

**MINUTES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2013 AT
THE OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, THE OLD COURT HOUSE, SAFFRON ROAD
BIGGLESWADE**

Present: Cllr Mrs H Ramsay (Chair), Cllr I Bond, Cllr Mrs M Russell, Cllr G Wilson, Cllr I Bond,
Cllr Mrs J Lawrence, Cllr D Lawrence, Cllr D Albone, Cllr B Briars, Cllr B Rix, Cllr T Woodward
Louise Wilcox – Deputy Town Clerk
Sue Crowther – Administrative Assistant
Members of the Public - 4

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Mrs W Smith, Cllr M North and Cllr R Skinner.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- (a)** Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in any agenda item – non declared
- (b)** Non-pecuniary interests in any agenda item – non declared

- c.** Cllr Mrs H Ramsay advised that Alistair Burt MP is holding a public event at the Conservative Club on Friday 13 September. Various organisations will be in attendance to offer advice to members of the public.

3. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

MOP 1 said that he strongly objected to the planning application for 135 Potton Road, Eagle House, for variation of condition no 5 to be varied to retain 3 No existing openings with their original fenestration.

He said that Eagle House overlooks his property, he would not have moved there if the original plans had shown retention of the openings as they are infringing on his privacy.

4. INVITED SPEAKER

There is no invited speaker.

5. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

There were no Members questions.

6. MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS

- a.** Members received the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 27 August 2013 at the Offices of Biggleswade Town Council, The Old Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade.

Page 3 – Cllr D Albone asked that the last paragraph be amended to read 'CBC has ignored Town Councils request for a crossing with refuge on Shortmead Street'

7. MATTERS ARISING

- a.** Minutes of the Council meeting held on 27 August 2013.

Cllr Mrs M Russell said that she had contacted Cllr M Jones regarding parking restrictions that are needed on Shortmead Street near the bridge, and she has not received a response yet. She said that she is not happy with the new crossing in Shortmead Street, the pavement has been reduced as well. CBC do not take notice of Town Council.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a. CB/13/02621/FULL – 2 Sandpiper Close, Biggleswade**
Proposed detached dwelling.

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

b. CB/13/02579/LB & CB/13/02578/FULL – White Hart Public House, 23-24 Market Square, Biggleswade

Construct new timber covered pergola to garden terrace area. Alterations to male and female toilets, alterations to floor levels and finishes to rear raised area. New slate tile bar walk floor finish. Full Internal and external redecorations. New colours.

It was **RESOLVED** that whilst Town Council raise no objection to this application **INSIST** that the external colours remain the same.

c. CB/13/02900/FULL – Land South of Potton Road, Biggleswade

Plot 62-70 (inclusive) 9 flats to be amended to private market housing from affordable in accordance with the provisions of the section 106 deed of variation dated 24/04/2013. Pursuant to outline approval MB/03/012505/OUT and reserved matters approval MB/09/00247/RM.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council **OBJECT STRONGLY** to this application.

d. CB/13/02916/FULL – The RSPB Reserve, Potton Road, Sandy

Erection of one wind turbine, with a maximum overall height of up to 100m together with access tracks, crane pad area, electricity sub-station, temporary construction compound and amended vehicular access on land at the RSPB Reserve, near Sandy

As Biggleswade is a neighbouring Parish, this application is for information only.

Also, correspondence has been received from the RSPB to invite Members to attend a drop-in information session where RSPB and Ecotricity staff will be available to discuss any questions on:

Friday 13 September, 3pm – 8pm, The RSPB The Lodge, Potton Road, Sandy SG19 2DL

Friday 20 September, 3pm – 8pm, Potton Community Centre, Brook End, Potton

The RSPB would be happy to attend a Council meeting to address any issues or questions regarding the project.

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

e. CB/13/03029/FULL – Eagle House, 135 Potton Road, Biggleswade

Variation of condition no 5 on planning application CB/12/01120/FULL dated 25/07/2012 to be varied to retain 3 No existing openings with their original fenestration.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council **OBJECT** to this application.

It was also **RESOLVED** that Cllr Mrs J Lawrence take this application to the next Development Control meeting.

9. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

a. Request for Space for Prayers

Town Council received a request for any space that may be available for the Community to meet for prayer. Local demand for somewhere for the Community to meet to pray has increased over the last few years and a proper place is now required.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council reply and ask for confirmation of the exact requirements and a list of places to rent and local Churches be sent to them. Town Council are not able to provide any space.

b. Bedford College Student Achievements Ceremony 2013

Bedford College have asked if the Town Council would once again sponsor one of the student awards for the 2013 Event which will take place on Thursday 21 November at Bedford Corn Exchange. A key part of the event is the sponsorship of awards by local businesses and organisations and each student nominated for an award will receive a gift voucher or prize.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council donate £50 in sponsor money to this event.

c. Rose Lane Car Park – adjustment to the Heads of Terms

Correspondence was received regarding Rose Lane Car Park and adjustments to the Heads of Terms as requested by the Trustees.

A copy was attached to the agenda for Members' consideration.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council reply with the following amendments:

- The duration be amended from 40 to 15 years
- Add: Future development other than a car park
- To instruct Solicitors accordingly

10. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

a. Members' Customer Service Bulletin for period 22/07/602013 to 18/08/2013

A copy of the above document is available for Members to view in the Town Council office.

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

b. Proposed Temporary Road Closure – The Rowlands, Biggleswade

CBC has notified Town Council of a proposed temporary closure at The Rowlands, Biggleswade, for three days from Monday 30 September, to enable resurfacing works to be carried out in safety.

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

c. Work to Trees – 2 London Road, Biggleswade

CBC has received an application to carry out work to trees in a Conservation Area at the above location.

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

d. Proposed Temporary Road Closure – Shortmead Street, Biggleswade

CBC has received a request for a Temporary Road Closure at the above location to enable water main repair work to be carried out in safety, from 0930 on Monday 21 October until 1530 on Wednesday 23 October.

It was **RESOLVED** that Town Council write to CBC and request that a Project Manager oversees the planned 3 closures of Shortmead Street (the roundabout construction, water main repairs and bridge repairs)

11. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no items discussed during the public open session.

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.

There were no Exempt Items

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.