

## **Biggleswade Town Plan Steering Group**

Notes of Steering Group Meeting held at Town Council Chamber on Monday 15 December, 2008, at 7.30 p.m.

**Present:** Gerry Lawrence – Chair  
Mike Strange, Doreen Evans, Sheila Grayston  
Vic Brunt , Helen Horner, Ian Bond, Hazel Ramsay

**Apologies:** Peter Woodward, Steven Watkins, Jemma McClean, Doris Brunt, Jean Simmons

**Note Taker:** Sheila Grayston

### **1: Election of Minute Secretary**

No volunteers to take on this role. Sheila Grayston agreed to take the notes for this meeting but asked all members to consider this role, possibly on a rotating responsibility.

### **2: Minutes of last meeting**

Due to over commitments Sheila had been unable to type up the notes for the last meeting but had produced the agenda from the hand written notes taken.

### **3: Community Group Talks**

Peter Woodward had spoken to Ivel Rotary – no feedback as he was unable to attend this evenings meeting. Awaiting confirmation of arrangement for Steven Watkins speaking to the Youth Club.

### **4: Planning for Real Event**

Following discussion it was hoped this Event could be arranged for end of Jan or early Feb. Gerry Lawrence agreed to arrange for the “colouring” of the maps. It was proposed that it might be appropriate to hold this event at The Chapter House, St. Andrews Church.

### **5: RAVE Bus at Stratton Upper School**

This had proved to be a successful event with over 120 students taking part. It was hoped that a similar event could be arranged at Middle Schools in order more young people could be involved.

### **6: ASDA**

It was agreed that this “likes & dislikes” stall should be arranged for late Jan or early Feb. Sheila Grayston to liaise with Asda Store Manager.

### **7: Biggleswade Railway Station**

It was proposed by Mike Strange that the group should undertake an early morning survey at Biggleswade Rail Station. It was suggested that mini questionnaires could be given to passengers, with the website address, for those who did not have time to complete the form there and then.

### **8: Biggleswade Town Centre Strategy Group**

Gerry Lawrence, Chair, had been accepted as our representative to this new group that had been set up by Mid Beds District Council. Meetings arranged for February and April. Although this group is specifically concerned with the Town Centre the Town Plan Steering Group considered it was important to have a voice in view of the various issues people had raised via the “likes & dislikes” questionnaires in respect of the market square, parking, etc.

### **9: Banner**

The members of the Steering Group expressed their “thanks” to Mike Strange who had secured the purchase of a Banner for an inclusive cost of £35. The Banner was displayed at the meeting for all to see.

### **10: Any Other Business**

- a) The Chronicle (local newspaper) were asking local groups to express a “wish list” for 2009. Gerry Lawrence to contact the Editor and advise that some of the main issues raised so far included the desire for a centrally located Community Centre, traffic easing in London Road/The Baulk, Shortmead Street/Sun Street.
- b) To date there had been 29 responses following the Website article in The Chronicle.
- c) Steering Group to review & revise the programme set earlier in the year.
- d) Consideration of report structure for the final document.

### **11: Date of next meeting**

It was agreed the next meeting should be held on Tuesday 20 January, 2009, 7.30 p.m. at the Town Council Offices.

Mike Strange gave apologies for the next meeting.