

Minutes of the Town Council meeting of Sandy Town Council held in the Council Chamber at 10 Cambridge Road, Sandy, Bedfordshire on Monday 2nd September 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs N Aldis, B Blackley, A Effiong (until 20.52), J Hewitt (Chair), R Lacey, A Lock, R Lock, C Osborne, P Sharman, S Sutton and N Thompson.

Absent: Cllrs Baker, Pettitt and Scott

In attendance: Mrs. N Sewell (Clerk), Ian Reed Deputy Clerk, Ward Cllrs Bell and Pashby, Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner John Tizard, Emma Foxley of Let's Get Going CIC, and Mrs. Susan Elizabeth Lee Co-option applicant.

Action

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Apologies for Absence (80-2024/2025)
Apologies were received from Cllrs Baker, Pettitt, Scott and Ward Cllr Ford.</p> <p>2 Declaration of Interest and requests for dispensations (81-2024/2025)
i) <i>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – None</i>
ii) <i>Non-Pecuniary Interests –</i> Cllr Sutton declared an interest in Item 11 as President of the Sandy Branch of the Royal British Legion. Cllr Sharman declared an interest in Item 4 as already knowing the candidate.
iii) <i>Dispensations – None</i></p> <p>3 Public Participation Session (82-2024/2025)
No members of the public were present during this item.</p> <p>4 Co-option for Vacancy at Fallowfield Ward (83-2024/2025)
The Chairman welcomed Mrs. S E Lee who had applied for co-option and was in attendance.

Mrs. S E Lee was invited to speak on why she was applying for co-option to the Council. She elaborated on her application saying she had lived in Sandy for more than 10 years and enjoyed its mix of town and country environments.

Having retired in 2017 she had been caring for her husband who had been very ill, but now with him in full recovery and not needing to be looked after, found she had time on her hands and wished to do something useful with it, wanting to help the people of Sandy.

She shared her passion of open spaces and gardens and added that she was keen to help the Town Council secure allotments</p> | |
|--|--|

again for residents. She was also interested in helping to improve transport in the town for all.

It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed to Co-opt Mrs. S E Lee to Council. Having signed an Acceptance of Office form in front of the Clerk, she joined the meeting.

The Mayor offered her congratulations and welcomed her to the Council.

**5 Minutes of Meeting of Town Council
(84-2024/2025)**

Members received the minutes of the meeting of Sandy Town Council held on Monday 22nd July 2024 at 6.45pm and approved them as a correct record of proceedings.

**6 Minutes of Committees and Recommendations therein
(85-2024/2025)**

Members received and noted the minutes of the meetings of the following committees and sub-committees:

RESOLVED:

- i) to receive and note the minutes of Community Services & Environment Committee held on 22nd July 2024.
- ii) to receive and note the minutes of Policy, Finance & Resources Committee held on 29th July 2024.
- iii) to receive and note the minutes of Development Scrutiny Committee held on 8th July 2024.

**7 Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner
(86-2024/2025)**

Members welcomed the new Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner, John Tizard, who discussed the new 2024-28 Police and Crime Plan which was being consulted on ahead of its launch later this year.

Mr. Tizard thanked Members for inviting him to speak and explained his role as Police and Crime Commissioner. He added that his Police and Crime Plan would be launched on 3rd October 2024. He said he was keen to hear about the issues facing Sandy, what the police successes in the town were and where there needed to be improvement.

He outlined his six priorities for his tenure which were:

1. Prevention
2. Tackling Serious Crime
3. Re-invigorating Local Policing
4. Protecting Victims
5. Tackling Violence Against Women and Children
6. To have an 'excellent' police service.

Mr. Tizard added that partnerships would be key and that he would be relying on Town and Parish Councils to be the eyes and ears for their areas when it came to crime and intelligence.

Answering Members' questions, he said that while Bedfordshire Police had more officers on the force now than at any time in the past, in terms of officers per head of population it was less than they had 20 years ago. He added that a case needed to be made for more funding to come into Bedfordshire and said he believed efficiencies could be made by investing in technology to free up resources to do other roles.

He finished his presentation by stating that he would be holding monthly accessibility meetings, to enable conversations to be had, with the first three being held in Harold, Leighton Buzzard and Bury Park in Luton and by encouraging Members to contact him to keep the lines of communication open.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Tizard for his time.

8 Reports from Central Bedfordshire (87-2024/2025)

Members received the following reports from Ward Councillors;

Rob Pashby

Speedwatch – the last he attended was outside the Sir William Peel public house where there were 408 vehicles counted going towards Potton, 18 were >24mph including one over thirty. This was 3-4pm in the afternoon. He has asked John Garwood for a full set of stats for August.

Sue Bell

Brook End/The Green, Cllr Bell reported that the result from the Planning Inspectorate was now in, and the appeal has been dismissed. **APP/P0240/W/23/3327759** refers. CBC's Planning Enforcement Team is already involved and can now take the appropriate action.

The resurfacing of St. Swithun's Way is scheduled to start on 4th September and letters had been sent to all residents of the area.

New signage is going up on the Sandye Place site, giving additional info re reporting trespassing and reviews of access points have been increased.

Cllr Sutton asked for an update on Pleasant Place and when the realignment of the roundabout at the St Neots Road and Engayne Avenue junction would be placed on the CBC Highways works programme. Cllr Bell commented she did not have any update to hand and requested Members submit questions to Ward Councillors

prior the meetings to give them an opportunity to undertake the necessary research first.

Cllr Osborne requested that a regular item on Sandye Place be added to the agenda for Ward Councilor reports going forward.

Town Clerk

9 Keeping Sandy Moving (88-2024/2025)

Members received a project idea and presentation from Emma Foxley of Let's Get Going CIC to undertake a pilot scheme in the town to encourage members of the community, from all age groups, to be more active by offering better access to activities in and around the area as well as hosting new events and connecting already established community activity/sports groups.

RESOLVED for the Council, in conjunction with Emma Foxley, to continue with the role of Place Based Ambassador for Sandy over a six month pilot period and to apply for funding from Sport England to cover that role. The project would be closely monitored so that a decision about sustaining the work could be determined at a later stage.

Town Clerk

10 Jenkins Pavilion Development Working Group (89-2024/2025)

Members received the minutes of the Jenkins Pavilion Development Working Group held on 29th August 2024.

RESOLVED to note the minutes.

11 Remembrance Sunday Parade Traffic Management Scheme (90-2024/2025)

Members received a report from the Clerk outlining the requirements for this year's Remembrance Sunday Parade Traffic Management Scheme and consider quotes from 3 traffic management companies to undertake the work.

RESOLVED that the Town Council would commission a traffic management company to manage the road closures for the town's Remembrance Sunday Parade. That the Clerk contact company A and ask them to quote for 6 operatives (rather than 3) and for Company B to quote for a CAD design. These new quotes would then go to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chair of PF&R to agree to consider under delegated authority enabling the works to be commissioned in time.

Town Clerk

12 Action Plan (91-2024/2025)

Members reviewed and agreed Full Council Action Plan for 2024/25.

RESOLVED to note the Action List.

Town Clerk

13 Planning Applications (92-2024/2025)

Members considered the following application submitted for comment by Central Bedfordshire Council.

CB/24/02258/REG3 Sandy Secondary School, Engayne Avenue, Sandy, SG19 1BL	Renewal of planning permission for modular volumetric double classroom unit already on site.
---	--

RESOLVED to raise no objections.

Civic Officer

14 Reports from Councillors on Outside Bodies (93-2024/2025)

No reports were received.

15 Accountancy fees for Budget Setting (94-2024/2025)

Members considered accounting support from DCK for the budget setting process at a cost of £570 for a day in the office and £80 per hour for any additional hours needed.

RESOLVED to agree to pay DCK for accounting support for the budget setting process at a cost of £570 for a day in the office and £80 per hour for any additional hours needed.

Town Clerk

16 Payroll Contract 2025/26 (95-2024/2025)

Members received new fees for the current Payroll Contract of £468 an increase of £60 across the year from price quoted in February 2023.

RESOLVED to agree the increase of £60 for payroll services and ensure that the increase was provisioned for in the budget setting process.

Town Clerk

17 Lamppost Timer Replacements (96-2024/2025)

Members received two quotes to undertake work to replace defunct/damaged timers in 19 lampposts in order to ensure that the Christmas Lights illumination can be managed efficiently.

RESOLVED to commission Company B to undertake the works to replace timers in 19 lampposts throughout the town centre at a cost of £1,760 + VAT.

Town Clerk

18 Correspondence (97-2024/2025)

Members noted correspondence received by the Town Council since the last meeting of Full Council and any actions arising from such items. All correspondence circulated to Members separately. **RESOLVED** to note the correspondence.

19 Press Releases (98-2024/2025)

Autumn Market

Call for volunteers

Neighbourhood Plan Consultation

Introducing New Co Opted Member of Council

20 Chairmans Items (99-2024/2025)

i) Code of Conduct Training for Members

ii) Call for Members to volunteer for the upcoming Town Council Events:

- Skate jam
- Autumn Market
- Remembrance Sunday Parade
- Christmas Lights Switch On

iii) Request for Members to donate a bottle for the Christmas Hamper. The Clerk to send out a prompt to Members of the type of bottles required

21 Date of Next Meeting

21.10.2024

Meeting Ended at 21.57