

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PLANNING & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, 14 JULY 2021 AT 7.30 PM

Present: Councillors M Freeman (Chair)
 A Dodwell
 D Bowater
 G Perham
 J Silverstone
 S Owen
 P Carberry
 C Palmer (Vice-Chair)
 F Kharawala
 D Scott

Also in attendance: M Saccoccio, Town Clerk
 S Sandiford, Deputy Town Clerk
 Cllr Harvey

Members of the public: 0
Members of the press 0

206/P APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor R Goodchild.

207/P DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made and no dispensations were requested

208/P APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR FOR 2021-22

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor C Palmer be appointed Vice Chair of the Committee for 2021-2022. There were no further nominations.

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor C Palmer Vice Chair of the Planning and Transport Committee for the municipal year 2021-2022.

209/P QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (3 minutes per person; maximum 15 minutes)

There were no questions from the public.

210/P MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Committee received the minutes of the Planning and Transport Committee meeting held on 23 June 2021.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning and Transport Committee meeting held 23 June 2021 be approved as a correct record and were signed accordingly.

Minute reference 204/P: The Committee was advised that Central Bedfordshire Council Highways officers had recommended that pedestrians follow the new shared space path on Chartmoor Road to the toucan crossing over Grovebury Road, while recognising that there was a desire line to use the other side of the road. Concerns were raised about vehicle speeds on Chartmoor Road and the lack of a safe crossing. It was suggested that a zebra crossing on the other side of the roundabout at Grovebury Road would be safer and slow traffic. It was suggested that the highways authority be asked for any information on traffic flow/volumes and what the latest legislation/guidance was in respect of walking routes. Cllr Bowater advised he was happy to follow this up at Central Bedfordshire Council.

The Committee was advised that works to install bollards on Soulbury Road were expected to take place over the next two weeks.

There had been no response as yet from Central Bedfordshire Council in respect of an Article 4 Direction for the town centre.

211/P PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Committee reviewed applications received up to Thursday, 8 July.

RESOLVED to recommend to Central Bedfordshire Council that no objection be made to application reference CB/21/02714 (50 Dudley Street) but that the Town Council would comment that car parking in this area is extremely limited and problematic, with little on or off street car parking.

RESOLVED to recommend to Central Bedfordshire Council that objection be made to application reference CB/21/02956 (44 Warneford Way) on the grounds of concerns regarding adequate car parking and the impact on the street scene as seen from Nettleton Way (to the rear of the property).

RESOLVED to recommend to Central Bedfordshire Council that no objection be made to the following applications:

- | | | |
|----|-------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | CB/21/02819 | 2A BEAUDESERT |
| 2. | CB/21/02694 | 16 POPLAR CLOSE |
| 3. | CB/21/02261 | 22 STOKE ROAD, LINSLADE |
| 4. | CB/21/02481 | 43 WYNGATES, LINSLADE |
| 5. | CB/21/02867 | 16 GOLDEN RIDDY |
| 6. | CB/21/02843 | 18 LINWOOD GROVE |
| 7. | CB/21/02701 | 59 STEPPINGSTONE PLACE |
| 8. | CB/21/02864 | 1 HERCULES CLOSE |

9. CB/21/02486	STONHILL, 52 BILLINGTON
ROAD	
10. CB/21/02905	18 COLUMBA DRIVE
11. CB/21/02939	UNIT 1, CHASSIS INDUSTRIAL
EST	
	GROVEBURY ROAD
12. CB/21/02999	39 TAYLORS RIDE
13. CB/21/02485	10 HIGH STREET
14. CB/21/03024	231 VANDYKE ROAD
15. CB/21/02664	88 RUSSELL WAY
NMA	
1. CB/21/03069/NMA	NEAP PLAY AREA ON SITE 15C
	PRATTS QUARRY BILLINGTON
	ROAD
LB	
1. CB/21/02695/LB &	
CB/21/02693/ADV	27 THE HIGH STREET
2. CB/21/02489/LB	10 HIGH STREET
VOC	
1. CB/21/02720/VOC	OAK BANK SCHOOL
2. CB/21/02605/VOC	LAND OFF CHECKLEY WOOD
3. CB/21/02889/VOC	17 WING ROAD, LINSLADE
WORKS TO TREES	
1. CB/TCA/21/00287	51 GROVE ROAD
2. CB/TRE/21/00307	THE SQUIRRELS, HEATH PK
	ROAD
3. CB/TRE/21/00288	2 THE MARTINS DRIVE,
LINSLADE	
4. CB/TRE/21/00314	114 & 116 HEATH ROAD
5. CB/TRE/21/00320	31 ORCHARD DRIVE, LINSLADE

212/P TRANSPORT MATTERS

(a) The Committee received and considered a motion submitted by Councillor Palmer and Perham: To request Central Bedfordshire, in view of the concerns of parents and residents alike because of -

1. the large number of cars parking as part of the school run in the vicinity of and (at some distance) in side roads from Southcott and Greenleas (Derwent Road) Lower Schools
2. the parking of many cars inappropriately and blocking pavements/service strips at the side of the road, and
3. the difficulties faced by parents and children often having to walk around cars and in the road.

To undertake a detailed study of the safety of parents and children walking to and from these schools and propose/undertake any appropriate measures to

encourage and improve the safety of the walking experience.

It was noted that the “service strips” on Bideford Green were significantly narrower than a footpath and this caused difficulties for pedestrians, particularly when pushing prams or pushchairs and also particularly when cars parked across the entire width of the service strip. Unlike in the past when most children walked to their closest catchment area school, more children were now driven to school than walked. This meant that inconsiderate and dangerous car parking was an ever-increasing issue in the local area. Road markings were largely ignored and not enforced.

It was suggested that school travel plans be reviewed to encourage more innovative and incentivised schemes to persuade families to walk to school and also that parent views would be needed by way of consultation if the hope was to change driver behaviour.

RESOLVED: To request Central Bedfordshire, in view of the concerns of parents and residents alike because of

- 1) the large number of cars parking as part of the school run in the vicinity of, and at some distance in side roads from Southcott and Greenleas (Derwent Road) Lower Schools**
- 2) the parking of many cars inappropriately and blocking pavements/service strips at the side of the road, and**
- 3) the difficulties faced by parents and children often having to walk around cars and in the road**

to undertake a detailed study of the safety of parents and children walking to and from these schools, to encourage the support and review of school travel plans and to propose/undertake any appropriate measures, after consultation, to encourage and improve the safety of the walking experience.

(b) The Committee was advised of correspondence received from a resident raising concerns about traffic flow in and out of the retail park at Grovebury Road, particularly when vehicles were trying to turn right on exit. Councillor Owen advised he had also had correspondence with residents on the same subject and that possible measures had been suggested by some people.

It was felt that drivers becoming impatient with waiting to exit the retail park could be more likely to take risks which would be dangerous. It was noted that encouraging walking and cycling to the park was a focus for the local authority and also noted that a further pedestrian crossing might slow the traffic and aid vehicle entry/exit to the site as well as facilitating pedestrian access. It was suggested that implementing a “no right turn on exit” rule might free up traffic movement and that drivers could easily turn around at the bypass roundabout.

RESOLVED to request the Town Clerk to write to Central Bedfordshire Council to:

- (i) raise concerns regarding safety and to seek an opportunity to discuss possible solutions further**
- (ii) ask for consideration of a no right turn on exit rule as a short term measure to improve traffic flow.**

In addition to the concerns on entry/exit, it was noted that many vehicles failed to follow the preferred route in the car park and concerns regarding safety were expressed.

RESOLVED to request the Town Clerk write to the owners of the retail park to raise concerns regarding safety and traffic flow, within the car park as well as on entry/exit.

213/P INFORMATION ITEMS

The Committee received several items of information:

- (a) That a pre-reserved matters applications consultation had been run by Taylor Wimpey and Barratt David Wilson Homes for 270 new homes on the Stearn Land (www.stearnland.co.uk). The opportunity for formal consultation would follow once the application was submitted.
- (b) Correspondence from Central Bedfordshire Council regarding planning appeals at 10 Digby Road and 19 Dudley Street.

RESOLVED to note the information.

The meeting closed at 8.31 pm.

I HEREBY CONFIRM THAT THE FOREGOING IS A CORRECT AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 14 JULY 2021.

Chair

4 AUGUST 2021