

Sandy Town Council

2022/23

Annual Report



Mayor's Report



I was delighted to receive the support and endorsement from colleagues who elected me to serve for a second year as Town Mayor at the Annual Meeting of Council held on 23 May 2022. In contrast to the Zoom meeting held in May 2021 and with the welcome relaxation of pandemic related constraints this meeting took place in person in the Council Chamber, further restoring a sense of normality.

At the same meeting Cllr Joanna Hewitt was re-elected Deputy Mayor while the incumbent Chairs of the main standing committees were also re-elected.

It was a great disappointment when, only a week before the Annual Meeting, Cllr Amanda Gibson decided for understandable personal reasons to resign her seat in Pinnacle Ward, which left 2 vacancies. Later in the year both Cllrs Will Jackson and Terry Knagg, respectively members for Ivel and Pinnacle Wards, also left the Council citing personal reasons and all three were thanked for their commitment and service, most especially Cllr Jackson who served as Town Mayor from 2014 - 2016.

Jennifer Ivanciu-Wilkinson (Ivel Ward), Robert Lacey (Ivel Ward) and Anthony Lock (Pinnacle Ward) were co-opted and joined the Council in July, August and October respectively and quickly settled into their new roles.

Changes in the structure of any organisation inevitably brings with it challenges to be faced and overcome, while remaining mindful of the need to maintain a good and efficient service to our residents, businesspeople and organisations which together comprise our community and to provide the services they have a right to expect while ensuring value for their money.

There have been notable changes in the Administration Team with our Town Clerk, Mrs Nicola Sewell who joined us in March 2022 having settled in very well and now supported by a Deputy Clerk, Ian Reed who joined us from Dunstable TC in December. Since then, we have welcomed Carol Baker-Smith back to work following an enforced absence and while we were extremely sorry to lose Val McFarlane in June followed later in the year by Katie Barker and Anne Elliott-Flockhart all of whom left for personal reasons or to further their career elsewhere. We have since welcomed, firstly Laura Dove and most recently Danielle Castle to complete the team. I must not forget Brian Leonard whose support out of hours and at weekends is invaluable having taken on additional cleaning and other responsibilities.

Our Outdoor Team is currently to establishment. Colin Eaton retired in June 2022 and at an informal gathering was sincerely thanked for all his hard work and loyal service. Wayne Harvey joined us later in June followed by Solomon Paris a month later joining Chris Dainton and Team Leader, Richard Gilbert.

Just one week into the new civic year and it was all hands to the pump in staging Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee celebrations held in the grounds of the former Sandye Place School on 2nd June. A truly phenomenal amount of work and effort went

into organising and making this event happen and required support and co-operation from a myriad of organisations and individuals far too many to list here. I believe it was judged by all who attended to have been a triumph in bringing our community together and a worthy tribute to a monarch who served this country and its people with selflessness, love, and dedication for well over 70 years. Little did we know at the time that only 3 months later we would be mourning her death and on 19 September watching and witnessing the State Funeral. Reading the Royal Proclamation of the succession of our new monarch 3 days after Her Majesty's passing was a privilege and honour which I will never forget.

Only ten days after the Platinum Jubilee event, Jackie and I were delighted to play a small part in the Sandy Carnival procession which was equally well supported by the community and also culminated in Sandye Place grounds; clear pointers I would suggest to the critical importance residents attach to the area which is strategically located close to Sandy Town Centre and should serve as a reminder of how crucial it is that this valuable and unique site must so far as possible be preserved and forms a part of future Sandy.

We now look forward to Sunday 7 May when the same venue will host the "Coronation Big Lunch" to mark the coronation of our new monarch, King Charles III. It will be a free event from 12noon to 5pm to which all residents are invited.

Freed from the constraints of the pandemic the Sandy Horticultural Show returned in early September, staged for the first time in the Conservative Club Hall on the same day as The Historical Research Group held an exhibition nearby in the Sandy Baptist Church Hall; both events further evidence of the firm commitment and enthusiasm of all those associated with the organisations involved and to whom I send congratulations and thanks.

A fortnight later I was excited to be invited to formally declare open our new skatepark while equally relieved not to have been asked to demonstrate my lifelong inability to remain upright while wearing any form of skates, roller, or ice! Sincere thanks are due to all those who worked so hard to plan, raise funds for and to make the project a reality.

In November, several months later than envisaged we took delivery of the all-Electric Etesia Utility Vehicle which I'm sure everyone will by now have seen in use throughout Sandy. It will replace one of the two diesel trucks which will soon be, "retired".

On the same theme we are presently in discussion with Central Beds Council regarding provision of electric charging points. In the town centre to begin with but more to come as a part of the Jenkins Pavilion project where hopefully preliminary and Stage One works should begin shortly.

In the same month Jackie, I and the Deputy Mayor were pleased to welcome to Sandy a Syrian refugee family who were being settled here under the government scheme. We met representatives of the agencies involved and with the aid of an interpreter learned much more of the background and plight faced by the family members including the young children. I am pleased they have now settled well in Sandy where they feel safe.

I wrote last year of the frustrations I felt at lack of tangible progress on some fronts and frankly this has continued not only about the Jenkins Project but also around development works at the new Cemetery and Depot in Stratford Road where there have been interminable delays which are being actively addressed and similarly at the Beeston Community Orchard and Allotment site.

Sunday 13 November was a bright, crisp, and sunny winter morning which drew what seemed a record number to the Annual Remembrance Parade and to the Cenotaph in Bedford Road. I want to thank everyone who attended, notably perhaps the number of young people, many dressed smartly in school or other uniform all proudly paying their respects. As I have commented elsewhere during the past twelve months during visits to the Scout HQ, Girl Guides, attendance at the HM Lord-Lieutenants joint Fire, ATC, and Army Cadet Parade at our Fire Station in June and more recently at The Civic Service, our youth are our future!

Towards the end of 2022 members considered and indeed welcomed a proposal for the creation of a significant new woodland to the west side of the town which initially included land to be leased to Sandy Town Council for provision of community allotments. While the planting of several thousand saplings did take place during February and March with more to come in the coming autumn the allotments were disappointingly withdrawn from the scheme due to reasons entirely beyond the control or influence of Sandy Town Council.

It would be amiss of me to not thank again all three of our CBC Ward members for the input and support which they have continued to provide throughout the year. Their willingness to engage with members and town council staff has been valuable and greatly appreciated.

It is pleasing to report that the new pedestrian crossing in the High Street should be installed during the next couple of months following the decision at CBC Traffic Management meeting held on 28 March.

By contrast however and despite the regular meetings that have taken place in the past year and notwithstanding all the arguments that have been put forward a solution to solving the conundrum that is the stretch of the A1 from Biggleswade south to The Black Cat seems no closer. Previous talk of “quick fixes” seems to have evaporated and while stories abound of changes at Biggleswade North and major investment happens (again) at The Black Cat there seems no solace so far as we in Sandy are concerned. So much it seems for dreams of, “The Queens Highway.”

On a Saturday afternoon in February, I was delighted to organise and host a gathering of around 25 Ukrainian visitors and including some young children who are presently living with host families in Sandy, a number of them since the early days of the war which has ravaged their country since March 2022. About 50 including hosts attended what was a poignant but in some ways a very uplifting occasion held in the Conservative Club Hall, and which served as an opportunity for everyone there to get to know one another better and cement friendships which should undoubtedly serve to provide support in these difficult times. I thank members who attended this event, especially Cllr Lacey and his wife also in their capacity as hosts for more than year.

I must thank Cllr. Hewitt for her support and wise counsel, the work she has done and continues to do with the help of others to prepare the Neighbourhood Plan which we hope will be complete later this year. Also, the other chairs of the standing committees whose own reports are included in this Annual Report. Thank you for your diligence and hard work.

As we near the end of the 4-year term of this Council it would be most amiss of me not to pay tribute to Cllr Peter Blaine who decided, not for the first time **not** to seek re-election. With a break along the way Peter has been a member of successive Town Council's for a considerable period as well as serving on Bedfordshire CC and Mid Beds DC prior to the reorganisation of local government when he became a member at the newly created Central Beds Council. Thank you, Peter, for all your work and service to our community. The same goes for all remaining members whether you are among the cohort who will be returning to form the new council in May.

Thanks also to our Town Clerk, Mrs Nicola Sewell. It's been a busy, demanding, even a challenging 12 months for everyone but your professional help, support and advice has been hugely appreciated. Each employee of the Council should be thanked for the work they do, and which contributes to maintaining and improving the town in which we choose to live and its environs.

A check through my diaries reveals that during the past year Jackie and I have attended around 80 engagements of one type or another here in Sandy, across Central Beds, wider Bedfordshire and beyond. We have been privileged to have met some interesting and inspirational people along the way and would not have missed it for the world.

Fund raising for charity in the post pandemic period has I must admit not been my number one priority. I was mindful of the significant amount of time it takes to organise events and have felt on balance my own and the time of others would in the short term be more profitably employed on furthering the work and needs of the whole council and the community. It has however been possible to raise some money and in addition to the £700.00 given to The Eve Appeal last June I have recently been able to donate £1,250.00. to The Prostate Project.

As I conclude this report, the nominations for the upcoming local elections have been published. It is hugely disappointing in my view that in the Town & Parish category only 11 candidates put their names forward for 15 seats in the 4 Sandy wards meaning that all 11 are returned, uncontested but leaving 4 vacancies. A great shame and a missed opportunity for more members of our community to have put themselves forward to try to help to contribute towards the ongoing and necessary work which it remains the responsibility of the incoming Town Council to deliver over the next 4 years.

My Best Wishes to you all.

Councillor Martin Pettitt
Mayor of Chair of Sandy Town Council (2022 – 2023)

7 April 2023

The Council

During the Civic year, May 2022 to May 2023, as Covid restrictions loosened, all meetings could once again be held face to face and as such Council business moved back into the Council Chamber.

12 Full Council Meetings

16 Development Scrutiny Committee Meetings

9 Policy, Finance and Resources Committee Meetings

8 Community Services and Environment Committee Meetings

4 Human Resources Committee Meetings

The Council also operated several Working Groups during the year, which met to progress specific Council activities and projects.

Members have served as representatives on several outside bodies:

Talk of the Town Transport Committee

Sandy Carnival Committee

Friends of Sandy Christmas Lights

Sandy Village Hall Management Committee

Sandy Town Centre Group

Sandy Twinning Association

SG19 Road Safety Group

Sandy Sports and Leisure Association

Sandy Green Wheel Group

22 Squadron Air Training Corps Civilian Committee

Sandy Community Children's Centre

Sandy Charities

CBC Community Safety Action Plan Group

Rural Market Town's Group

BLEVEC – Bedfordshire Local Emergency Volunteers Executive Committee

Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvements Group

Police Priority Setting

Highlights from the Council year 2022-23

Below are just a few of the highlights from the Council's activities during 2022-23 Council year.



After months of campaigning by the Town Council for it and originally being told by the highways authority that the site was not suitable, Sandy finally saw the installation of a Speed Indicator Device on Sunderland Road.

In June, the community came together to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Residents joined together to eat, drink and be merry at Sandy's very own 'party in the park,' hosted at Sandye Pace, while live acts entertained the crowds on a glorious summer day.



On a sunny Sunday in August our Summer Market was a hive of activity. Live music and a host of tasty treats were on offer as well as wealth of artisan products, gifts, and jewellery. The event was well attended with 21 stall holders all reporting a good day's trading.

August also saw the much-anticipated skatepark at Sunderland Road recreation ground complete, swiftly followed with a grand opening with Skatejam in September. Skaters, scooter, and BMXers of all ages came together to compete for various prizes or just simply to learn some new tricks and make new friends.



In September, the country was plunged into mourning for the loss of our beloved Queen Elizabeth II. Along with Town and Parish Council's across the country this passing also saw the reading of the Proclamation of the succession of our new monarch King Charles III.

During the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee communities and individuals were invited to plant trees, to become part of the Queen's Green Canopy. Subsequently, on 11th October, the Mayor of Sandy and Members of the Sandy Branch of the Royal British Legion and Women's Institute gathered to witness the planting of their trees at Faynes Corner.





The community came together on Sunday 14th November for Remembrance Sunday. A parade of more than 200 members of community and uniformed groups started from Swan Lane with the Sandy Scout Reunion Band leading the way followed by standard bearers and wreath layers. The parade stopped at the war memorial for a short service led by Rev Huw Davies and laying of wreaths. The Exhortation and Kohima was said by Cllr Mrs Susan Sutton, President of Sandy RBL.

Lamppost banners once again adorned the high street to mark the significant events across the town including the silver and purple of the Platinum Jubilee design and Remembrance tide design with the silhouette of a soldier and poppies.



Sunday November 27th, an unusually mild day for winter saw the Market Square host our Christmas Lights Switch on event. Festive fun was had by all with live music, stalls, raffles, tombola, food, drink, arts & crafts, as well as the funfair. Santa greeted children in his grotto and the fairy on stilts added a touch of extra magic to the event.

The Mayor's Christmas Carol Service was well attended with members of the community and dignitaries from across Bedfordshire coming together at this special time of year. In addition the Council added further sparkle to St Swithun's Church with its decorated entry for the Christmas Tree Festival.



Mayors and dignitaries from across Bedfordshire and surrounding area gathered at the Mayor's Civic Service in March at St Swithun's Church. The service paid tribute to the valuable contribution young people make to the community.



In March Sandy cemetery received new signage indicating the location of some Commonwealth War Graves. This sign has been placed to honour the people of the commonwealth forces who died in the first and second world wars, ensuring they will never be forgotten.

Policy, Finance and Resources Committee

Chaired by Councillor C Osborne



The Town Council's Policy, Finance and Resources Committee, made up of ten councillors, is authorised by the Full Town Council to take responsibility for the preparation of the Council's annual budget and precept, ensuring the Council has sufficiently budgeted for its on-going operations. The Committee also has responsibility for the implementation of the annual grants system, review of the longer-term financial strategy of the Council, the review and approval of Council policy and procedures, and monitoring and scrutinising of the budget spending throughout the year.

Policy, Finance and Resources Chairman's Report

Budget and Precept

At a meeting of Sandy Town Council on 23 January 2023 the Council agreed its budget and precept for the year ending 31 March 2024.

I am pleased to report that the Committee's continuing work in reviewing all cost centres and seeking best value for money meant that the Council was able to set a budget that resulted in a small annual increase of £1.67 on the Sandy Council tax charge. This agreed 2023/24 budget and precept request equates to an increase of 3.2 pence a week for the average Band D taxpayer in Sandy. Residents will pay £156.53 in 2023/24 for all the services Sandy Town Council provides. The Committee was very aware of the financial position of many of Sandy's residents.

The budget setting process takes place over a number of committee meetings – starting in autumn 2022 – with involvement by all Councillors. As with other financial years all aspects of the Council's budget were scrutinised and evaluated to reduce costs and make efficiency savings where possible while ensuring that its core functions are adequately resourced. In spite of increased costs over which the Council has no control, the Council made £2,121 in budget reductions, £10,588 in increased income and £28,174 reductions in capital provision set against required budget increases of £46,830.

The areas that accounted for the growth in the budget included increased costs for business rates, wages, national insurance, pension contributions, utilities (gas, electricity, and water), fuel and agreements to which the Council is obligated. More funds have also been made available for Christmas lighting and a planned Coronation Event.

The Town Council recognises the importance of providing a best value service and keeping costs down. As such, service providers and contracts are continually reviewed to ensure best value.

Capital Projects and Section 106 Money

The Council continued to upgrade many of its assets through funding from its capital reserves including replacement of children's play equipment, upgrading of benches and litter bins, provision of new football goalposts and sockets at Sunderland Road and the replacement of one of its' trucks by an electric vehicle – being one of the first councils in the region to do so. Further funding on the cemetery extension has also taken place.

Each year the Council continues to ensure Section 106 funds are invested back into Sandy and its community. Section 106 is a planning obligation, a legal agreement between the planning authority, the developer, and other interested parties. By law they must be necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms, directly related to the development, fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development. The agreement can include the contribution of funds for use within the community.

Grants and Donations

The Council has maintained its community grants budget and during the 2022/23 financial year the Committee approved grants totalling £3,398 to a variety of worthwhile organisations and community groups, all of which carry out valuable and important work within and around Sandy. A list of those bodies who received grants or donations can be found on page 17 of the Annual Report. In addition, the Council also supported various community events totalling £9,892 including the Platinum Jubilee Event last June.

Policies and Procedures

The Committee has continued to review its policies and procedures to ensure they are effective and up to date. This year the Council adopted the National Association of Town & Parish Councils' Civility and Respect Pledge, updated its' Burial Regulations, and reviewed six other policies. The Council's policies are available to view on the Town Council website.

The Committee oversaw a number of legal matters, including lease renewals, and reviewed the Council's Risk Register. In addition, we completed and received clean external and internal audits.

Community Services and Environment Committee

Chaired by Councillor S Sutton



The Community Services & Environment Committee has a wide remit to discuss issues related to the work required to maintain footpaths, pavements, cycleways, roads, waterways, horticultural and arboriculture works, street furniture (seats, planters, waste bins), play areas, and play equipment. At the beginning of the year the committee updates the Action Plan which detailed our aims and

objectives. This report is available on the website and shows the results in meeting those objectives.

Community Services and Environment Chairman's Report

Town Centre

- We are still working to install new town gateway signs and hoped they would have been installed in 2022. We are continuing to work with partners to fulfil this project.
- The grant funding that was obtained in 2020/21 has continued to be used and new jubilee banners were purchased and displayed in summer 2022.

Sport, Leisure, and Wellbeing

- The new skatepark for Sunderland Road Recreation Ground was completed in 2022 and an opening event attracted a large number of competitors. We are planning an anniversary event in September 2023 to build on that success.
- Plans are progressing about the extension to the Jenkins Pavilion which will provide new indoor sports facilities following their removal from Sandy Secondary School.
- It is with regret that we have still not obtained the Beeston Community Land from CBC which we have been in discussions with since 2016. This small site is to be used for allotments and a community orchard. Draft legal documents have been received but until the affordable homes are constructed, we will not have full access to the site. We welcome the new woodlands and a larger community orchard currently being planted in another area of Beeston so subsequently we are hoping to be able to use more or even all of the Green site for allotments instead of orchard. We continue to press CBC to conclude the process on this site and source a larger site in the area to meet the demand for allotments.

Environment

- We took delivery of our first electric vehicle which we hope will be repeated as our older vehicles need replacing. We are working with CBC Sustainable Transport team to install EV charging points in the Market Square in 2023/24.
- Continued Support for Sandy Green Wheel with improvements on the walking route being undertaken.

- Supported litter picking areas of the town as part of the Great British Spring Clean. We have litter pickers and collecting waste bags that can be loaned to any groups wishing to clean their own areas.
- Work has been undertaken by the Ivel Drainage Board to clear the waterways in and around Beeston and The Riddy by removing overgrown vegetation. These improvements will continue in 2023/24.
- We continue our tree planting programme and support for ReWild East Project. Specimen trees were donated by the Sandy Branch of the RBL and the Women's Institute which were planted at Faynes Corner.

Public Safety

- In response to the speeding issues highlighted by members of the public and backed up with speed monitoring surveys a new SID sign was installed by CBC in Sunderland Road. This was financed by CB. We hope that this reduces the speeding on this road.
- Due to the extreme weather conditions in December, we have agreed with CBC that in the event of a repeat that our Outdoor Staff will ensure that the Market Square pavements are treated with grit to help clear any ice or snow.

Engaging with Young People

- We are still keen to progress a youth engagement action plan. We will re-engage with schools and youth groups when appropriate.

Public Engagement/Events

- To celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee, we organised a family picnic and musical concert in the grounds of Sandy Place Academy. Over 4,000 attended over the afternoon and evening to enjoy the weather and music. The official proclamation was read by the Master of Ceremonies and the Sandy Community Choir sang the specially commissioned song "Rise up and Serve" followed by the lighting of the beacon. The Mayor's awards were also handed out to local residents.
- Work started on planning a Coronation Event in May 2023.
- We held two successful craft markets in the Town Centre which supported over 30 local independent traders. New dates have been agreed for 2023 and potential stallholders can contact the office if they wish to consider a stall. We also supported the Christmas Lights event and submitted a tree for the St Swithun's Church Christmas tree event.
- We were pleased that we were able to host on our open spaces the return of the Circus, fairground, and the Pantaloons Theatre Group.
- The Events working Group worked with the Sandy Branch of the Royal British Legion and St Swithun's Church to stage the annual Remembrance Day parade and service. We are grateful for those volunteers who set up the sound system at the war memorial and assisted with road closures.

Development Scrutiny Committee

Chaired by Councillor P Sharman



This committee has three key roles: it reviews every planning application, considers tree applications, and takes part in various district and regional consultations where they may impact on Sandy. The Town Council is a statutory consultee and reviews all planning applications and advises CBC should they not meet local requirements and aspirations. However, it should be noted that Central Bedfordshire Council makes the final decision on all planning applications and does not always agree with the Town Council's comments.

Development Scrutiny Committee Report

Sandy Town Council Planning Process

Sandy Town Council (STC) is not a planning authority and has no direct powers to control the development of the town. Planning applications in Sandy are decided by Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) which is the local authority empowered by law to exercise statutory town planning functions as well as the Local Development Framework and the key local planning policy documents which affect Sandy.

STC is entitled to see almost all planning applications received by CBC which pertain to Sandy Parish and to make comments on them which CBC should take into consideration when deciding whether to grant planning permission. There are a very few exceptions to this including for example applications which relate to agricultural buildings. This role is the responsibility of the Development Scrutiny (DS) Committee which consists of 10 members appointed annually at the Sandy Town Council Annual Meeting held each May. The Committee has met on 16 occasions in the past year to respond to and comment upon around 50 planning applications. To effectively fulfil their role, to assist their understanding of particular applications and to aid decision making, members have also attended site visits on occasions during the year.

Members of the public with an interest in a particular application are encouraged to contact the Town Council to make their views known either in writing or to attend the DS Committee meeting when the matter is on the agenda to express them in person. In advance of any meeting of the DS Committee, both members and interested members of the public can and should try to make use of the wealth of information which can be accessed on the Planning section of the CBC website starting at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk and then following the links.

The members of DS also rely to a considerable extent on the background work undertaken by the administration team at STC in advance of each meeting of the committee for which they are always extremely grateful.

Working with other agencies

We continue to work with other organisations, local councils, and the Local Planning Authority where we can understand and influence planning decisions in our area.

Applications of Significance

We are pleased to see that work has now started at Sandy Secondary School and work is due to start soon on the extension of the Jenkins Pavilion.

Along with the rest of the Council and the residents of Sandy and Beeston we wait to see what is proposed for the Sandye Place Academy site.

Strategic Development

There continue to be several important and significant broader strategic issues which members of the DS Committee and the Council have continued to consider during the past year. At times, the lack of progress by organisations involved in wider strategic issues, such as the A1 and East West Rail line can be frustrating. The Council will continue to engage with the East West Rail Company to understand potential for impact on Sandy or benefits that could be brought to our area.

We await to see how the changes to the Black Cat roundabout will impact on the town.



Human Resources Committee

Chaired by Councillor L Ivanciu-Wilkinson

Report written by Councillor P Sharman (Vice Chairman)



The Human Resources committee, which meets about four times a year, has the responsibility of ensuring the smooth and effective running of the Council through its paid staff, who operate as the office and outdoor teams. The committee is responsible for performance management, staff welfare, team building and training as well as opening hours and work schedules. In addition, the committee covers support, guidance, and training for Councillors

Human Resources Committee Report

The committee continues to meet a minimum of four times a year face to face in the council chambers.

The outdoor team has continued to work through the pandemic from an operational point of view but have worked hard through the last year to ensure the Council services run to a standard we are used to.

The have welcomed two new members to the outdoor team, Wayne Harvey, and Solomon Paris.

The Administration team remain strong and flexible despite the rising workload and changing requirements – we thank them for all their efforts.

The Administration team has seen a number of changes over the past 12 months with 3 members leaving and the appointment of 3 new members.

Ian Reed – Deputy Clerk and Amenities Co-Ordinator

Laura Dove – Community Engagement Officer

Danielle Castle – Civic Officer

A little over 12 months since her appointment, Nicola Sewell has settled into her position of Town Clerk very well.

We thank all the staff members for their diligence and hard work.

Sandy Information Point

Sandy Town Council's reception and information point re-opened when government guidance allowed.



The Council remains an agent for Safford Coaches, thus allowing local people to book day excursions within the office. Unfortunately, the office no longer holds a supply of Central Bedfordshire Council's green garden bags, orange recycling bags, food bins and food waste bags for household waste as CBC withdrew their supplies to Parish offices in 2022. However, staff are on hand to answer questions on Sandy Town Council Services (see list below) and help with any Town Council related concerns.

The information point and council reception are open to the public on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9am to 4pm and Fridays from 9am to 2pm.

Town Council Services

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Cemetery Management | Town Centre & Bedford Road Public Conveniences |
| Church Yard Maintenance | The Riddy Nature Reserve |
| Jenkins Pavilion & Sports Pitches | The Pinnacle Hill & Field |
| Floral Displays | Local Information Point |
| War Memorial | Roman Sandy Exhibition |
| Beeston Green | Public Open Spaces |
| Some Street Lighting and Furniture | Play Areas, including Fallowfield, Bedford Road, Sunderland Road, Beeston, and the Limes |
| Christmas Lights | |
| CCTV | |
| Town Centre Car Park | |



Community Grants and Donations

Every year the Town Council provides some funding for community groups and projects in the town. The Council has adopted a set of criteria which successful applications must meet and aims to support sustainable local projects that improve the quality of life for the residents of Sandy. The Council also makes donations to groups where appropriate.

In the financial year 2022/23 Sandy Town Council awarded grants or donations to:

Sandy Horticultural Society	£500.00
Let's Get Going CIC	£880.00
Biggles FM	£600.00
Keech Hospice Care	£200.00
Sandy Good Neighbours	£100.00
MAGPAS	£500.00
Total	£2,780.00
General Grant	
Sandy Secondary School	£35.00
Total	£35.00
Event Grant	
Total	

If you are a community organisation or charity looking for support in providing activities or services in Sandy, you can find a community grant application form on our website;

www.sandytowncouncil.gov.uk

Financial Statements

Financial Summary 31 March 2023

31 March 2022	Income Summary	31 March 2023
599,356	Precept on Principal Authority	628,120
20,772	Capital Grants and Sale of Assets	156,670
215	Interest and Investment Income	4,388
6,378	Recreation Grounds and Open Spaces	15,309
23,966	Cemetery	31,990
338	Tourist Information Centre	644
354	Car Park	1,125
815	Establishment/General Administration	5,211
1,259	Civic and Democratic	1,250
1,172	Highways – Footpaths and Lighting	2,500
654,625	Total Income	847,207
	Expenditure	
375,114	Establishment/General Administration	404,308
92,539	Capital Expenditure	251,732
609	Loan Interest and Capital Repayments	608
	Operational Expenditure:	
76,545	Recreation Grounds and Open Spaces	55,700
9,587	Cemetery	11,915
344	Tourist Information	458
919	Public Toilets	2,826
15,602	Car Park and Market	13,558
35,387	Lighting and Street Furniture	26,481
-	Planning & Development	25,220
2,991	Civic and Democratic Costs	2,202
12,483	Grants and Donations	13,363
16,058	Christmas Lights	18,541
1,832	CCTV Fees	2,010
33,922	Outside Services	22,887
673,932	Total Expenditure	851,809

Financial Statements

Financial Summary 31 March 2023
31 March 2022

31 March 2023

General Fund		
234,042	Balance at 01 April 2020	234,402
<u>674,905</u>	Add: Total Income	<u>847,207</u>
888,667		1,081,249
<u>673,932</u>	Deduct: Total Expenditure	<u>851,809</u>
214,735		229,440
-	Transfer (to)/from Capital Receipts Reserve	-
19,307	Transfer from/(to) Earmarked Reserves	4,602
<u>234,042</u>	General Reserve Balance at 31 March 22	<u>234,042</u>
Current Assets		
29,341	Debtors and prepayments	19,905
<u>607,496</u>	Cash at bank and in hand	<u>599,836</u>
636,837		619,741
Current Liabilities		
(73,656)	Creditors and income in advance	(61,162)
563,181	Net Current Assets	558,579
563,181	Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	558,579
563,181	Total Assets Less Liabilities	<u>558,579</u>
Capital and Reserves		
329,139	Earmarked Reserves	324,537
<u>234,042</u>	General Reserve	<u>234,042</u>
563,181		558,579

Sandy Town Councillors

Beeston Ward		
<p>Cllr M P Scott "The Gowans" Seddington Nursery Great North Road Seddington Sandy SG19 1NZ</p>	<p>07894 476808 scott729@btinternet.com</p>	
Ivel Ward		
<p>Cllr P Blaine 19 Poplar Close Sandy SG19 1HH</p>	<p>07973 255676 peterblaine.blaine@gmail.com</p>	
<p>Cllr J Ivanciu-Wilkinson C/o Sandy Town Council 10 Cambridge Road Sandy SG19 1JE</p>	<p>07855 308168 jenniferi40@hotmail.com</p>	
<p>Cllr Robert Lacey 6 High Road, Beeston, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 1PA T</p>	<p>07771668542 Cllr.lacey@btinternet.com</p>	
<p>Cllr M J Pettitt 42 Swansholme Gardens Sandy SG19 1HL</p>	<p>01767 680082 martin.pettitt@virginmedia.com</p>	
<p>Cllr S J Sutton 156b St Neots Road Sandy SG19 1BS</p>	<p>01767 227589 admin@sandytowncouncil.gov.uk</p>	

Fallowfield Ward		
Cllr L Ivanciu-Wilkinson 26 Banks Drive Sandy SG19 1AE	07525 44926 lorraineiwsandytc@gmail.com	
Cllr P Sharman 3 Swallow Crest Sandy SG19 2SN	07889 599556 admin@sandytowncouncil.gov.uk	
Cllr Dr N Thompson 46 Kestrel Way Sandy SG19 2TE	01767 683137 admin@sandytowncouncil.gov.uk	

Pinnacle Ward		
Cllr P N Aldis 7 Mayfield Court Sandy SG19 1NF	01767 691333 nigel.aldis1@gmail.com	
Cllr J Hewitt Clock Tower Cottage Everton Road Sandy SG19 2DD	01767 512002 cldr@hewitt10.co.uk	
Cllr Anthony Lock 2 Havelock Close Sandy SG19 1TE T	01767 681491 sandye.lock767@googlemail.com	

<p>Cllr R Lock 2 Havelock Close Sandy SG19 1TE</p>	<p>01767 681491 r.lock8259@gmail.com</p>	
<p>Cllr C Osborne Summercourt 2 Leeds Smith Drive Sandy SG19 1LU</p>	<p>01767 682032 admin@sandytowncouncil.gov.uk</p>	

BECOMING A COUNCILLOR



Representing your local

Community

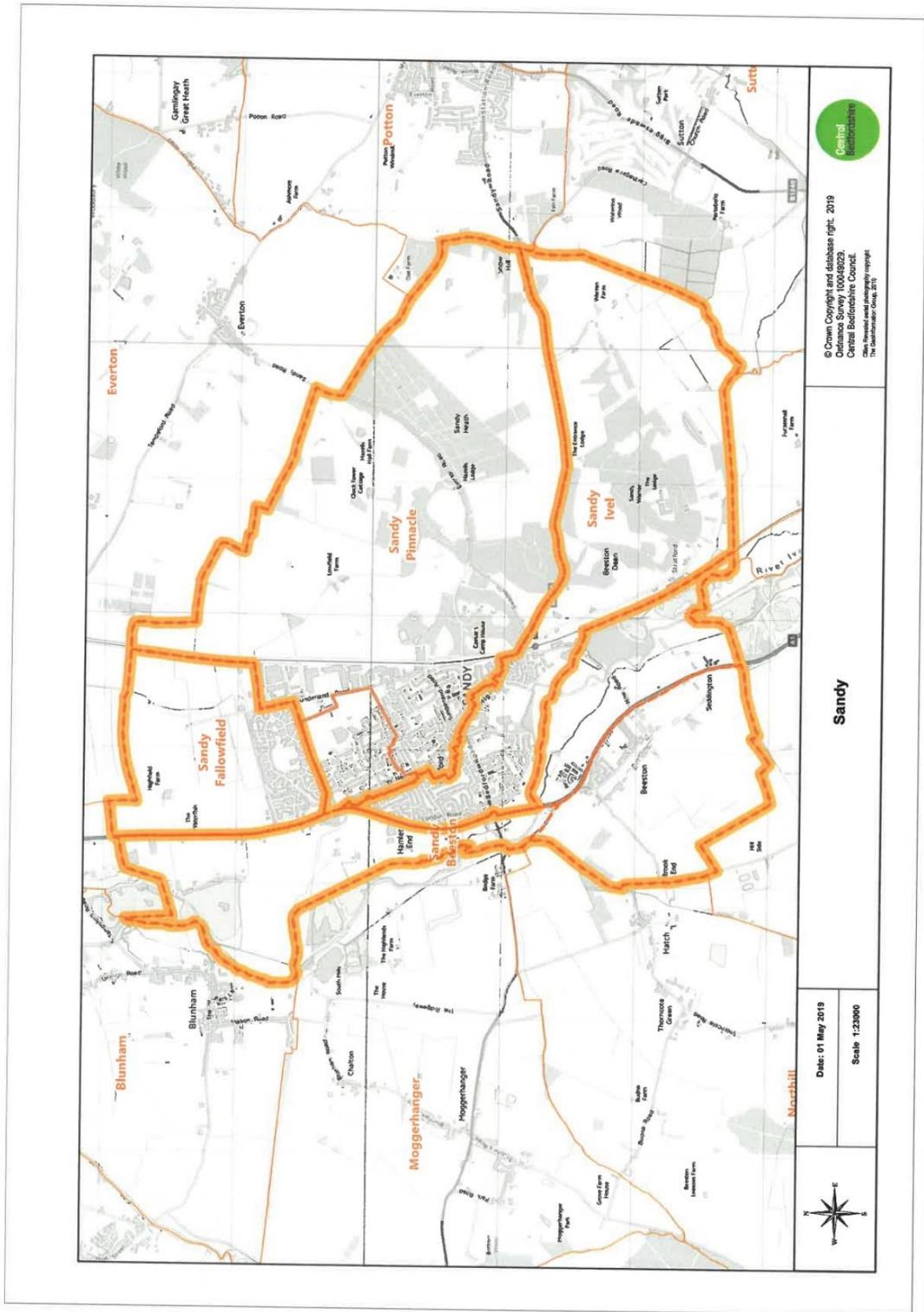
Developing

Planning for the future

We are looking to fill our 4 extra Councillor vacancies by Co-option. We have 1 vacancy for the Fallowfield Ward; 2 vacancies for Ivel Ward and 1 vacancy for the Pinnacle Ward.

We are looking for members of the community who would like to make a difference and direct impact. If you would like to stand as a Councillor to represent Sandy Town Council, please get in touch with admin@sandytowncouncil.gov.uk for more information. We are looking for Sandy people who will speak for their demographic and their people.

Electoral Wards



Members Meeting Attendance 2022/23

Town Council			
Councillor	Total No. Attended	Total No. of Meetings	% Attendance
Cllr Aldis	10	10	100%
Cllr Blaine	9	10	90%
Cllr Hewitt	9	10	90%
Cllr J Ivanciu - Wilkinson ¹	4	8	50%
Cllr L Ivanciu - Wilkinson	6	10	60%
Cllr Jackson ²	2	3	67%
Cllr Knagg ³	2	3	67%
Cllr Lacey ⁴	4	5	80%
Cllr A Lock ⁵	6	6	100%
Cllr R Lock	10	10	100%
Cllr Osborne	7	10	70%
Cllr Pettitt	9	10	90%
Cllr Scott	8	10	80%
Cllr Sharman	10	10	100%
Cllr Sutton	8	10	80%
Cllr Thompson	2	10	20%

Development Scrutiny Committee			
Councillor	Total No. Attended	Total No. of Meetings	% Attendance
Cllr Blaine	11	15	73%
Cllr Hewitt	12	15	80%
Cllr L Ivanciu- Wilkinson	5	15	33%
Cllr Jackson	2	2	100%
Cllr Knagg	1	2	50%
Cllr Pettitt	13	15	87%
Cllr Sharman	14	15	93%
Cllr Sutton	11	15	73%
Cllr Thompson	2	15	13%

¹ Cllr J Ivanciu-Wilkinson Co-opted 11.07.2022

² Cllr Jackson resigned 25.07.2022

³ Cllr Knagg resigned 25.07.2022

⁴ Cllr Lacey Co-opted 10.10.2022

⁵ Cllr A Lock Co-opted 22.08.2022

Members Meeting Attendance 2021/22

Policy, Finance & Resources Committee			
Councillor	Total No. Attended	Total No. of Meetings	% Attendance
Cllr Aldis	7	9	78%
Cllr Blaine	6	9	67%
Cllr Hewitt	9	9	100%
Cllr Jackson	1	1	100%
Cllr R Lock	7	9	78%
Cllr Osborne	8	9	89%
Cllr Pettitt	8	9	89%
Cllr Scott	7	9	78%
Cllr Sharman	9	9	100%

Community Services & Environment Committee			
Councillor	Total No. Attended	Total No. of Meetings	% Attendance
Cllr Aldis	7	8	88%
Cllr L Ivanciu-Wilkinson	1	8	13%
Cllr Knagg	1	1	100%
Cllr R Lock	8	8	100%
Cllr Osborne	6	8	75%
Cllr Scott	7	8	88%
Cllr Sutton	8	8	100%
Cllr Thompson	1	8	13%

Human Resources Committee			
Councillor	Total No. Attended	Total No. of Meetings	% Attendance
Cllr Aldis	6	6	100%
Cllr Blaine	5	6	83%
Cllr Hewitt	5	6	83%
Cllr Jackson	1	1	100%
Cllr Osborne	3	6	50%
Cllr Sharman	6	6	100%
Cllr Sutton	6	6	100%

Council Contact Details and Addresses

Town Council and Information Office

10 Cambridge Road, Sandy SG19 1JE

Tel: 01767 681491

General Email: admin@sandytowncouncil.gov.uk

Town Council Staff:

Town Clerk

Nicola Sewell

Administration Team

Carol Baker-Smith – Administration Team Leader

Danielle Castle – Civic Officer

Laura Dove – Community Engagement Officer

Ian Reed – Amenities Co-Ordinator/Deputy Clerk

Grounds Team

Richard Gilbert – Grounds Team Leader

Chris Dainton - Groundsman

Wayne Harvey – Groundsman

Solomon Paris - Groundsman

Brian Leonard – Caretaker/Office Cleaner

Stratford Road Depot

Stratford Road, Sandy SG19 2DH

Cemetery and Former Allotment Site

Potton Road, Sandy SG19 2DH

Sandy Churchyard, High Street, Sandy, SG19 1AQ

Play Areas

Bedford Road Recreation Ground, Bedford Road, Sandy SG19 1EY

Beeston Green, The Green, Beeston, Sandy SG19 1PY

Sunderland Road Recreation Ground, Sunderland Road, Sandy SG19 1RQ

The Limes, Elder Close, Beeston, Sandy SG19 1GF

Merlin Drive, Fallowfield, Sandy SG19 2UN

Jenkins Pavilion

Sunderland Road Recreation Ground, Off Medusa Way, Sandy SG19 1BN

Public Conveniences

Bedford Road Recreation Ground, Bedford Road, Sandy SG19 1EY

Town Centre Car Park, High Street, Sandy SG19 1AG

Open Spaces

The Riddy, Mill Lane, Sandy, SG19 1NL

The Pinnacle, Sand Lane, Sandy, SG19 2AD

Visit our website - www.sandytowncouncil.gov.uk to sign up to our newsletter!

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> Submit

