

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON  
18 NOVEMBER 2014 AT THE OFFICES OF BIGGLESWADE TOWN COUNCIL, THE OLD COURT HOUSE,  
SAFFRON ROAD, BIGGLESWADE**

**Present:**

Cllr I Bond (Vice Chair)  
Cllr Mrs H Ramsay  
Cllr P Biernis  
Cllr M North  
Mr R McGregor – Town Clerk  
Mr M Thorn – Deputy Town Clerk  
Mrs J Durn – Administrator  
Members of Public - 10

**1. APOLOGIES**

Cllr G Wilson  
Cllr B Rix  
Cllr D Albone  
Cllr S Watkins  
Cllr Mrs M Russell

**2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

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

- (a)** Disclosable Pecuniary interests in any agenda item – none declared
- (b)** Pecuniary interests in any agenda item – none declared

**3. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

MOP, Mr Foster, asked for an update on the situation regarding the lease of Rose Lane Car Park.

Cllr H Ramsay responded that as previously reported at the Biggleswade Town Council meeting on 25 November, due to confidentiality restrictions, this information is at the moment under discussion in the Exempt section of the minutes.

Draft Minutes of the previous Council meeting can be seen on the Biggleswade Town Council Website where members of the public can see any of the recommendations made, not only at that meeting, but any of the Town Council Committees.

**4. MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

- a.** Members received and approved the Minutes of the Town Centre management meeting held on the 19 August 2014.

**5. MATTERS ARISING**

From the Town Centre Management meeting held on 19 August 2014.

Cllr H Ramsay requested an update on item 7a “A” Boards. The Town Clerk reported that the Council will be issuing letters to all Traders in January requesting them to apply for a licence to display an “A” board.

Cllr P Biernis requested an update on item 6d St John’s Street/Sun Street one-way system.

The Town Clerk reported that Central Bedfordshire Council are currently costing the feasibility of a one-way system. The Town Clerk will keep us informed as soon as information is available.

Cllr H Ramsay said that whilst they were looking at the one-way scheme, she felt that Central Bedfordshire would see that there is other work that could run alongside this project. Cllr Ramsay assured Cllr Biernis that everything possible is being done to push this forward as quickly as possible.

## **6. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- a. **Parking Strategy:** Due to the absence of Cllr M Russell the meeting was unable to receive a full report.

The Town Clerk reported that certain areas of concern such as commuter parking, have been highlighted for urgent action, and proposals are currently being looked at by Central Bedfordshire Council as a matter of urgency.

## **7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

- a. **Biggleswade Christmas Fair:** The Town Clerk reported that the previous items for concern covering the Christmas Lights have now all been resolved.

Cllr Mrs H Ramsay said that we are now all hopeful for a successful Christmas Fair – and especially for dry weather.

## **8. PUBLIC OPEN SESSION**

MOP: We welcome the brief update on the parking situation. However we feel that this has been out there for some time now and this is crucial for the development of the Town, so can we please put pressure on Central Bedfordshire Council to come up with a solution sooner rather than later.

Cllr Mrs H Ramsay said that it is because of the pressure that Biggleswade Town Council have put on Central Bedfordshire Council over this issue that they have now agreed to meet us half way. Please be assured that we are continuing to push as hard as possible.

MOP: Sgt Gary Kidd from Bedfordshire Police has promised to send out PCSO's to check on cars illegally parked and it would be appreciated if people can take down registrations.

Cllr Mrs H Ramsay suggested that people be encouraged to call 101 and report to Gary Kidd as this can only help motivate Central Beds.

## **9. EXEMPT ITEMS**

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

- a. **Dan Albone Car Park**

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the public bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Committee **resolved** to exclude the public and press by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.