

Sandy Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Community Services and Environment Committee of Sandy Town Council held in the Council Chamber at 10, Cambridge Road, Sandy, Bedfordshire on Monday 5 October 2015 commencing at 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs N Aldis (Chairman), J Ali, T Cole, A M Hill, G Leach, C Osborne, D Quick, J Sparrow, and S Sutton .

In Attendance: Cllrs P Blaine, W Jackson, M Pettitt, P Sharman, Cllrs C Maudlin, P Smith and T Stock (CBC), Mrs C Baker-Smith (Admin Team Leader), Ms M Bracey (Minutes Clerk). Also in attendance 5 members of the public.

The Chair announced that he would take item 10 first then item 8 then to item 5.

Action

- 1 **Apologies for absence (40-15/16)**
Cllr M Scott
- 2 **Declarations of interest (41-15/16)**
 - i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – None
 - ii) Non-disclosable Interests - None
- 3 **Minutes of previous meeting (42-15/16)**
RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Community Services and Environment Committee held on Monday 24 August 2015 as a correct record of proceedings.
- 4 **Public Participation Session (43-15/16)**
A resident from The Green, Beeston, cannot park at the rear of her house and has to park on The Green. She would like to do something similar as others have previously done, for example, laying tarmac or slabs.

A resident spoke on the Berwick Way Estate item on the Agenda at item 8. He had spoken to Stuart Oldroyd of TILCo who had intimated they would happily pass the land to the Council with no commuted sum. The resident feels he has already paid for this open space through his house purchase. He feels there is an impasse between the developer and the Town Council because of the money.

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10 **Beeston Green (44-15/16)**

Town Clerk

Cllr Hill presented the report and appreciated the resident's concern. He said that The Green is designated as a Village Green and therefore has regulations.

Sandy Town Council is required to manage it.

He considers a Beeston Green Management Plan is required which identifies and addresses issues such as parking, rights of access, dog fouling and radio controlled aircraft amongst others. This plan could be discussed and agreed with residents so that in every individual case a consensus can be reached.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk prepare a draft Management Plan. The Councillors involved were thanked for the work they have done so far.

8 **Berwick Way Estate (45-15/16)**

Town Clerk

There is still no date for a meeting but this is being pursued by the Town Clerk.

A member asked about the time it takes for amenity land to be adopted. The Chairman replied that it does take a considerable time and the onus is on the developer to offer the land to the Council normally with a commuted sum.

RESOLVED to ask CBC for advice as to whether the Town Council can adopt the land without a commuted sum. The alternative is that Taylor Wimpey will continue to maintain the area but this has not been undertaken to a very high standard in the past and in places is overgrown.

5 **Allotments (46-15/16)**

Town Clerk

The Chair presented the report from the Town Clerk which has drawn together all the issues in relation to the Allotments project. Some corrections and amendments were made to the report.

Concern was raised that the subletting appeared to be for allotments only when the Council were looking to offer part of the land for grazing or silage crops.

Planning Permission is required for the proposed community building, access road and car parking.

A member said the Lease should not be signed without planning permission.

There was discussion on whether £20,000 was an accurate figure as there appeared to be more unknown costs.

A member stated that the Council's statutory duty is to provide land for allotments not the other proposals such as hedging, fencing, water and a community building. It was suggested that some of the elements of the Allotments could be phased in over a period of time.

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RESOLVED to accept the **RECOMMENDATIONS** on the report:

- i) Continue to work with Anglian water to establish the cost of connecting water to the site and all costs identified including quotes where applicable.
- ii) Continue to work with SDLGAA on a draft final management plan.
- iii) Report back to the Community Services & Environment Committee on 16 November 2015 with all costs and potential income.
- iv) Arrange a site visit for Councillors as soon as possible.

6 Cemetery Project Update (47-15/16)

The Chairman of the Cemetery Working Group had no further information on progress.

A member raised concerns regarding the number of verbal reports on Agendas. It was suggested that ongoing projects could be an item at the bottom of Agendas to confirm that they are still ongoing but there is nothing to report.

Town Clerk

The Admin Team Leader reported that the Town Clerk will be arranging a meeting with Chairs to discuss the future setting out of Agendas and Minutes.

7 Draft River Basin Management Plan Consultation-River Ivel Project Concerns (48-15/16)

The Town Clerk's comments were noted and a member stated that he had attended an exhibition regarding the above and that a report will be issued stating the findings.

9 Community Notice Board – High Street (49-15/16)

There was discussion regarding the Town Clerk's report. Members agreed that this is a most useful board in the town for advertising local events and that any alterations to the board would need planning permission as it was in the Conservation Area. It was also noted that the boundary wall at the front of the site was retained when the area was re-developed.

Town Clerk

RESOLVED to oppose the request to re-site the notice board.

11 Bus Turning Circle (50-15/16)

Cllr Aldis had contacted Paul Dodge the Public Transport Manager at Central Beds Council but had not received a reply about bus services in Sandy. Cllr Maudlin informed the Committee that she is in contact with a number of people on this matter, including information on costs and planning

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applications.

12 **Winchester Road (51-15/16)**

Pinnacle Ward members would like to engage with the residents of this area regarding a number of issues. They are planning to hold a drop in session in the Village Hall on 7 November 2015. The 'drop in' session will take place between 9.30am and 11.30am. The Pinnacle Ward members are requesting that the Town Council pay £21.00 to print 1,000 leaflets advertising the event..

A member asked if other Councillors could be present. They could attend although this drop in session was for the specific issues in this area. A member mentioned managing the residents expectations and asked if CBC Councillors will be present. It was confirmed that they would be present.

RESOLVED that the cost of printing the leaflets be paid from the Town Council's budget.

Admin

13 **Friends of Sandy Christmas Lights Event (52-15/16)**

The Admin Team Leader informed the Committee that everything was going ahead for this event. Road closure and an events license had been applied for and there is a steady stream of applications for stalls. She requested donations for the bottle stall and sponsorship. She thanked those that had donated so far.

A member was asked about the tree offer from a local company and it would be looked into and followed up for next year.

The office staff were thanked for all the work they have done for the event.