

POTTON TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council held on
Tuesday 7th September 2021, 7.11pm in the Community Centre.

Present: Councillors Dr C. Craig, Mr A. Gibb, Mrs V. Gwilliam, Mr J. Hobbs (Chairman), Mr A. Inkersole, Ms L. Kitchener, Mr J. Lean, Mrs C. Leggatt, Mr A. Macdonald, Mr J. Price Williams and Mr A. Zerny.

Absent: Councillors Mr J. Day and Mr M. Williams.

Also Present: Town Clerk and three members of the public.

1 Apologies for absence

Councillors Mr J. Day and Mrs C. Leggatt.

2 Declaration of Interest

Councillors were reminded that they should declare an interest in any matter of personal or prejudicial interest to be discussed at this meeting.

3 Public Participation Session

No questions.

The Chairman advised he would alter the order of the agenda as two residents were in attendance for the Wrestlingworth Road item.

4 Wrestlingworth Road (Agenda item 10)

The Chairman welcomed the two members of the public who had been invited to be in attendance for this item.

The Chairman invited the two members of the public to speak about Wrestlingworth Road.

The members of the public advised about further road traffic accidents on Wrestlingworth Road.

The Chairman thanked the members of the public.

The Chairman invited Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) Cllr Zerny to give the town council and the two members of the public an update with regards to Wrestlingworth Road.

Cllr Zerny advised that CBC Highways are going to produce a further highway plan for Wrestlingworth Road, and it is planned that the proposed plan will be discussed at the CBC Traffic Management before the end of the calendar year.

The Chairman advised that the last meeting of CBC Traffic Management in this calendar year is scheduled for November 2021.

5 Minutes (Agenda item 4)

The minutes of the previous meetings held on the 6th July 2021, 20th July, and the 10th August, which had been previously circulated, were approved.

6 Town Council Committees (Agenda item 5)

Town Council accepted and adopted the following minutes and all recommendations contained from the Town Council Committee:

- Planning Committee – 6th July 2021, 20th July, and 10th August 2021.
- Hall for All Steering Group - 13th July 2021.
- Environmental Committee – 20th July 2021.
- Commemorations and Celebrations Working – 26th July 2021 and 23rd August.

7 Reports from Central Bedfordshire Councillors (Agenda item 6)

The Chairman invited Central Bedfordshire Councillors Cllr Zerny to give a report.

Cllr Zerny gave apologies for Cllr Wye.

Cllr Zerny advised he had nothing to report.

8 Safer Communities (Agenda item 7)

The Chairman invited Cllr Craig to speak about this item.

Cllr Craig advised that Juliet Wright, Watch Scheme Development Coordinator, Bedfordshire Police is hoping to attend the November or December town council meeting. Various multi-agency forms submitted and these were for Common Road, Speeding, Anti-Social Behaviour and Fly tipping.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Craig.

It was **resolved** that Cllr Craig contact the Community Safety Officer to establish if a Liaison Officer can find out if the residents of Common Road wish to engage.

9 Crime Stats (Agenda item 8)

The July Crime Stats were noted.

10 Biggleswade Road, Potton - Section 278 - CB/16/03943/OUT (Agenda item 9)

At the town council meeting on the 2nd March 2021 - It was resolved that the Town Clerk writes on behalf of the town council to CBC Highways strongly urging that they implement the highway scheme that they propose and copy the correspondence to CBC Cllr Zerny.

It was noted that the Town Clerk has received an update from Central Bedfordshire Council on the 16th August 2021 and this was as follows;
'Please accept my apologies in the delay to responding to your email. I have looked into this further and can advise the developer (Mulberry Homes) are aware of their responsibility in providing the raised table at the junction of their proposed access. However they tried to book the roadspace to install

the aforementioned raised table.

Unfortunately, their road was refused as the developer applied for the road space but unfortunately as Highways England have closures on the A1 which are stopping the developer from completing the s278 obligations including the raised table junction. I have been informed that the TM diversion is in place until September.'

11 Potton Hall for All

The Chairman invited Cllr Gwilliam to speak about the Potton Hall for All.

Cllr Gwilliam advised that a Project Manager has been appointed and they have obtained costings for various elements needed to achieve RIBA 4. The quotations total in the region of £25,000 this is higher than was anticipated and will be paid from the Ear Marked Reserve. The Principal designer and the structural designer are from the same group.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Gwilliam.

12 Public evidence session - Swanwick Airspace Improvement Programme - Airspace Deployment 6 (ACP-2018-65)

It was noted that the item was requested by Cllr Craig.

It was noted that as per the correspondence received on the 23rd August 2021 that a Public Evidence Session is scheduled to be take place on the 22nd September 2021.

13 A00143 Brook End, Potton – Revocation of One-Way System & Waiting and Loading Restrictions

Correspondence received with regards to making the experimental two-way traffic access on Brook End permanent was noted.

It was **resolved** to agree that the experimental two-way traffic access on Brook End be made permanent.

14 Potton Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Review Process

It was noted that the item was requested by Cllr Hobbs.

The Chairman spoke about the review process for the Potton Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).

It was **resolved** to approve of the review process for the Potton Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).

15 Development in Potton

Planning Applications considered by the Planning Committee on the 7th September 2021 for recommendation to Town Council at its next Meeting.

Application No: CB/21/03479/FULL

Location: Rose & Crown Garage, King Street, Potton, Sandy SG19 2QT

Proposal: Erection of 2 self-contained apartments above existing car showroom, north and west ground floor extensions, partial demolition to form new access stairway from street level.

Weblink:

<http://cbstor.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicportalviewer/publicViewer.html?caseID=CB/21/03479/FULL>

The Planning Committee resolved to recommend to object to the application as follows:

1. Query the highway grass verge which was removed earlier in 2021.
2. The applicant needs to clearly indicate off road parking for the flats.

It was **resolved** to agree with the recommendation of the Planning Committee.

16 EV Chargepoints

Correspondence from Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) with regards to EV Chargepoints was noted.

The Chairman invited members to discuss the correspondence and suggest suitable locations for EV charging points.

Members suggested the following locations for EV Chargepoints:

- Brook End car park
- Library (Market Square)
- Steve Highland Garage
- Pavilion Mill Lane
- St Mary's Hall
- The Hollow

A member raised a query with regards to tariffs if the EV Chargepoints are run by private organisations.

It was **resolved** that the Town Clerk sends correspondence to CBC advising of the locations suggested above for EV Chargepoints and to query tariffs if the EV Chargepoints are run by private organisations.

17 Linking footpath to Footpath 1 Potton

Correspondence from Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) with regards to a linking footpath to Footpath 1 Potton was noted.

Members discussed the correspondence and how to gain access from Tear Crescent, Potton to the existing rights of way, Footpath 1. It was suggested to reluctantly approve that CBC pay the landowner from Section 106 as the funds could have been put to better use.

It was **resolved** to reluctantly agree that CBC pay the landowner who owns a metre wide ransom strip £10,000 from Section 106 to allow for a new linking path to run from Tear Crescent, Potton to the existing rights of way, Footpath 1.

18 Public Open Space – Hutchinson Rise

It was noted that Cllr Day had requested that the town council discuss three items in relation to the Tall Trees Public Open Space.

1. Additional area of land

Members were made aware that Kier Homes - now Tilia Homes, have asked whether the town council are interested in taking transfer of the triangle of land just to the south-west of the entrance to the Potton Hall for All.

It was **resolved** to send written confirmation to Tilia Homes to advise that the town council are interested in taking transfer of the triangle of land just to the south-west of the entrance to the Potton Hall for All.

2. Reptile hibernacula

Members were made aware that part of the Tall Trees planning condition was to provide - before translocation and a hibernacula for the lizards on Tall Trees. The planning condition was not yet been discharged, and Tilia Homes are still obliged to fulfil the obligation and have been in liaison with Sally Wileman and their ecologists. As Tilia Homes have been unable to find a contractor for the works, Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charities are prepared to take the project on. The cost of materials and their labour is being estimated by Sally Wileman who is in liaison with BRCC, Tilia Homes and PTC (Potton Town Council) Environment Committee.

Suggestion that PTC Environment Committee project manage this work with BRCC and Tilia Homes pay the cost to Potton Town Council.

It was **resolved** that the town council agree to PTC Environment Committee project manage this work with BRCC and Tilia Homes pay the cost to Potton Town Council.

3. Public Open Space

Members were made aware that Tilia Homes still intend to undertake the wildflower seeding of the main open area and, through Sally Wileman, we are negotiating a minimum one year's maintenance and establishment before hand over. Once complete and handed over, PTC will then be in a position to appropriately secure the site with bollards and ditching to prevent any incursions and fly tipping.

It was **resolved** in principle, that the town council be willing to accept a payment from Tilia Homes to undertake the works and establishment maintenance of at least one year and ideally five years through a contractor of the town councils choosing.

19 Co-Option

It was noted that three applicants had applied for the two vacancies by the closing date.

Members were reminded that a candidate needed a proposer and seconder to move on to a vote.

All three candidates received a proposer and seconder to move them on to the vote.

Members moved to vote on the proposed candidates.

It was **resolved (i)** that Dan Norman be co-opted as a Cllr of Pottton Town Council. **(ii)** to defer the co-option of the second vacancy until the October 2021 town council meeting. **(iii)** that the other two candidates are invited to attend the October 2021 town council meeting.

20 To Arrange Date of the Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Town Council had been arranged for Tuesday 5th October 2021.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed: Date:
Chairman Mission Statement

The aim of Pottton Town Council is to serve the people of this town to the best of its ability.