

# Sandy Town Council

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**Minutes of a meeting of Sandy Town Council held in the Council Chamber at 10, Cambridge Road, Sandy, Bedfordshire on Monday 5 August 2013 commencing at 7.30 pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs Aldis, Ali, Butterfield, Jackson, Maycock, Osborne, Pettitt, Runchman, Scott, Sharman, Smith, Sutton (Town Mayor), Walsh and White.

**Absent:** Cllr Lynch.

**In attendance:** Deputy Town Clerk was in attendance.

**1 Apologies for absence (48-2013/14)**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Lynch. In addition Central Bedfordshire Cllr Maudlin had sent apologies for absence.

**2 Declarations of interest and requests for dispensations (49-2013/14)**

- i) Declarable Pecuniary Interests – Cllr Scott drew attention to his DPI in anything to do with the supply of a Christmas Tree in relation to item 6 Sandy Christmas Lights, as the tree could be supplied by his business.
- ii) Personal Interests - Cllrs Aldis, Butterfield, Maycock, and Runchman drew attention to their role as members of Friends of Sandy Christmas Lights in connection with agenda item 6. Cllrs Aldis, Jackson, Sharman, Sutton drew attention to their roles as members of Sandy Enhancement Group in connection with agenda item 7. Cllrs Maycock, Walsh, and White drew attention to their roles as members of Sandy Twinning Association in connection with agenda item 7.
- iii) Requests for dispensations (must be notified to the Proper Officer in writing in advance of the meeting) – None.

**3 Minutes of Town Council meeting (50-2013/14)**

**Resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting of Sandy Town Council held at 7.30 pm on 29 July 2013 as a correct record of proceedings with the following amendments:

- In attendance: The following is added "Nine members of the public were present."
- Item 3 Minutes of Town Council meeting: the word "annual" is removed.
- Item 7 Finance the following words "of public" is added. The minute would now read "Due to the number of members of public present for item 10, the Leases Review Group, the item was moved up the agenda order."

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- Item 8 Agenda item 10 Leases Review Group the words "not" and "an annual" are removed, the words "a" and "for a maximum of five years" are added. The minute would now read "**It was resolved** to follow the first recommendation from the working group "1 That Hedleys' Solicitors are instructed to act for the Council in the matter of the Cricket Club agreement and that a budget of £850 plus VAT is approved for the first stage of the work. The agreement should take the form of a licence for a maximum of five years and the Council's preferred terms of the agreement should be drafted by the working group so that work may be begun as soon as possible."

#### 4 **Public Participation Session (51-2013/14)**

No members of the public were present.

#### 5 **Minutes of Committees and Sub-committees and recommendations (52-2013/14)**

1. **Resolved** to receive the minutes of meeting of the HR Advisory Group held on 24 June 2013. (recommendations to be considered at item 11).

#### 6 **Sandy Christmas Lights (53-2013/14)**

Cllr Aldis gave a presentation and went through the additional report and recommendations from Friends of Sandy Christmas Lights including proposals to amend the planned budget for Christmas Lights expenditure to members.

Members discussed the report and recommendations at length.

Cllr Walsh left the meeting during this item at 8.30pm.

**It was resolved** to fund the overspend of the same lights as last year of £800 and this is taken from the contingency account.

**It was resolved** to purchase and install a Christmas Tree at a cost of approximately £400 and this is taken from the contingency account.

**It was resolved** to approve the following additional lights for the Town's display 1.1 2 x additional lamp post lights at a cost of £290 infrastructure and £215 cost per year (a total of £505), 1.2 Festoon lights – Barclays to Sandra's Salon at a cost of £175 infrastructure and £689 cost per year (a total of £864) and 1.4 Festoon lights – Budgens at a cost of £380 per year and to fund the additional lights infrastructure cost of (£290 + £175) £465 from the capital account.

**It was resolved** to fund the additional lights cost per year for this year of (£215 + £689 + £380) £1284, £1,000 mayoral donation from

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Tesco and £284 from the contingency account.

**It was resolved** to increase the switch on event allowance by an additional £2,000 to £5,000 of which £1,000 would be spent on the management fee to Lovely Jubbly, the additional spend would be balanced against additional income.

**It was noted** that £2084 needs to be added to the precept next year, £800 not met by the current budget and the yearly cost for additional lights for the town display of £1284.

## 7 **Twinning Matter (54-2013/14)**

Members discussed the report.

**Resolved** that the community garden in Bedford Road Recreation Ground is named the "Skarszewy Community Garden" and a plaque is installed.

**Resolved** that the cost of the plaque is taken from contingency account.

Members discussed about road signage at the gateways to the town.

**Resolved** that a formal letter is sent to Central Bedfordshire Council and Highways Agency to ask that Skarszewy is added to the road signage at the gateways to the town.

## 8 **Commemoration of the Great War of 1914-18 (55-2013/14)**

Members discussed proposals for local events to commemorate the start of the First World War.

## 9 **Mayoral Communications (56-2013/14)**

**Resolved** to note the Mayor's and Deputy Mayor's engagements and any items for information.

The Mayor asked Cllr Osborne to advise members of who the new rector of St Swithun's, Sandy. Cllr Osborne informed members that Revd Peter Huw Davies has been appointed as rector of St Swithun's, Sandy and the date of licensing is 4 December 2013.

## 10 **Reports from Representatives (57-2013/14)**

i) **Resolved** to note a written report from the Ward Councillors of Central Bedfordshire Council. Cllr Aldis reported that the A1 - A603 slip road work has been completed.

ii) Correspondence received from Cllr Lynch the Town Council's representative for Sandy Young People's Youth Club was noted.

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## **11 HR Matters (58-2013/14)**

- i) To consider recommendations from the HR Advisory Panel on matters connected with employees of Sandy Town Council

Item 10 Training **Resolved** that £1000 from the contingency account was vired to the training budget to allow the council to meet the training needs identified in the report.

**RESOLVED** that under the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended) members of press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of confidential personal information or information which is commercially sensitive as defined as exempt information in Part 1 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972 (personal and confidential data).

Item 6 Council's responsibilities as an employer **Resolved** to approve the recommendation as described in the minutes of the Human Resources Advisory Panel 24 June 2013.

- ii) To consider recommendations arising from a joint meeting of the Staff Review and Premises Review Working Groups

**It was resolved** to seek estimates for the proposals as mentioned in the report.

## **12 News Release (59-2013/14)**

None.