



MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC LAND AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 18 DECEMBER 2018 AT 7.00 PM
AT BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE

PRESENT:

Cllr B Briars (Chair)
Cllr M North
Cllr D Albone
Cllr F Foster
Cllr M Foster
Cllr P Sheldon
Cllr D Strachan
Mr Peter Dean (BUFC Invited Speaker, Item 4)
Mr Cristian Colas (BUFC Invited Speaker, Item 4)
Mr Tim Brown (BUFC Invited Speaker, Item 4)
Mr Dogan Ffrench (BUFC Invited Speaker, Item 4)

Mr M Thorn, Deputy Town Clerk
Mr Bob Catchpole, Works Manager
Miss Helen Calvert, Meeting Administrator

Members of public – 1

18/12/01 1. APOLOGIES

Cllr S Patel

ABSENT: None

18/12/02 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- 18/09/02.1 a. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in any agenda item – None
18/09/02.2 b. Non-pecuniary interests in any agenda item – None

18/12/03 3. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

To adjourn for a period of up to 15 minutes to allow members of the public to put questions or to address the Council, through the Chairman, pertaining to matters listed on the Agenda.

There were no public comments.

18/12/04 4. INVITED SPEAKER

Members welcomed Mr Peter Dean, Mr Cristian Colas, Mr Tim Brown and Mr Dogan Ffrench from Biggleswade United Football Club.

A presentation was given highlighting the progress of BUFC over recent years. Members congratulated BUFC on achieving Charter Standard from the FA. Mr Ffrench welcomed opening a discussion with BUFC and Biggleswade Town Council on upgrading their current facilities. Several upgrades were suggested by BUFC such as 3G facility, updated floodlights and an artificial surface so that

a greater number of football matches could be played. It was noted that several matches currently take place outside of Biggleswade and that BUFC aspire to centralise matches in Biggleswade.

It was suggested that BUFC present a masterplan and costings at a future PLOS meeting.

18/12/05 **5. MINUTES OF MEETING**

18/12/05.1 a. Members received and approved the Minutes of the Public Lands and Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on 18 September 2018.

18/12/06 **6. MATTERS ARISING**

From the Minutes of the Public Lands and Open Spaces meeting held on 18 September 2018.

18/12/06.1 a. Members asked for an update on Item 7c, Drove Road Cemetery Repairs. Members were informed that there was no further progress on undertaking these works but that this would be brought back to a future Council meeting for discussion.

18/12/07 **7. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

18/12/07.1 a. **Drove Road Chapel Survey**

Members are asked to consider quotations for surveys to the Drove Road chapel.

Quotations are attached to this agenda and summarised as follows:

Quote A	£1,072.80 (includes access equipment hire)
Quote B	£1,155.00 (excludes access equipment hire)

Members agreed that due to the nature of Drove Road Chapel it was essential that the supplier have expertise in old church buildings.

Members were informed that several companies have been contacted but only a few have responded due to the nature of the building.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept Quote A.

18/12/07.2 b. **Allotment Dip Tanks**

Members are asked to consider the installation of two additional dip tanks at the Kennel Farm Road Allotments.

Quotations for the supply of the tanks and service kits are attached to this agenda and summarised as follows:

Quote A	£448.08
Quote B	£527.12

It was noted that the work would be completed in-house and that the proposed work would be cost and time effective in comparison to digging out the trenches.

It was **RECOMMENDED** to accept Quote A for £448.08.

18/12/07.3 c. **Water Safety Pole**

Members considered a request from Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service to fund a Water Safety Board with a reach pole to be installed at the weir alongside Franklin Recreation Ground. The cost of a reach pole is £1,715.00. The Fire Service has already purchased a Water Safety Board with a throw bag and are requesting to install this alongside Dan Albone Picnic Area.

It was **RECOMMENDED** to purchase a water safety board with reach pole for installation by at the weir alongside Franklin Recreation Ground.

It was **RESOLVED** to install the Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service water safety board and throw bag at Dan Albone Picnic Area.

18/12/07.4 d. **Tree Removal and Tree Planting**

Members noted the requirement for the removal and maintenance of trees at various locations and considered a proposal to plant trees at a number of different locations in Biggleswade. An application to S106 funds for Countryside Projects is proposed for the purchase of new trees, supported by BRCC. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the proposal as written.

18/12/07.5 e. **Drove Road Tennis Courts – Winter Opening**

Members are asked to consider a request to explore ways to extend the Winter opening hours for the Drove Road tennis courts.

Members agreed that it would be desirable to keep the Tennis Courts open throughout the winter months.

It was **RECOMMENDED** to accept the request to explore ways to extend the Winter opening hours for the Drove Road Tennis courts once the site has been developed.

8. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

18/12/08.1 a. **Cycle Racks**

Members were informed that S106 funding has been provided for new cycle racks to be placed alongside the Biggleswade Green Wheel at Dan Albone Picnic Area, Franklin Recreation Ground and The Lakes Recreation Ground.

18/12/08.2 b. **Kubota RTVX900 utility vehicle**

Members were informed that The Town Council has taken delivery of a new Kubota RTVX900 utility complete with fittings for snowplough, gritter and water tank.

18/12/08.3 c. **Isuzu Grafter**

Members were informed that the Town Council's Isuzu Grafter 3.5t drop side truck is due for replacement in Summer 2019 and quotations will be prepared for consideration by the PLOS committee in the Spring.

18/12/08.4 d. **Bulb Planting**

Members were informed that the Public Realm Team have been planting spring flowering bulbs at Stratton Way Cemetery and Dan Albone Picnic Area.

- 18/12/08.5 **e. Allotments**
- Members were informed that a secure gate with combination padlock has been installed at the allotments and after an initial period of allotment tenants getting used to the padlock this has been well received. The water supply has now been turned off to prevent freezing pipes during the winter and the internal allotment roads are now closed to prevent rutting whilst the ground is soft.
- 18/12/08.6 **f. Play Equipment Annual Inspections**
- Members were informed that annual play equipment inspections are planned for the new year. Weekly inspections continue to be carried out by Town Council staff.
- 18/12/08.7 **g. Biggleswade Skate Park**
- Members were informed that Central Bedfordshire Council anticipate going to tender with outline design considerations early in 2019 and aspire to open the skate park in time for the 2019 Summer holidays, subject to contracts.
- Members felt that residents of Biggleswade should be made aware but agreed that we should await Central Bedfordshire Council's promotion.
- It was suggested that the Deputy Town Clerk contact Central Bedfordshire Council to enquire on when information on proposals will be publicised.
- 18/12/08.8 **h. Drove Road Workshop**
- Members were informed that applications have been made to discharge various conditions attached to the planning application of Drove Road Workshop. A response is expected by 8 January 2019.
- Members were informed that we are unable to prepare tenders specifications until planning application conditions have been discharged by Central Bedfordshire Council.
- 18/12/09 **9. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**
- To adjourn for a period of up to 15 minutes to allow members of the public to put questions or to address the Council, through the Chairman, in respect of any other business of the Town Council.
- There were no public comments.
- 18/12/10 **10. EXEMPT ITEMS**
- There were no exempt items.