

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE OFF STREET CAR PARKING COMMITTEE HELD ON 30 APRIL 2013 AT THE OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, THE OLD COURT HOUSE, SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE

Present: Cllr Mrs M Russell, Cllr Mrs H Ramsay, Cllr G Wilson and Cllr D Albone
Louise Wilcox – Deputy Town Clerk
Sam Vernon – Biggleswade Chronicle
Members of the Public - 4

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr R Skinner, Cllr S Watkins and Cllr Mrs W Smith

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

3 PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

A member of the public (MOP 1) addressed the meeting regarding item 6f (deliveries – Bonds Lane). Siggys Café has been struck by delivery lorries 6 times in the past 5 years, causing damage. The size of the lorries is an issue, they are difficult to manoeuvre. Owners also have difficulties exiting their premises.

Cllr Mrs H Ramsay asked about the frequency of deliveries.

MOP 1 replied that there are daily deliveries, typically occurring around 2pm

MOP 1 outlined that they had spoken to Poundland previously, but Poundland are currently reluctant to respond.

4. MINUTES OF MEETINGS

- a. Members received and approved the minutes of the Off Street Car Parking meeting held on 12 February 2013.

5 MATTERS ARISING

- a. Off Street Car Parking meeting held on 12 February 2013.

Cllr D Albone asked about the outcome of the recent CBC Traffic Management committee meeting.

Cllr Mrs M Russell replied that the Dells Lane parking scheme was approved by CBC last Thursday.

Members discussed the matter of cars parking in the New Inn walkway. It was recommended that the Town Council write to CBC regarding this issue.

6. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Items deferred from the OSCP meeting 12 February 2013

a. MARKETS

Members considered the introduction of specialist markets for Biggleswade.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that options be considered for new Markets and a report outlining options and matters regarding the existing markets be taken back to Committee.

b. CCTV PLAN

Members considered and noted the CCTV Plan 2013 – 2017.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that Town Council write a letter expressing the Councils desire for monitoring at Stevenage to continue and looking forward to being consulted further about the arrangements for CCTV for Biggleswade.

c. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2013/2014

Members considered the Biggleswade Christmas lights.

Members discussed extending the Christmas lighting display and noted the need to include Hitchin Street within this years scheme.

Members expressed a preference for festoons to be incorporated in the scheme.

Members agreed three areas that Lamps and Tubes be asked to investigate and provide a quotation for festoon lighting in the following locations.

Area 1) Hitchin Street to Mill Lane

Area 2) White Hart Car Park – Rose Lane junction

Area 3) Century House to Approximately Natwest Bank

Members stated the quotations should include details regarding the power supplies and should also identify properties where fixings would need to be secured and owners consent would need to be obtained. Members expressed a desire that the quotation be available for the meeting to be held on 4th June, with a final recommendation on Christmas lighting to be made to Council at the meeting to be held on 20th August.

Members considered dates for the switch on event and selected Friday 22nd November as the preferred date. It was agreed that the Chamber of Trade be contacted and also Jamie Harris with regards to availability of the funfair, before this date be confirmed with Lamps and Tubes.

d. DELEGATED AGREEMENT

Members were asked to consider delegated powers to issue licenses for the placing of tables, chairs and 'A' boards within the parish boundary of Biggleswade.

These powers will be delegated from Central Bedfordshire Council under Local Government Act 1972 and Local Government Act 2000.

This will initially be a 12 month trial period.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that Town Council proceed with entering into the Delegated Agreement with CBC.

e. SUN STREET & ST JOHNS STREET – BIGGLESWADE

Cllr David Albone has asked that the O.S.C.P Committee look at the congestion in Sun Street & St Johns Street in Biggleswade with a view to the possible introduction of a one-way system.

If the committee agrees Cllr Albone would like the Town Council to urge Central Bedfordshire Council to investigate/fund/plan/implement a scheme at the earliest opportunity.

Members considered this matter.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that Town Council request CBC investigate a one-way system.

f. **DELIVERIES - BONDS LANE**

Members were asked to consider an email highlighting issues with delivery Lorries who carry out deliveries in Bonds Lane, Biggleswade.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that Town Council write to CBC to ask about what, if any, restrictions there are for deliveries in Bonds Lane and what else might be done to stop the damage to property. It was also **RECOMMENDED** to write to Poundland to ask if they would consider deliveries to the front of the store and/or use smaller vehicles.

7. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

a. Members received an update on Hitchin Street improvement scheme.

This item was noted by the Committee.

b. **ALDI CAR PARK**

Members will recall that a letter was sent to Aldi Stores on the 17th December 2012; the letter pointed out that the signs in the car park to the North of Bonds Lane were not worded correctly and were misleading to members of the public.

Aldi responded to the letter of the 17th December on 2nd January 2013 confirming that the signage would be changed.

A further letter was sent to Aldi on the 16th March 2013 asking Aldi to advise Council when they anticipated changing the signage as promised in the letter of 2nd January 2013.

The Town Council has now received a response advising the signage will be changed on the 10th May 2013.

This item was noted by the Committee.

8. **PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

Members further discussed the matter of the vehicular deliveries to Poundland. MOP 2 and MOP 3 highlighted the issues with their car being blocked in by delivery lorries which were often there for two hours.

9. **EXEMPT ITEMS**

There were no exempt items.