

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BIGGLESWADE JOINT COMMITTEE  
HELD ON TUESDAY 14 APRIL 2015 AT 10.00am  
PRIORY HOUSE, MONKS WALK, CHICKSANDS  
IN ROOM PH15**

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr M Jones, Chairman	Deputy Leader CBC
	Cllr Mrs J Lawrence	Cllr CBC
	Cllr D Lawrence	Cllr CBC
	Mr M Thorn	BTC Deputy Town Clerk
	Mr P Fraser	CBC
	Cllr Mrs M Russell	Cllr BTC
	Cllr Mrs H Ramsay	Cllr BTC
	Mr M Thomas	Biggleswade Chamber of Trade
	Mr P Mason	Highways, CBC
	Mr A Clothier	Amey
	Jan Durn	BTC Minute taker
	Cllr M North	MOP

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr W Smith, Mr G Lawrence, Cllr G Wilson

**2. MEMBERS INTERESTS**

No declarations of interest

**3. MEMBERS QUESTIONS**

This is a new item on the Agenda to enable members to submit written questions prior to the meeting in order that they can be considered for inclusion on the next Agenda.

**3a. Commuter Parking update – Martin Thomas**

This is an Agenda Item (10)

**3b. Request for an update on the Town Council request for the reversal of Hitchin Street and permanent closure of the top half Market Square entrance to Bonds Lane – Martin Thomas**

The Chairman has looked back at the history surrounding this question which was originally raised some time ago. It was felt that the report to the meeting at that time did not show the full extent of the changes to the market square and the then Chairman of the meeting had made the decision to withdraw the item. Unfortunately it appears that the Town Council were not notified of this action and have therefore continued to pursue this request.

Mr P Mason offered to consider this item formally as part of the future redevelopment of Century House. Mr Mason will also look at funding and timescales and will reply with a written response to the Clerk at Biggleswade Town Council.

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Members approved the minutes of the BJC held on 22 January 2015.

**5. MATTERS ARISING**

**Item 13. Eastern Relief Road.** Mr M Thomas asked if the road width could be looked at as he is concerned that it does not seem to be wide enough to take large Lorries comfortably.

Mr Mason has looked into this and can report that the road is in fact wide enough for large lorries.

**Upgrade to Railway Bridge.** The Chairman has made many calls to talk to the developers but as yet has not been successful.

**6. ELECTION OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE**

No nominations for the co-option of members to the Committee.

**7. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- This is the last meeting of the current administration, and the Chairman thanked the members for their participation, input and cooperation in the Biggleswade Joint Committee meetings.

New dates for forthcoming meetings will be set by the new administration following the elections.

**8. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

No members of the public made statements.

**9. TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE**

Mr Paul Mason provided the Members with an update. He will continue to keep the Members informed.

**10. COMMUTER PARKING**

Paul Mason provided the members with an update.

- The Town Council will receive a formal reply to its response to the Consultation documents from a senior CBC Officer.
- An informal Public Consultation, giving three options, will be released on 1<sup>st</sup> May. It will be a three week Consultation and people will be able to respond in writing by letter, email or website.
- The formal Consultation will take place in July over a 28-day period.
- There will be a meeting in the Town Council Chambers to launch the formal Consultation.
- The implementation of the new parking regime may be phased so that those areas where there are no objections can go ahead as soon as possible and any objections do not hold up the whole implementation.

It was agreed that Mr Mason will issue a Press Release to this effect.

The Town Council wish to remove the parking orders so that a Management Company can take over the running of the town parking. It is understood that this request has already gone to the Traffic Management Committee.

Several ideas were put forward for consideration for additional parking and Mr Mason will look at these in more detail.

**11. SUN STREET/ST JOHN STREET GYRATORY**

**Mr Adrian Clothier – Amy** provided the members with an update.

**12. LONDON ROAD CROSSINGS**

**Mr Adrian Clothier – Amey** provided the members with an update.

The Chairman is happy to arrange an emergency meeting should this be required.

**13. EXEMPT ITEMS**

There were no exempt items.

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

We will be notified following the elections.