

BIGGLESWADE TOWN PLAN STEERING GROUP MEETING

Monday 1 March 2010

Biggleswade Town Council Chamber 7.30 p.m.

Present: Gerry Lawrence – Chair, Sheila Grayston, Mike Strange, Doreen Evans, Mark Ty-Wharton, Andy Buckley, Ian Bond, Jemma McLean, Sam Cauldbeck

Apologies: Vic Brunt, Eric Stuart, Alan Dansey, Pamela Bagnall, Helen Horner (home from hospital – getting better)

Minutes: E-mailed to members prior to the meeting.
Proposed by Doreen Evans. Seconded by Mike Strange

Matters arising: No matters arising.

Agenda 5: No volunteer to take on the role of Secretary/Note Taker. It was agreed this remain an “open agenda item” until the post is filled. Sheila Grayston to continue to take notes.

Agenda 6: Sam Cauldbeck gave a brief overview of work to date by the Town Centre Partnership via Central Bedfordshire Council and their appointed consultants Savills – purpose of this group was to assess how town centre would cope with extra population when the new build at Land East of Biggleswade is completed. The draft document produced includes Biggleswade Town Plan Questionnaire results plus additional information gleaned by Savills and Central Bedfordshire Council. The document contains 3 separate scenarios – different options for traffic flows, etc.
The promised public exhibition will be held in mid April – possible venue is the former Bookworm Store.
Sam also advised about proposed works to enhance London Road/The Baulk junction. Plans for this have been submitted to and commented on by Town Councillors. The work has been brought forward as external grant money has been made available via Central Government.
Sam advised that he would do his best to attend the next meeting of the Town Plan Steering Group.

Agenda 7: Jemma McClean had circulated 3 Action Plan Tables to members of the group which included the responses via the Questionnaires and the feedback from the recent Workshop and group members.
The ensuing discussion included the need to have an audit trail from questions in the Questionnaire to the Action Plan Tables; attach a map, prioritise Actions as high/med/low. It was also agreed that Gerry Lawrence would reword G9 (in liaison with Cliff Andrews) in regard to Green Infrastructure.

Jemma would re-circulate the Action Plan Tables when all the amendments had been completed for final comment by group members and then issue them to the stakeholders who attended the Workshop Session. She would also arrange to make a presentation on behalf of the group to Biggleswade Town Council to obtain any comments they may have.

Agenda 8: Any Other Business: -

Jemma advised that group members needed to consider the design of the final version of the Town Plan document, plus the content of the document. Potton have good contacts for design, etc that may be of interest to the Biggleswade group. Gerry agreed to start writing the document and volunteers to help with this should contact him directly. It was agreed that final consultation on the draft plan, following comments by the Town Council and other stakeholders, should be held in May and then go to the printers.

Date of Next Meeting – MONDAY 12 April 2010
7.30 p.m at the Town Council Offices