



**MINUTES OF THE BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 27 AUGUST 2019
AT THE OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL,
THE OLD COURT HOUSE, 4 SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE**

PRESENT:

- Cllr I Bond
- Cllr K Brown
- Cllr G Fage
- Cllr L Fage
- Cllr F Foster (Vice Chairman)
- Cllr M Foster
- Cllr H Ramsay
- Cllr M Russell (Chairman)
- Cllr D Strachan
- Cllr C Thomas
- Cllr J Woodhead

Mr P Truppin – Locum Town Clerk
Mrs J Durn – Meeting Administrator, Biggleswade Town Council
Members of Public – 1

B27/0801 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr D Albone, Cllr M Knight, Cllr M North, Cllr R Pullinger

ABSENT WITHOUT APOLOGIES

None

B27/0802 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- B27/0802.1 a. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in any agenda item - Cllr I Bond, Item 10d.
- B27/0802.2 b. Non-pecuniary interests in any agenda item – Cllr Woodhead, Item 11d.

B27/0803 3. TOWN MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

There were no Town Mayor’s announcements

B27/0804 4. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no comments or questions from the public.

B27/0805 5. INVITED SPEAKER

No invited speaker

B27/0806 **6. MEMBERS QUESTIONS**

B27/0806.1 **a.** It was requested that the distribution list on the front page of the Agenda be checked by Officers to ensure that there is an updated list of recipients, and that a report is made to the next Council Meeting. It was observed that the Biggleswade Chronicle is not included in the list.

It was pointed out that residents have noted that the Biggleswade Bulletin is not reaching all residents of Biggleswade. It was confirmed that, although the Biggleswade Bulletin is not distributed by BTC, the Bulletin will be informed about this.

B27/0807 **7. MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF MEETINGS**

B27/0807.1 **a.** Members received the Minutes of the Biggleswade Town Council Meeting held on 13 August 2019.
The following amendments were requested:
Item A13/0811.1: To include “*A serious concern was that parked cars were causing a chicane effect and that was particularly dangerous for cyclists. A separate cycle lane was necessary.*”
The Locum Town Clerk has written to CBC raising concern over the issue’.

B27/0807.2 **b.** Item A13/0811.3: There were also concerns over the Green Wheel, and assurances that the future of the Green Wheel will not be affected are needed.

B27/0807.3 **c.** Members received and approved the Recommendations and Resolutions of the Town Centre Management Meeting held on Tuesday 20 August 2019.

B27/0808 **8. MATTERS ARISING**

From the Minutes of the Biggleswade Town Council Meeting held on 13 August 2019.

a. The Clerk has been in email communication with Chris Dorrow, CBC Officer regarding the Matters Arising from the Council Meeting held 13/08/19 on the subject of lighting provision on part of unlit Footpath 44 Southern Railway Crossing. The Clerk has pointed out that street lighting has now been transferred to CBC and has put forward questions, as requested by BTC Councillors, regarding costs and a request for contribution from BTC, together with a requested timeline. He has yet to receive a response and will be chasing the relevant CBC Officer for this information.

B27/0809 **9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

B27/0809.1 **CB/19/02215/FULL – 24 Broadmead, Biggleswade, SG18 8LF**
Single storey rear extension and conversion of 1 x 3-bed dwelling into 2 x 1-bed self-contained contained flats with associated parking and amenity space.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council has **NO OBJECTION** to this Application providing 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 dwellings are complied with to eliminate detriment in respect of light and privacy of adjacent residents.

B27/0810 **10. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

B27/0810.1 **a. NALC Study Visit 2020-21**

Members noted that the Clerk is keen for BTC to participate in the request from NALC to host a themed study visit with Super Councils in September 2020.

It was seen as an opportunity to promote the Town and Officers were to be complemented in making the event possible.

It was **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Town Clerk to organise this event.

B27/0810.2 **b. Bedfordshire Association of Town & Parish Councils (BATPC) AGM**

Cllr Woodhead has notified the Town Clerk that he is unable to attend this event. It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr H Ramsay will take his place on 17 October 2019 as a voting representative.

B27/0810.3 **c. Public Notice – Biggleswade: Bridleway No 53 and Parts of Bridleway No 40 and 52 (Temporary prohibition of through traffic) Order 2019**

Notice of the temporary closure of the Bridleway from 9th September 2019, ending within 6 months, for resurfacing works was **NOTED**

B27/0810.4 **d. Central Bedfordshire Council and Network Rail – Proposed Closure Lindsell’s Level Crossing, Biggleswade Bridleway No 11.**

Cllr Bond read out a statement giving background document information on this item. A copy of this statement is attached to the Minutes.

Cllr Bond then left the meeting during discussion of this item.

Following an extensive debate:

It was **RESOLVED** that there was **NO OBJECTION** to the Green Wheel as routed, both through Shortmead and via Sycamore Close. Vehicular access should only be allowed for Network Rail staff.'

Cllr Bond re-joined the meeting

11. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

B27/0811

a. **Planning Application Outcomes**

B27/0811.1

Cllr Bond has looked into the Bonds Lane/Foundry Lane application. The initial application was withdrawn, and a following application has been submitted and approved. It was **NOTED** that the application would be subject to building regulations and would require the provision of sprinklers.

B27/0811.2

b. **CB/TRE/19/00341 Works to Trees – 6 Eagle Farm Road, Biggleswade SG18 8JD**

This information was **NOTED**.

B27/0811.3

c. **CB/TRE/19/00308 Works to Trees – 14 Manor court, Dunton Lane, Biggleswade SG18 8QS**

This information was **NOTED**.

B27/0811.4

d. **Public Notice – Central Bedfordshire Council Proposes to Introduce an Experimental On-Way and Contra-Flow Cycle System in the Baulk, Biggleswade**

Members were disappointed to hear that the CBC Highways Officer will not be attending a Council Meeting. However, the Highways Officer will be at the next Biggleswade Joint Committee Meeting being held at BTC on the 19th September 2019, and Councillors who are not members of the Joint Committee are welcome to attend as Members of the Public in order to put forward their views.

B27/0812

12. **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

There were no questions or comments from Members of Public

B27/0813

13. **EXEMPT ITEMS**

The following resolution will be moved that it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press are excluded whilst the following exempt item issue is discussed.

14a. Minutes and Matters Arising from the Council Meeting 13/08/2019
14b. Finance

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.