

# Flitwick Town Council

Minutes of the 346th Meeting of the Planning Committee held on Thursday 7th January 2021 online via Zoom.

## Open Forum

Nicholas Wilton (NW) from Network Rail attended the meeting to give a brief update on the progress of the Step Free Access. NW advised Members that funding had been secured to deliver the project. Design work was underway which would provide various building options. Options would be presented to the Town Council at the end of the summer.

Cllr Dodds asked if the Step Free Access would be completed in conjunction with the interchange project. NW advised that the Step Free Access would be completed after the interchange project due to the tight timescales of the interchange project. NW advised that a more accurate programme of timescales on delivery would be available by the summer but it was hoped that the install would be in place by 2023.

Mr Cook commented that designs for the interchange project only included 3 disabled parking bays and felt that this was not adequate considering the footfall at the Station. NW agreed to feed this back to the relevant department.

## Committee Members Present :-

Councillor J Dann  
Councillor P Dodds (Chairman)  
Councillor P Earles  
Councillor M Platt (Vice Chairman)  
Councillor R Shaw

## Also in Attendance :-

Nicholas Wilton (Network Rail)  
Ian Cook (Step Free Access)  
Environmental Services Manager

### **2762 To note declaration of interest on Agenda Items**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **2763 To Accept Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Gleave for medical reasons. No apologies had been received from Cllr Halligan.

### **2764 Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman commented that there was an additional item to be added to the agenda to consider a street trading licence.

### **2765 Minutes**

All Members agreed the minutes were a true recording of the meeting held on 17th December 2020.

### **2766 Matters Arising**

Cllr Dann asked for an update on the Rendezvous Cafe Banners. The Environmental Services Manager agreed to request an update from the Rufus Centre Manager and report back at the next meeting.

### **2767 Planning applications for consideration**

2767- 1	20/04209/FUL	Plot Ref :-	Type :-	FULL
	Applicant Name :-	Mr Jonathon Hodgson	Date Received :-	17/12/2020
	Location :-	56a High Street Flitwick Beds MK45 1DX	Date Returned :-	07/01/2021
	Proposal :	Enlargement of garden amenity space and erection of outbuilding with fence surrounding enlarged garden.		



MK45 1RT

Proposal : Loft conversion with front and rear dormers and roof lights to rear roof slope.

Observations : FTC - Support

Vote: all in favour

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**2768 To note planning decisions from Central Bedfordshire**

Members noted the decisions from CBC.

**2769 Correspondence received**

There were no items.

**2770 Highways**

The Chairman advised that the next meeting was due to be held online on the 11th January. Cllr Gomm had advised the Chairman that CBC were due to hold traffic surveys at Windmill Road however due to COVID-19 this would be put on hold until some kind of normality resumed to give a better reflection of the traffic/pedestrian flow.

Cllr Shaw commented that the flooding on Froghall Road under the railway bridge had not been rectified.

**2771 Scheme of Delegation**

Members noted the Scheme of Delegation for the Planning Committee.

**2772 Planning Committee Budget**

Members noted the £10,000 budget allocated to the Planning Committee.

**2773 Street Trading Licence**

Members noted the request for a street trading licence which covered one location within Flitwick.

Members felt that residential areas were not an appropriate location for catering vans and objected to the licence request specifically for Flitwick. Members agreed that catering vans were better suited on industrial estates.

It was RESOLVED to object to the street trading licence in relation to the location within Flitwick. (Vote: all in favour)

**2774 Questions**

Cllr Dann commented that there had been a notification to relax traffic enforcement in the Town during the lockdown period. Cllr Dann raised concern with vehicles parking on zig zag lines specifically outside Costa Coffee and agreed to address this at the Highways meeting. Cllr Dann also had concerns with the amount of cars parking on pavements within the Town.

Cllr Shaw raised concerns surrounding the Oxford-Cambridge Arc and wished to know CBC'S involvement and view on it. Cllr Shaw added that the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) had advised that Network Rail in conjunction with a Cabal of CEO's of involved County Councils were meeting privately to push a Northern route for the proposed East/West Rail network. This route would go through Bedford Station then north between Clapham and Brickhill, east past Ravensden and Wilden to a new station in the Sandy area together with new towns north of Bedford (Twinwoods, Sharnbrook, Colworth, Wyboston).

Cllr Shaw commented that this would devastate vast tracts of rural Bedfordshire if it were to go ahead. The CPRE's preferred route is a Southern route using a new station at Wixams as a Parkway and following the established A421 corridor causing the least damage to the rural environment.

Cllr Shaw suggested this be discussed in detail at the next Planning meeting with a view to taking to full Council as to what Flitwick Town Councils position is.

The Meeting closed at : 9.00pm

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Signed : \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman Date: \_\_\_\_\_

On behalf of :-

Flitwick Town Council

**NOTIFICATIONS OF PLANNING DECISIONS FROM Central Bedfordshire Council**

**Minute Ref**

**Tue 12 January 2021**

**District Ref**

' C ' Contrary to District 'CD' Contrary Delegated  
' D ' Delegated  
' E ' Endorsed by District 'ED' Endorsed Delegated

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**GRANTED PLANNING PERMISSIONS**

<b>E</b> 19/01979/RM	Approved	Land off Steppingley Rd
<b>E</b> 19/03966/VOC	Approved	Lnd rear of Hilldene Close
<b>E</b> 20/04178/FUL	Approved	4 Brookes Road
<b>C</b> 20/04228/FUL	Approved	13 Kestrel Road
District COMMENT	CBC - Approved	Local COMMENT FTC - Object Overdevelopment of the site. Vote: 5 in favour, 1 against
<b>E</b> 20/04532/FUL	Approved	65 Willow Way

# Development Management

## Central Bedfordshire Council

Priory House, Monks Walk  
Chicksands, Shefford  
Bedfordshire SG17 5TQ  
[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)



Cllr C Gomm  
Glenister  
34b Church Road  
Westoning  
Beds  
MK45 5JW

<b>Contact</b>	Rebecca Clark
<b>Direct Dial</b>	0300 300 6813
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:rebecca.clark@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk">rebecca.clark@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>Our Ref</b>	CB/EN/20/0538
<b>Date</b>	04 January 2021

Dear Councillor Gomm,

### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

**Location:** 19 Station Road, Flitwick, Bedford, MK45 1JT  
**Subject:** Check compliance with 20/01341 esp. height of 2x new dwellings

You were notified that an Enforcement Case had been opened regarding the site below;

19 Station Road, Flitwick, Bedford, MK45 1JT

Following an investigation this case has now been closed because:  
No breach of planning control has been identified.

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Clark  
**Compliance Officer**

## Highways Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 online via Zoom

Present: CBC Cllrs Gomm, Bunyan  
FTC Cllrs Dodds, Shaw, Dann, Earles, Platt  
Steppingley Parish Cllr Wood  
Environmental Services Manager

Apologies: None  
Highways Officer – No apologies

### 1. Windmill Road / Chapel Road Parking & Speeding Issues

This area was due to have a traffic survey but would be delayed due to COVID-19. It is hoped that this would take place when traffic/pedestrian flow resumes to normality.

### 2. Froghall Chicanes

No further update was available on the adoption of the road. Cllr Gomm/Bunyan agreed to chase.

Action: Cllr Gomm/Bunyan

### 3. Water Lane

Road surface still is an issue with no response to date from Highways.

Action: Highways

### 4. Steppingley 20mph Limit & Cameras

No further update from Highways with regards to this matter. Cllr Wood advised that the Highways department had delayed the possible implementation of speed radar signs due to CBC developing a policy on implementing these.

### 5. Condition of Footpaths

Members raised concern with regards to the overgrown hedge at Steppingley Road. The road side and top of the hedge had been cut by the Town Council recently. The Environmental Services Officer advised that she had spoken to the Grounds Team Supervisor regarding this matter and it was uncertain who was responsible for maintaining the house side of the hedge. Cllr Bunyan agreed to take photographs and forward them to Craig Sidall at CBC for a definite answer. This would be reported back.

Action: Cllr Bunyan

### 6. Speeding in Flitwick

Cllr Dodds advised that the Speed Watch scheme had been approved at Town Council with initial promotion due to start in January. Due to the national lockdown this has been slightly delayed. The Environmental Services Manager agreed to contact the police and ask the best way forward to get this off the ground given the current restrictions.

Action: ESM

**7. Roundabout Maintenance Licences**

Still waiting for roundabout licences to be issued by Highways.

Action: Highways/ESM

**8. Froghall Road Railway Bridge Flooding**

This issue was still outstanding. Cllr Gomm/Bunyan agreed to investigate.

Action: Cllr Gomm/Bunyan

**9. Kebab Van – Station Road**

Issue still ongoing and awaiting response. Environmental Services Manager agreed to chase the licensing department again.

Action: ESM

**New Issues**

**10. Hornes End Road**

Reported road surface condition is very poor. Cllr Bunyan agreed to chase Highways for a date.

Action: Cllr Bunyan

**11. Parking outside Spice and Mayflower – Vicarage Hill**

Cllr Platt advised that historically the land in question was a pond. Cllr Platt also advised that the shop owners were keen to see a time limit on the current parking spaces as opposed to additional parking on the grassed area. Cllr Gomm advised that FTC would need to develop an ideal way forward for the area and then present it to CBC.

Action: FTC

**12. Pot Holes Steppingley**

Cllr Wood commented that the pot hole repairs on Flitwick Road, Steppingley, were still in a very bad condition. The portal advised works would be carried out as part of planned maintenance. Cllr Dodds suggested the previously circulated list of scheduled works be sent out again which might indicate a timescale.

Action: ESM/Cllr Dodds

**13. Parking Enforcement / Pavement Parking**

Cllr Dann expressed concern with regards to the relaxation of parking enforcement as cars had been seen parking on zig zagged areas in the Town which was unacceptable. Cllr Gomm advised that there had been talk of ending the relaxation of parking rules at the end of January.

Members also raised concern surrounding cars parking on pavements in the Town, Cllr Dann advised that there had been a consultation on some potential new legislation in relation to pavement parking across the nation but results of the consultation were yet to be published.

**14. M1 Diversion Route**

Cllr Dodds advised that due to a closure on the M1 in recent weeks, Steppingley Road had been flooded with HGV vehicles. It was felt that either diversion signage needed to be put in place or alternatively a weight limit applied to Steppingley Road right through to Centre Parcs. This would be discussed at a Highways meeting with the relevant Highways Rep.

**15. Highways**

Attendees expressed disappointment yet again that no Highways representative was at the meeting to resolve or update on issues raised.

Next Meeting TBC



Rob McGregor  
Flitwick Town Council  
The Rufus Centre  
Steepingley Road  
Flitwick  
Beds  
MK45 1AH

**Your ref:**

**Our ref:** CBC PPCO 003 BR

**Date:** 30 December 2020

**Dear Mr McGregor**

## **Highways Act 1980 Section 26 and Section 118 Pre-Order Consultation**

**Proposed Creation of Bridleways  
Proposed Extinguishment of Part of Footpath 19 Ampthill  
Froghall Wood, Ampthill, MK45 1AD  
Ampthill CP  
Steepingley CP**

### **Introduction**

Central Bedfordshire Council wishes to consult various individuals and bodies to ascertain their views on the proposals to Extinguish part of Footpath 19 Ampthill and Create a new Public Bridleway from Fordfield Road Ampthill to Froghall Road Ampthill.

The Council intends to extinguish, approximately 274 metres in length, part of Footpath 19 Steepingley between Points E – X as shown as a solid black line on the map below.

The Council intends to Create a new section of Public Bridleway approximately 1230 metres in length, from Froghall Road running in a north-west direction then south-west then west then north west to connect to Footpath 19 Ampthill shown as Point E on the map, then continue south west to Fordfield Road. This is shown as the black dashed lines A-B-C-D-E-F on the map below.

### **Central Bedfordshire Council**

Priory House, Monks Walk  
Chicksands, Shefford  
Bedfordshire SG17 5TQ

**Telephone** 0300 300 8305 **Not protected**

**Email** [customerservices@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)  
[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)



The schedule of an order made to implement this proposal will describe the route in its entirety as 4 metres wide throughout.

It is considered that the creation order provide a convenient continuous route to that part of Footpath 19 which is proposed to be extinguished. In this instance the Council considers there is a need for a new public bridleway at this location and the creation by order would benefit the public and enhance the public right of way network.

The rights of statutory undertakers will be preserved in an order. The proposed new route, upon completion of the construction works, will be inspected and subsequently certified by Central Bedfordshire Council as being of a standard suitable for the public to use, prior to the order coming into force.

As part of a scheme to share Definitive Map Officers between Bedford Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire Council, this application is being processed by officers at Bedford Borough Council for and on behalf of Central Bedfordshire Council.

I would be grateful if you could respond with your comments about this proposal, preferably by using my e-mail address as shown below, by 10 February 2021.

*April Quinn*

**April Quinn**  
Definitive Map Officer

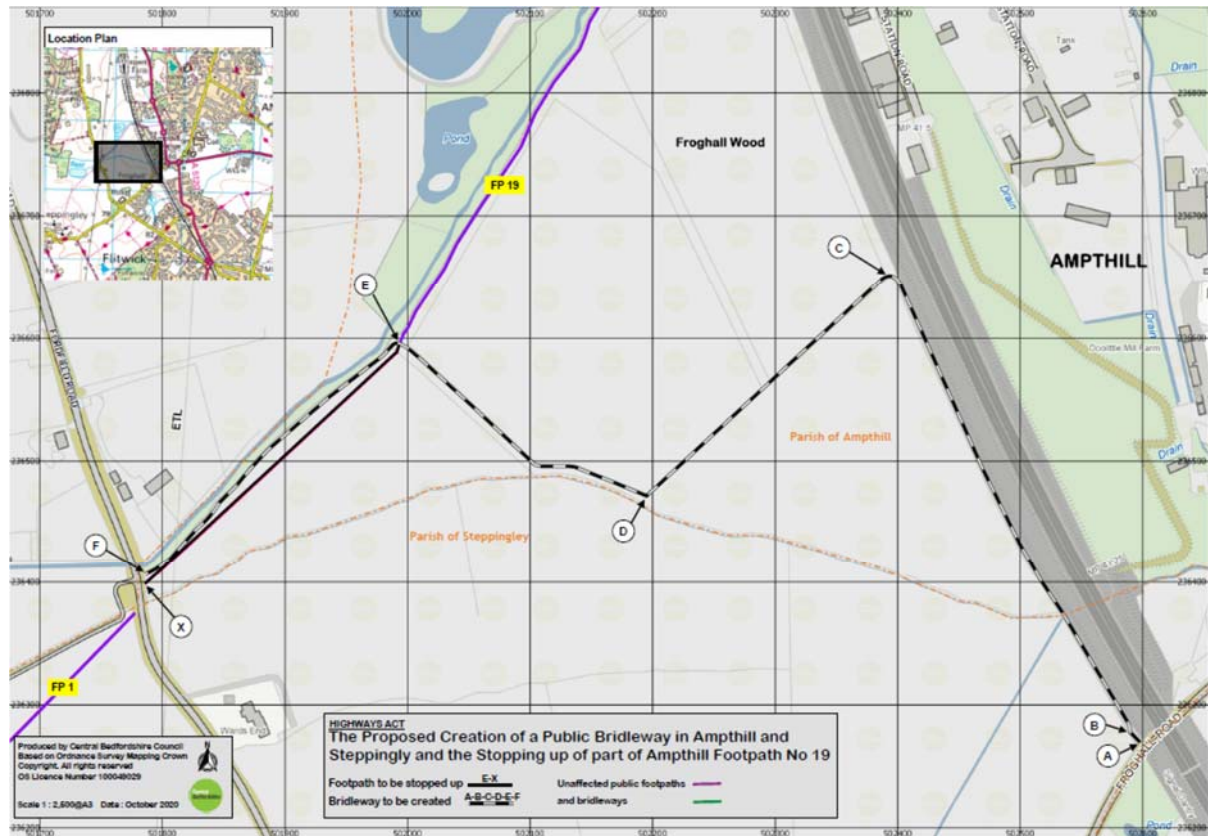
**Direct telephone** 01234 276791  
**Email** april.quinn@bedford.gov.uk

**Please reply to:**  
Bedford Borough Council  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Borough Hall  
Cauldwell Street  
Bedford  
MK42 9AP

**Central Bedfordshire Council**  
Priory House, Monks Walk  
Chicksands, Shefford  
Bedfordshire SG17 5TQ

**Telephone** 0300 300 8305 **Not protected**  
**Email** customerservices@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk  
[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

MAP NOT TO ORIGINAL SCALE



END OF DOCUMENT

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Priory House, Monks Walk  
Chicksands, Shefford  
Bedfordshire SG17 5TQ

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**Email** [customerservices@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)  
[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)