



MINUTES OF THE TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 04 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 7.00PM
AT BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL,
THE OLD COURT HOUSE, SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE

PRESENT:

Cllr M North – Chairman
Cllr G Fage – Vice Chairman
Cllr D Albone
Cllr I Bond
Cllr F Foster
Cllr M Knight
Cllr R Pullinger
Cllr M Russell
Cllr D Strachan
Cllr C Thomas

Mr P Truppin, Acting Clerk
Mr S Newton, BTC Town Centre Operations Manager
Mrs L Ayres, Minutes Administrator
Members of Public – 1

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr J Woodhead

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Statutory Declarations of Interests from Members in relation to:

- (a) Disclosable Pecuniary interests in any agenda item – None
- (b) Non-Pecuniary interests in any agenda item – Cllr G Fage 6a

3. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no questions from Members of the Public.

4. MINUTES OF MEETING

Members received and approved the Minutes of the Town Centre Management Meeting held on **Tuesday 5th November 2019**.

Cllr F Foster asked for Cllr H Ramsay be taken off the minutes as she is no longer a member of TCM – Noted.

5. **MATTERS ARISING**

Matters arising from the Minutes of the Town Centre Management meeting held on **Tuesday, 5th November 2019.**

Item 8a – Cllr Fage raised concerns regarding potential Taxi rank. This was taken forward to Biggleswade Joint Committee. Cllr Fage has discussed this with Cllr S Watkins, and although was not discussed at the last BJC, this will be on the agenda for the next meeting. Hopefully there will also be representatives from CBC Highways to be able to take this forward.

Cllr Russell will make contact with Cllr Watkins and Sarah Hughes to put this onto the next agenda.

6. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

a. **BTC Operated Car Parks**

Cllr Fage referred to page 21 of the benchmarking report compiled by People & Places which highlighted that Biggleswade provide 37% Long stay Spaces (over 4 hours) as apposed to the National average of 54 % of towns a similar size to Biggleswade.

Discussions on revision to Schedule 1 of the Parking Places Order – Length of Stay:

Mill Lane, St Andrews, Dan Albone & Rose Lane free time to be increased to 2 hrs, with White Hart & Chestnut Ave remaining at 1 hr free.

Dan Albone max stay time to be increased to allow 10hrs, effectively meaning that someone could pay for 10hrs (increase payment to £5.00) and stay for 24hrs. Saturdays to be unrestricted. Proposed Cllr North, Seconded Cllr Russell .

Amendment by Cllr Fage to the above proposal of increasing max stay in Mill Lane & St Andrews from 3hrs to 4hrs– 7 for, 0 against, 2 abstentions – **motion carried**

Further amendment increases free time to 3hrs, proposed by Cllr Knight, seconded by Cllr Pullinger – Voted 4 for, 5 against – **Original motion and amendment carried.**

Following car park usage survey on BTC operated Car Parks on a Saturday, it was agreed that suspension of Saturday parking restrictions remain in force until such time as the Parking Orders are changed to show that enforceable hours are Monday to Friday, 8am-6pm, with Saturday, Sunday & Bank Holidays being free all day. Voted 7 for, 2 against, 0 abstentions – **motion carried.**

Cllr Knight has requested that if recommendations are agreed at the next Full Council meeting, that the Acting Town Clerk give a clear indication of when these changes will come into force.

It was **RECOMENDED** to approve the updated Schedule 1 of the Parking Places Order – Length of Stay at the next Full Council Meeting 10th March 2020.

7. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

a. **A Boards & Temporary Street Furniture Policy & Application Form**

Cllr Russell asked that the agreed document and application form be uploaded onto Sharepoint so that Cllrs can see the approved documentation. TCOM to upload these.

The Policy will come into force 1st April 2020.

b. TCOM Report

The Chairman thanked TCOM for his comprehensive report.

Cllr Russell asked about the de-cluttering report. Not sure if this is still valid as it was agreed a long time ago. Cllr Russell has asked if a copy of this can be made available for councillors to look at. TCOM will upload the document to Sharepoint once he has received this from CBC.

Cllr Strachan asked about the Teenage Market and would we be holding another one. TCOM pointed out that BTC had signed up to 3 years. The first year was not well attended, last year we did not hold one and there are no plans to do one this year. However, TCOM did state that this is something he is working on with the Market Superintendent in future years, along with the changes to our Charter Market.

8. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

There were no questions from Members of the Public

10. 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 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.