of the photocopier.

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

**11. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

A member of the public said to save any confusion, why isn't the new logo going to look completely different to the original?

Cllr D Albone said that it was only the Pensioners group request to use the logo, that made Council think that the logo needs refreshing.

Cllr R Skinner said that the Blue Cross represents St Andrew and the Crown represents the Charter for the market.

Another member of the public said that with regards to Hitchin Street, we should be attracting people from Langford direction, but then where do they park?

There are more houses being built with no thought about the extra traffic. Drove Road, London Road junction needs a mini roundabout.

12. **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.

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