

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON 16TH DECEMBER 2009**

PRESENT

Mrs. Clark presided over Mrs. Harrison. Messrs. Mackin, Leith, Steeples and Fisher.

1. APOLOGIES

Mrs. Holmes.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. PLANS FOR CONSIDERATION

None.

4. DECISIONS

None.

5. TOWN PLAN – BRCC

The BRCC has acknowledged receipt of the committee's completed Action Plan Monitoring table. All the Plans that they have received so far have been forwarded to Central Beds. Council in the hope that this will aid their officers in providing an increased level of support. It was agreed to review the current Town Plan in the new year.

6. SHEFFORD TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB – IVEL ROAD

Information and a plan regarding the above have been received from a developer. Unfortunately, however, the documentation from Central Bedfordshire Council giving notice that a representative could speak at the Development Management Committee was received too late. The developer's documentation was discussed but it was stated that the committee's response can only relate to genuine planning reasons/conditions.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Central Beds. Council's Planning Enforcement Dept. is to be contacted about the new illuminated sign over the Kebab Shop. It is believed that the shop falls within the conservation area which does not permit illuminated signs.

Mr. Mackin informed the committee that he had attended the Central Bedfordshire Council's Development Strategy Task Force – Gypsy & Traveller sites meeting. Initially a transit site had been put forward adjacent to the Tesco Express outlet. However, this has now been discarded although the final decisions have not yet been agreed. It is understood that at the present time the nearest site to Shefford would be the south east side of Clifton near New Road.

The meeting closed at 7.45

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON 16TH DECEMBER 2009

PRESENT

Mr. Steeples presided over Mesdames Harrison and Clark. Mr. Mackin.

1. APLOGIES

Mrs. Holmes. Messrs. Coward and Wren.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr. Mackin declared an interest in Item 3.

3. ELECTORAL REVIEW OF CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

The Central Beds. Council's Electoral Services Project Officer has received a pattern of wards scheme for Leighton-Linslade on behalf of the Liberal Democrat Group. This information has now been passed on to the committee for their consideration and comment (if necessary). It was agreed that a comment was not required.

4. PRECEPT – 2010/11

The Precept in respect of the Finance and Policy committee was established and as such is **RECOMMENDED** to full Council.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was felt that consideration should be given to an action plan whereby local service personnel who have died in recent action should be remembered by way of a 'commemorative board' possibly sited in the local church. It was felt that consideration should also be given to including Chicksands as several service personnel stationed there had already died in active service. At the present time it is not clear whether the Action Plan should be carried out by the Town Council or the Shefford branch of the British Legion. It is hoped that a representative of the branch will attend the full Council meeting on 18th December to offer more information.

Information has been received from the BRCC regarding the recent announcement that payments by cheque will be coming to an end in 2018. At the present time Town/Parish Councils are not permitted to use credit or debit cards. Government Ministers have indicated that they would be introducing a Legislative Review Order to implement clarification on the situation. It is hoped that the matter will be resolved as soon as is practicable. This committee will revisit the situation in the new year and in the meantime the clerk is to seek advice from Barclays bank as to what options they would be able to offer.

The meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.
