

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 12th August 2019 commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs N Aldis, P Blaine, S Doyle, A Gibson (Chair), M Hill, T Knagg, C Osborne, M Scott

Absent: Cllrs S Sutton, N Thompson

In Attendance: Mr C Robson (Clerk), Mrs C Baker-Smith (Admin Team Leader) and one member of the public.

Action

1 Apologies for absence (33-2019/20)

Apologies were received from Cllrs Sutton and Thompson.

Admin

2 Declarations of Interest (34-2019/20)

There were no declarations of interest.

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting (35-2019/20)

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Community Services and Environment Committee held on Monday 1st July 2019 as a correct record of proceedings.

Admin

4 Public Participation Session (36-2019/20)

A member of the public was present but had no questions. The Chair said that there would be updates on SPA and the Bus Stop under Chairman's items.

5 Action list (37-2019/20)

Members received the action list.

The Clerk stated that he was awaiting two more quotes from solicitors for drawing up a lease regarding the land at Beeston with CBC.

Members noted that the parking restrictions problems would be discussed at Item 8.

6 Public Space Protection Orders (38-2019/20)

Members received and considered a report from the Town Clerk and Public Space Protection Orders and the Safer Central Community survey.

The Clerk said that CBC are reviewing PSPO's and a consultation will

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be forthcoming. The report concentrated on PSPO's covering consumption of alcohol in public places. The Town Council only have one in Bedford Road recreation ground and that they could be extended to the other parks and the town centre. There will be a public consultation in October and the implementation of a PSPO covering drinking in the town centre will be included.

Members discussed the impact of PSPOs and it was questioned as to whether these should be applied to certain areas of the town. The Clerk reminded Members that PSPOs did not prohibit activities, such as drinking but did provide powers to enforcement officers to confiscate alcohol or address the situation. PSPO's do not impact upon the police's existing powers.

Members discussed the Safer Central survey which was hosted by CBC and could be completed by residents at any time during the year. Feedback from the survey is used by the multi-agency Crime and Safety Partnership to prioritise their work. It was noted that responses from Sandy were low.

The Chair said that the Community Safety Partnership team had confirmed that they would be holding a small event using the Community Stand on Friday 30th August 2019. She also added that the Town Council should promote the Safer Central survey on its website and Facebook pages.

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the implementation of a PSPO for all the Council's recreation grounds and the town centre be included in Central Bedfordshire Council's public consultation.

Admin

7 **The Big Beds Clean Up (39-2019/20)**

Members received and considered a communication from a charity established as part of the Keep Britain campaign.

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the charity be invited to attend a Policy Finance & Resources meeting and give a presentation on their work and that the Town Council make them aware of the activities and active community volunteers who are already carrying out litter picking in and around Sandy.

Town
Clerk

8 **Parking Strategy (40-2019/20)**

Members received a report from the Response Group set up to review and feed into CBC's Parking Strategy.

Cllr Aldis briefed the meeting on the report's findings and thanked

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Cllr Doyle for her assistance. Members discussed the survey results at length and the Clerk informed Members that any residents who wanted a white 'h' bar painting outside the driveway could apply for one via CBC. There is a cost to this.

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED to:**

That the signage in Kings Road is replaced with more explicit information i.e. 'No Through Road' and re-sited to the entrance on the left-hand side.

That enquiries are made with the CBC Parking Enforcement Team to establish if any checking and enforcement is undertaken in this area.

That further surveys are carried out with residents in streets adjacent to St Swithun's Way to assess the impact of any Residents Scheme or other parking proposals.

That white bars can be painted at the entrances of driveways in Kings Road and St Swithun's Way by applying to CBC at the house holders' expense. The Town Clerk to clarify costs.

That the Response Group prepare a summary in conjunction with the Town Clerk, thanking residents for taking part in the survey and explaining how to apply for white bars from CBC.

Cllrs
Aldis,
Doyle,
Sutton

9 **Sandy Green Wheel (41-2019/20)**

Members received and considered minutes from the Green Wheel Working group.

The Chair went through the minutes with Members.

The Riddy: The bridge is the responsibility of CBC's Rights of Way and Bridleways and is on a list of 59 items to be repaired. BRCC have suggested that they could make the repair but would need funds to do so. It would cost approximately £500 for the repairs.

The dead trees issue would be brought forward to the next Riddy Meeting.

Town
Clerk

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED to RECOMMEND** that the Council offer to part fund repairs to the bridge with CBC if this gives the work a higher priority and ensures its timely completion.

Town
Clerk

Sandcaste Path: A Member commented that the Sandcaste path

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project had already been on the list for 3 years with no progress. The Chair said that she would push for a date at the next meeting.

Cllr
Gibson

SGW First Anniversary event: The Chair briefed the meeting regarding a walk on Sunday 15th September. To start at 10am from the Community Stand and walk the 6 miles of the Sandy Green Wheel to mark the first anniversary of the launch of Sandy Green Wheel. It would require immediate promotion via posters, press releases, website and Facebook.

Events
Group

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the SGW First Anniversary walk take place on Sunday 15th September 2019.

Events
Group

10 **Beeston Working Group (42-2019/20)**

Members received an update from the Beeston Working Group on a schedule of works to be carried out on Beeston Village Green.

A Member said that there was a lot of work to be taken on and the Council must be careful not to take on too much too quickly. There were other priorities already identified in the committee's action list. The Clerk said that the work on some points had already started. There was no objection to the proposal, but it was suggested that it take place gradually over the next 12 months.

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED**:

That the town be split into three zones, with a working group assigned to each consisting of two STC members and one CBC member to carry out a review/audit of green spaces with the Council's grounds team identify maintenance issues or enhancement opportunities and report back. CBC Members be asked to each sit on a working group and join the audit in case any matters need to be raised with CBC.

Town
Clerk

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED**:

That two working groups be set up to carry out green space audits within the next 12 months and issue a report back to a future committee meeting.

11 **Summer Planters 2020 (43-2019/20)**

Members were asked to consider if the committee wishes to recommend increasing the number of summer flower planters in the town for 2020/21.

The Clerk briefed Members and said any requests would be included

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in next year's budget process.

A Member said Beeston required two hanging baskets, but they would be funded by Beeston Working Group.

A Member wished to thank the outdoor grounds team on the magnificent display at the council offices.

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that an additional one tier planting tower, four hanging baskets and up to 8 barrier baskets be included in the 2020/21 budget process for summer planting.

**Town
Clerk**

12 **Councillor Surgeries (44-2019/20)**

Members considered whether the Town Council hold Councillor Surgeries during the remainder of the Council year.

After discussion it was agreed that the Council should go to residents and engage with the community in any practical ways it can. Members felt that holding the surgeries in the Council Chamber was too out of the way and there would be better engagement in the town centre. A Member commented that Councillors used to hold surgeries in the chemist by agreement with the owner.

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND** that surgeries would be held every 6 weeks in a local chemist in the winter months and at the Community Stand in the summer months.

Admin

13 **Events Working Group (45-2019/20)**

Members received and noted a report from the Events Working Group. A Member asked that council events and Mayoral events were included on every agenda of this committee for information.

14 **Chairman's Items (46-2019/20)**

SPA: The Clerk provided the latest update on CBC's proposal, stating that CBC Assets had received legal and planning advice that they should not enter into an agreement with STC over maintenance and use of the playing fields. Members expressed their disappointment and frustration and it was agreed that the Clerk would organise a delegation to attend a meeting with CBC.

New Siting for a Bus Stop: The Clerk reported that a response had been received and would be discussed at the next Community Services & Environment Committee meeting.

15 **Date of Next Meeting (47-2019/20)**

Monday 23rd September 2019