

# Sandy Town Council

**To: Cllrs P N Aldis, P Blaine, A Gibson, J Hewitt, A M Hill, W Jackson, T Knagg, R Lock, C Osborne, S Paterson, M Pettitt, M Scott, P Sharman, S Sutton and N Thompson**

**You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Sandy Town Council to be held online on Monday 18 January 2021 at 7.30pm for the purpose of transacting the items of business below.**



Chris Robson  
Town Clerk  
10 Cambridge Road  
Sandy  
SG19 1JE  
01767 681491  
12<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## **Notes:**

- (1) Due to the current Covid-19 Coronavirus situation, the Town Council will meet virtually via Zoom (<https://zoom.us/>) as permitted in The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 ("the 2020 Regulations").
- (2) Meeting ID: 810 0444 7108  
  
Press and public are cordially invited to attend. Those wishing to join the meeting should contact the clerk on [clerk@sandytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@sandytowncouncil.gov.uk) in advance for the meeting password.
- (3) Members of the public wishing to address the Council during the public participation part of the formal meeting must make the Clerk aware of their intention before the meeting starts.

## **A G E N D A**

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

To receive any apologies for absence.

### **2 Declarations of interest and requests for dispensations**

*Under the Localism Act 2011 members of Council are not required to make oral declarations of interest at meetings but may not participate in discussion or voting on any items of business in which they have a Declarable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) and under Sandy Town Council's Standing Orders must leave the room for the duration of all discussion on such items. (All members' register of interests are available on the Sandy Town Council website or on application to the Clerk.)*

# Sandy Town Council

*This item is included on the agenda to enable members to declare new DPIs and also **those who wish to do so** may draw attention to their stated DPIs and also any non-declarable personal interests which they have declared under Sandy Town Council's adopted Code of Conduct and which may be relevant to items on the agenda.*

- i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests*
- ii) Non Pecuniary Interests*
- iii) Dispensations*

## **3 Public Participation Session**

To receive questions and representations from members of the public. Members must raise their hand to indicate they wish to speak and the Chairman will advise them when it is time to do so.

## **4 Minutes of previous Town Council meetings**

To receive the Minutes of the meeting of Sandy Town Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 14 December 2020 and to approve them as a correct record of proceedings.

## **5 Minutes of committees and recommendations therein**

To receive and note the minutes of the meetings of the following committees and sub-committees and (if applicable) to approve recommendations therein which do not arise elsewhere.

- i) Community, Services and Environment Committee held on 21 December 2020

It was **RESOLVED to RECOMMEND** that a Skatepark Working Group is set up to develop the proposed skatepark project. That this group report back to the Community Services & Environment Committee.

- ii) Development Scrutiny Committee held on 4 January 2021
- iii) Policy, Finances and Resources Committee held on 4 January 2021

It was **RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND** the Precept and Budget for 2021/2022 to Full Council for approval.

Agenda Item 8

- iv) Human Resources Committee held on 11 January 2021

## **6 Reports from Central Bedfordshire Councillors**

To receive reports from Sandy's Central Bedfordshire Councillors.

# Sandy Town Council

- 7 Local Government Boundary Commission for England**  
To receive and note the Boundary Commission's final recommendations for future electoral arrangements for Central Bedfordshire Council. Appendix I
- 8 2021/22 Budget and precept**  
To consider the recommendation from the Policy, Finance and Resources committee on the 2021/22 budget and precept request. Appendix II
- 9 Cemetery Chapel**  
To receive and note a brief report on the re-use of the cemetery chapel. Appendix III
- 10 Neighbourhood Development Plan**  
To receive and note a report from the Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group. Appendix IV
- 11 Action List**  
To receive and note an action list on Full Council items. Appendix V
- 12 Leisure Services**  
To receive any updates from the Clerk on the Jenkins Pavilion and Leisure Services in Sandy as a result of previous communication with Central Bedfordshire Council.
- 13 Correspondence**
- i) To receive and consider communication from Central Bedfordshire Council's Partnership Community and Engagement Team on a Community Right to Bid application for The Queens Head, 2-4 Cambridge Road, Sandy, SG19 1JE Appendix VI
  - ii) To receive and consider communication from Central Bedfordshire Council's Partnership Community and Engagement Team on a Community Right to Bid application for The Kings Arm, 27 London Road, SG18 1HA Appendix VII
  - iii) To receive and note an open letter to Councillors from the National Association of Local Councils. Appendix VIII
- 14 Consultations**
- i) To receive and consider if the Council wishes to submit a formal response to the Central Bedfordshire Council Budget 2021/22 consultation. Appendix IX

# Sandy Town Council

## **15 Rural Market Town Group**

To appoint a Member to represent the Council on the recently joined Rural market Town Group and to attend remote meetings/seminars of the group as and when these are held.

## **16 Reports from Councillors on Outside Bodies**

To receive the following reports from Council representatives on outside bodies;

- i) Report from Cllr M Hill on the Sandy Sports and Leisure Association (SSLA) committee Appendix X
- ii) Report from Cllr M Hill on the Sandy Twinning Association committee Appendix XI
- iii) To note feedback from Cllr M Hill on the Talk of the Town minibus (TOTT) remains unoperational at this time due to the pandemic.

## **16 News Release**

## **17 Chairman's Items**

## **18 Date of Next Full Council Meeting: 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

Our Recommendations

The table lists all the wards we are proposing as part of our final recommendations along with the number of voters in each ward. The table also shows the electoral variances for each of the proposed wards which tells you how we have delivered electoral equality. Finally, the table includes electorate projections for 2026 so you can see the impact of the recommendations for the future.

# Central Bedfordshire Council

## Final recommendations on the new electoral arrangements

Ward Name	Number of councillors	Electorate (2019)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average (%)	Electorate (2026)	Number of electors per councillor	Variance from average (%)
Aspley & Woburn	1	3,729	3,729	12%	3,826	3,826	6%
Ampthill	3	10,362	3,454	4%	11,037	3,679	2%
Arlesey & Fairfield	2	6,354	3,177	-5%	7,431	3,716	3%
Barton-le-Clay & Silsoe	2	6,226	3,113	-7%	6,567	3,284	-9%
Biggleswade East	2	5,758	2,879	-14%	6,848	3,424	-5%
Biggleswade West	3	9,966	3,322	0%	10,459	3,486	-3%
Caddington	2	7,387	3,694	11%	7,752	3,876	8%
Clifton, Henlow & Langford	3	10,103	3,368	1%	11,115	3,705	3%
Cranfield & Marston Moretaine	3	10,575	3,525	6%	11,390	3,797	5%
Dunstable Central	1	3,723	3,723	12%	3,833	3,833	6%
Dunstable East	2	7,357	3,679	10%	7,897	3,949	10%
Dunstable North	2	6,989	3,495	5%	7,432	3,716	3%
Dunstable South	1	3,611	3,611	8%	3,699	3,699	3%
Dunstable West	2	7,504	3,752	12%	7,698	3,849	7%
Eaton Bray	1	3,357	3,357	1%	3,443	3,443	-4%
Flitwick	3	10,500	3,500	5%	10,961	3,654	1%
Heath & Reach	1	3,431	3,431	3%	3,545	3,545	-2%
Houghton Conquest & Haynes	1	2,317	2,317	-31%	3,562	3,562	-1%
Houghton Regis East	3	8,181	2,727	-18%	9,436	3,145	-13%
Houghton Regis West	2	4,934	2,467	-26%	6,475	3,238	-10%
Leighton-Linslade North	3	9,600	3,200	-4%	10,717	3,572	-1%
Leighton-Linslade South	3	10,422	3,474	4%	11,080	3,693	2%
Leighton-Linslade West	3	10,707	3,569	7%	11,021	3,674	2%
Meppershall & Shillington	1	3,422	3,422	3%	3,723	3,723	3%
Northill	1	3,500	3,500	5%	3,784	3,784	5%
Potton	2	6,269	3,135	-6%	6,731	3,366	-7%
Sandy	3	9,873	3,291	-1%	10,250	3,417	-5%
Shefford	2	6,105	3,053	-9%	6,476	3,238	-10%
Stotfold	2	6,755	3,378	1%	7,295	3,648	1%
Toddington	2	7,532	3,766	13%	7,798	3,899	8%
Westoning, Flitton & Greenfield	1	3,679	3,679	10%	3,775	3,775	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>210,228</b>			<b>227,056</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Averages</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>3,337</b>	<b>-</b>		<b>3,604</b>	<b>-</b>



Who we are

- The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is an independent body set up by Parliament.
- We are not part of government or any political party.
- We are accountable to Parliament through a committee of MPs chaired by the Speaker of the House of Commons.
- Our main role is to carry out electoral reviews of local authorities throughout England.

Electoral review

An electoral review examines and proposes new electoral arrangements for a local authority, including:

- The total number of councillors representing the council's voters ('council size').
- The names, number and boundaries of wards or electoral divisions.
- The number of councillors for each ward or division.

Why Central Bedfordshire?

- Central Bedfordshire Council currently has high levels of electoral inequality: some councillors represent many more - or many fewer - voters than others.
- Therefore the value of your vote, in Central Bedfordshire Council elections, varies depending on where you live in Central Bedfordshire.
- We are seeking to improve levels of electoral equality for local voters

Our proposals

- Central Bedfordshire Council currently has 59 councillors. Based on the evidence we received, we recommend that 63 councillors should serve the council in the future.
- We believe our final recommendations meet our statutory criteria to:
  1. Deliver electoral equality for voters
  2. Reflect community interests and identities
  3. Promote effective and convenient local government

# Overview of final recommendations for Central Bedfordshire Council

## Summary of our recommendations

We have considered all the submissions we received during our consultation on our draft recommendations.

The final recommendations propose that Central Bedfordshire should have 63 councillors, four more than there are now.

Central Bedfordshire should have 31 wards, the same as present. The boundaries of 19 wards should change, 12 will stay the same.

The 63 councillors should represent nine single-councillor wards and 12 two-councillor wards and 10 three-councillor wards across the district.

An outline of the proposals is shown in the map to the right. A detailed report on the recommendations and interactive mapping is available on our website at: [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk).

Find out more at [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk):

- view the map of our recommendations down to street level.
- zoom into the areas that interest you most.
- read the full report of our recommendations.
- find more guidance on the review process

View this map online and explore it in more detail at: [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

Follow the review on Twitter: [@LGBCE](https://twitter.com/LGBCE)



Stage of Review	Description
22 October 2019 - 24 February 2020	Public consultation on warding arrangements
30 June 2020 - 7 September 2020	Public consultation on draft recommendations
12 January 2021	Publication of final recommendations
May 2023	Subject to parliamentary approval - implementation of new arrangements at local elections

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**Sandy Town Council**

(Prepared 18.12.20)

**Budget Summary**

**Year Ended 31st March 2022**

	<b><u>2020-21</u></b>		<b><u>2021-22</u></b>	<i>Budget</i>
	<b>Projected</b>	<i>Budgeted</i> (Revised)	<b>Proposed</b>	<i>Incr/Decr</i>
<b>REVENUE EXPENDITURE</b>				
Staffing & Admin	410611	443050	<b>447015</b>	3965
Services	113827	122277	<b>124674</b>	2397
	<u>524438</u>	<u>565327</u>	<u><b>571689</b></u>	<u>6362</u>
<b>INCOME</b>				
Staffing & Admin	5696	3550	<b>1250</b>	-2300
Services	35520	30917	<b>34992</b>	4075
	<u>41216</u>	<u>34467</u>	<u><b>36242</b></u>	<u>1775</u>
<b>NET REVENUE EXPENDITURE</b>	<u><b>483222</b></u>	<u><b>530860</b></u>	<u><b>535447</b></u>	<u><b>4587</b></u>
<b>Capital Expenditure (Net)</b>				
Rolling Capital Fund Allocation	51300	51300	<b>51300</b>	0
Capital & Projects (net)	-2705	0	<b>0</b>	0
Loans	608	608	<b>609</b>	
Loan - Internal Repayment	12000	12000	<b>12000</b>	0
	<u>61203</u>	<u>63908</u>	<u><b>63909</b></u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE</b>	<u><b>544425</b></u>	<u><b>594768</b></u>	<u><b>599356</b></u>	<u><b>0</b></u>
Financed as follows				
Reserves at 1st April	234043	246129	<b>284386</b>	
Reserves at 31st March	<u>284386</u>	<u>246129</u>	<u><b>284386</b></u> **	
Used to Fund Expenditure\ (Incr in Gen Rsv)	(50,343)	0	<b>0</b> ***	
<b>PRECEPT FUNDING REQUIRED</b>	<u>594768</u>	<u>594768</u>	<u><b>599356</b></u>	<u>4588</u> 0.77%
	<u><b>544425</b></u>	<u><b>594768</b></u>	<u><b>599356</b></u>	

**Precept information**

**ADJUSTED BASIS**

Band D Equivalents	<u>4007</u>	<u>4016</u>	(NYA)	<u>0.22%</u>
Precept per Band D Equivalent (£/annum)	<u>£ 148.43</u>	<u>£149.24</u>	£0.81	<u>0.55%</u>
Precept per Band D Equivalent (p/week)	<u>284.66</u>	<u>286.21</u>	1.55 p	

**Note: Recommended <b>minimum</b> reserve equal to 3 months net revenue expenditure	<u>120806</u>	<u>132715</u>	<u>133862</u>
General Reserve <b>Shortfall</b> /Surplus	163580	113414	<b>150524</b> ***

<b><u>Earmarked Reserve</u></b>	<u>31/03/2020</u> (Actual)	<u>31/03/2021</u> (Projected)	<u>31/03/2022</u> (Available)
Rolling Capital Fund	141593	107843	<b>159143</b>
Earmarked Reserves	45027	49047	<b>49047</b>
Fallowfield	51632	56132	<b>60632</b>
Fallowfield Internal Loan	238000	226000	<b>214000</b>
TOTAL Earmarked Funds	<u>476252</u>	<u>439022</u>	<u><b>482822</b></u>
General Reserve (see above)	234043	284386	<b>284386</b> B
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<u>710295</u>	<u>723408</u>	<u><b>767208</b></u>

**SANDY TOWN COUNCIL**

**DATE:** 18 January 2021

**AUTHOR:** Town Clerk

**SUBJECT:** Cemetery Chapel

**1. Summary**

1.1 The Cemetery Chapel was previously refurbished and its use for funerals agreed, with a fee of £110 set. The Clerk has been asked to provide a brief update to the meeting on the progress of bringing the chapel back in to use.

**2. Information**

2.1 The Council's health and safety advisors have provided their risk assessment on the chapel, in which there are 13 action points. The points are minor and can be addressed by the Council's outdoor team. The assessment with actions carried out will be reported to the Cemetery Working Group and a future Community, Services and Environment Committee meeting for information.

2.2 As reported to the Human Resources Committee on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021, the chapel is permitted to operate for funerals during the current lockdown, subject to observing COVID19 guidelines. This includes limiting the numbers within the chapel, removing soft furnishings (pew cushions) and cleaning in between use. A risk assessment is in place.

2.3 The chapel currently has two bookings for the week of 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021. How these bookings work will be monitored and assessed to see if any further amendments need to be made in operation of the chapel during the pandemic

**SANDY TOWN COUNCIL****DATE:** 18 January 2021**AUTHOR:** Cllr Amanda Gibson**SUBJECT:** Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Report**1. Summary**

This is the first Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group report for STC. We will aim to provide updates on progress made and key actions at each council meeting, as per our terms of reference. The formal request to register the Neighbourhood Plan area covering the whole of Sandy Parish has been submitted to CBC.

**2. The Steering Group**

- The Steering Group has agreed to meet monthly on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7pm, these meetings will be via zoom until further notice.
- To date we have held two meetings, full minutes will be made available on the STC website under Neighbourhood Plan.
- We publicised via local and social media a call for volunteers to join the Steering Group. We are extremely pleased by the response and can report we now have 10 members from a range of backgrounds and skills who will provide us with a much-needed bandwidth and expertise.
- We are still receiving indications of interest in participating in the project, two more candidates have come forward and the Group is currently considering how best to include all who have shown interest.

**3. The Next Meeting**

The next meeting is on 21st January, where Tom Price from CBC will join us to walk us through the Neighbourhood Plan process and best practice based on his experience of working on multiple plans in Central Beds. This will help us to put a timeline together for Sandy and make sure that we don't miss any key steps along the way.

Town Council - Action list

Subject	Action to be taken		Response/ Agenda no.
	Minute	Action	
<b>Meeting 9/11/15</b>			
East West Rail Link	(89-15/16)	Town Council strongly support the East West rail link coming through Sandy and to lobby the relevant authorities.	Route E announced as preferred corridor. EWR engagement events were due to take place in 2020 but were put on hold due to pandemic. EWR recently launched 'The Hub', an online space to engage with EWR. No further direct communication to STC.
<b>Meeting 21/5/18</b>			
A1 – Local Issues	(19-18/19)	To push for decisions on the future of the A1 and action on safety and environmental issues.	Mayor and Deputy Mayor previously met with MP Mr Richard Fuller to put forward Sandy's concerns relating to the A1 and other matters. No further development at present. Further letter issued to R. Fuller on 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2020.
<b>Meeting 17/12/18</b>			
Sandye Place Academy	(142-18/19)	That the Town Council place on record its opposition to any future residential development on the site and all other aspects the site could be used for as highlighted in the Council's Community Plan and that CBC Ward Councillors support the Council's position.	The Council previously met with Mr Keaveney and continued to engage with CBC to put forward residents' concerns and Sandy's needs as part of a CBC Option Appraisal. Lack of formal response to STCs options report raised in a letter to CBC's Director of Children's Services. Response reviewed at Full Council meeting on 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2020. AD of Assets has been made aware STC wish to have a further update on the DFE process.
<b>Meeting 14/12/20</b>			
Councillor Street Audit	(77-20/21)	Members to carry out an audit of streets and report back concerns or areas in need of attention to Cllr Pettitt, who will compile a report.	Members have been assigned areas of the town and have reported their findings directly back to Cllr Pettitt.

**AGENDA ITEM 11****APPENDIX V**

Queens Head and Kings Arms Asset of Community Value Application		Office to contact CAMRA who originally submitted the application to see if they would be re-submitting a new application and if not submit an application from the Council.	Applications submitted by CAMRA and included under Agenda item 13 for Members information. Supporting comments should be submitted by 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2021.



## Community Right to Bid for Assets of Community Value

### Introduction

#### Introduction

All community nominations for properties to be included on the List of Assets of Community Value must be made using this form and must satisfy the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and the Assets of Community Value (England) Regulations 2012. For these purposes the term property means any qualifying land and / or buildings that are covered by the Regulations.

What is the definition of an asset of community value?

A building or land is of community value if, in the Council's opinion either:

- The actual current main use of the building or land furthers the social interests or social wellbeing of the local community and it is realistic to think that there can continue to be a main use which will further the social or social wellbeing of the local community (although not necessarily in the same way).
- In the recent past, the main use of the building or land furthers the social interests or social wellbeing of the local community and it is realistic to think that there can continue to be a main use which will further the social interests or social wellbeing of the local community (although not necessarily in the same way as before). In this context, social interests include cultural, recreational and sporting interests.

Where can I get further information?

Further details of the Community Right to Bid are available here: [The Assets of Community Value \(England\) Regulations 2012](#).

## Property Details

### Property Details

We need to be able to identify exactly where the property is that you are nominating. That's why it's essential that along with a description of the property, its proposed boundaries and its use that you also attach a site plan that clearly outlines the location, the extent of the premises including parking areas etc. and is to an appropriate scale (e.g. 1:1250 for a location plan in town / 1:2500 in the country / 1:500 for a more detailed block plan for a property in town.)

You must also be specific about whether the nomination is for part of / all of a premises - e.g. if it is a building with more than one storey please indicate whether you are nominating specific floors, or the entire building. Please note that residential dwellings cannot be nominated.

Name of property

Queens Head

Address

2-4 Cambridge Road

Town or Village

Sandy

Post code

SG19 1JE

A description of the property, its proposed boundaries and its use.

Please see attached Title Plan for its boundaries

All of the property and buildings are included in the nomination.

It is a Public House with small car park, extensive garden, play area, patio area, covered area outside for smokers.

Please attach site plan which clearly outlines the location and boundary (preferably in red), the extent of the premises including parking areas etc. and is to an appropriate scale (e.g. 1:1250 for a location plan in town / 1:2500 in the country / 1:500 for a more detailed block plan for a property in town.



Please select which category this land/property would fall in to:

Public House

The name(s) and current or last known addresses of all owners of this property/land. For public houses, please list either the private owner or the details of the brewery - whichever is applicable. If the owner is 'unknown' - please type 'unknown' in the box.

GREENE KING RETAILING LIMITED (Co. Regn. No. 5265451) of Abbot House, Westgate Street, Bury St. Edmunds IP33 1QT.

Email address of above (if known)

There are a number of email addresses on their website but I do not know which one is relevant

The name(s) of the current occupants/users of the property (if known). If a public house, please give details of the landlord/manager. If unknown, please type 'unknown' in the box.

Samantha Johnson

Email address of user/s occupier/s

samantha703johnson@btinternet.com

If you have typed unknown in any of the above boxes, please provide as much detail as possible.

Are similar alternative facilities available in the area and do you know of any proposals to move the existing facilities to alternative premises?

Yes

Please provide details

There are four other pubs in Sandy offering some similar and some different facilities.

The Bell, 1 Station Road, Sandy [located in east of town 10 min walk]  
The Sir William Peel, 39 High Street, Sandy [located central 5 min walk]  
The Kings Arms, 27 London Road, Sandy [located in west of town 20 min walk]  
The Four Horsemen, 7 High Street [located central 3 min walk]

Only 5 pubs left in Sandy for an estimated population of 12,000  
The surrounding hamlets of Hatch, Beeston & Stratford no longer have public houses.

There are several licensed clubs in Sandy, but they are all for private members via subscription, not open to general public.

We are not aware of any plans to move the existing facilities to alternative premises.

## Nomination

### Information to Support the Nomination

In this section, please provide as much information as you can that explains why the property you are nominating meets the definition of an Asset of Community Value.

You must state your reasons in detail below why the Council should conclude that the property is of Community Value .

Remember, you **must** be able to show how the asset furthers the social interest or social wellbeing of the local community, or that its main use did further the social interest or social wellbeing of the local community in the recent past, and where it is realistic to think that it will do so again in the next five years.

You must provide evidence to demonstrate how the asset is used which must include

- photographs/social media posts of the events taking place at the asset
- testimonials, letters of support and statements of those who use the asset
- list of events held at the asset with frequency, numbers who attend, who attends (i.e. local community, wider community)
- list of groups who use the asset, the frequency the groups use the asset, numbers who attend, what does the group use the asset for etc.,
- other event publicity fliers/posters/social media posts
- print media articles of events that have taken place at the asset

For further information, please check the guidance on our website.

How does the current primary use of the land or building further the social wellbeing or social interest of the local community?

Due to the current Coronavirus pandemic it is not possible to provide any of the evidence to demonstrate how the asset is used simply because all of the normal functions have been curtailed because of Government policy.

We would ask that the following points are considered as they were applicable before the current disruption to the hospitality industry:

The pub has special value to local heritage and culture, as it has existed since at least 1759 (for further details please see

<https://bedsarchives.bedford.gov.uk/CommunityHistories/Sandy/TheQueensHeadPublicHouseSandy.aspx>) and that heritage forms an important part of the community's historic and cultural identity. This furthers the cultural interest of the community, as traditional pubs of architectural value are becoming rarer;

The pub enables local people to enjoy a range of drinks (and food - with special offers for older people) in a pleasant, convivial atmosphere, which furthers their individual well-being;

The pub enables local people to meet and socialise in a welcoming environment which, individually, they find rewarding and enjoyable. Such social interaction is also in the interests of the locality as a whole as it encourages community cohesion and a collective sense of well-being;

There is a beer garden attached to the pub which is used and enjoyed by local people including families.

This is particularly welcomed in the summer months and brings different groups of people together;

A children's play area for local families is available at the pub;

There is good access for disabled people at the pub. This provides an easily accessible and inclusive space to meet with other members of the local community and provides a safe and enjoyable environment to be in, furthering the person's individual well-being;

A meeting space is available for local community groups and charities to use and has been used by East Beds CAMRA in the past for Branch Meetings;

A dart board acts as a focal point for those in the community who enjoy the activity.

Research from Oxford University shows that people who have a 'local' pub are happier, are more satisfied with their life and have a wider network of friends;

What events take place at the premises, how often do they take place, who attends, how many attend, how long have these been taking place etc.? Please list each event separately

Due to the current Coronavirus pandemic it is not possible to provide any of the evidence of events taking place simply because all of the normal functions that would have been supporting the community have been curtailed because of Government policy.

As soon as the current lock-down is past, the events which used to take place - karaoke, live music, quizzes, etc. will undoubtedly recommence.

Even in these difficult times, the pub's customers have supported a fund raiser who raised £505 for British Legion Industries whose special thanks was passed to the pub (please see <https://www.facebook.com/The-Queens-Head-Sandy-Beds-2369884933289077/photos/a.2373030189641218/2840130162931216/>) and particularly the landlady who individually raised money by making and selling keyrings and bag charms.

What is the impact of these on the social interests and/or social wellbeing of the community?

Aside from those previously alluded to, the pub is in a location which enables any adult requiring a friendly chat with friends or strangers - or a little peace and quiet - to do so by simply stepping through the door.

Are there plans to continue this use and/or to contribute to social well being or social interests in the same or different ways in the future?

As soon as the pub reopens and is permitted to begin serving its customers there is no reason to suspect that it will not continue to contribute to the social well being and social interests of its customers in the same way as it has always done so.

Please explain the plans to continue this work and/or to contribute to social well being or social interests in the same or different ways in the future? If

As long as the pub is able to operate there is no reason why it should not continue to contribute to the social well being or social interests of the local community in the same way as it currently does.

If the land or building is no longer in use, when was it last used in a way that furthered the social well being or interests of the local community?

Please explain: If applicable, what plans (and to what timescales) are there to bring the land or building back in to use for purposes that would further the social well being or social interests of the local community

## Evidence

Nominations without sufficient supporting information will be returned to you with a request for further evidence to be supplied. Once further evidence has been supplied, we will then accept this as your final nomination and it will be considered accordingly.

Evidence must demonstrate the land or building in use, showing how the property has been used to further the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community, to support your nomination. There should be enough evidence for a decision to be made as to whether the asset meets all of the criteria.

You now need to upload your supporting evidence. Evidence must include:

- photographs/social media posts of the events taking place at the asset
- testimonials, letters of support and statements of those who use the asset
- list of events held at the asset with frequency, numbers who attend, who attends (i.e. local community, wider community)
- list of groups who use the asset, the frequency the groups use the asset, numbers who attend, what does the group use the asset for etc.,
- other event publicity fliers/posters/social media posts
- print media articles of events that have taken place at the asset

If your evidence exceeds the maximum limit of 50 MBs you can email it to use separately at Partnerships Community & Engagement Team

If the nominated asset has a website, social media sites etc., please add links here:

<https://www.queensheadsandy.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/The-Queens-Head-Sandy-Beds-2369884933289077/>

## Submit Application

### Submit Application

Please note that any information provided in this nomination form may be copied and/or passed to the owner(s) of the property concerned.

The nominator's contact details as provided on the nomination form will be used for future correspondence, including, in the event that the asset is listed, notice that the owner has advised of an intention to dispose of the asset. It is therefore essential that the nominator ensures that any changes in contact details during the period of the listing are notified to the Council via the address above. Information provided in the nomination form will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act for the purposes of administering the Community Right to Bid procedure. The information will be stored securely by Central Bedfordshire Council and will be destroyed after 6 years.

By submitting this application I confirm that this nomination has been fully completed and that the information is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate to enable Central Bedfordshire Council to consider the nomination in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Assets of Community Value (England) Regulations 2012.

Submission date

04/01/2021



## Community Right to Bid for Assets of Community Value

### Introduction

#### Introduction

All community nominations for properties to be included on the List of Assets of Community Value must be made using this form and must satisfy the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and the Assets of Community Value (England) Regulations 2012. For these purposes the term property means any qualifying land and / or buildings that are covered by the Regulations.

What is the definition of an asset of community value?

A building or land is of community value if, in the Council's opinion either:

- The actual current main use of the building or land furthers the social interests or social wellbeing of the local community and it is realistic to think that there can continue to be a main use which will further the social or social wellbeing of the local community (although not necessarily in the same way).
- In the recent past, the main use of the building or land furthers the social interests or social wellbeing of the local community and it is realistic to think that there can continue to be a main use which will further the social interests or social wellbeing of the local community (although not necessarily in the same way as before). In this context, social interests include cultural, recreational and sporting interests.

Where can I get further information?

Further details of the Community Right to Bid are available here: [The Assets of Community Value \(England\) Regulations 2012](#).

## Property Details

### Property Details

We need to be able to identify exactly where the property is that you are nominating. That's why it's essential that along with a description of the property, its proposed boundaries and its use that you also attach a site plan that clearly outlines the location, the extent of the premises including parking areas etc. and is to an appropriate scale (e.g. 1:1250 for a location plan in town / 1:2500 in the country / 1:500 for a more detailed block plan for a property in town.)

You must also be specific about whether the nomination is for part of / all of a premises - e.g. if it is a building with more than one storey please indicate whether you are nominating specific floors, or the entire building. Please note that residential dwellings cannot be nominated.

Name of property

The Kings Arms

Address

27 London Road

Town or Village

Sandy

Post code

SG18 1HA

A description of the property, its proposed boundaries and its use.

The property is a public house with attached beer garden, car park and four chalets for accommodation.

Please attach site plan which clearly outlines the location and boundary (preferably in red), the extent of the premises including parking areas etc. and is to an appropriate scale (e.g. 1:1250 for a location plan in town / 1:2500 in the country / 1:500 for a more detailed block plan for a property in town.



Please select which category this land/property would fall in to:

Public House

The name(s) and current or last known addresses of all owners of this property/land. For public houses, please list either the private owner or the details of the brewery - whichever is applicable. If the owner is 'unknown' - please type 'unknown' in the box.

HAWTHORN LEISURE LIMITED (Co. Regn. No. 08791672)  
Touchstone,  
Pinewood Court,  
Coleshill Road,  
Marston Green,  
Birmingham B37 7HG.

Email address of above (if known)

The name(s) of the current occupants/users of the property (if known). If a public house, please give details of the landlord/manager. If unknown, please type 'unknown' in the box.

Peter Sampson

Email address of user/s occupier/s

thekingsarmspubsandy@gmail.com

If you have typed unknown in any of the above boxes, please provide as much detail as possible.

Are similar alternative facilities available in the area and do you know of any proposals to move the existing facilities to alternative premises?

Yes

Please provide details

There are four other pubs in Sandy offering some similar and some different facilities.

The Bell, 1 Station Road, Sandy [located central 25 min walk]

The Sir William Peel, 39 High Street, Sandy [located central 20 min walk]

The Queens Head, 2-4 Cambridge, Sandy [located central 20 min walk]

The Four Horsemen, 7 High Street, Sandy [located central 20 min walk]

Only 4 pubs left in Sandy for a population of 12,000

The surrounding hamlets of Hatch, Beeston & Stratford no longer have any public houses.

There are several licensed clubs in Sandy, but they are all for private members via subscription, not open to general public.

We are not aware of any plans to move the existing facilities to alternative premises.

## Nomination

### Information to Support the Nomination

In this section, please provide as much information as you can that explains why the property you are nominating meets the definition of an Asset of Community Value.

You must state your reasons in detail below why the Council should conclude that the property is of Community Value .

Remember, you **must** be able to show how the asset furthers the social interest or social wellbeing of the local community, or that its main use did further the social interest or social wellbeing of the local community in the recent past, and where it is realistic to think that it will do so again in the next five years.

You must provide evidence to demonstrate how the asset is used which must include

- photographs/social media posts of the events taking place at the asset
- testimonials, letters of support and statements of those who use the asset
- list of events held at the asset with frequency, numbers who attend, who attends (i.e. local community, wider community)
- list of groups who use the asset, the frequency the groups use the asset, numbers who attend, what does the group use the asset for etc.,
- other event publicity fliers/posters/social media posts
- print media articles of events that have taken place at the asset

For further information, please check the guidance on our website.

How does the current primary use of the land or building further the social wellbeing or social interest of the local community?

Due to the current Coronavirus pandemic it is not possible to provide any of the evidence to demonstrate how the asset is used simply because all of the normal functions have been curtailed because of Government policy.

We would ask that the following points are considered as they were applicable before the current disruption to the hospitality industry:

The pub has special value to local heritage and culture, as it is a Grade II listed building and was deemed to have existed since at least the 17th Century when it was assessed for listing in December 1979 and has had a licensee since 1818 or earlier (for further details please see

<https://bedsarchives.bedford.gov.uk/CommunityHistories/Girford/TheKingsArmsPublicHouseGirford.aspx>) and that heritage forms an important part of the community's historic and cultural identity. This furthers the cultural interest of the community, as traditional pubs of architectural value are becoming rarer;

It is the only inn left on the former Great North Coaching Road in Sandy and one of a few still extant along the whole length of the Great North Road;

The pub enables local people to enjoy a range of drinks and food in a pleasant, convivial atmosphere, which furthers their individual well-being;

The pub enables local people to meet and socialise in a welcoming environment which, individually, they find rewarding and enjoyable. Such social interaction is also in the interests of the locality as a whole as it encourages community cohesion and a collective sense of well-being;

It is the only pub in the west of town and probably has a catchment area of more than 25% of the town's population;

There is a beer garden attached to the pub which is used and enjoyed by local people including families.

This is particularly welcomed in the summer months and brings different groups of people together;

There are four chalets on site for accommodation which residents of Sandy benefit from as they provide a facility in which visitors may stay for large family/friends events or when the home of the people in Sandy being visited is of insufficient size to host large numbers;

There is good access for disabled people at the pub - including a separate disabled toilet - which helps to provide an easily accessible space with which to meet with other members of the local community and provides a safe and enjoyable environment to be in, furthering the person's individual well-being;

A meeting space is available for local community groups and charities to use and has been used by East Beds CAMRA in the past for Branch Meetings;

There are good transport links with a bus stop close by which makes access possible for elderly and disabled people ;

Large screen TVs show a variety of sports matches, particularly football, on channels which some people are unable to afford domestically;

A dart board acts as a focal point for those in the community who enjoy the activity;

Petanque is played on a court in the garden area which brings different groups together, including those from other pubs which play the game.

Research from Oxford University shows that people who have a 'local' pub are happier, are more satisfied with their life and have a wider network of friends

What events take place at the premises, how often do they take place, who attends, how many attend, how long have these been taking place etc.,? Please list each event separately

Due to the current Coronavirus pandemic it is not possible to provide any evidence of events taking place simply because all of the normal functions that would have been supporting the community have been curtailed due to Government restrictions.

As soon as the current lock-down is past, the events which used to take place - darts matches, karaoke, live music, petanque, etc. will undoubtedly recommence.

What is the impact of these on the social interests and/or social wellbeing of the community?

Aside from those mentioned above, the pub is in a location which enables any adult requiring a chat with friends or strangers - or a little peace and quiet by the open fire or in the garden - to do so by simply stepping through the door.

Are there plans to continue this use and/or to contribute to social well being or social interests in the same or different ways in the future?

As soon as the pub reopens and is permitted to begin serving its customers there is no reason to suspect that it will not continue to contribute to the social well being and social interests of its customers in the same way as it has always done so.

Please explain the plans to continue this work and/or to contribute to social well being or social interests in the same or different ways in the future? If

As long as the pub is able to operate there is no reason why it should not continue to contribute to the social well being or social interests of the local community in the same way as it currently does.

If the land or building is no longer in use, when was it last used in a way that furthered the social well being or interests of the local community?

Please explain: If applicable, what plans (and to what timescales) are there to bring the land or building back in to use for purposes that would further the social well being or social interests of the local community

## Evidence

Nominations without sufficient supporting information will be returned to you with a request for further evidence to be supplied. Once further evidence has been supplied, we will then accept this as your final nomination and it will be considered accordingly.

Evidence must demonstrate the land or building in use, showing how the property has been used to further the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community, to support your nomination. There should be enough evidence for a decision to be made as to whether the asset meets all of the criteria.

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If your evidence exceeds the maximum limit of 50 MBs you can email it to use separately at Partnerships Community & Engagement Team

If the nominated asset has a website, social media sites etc., please add links here:

<https://www.facebook.com/Thekingsarmspubsandy/>

## Submit Application

### Submit Application

Please note that any information provided in this nomination form may be copied and/or passed to the owner(s) of the property concerned.

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By submitting this application I confirm that this nomination has been fully completed and that the information is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate to enable Central Bedfordshire Council to consider the nomination in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Assets of Community Value (England) Regulations 2012.

Submission date

04/01/2021

**SANDY TOWN COUNCIL**

**DATE:** 18 January 2021

**SUBJECT:** NALC – Open Letter to Councillors

**1. Summary**

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) has issued an open letter to Councillors. The content of the letter is detailed below for Members information.

**2. Open Letter to Councillors**

**Make a change to local Communities**

Looking back to my open letter just twelve months ago, no-one could have foreseen the coronavirus pandemic which has changed our lives and the country in so many ways since.

It was my contention then, that as the first tier of local government, England's 10,000 local (parish and town) councils can be at the centre of a movement of community change. That never before has it been so important for local councils to play our full part in this, to realise our potential to help bring the country and our communities back together after recent challenging years. And that we have a key role to play in the new decade ahead, we must be up for this challenge, and be ambitious for our communities.

Which is why I am immensely proud of how local councils mobilised so quickly to be at the forefront of the initial response to the coronavirus, stepping up to support our communities and play a vital role in the national effort to tackle the pandemic.

Co-ordinating emergency plans and volunteers to collect and deliver medicines and shopping. Acting as information hubs to provide guidance, advice and support from the government and other agencies. Helping businesses including publicising their online services. Establishing emergency grant funds such as supporting food banks. Continuing to maintain our never more important green spaces. Holding remote meetings to keep local democracy going which has seen an increase in people attending and watching.

All this cements the already crucial role local councils play as a unit of solidarity and natural focus of community effort in building strong and resilient communities.

My contention, therefore, remains – but is even firmer, and even more resolute.

Yet while 2020 was an undoubtedly the year of the response, recent events mean right now and over the coming weeks and months, our response role must continue or in some cases be stepped back up.

I know many councils are already doing just this and I want to again thank and pay tribute to all councillors, staff and volunteers, plus colleagues at NALC and in county associations, for your efforts. You are real unsung superheroes of local democracy and our communities.

We have reason to be optimistic, however, as the roll-out of the vaccines gives hope that many aspects of our national and community life will soon return. Back albeit different, with new ways of working, a greater appreciation of our immediate locality and the many things we previously took for granted, which I am sure will stick. Better in so many ways.

But our resolutions for 2021 must also look beyond the response, this must also be a year for a reset, a year to rethink the change needed to support the recovery and focus on the rebuilding of our communities. I want to set three rethinks for the year ahead which challenge all of us through a series of pledges to take action on, as we build back stronger, better communities.

### **Rethink relations**

Where local councils work well, this is in no small part down to relationships and partnerships. Good, positive and effective relations, both within and outside the council, are the keys to delivering for our people and places.

Most local councils are well run, with clerks and council staff working as a team with councillors to deliver their ambitions for the community. But all too often we hear about the negative impact behaviour can have, by clerks, councillors and residents. NALC remains committed to promoting and supporting good governance and the highest standards of conduct and behaviour in councils.

I pledge to work with county associations and the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) on a civility project aimed at improving conduct and behaviour, as well as with the Local Government Association (LGA) on support and guidance. I ask you to pledge to take part in training opportunities and the Local Council Award Scheme and consider the new national model code of conduct developed by the LGA which we have contributed to.

Councils across all tiers are increasingly recognising the added value that greater partnership working brings to services and local people. Strong, enduring partnerships – not just with principal authorities but other agencies such as health, police and voluntary sector – ensure local councils can play their part in tackling the challenges our communities face.

I pledge to work with the LGA to encourage good relations between the tiers, share good practice and develop appropriate guidance. I ask you to pledge to build positive links with your principal authority plus other partners and to ask yourself how you can help them.

This awful crisis has demonstrated how important our sector is to local areas, and we will continue to make the case to the government and others that we should be at the heart of building back communities, further devolution and community empowerment. I am particularly keen for us to maintain a focus on forging good relations with Members of Parliament (MPs) and indeed parliament in general.

I pledge that NALC and county associations will be strong voices for the sector, that we will continue to promote A prospectus for ultra-localism, speaking up for and championing local councils – your fantastic work as well as the issues you face – to government officials and ministers, political parties, the media and opinion formers. I ask you to pledge to engage positively and regularly with your MP, tell them what you are doing, invite them to events, but ensure they too know the issues you face and take them up on your behalf. Only by doing this together, nationally and locally, will we ensure our sector gets the recognition and support it deserves.

### **Rethink ambitions**

Our relevance as the first tier of local government rests firmly on supporting and improving our communities and being at the heart of local place-shaping. We should rightly be ambitious for our people and places.

This will be increasingly important as the country rebuilds following the pandemic and in tackling the existential threat posed by the climate emergency. Many of the best councils, of all sizes, in both urban as well as rural areas, are already addressing these issues. Such as through neighbourhood plans, supporting the local economy and high streets and town centres, setting up community businesses, working with others to develop climate action plans, promoting health and wellbeing, addressing loneliness and building dementia-friendly communities.

I pledge that NALC and county associations will encourage and support your ambitions, providing the tools you need to make a difference, building on our work to date on our big themes of health and wellbeing, climate change, and our recent guide on community business. Sharing good practice will remain at the heart of what we do through our case study collections such as Points of Light, LCR magazine, and our programme of online events aimed to enthuse and inspire you. Young people – who have been particularly impacted by the pandemic – is our next big theme and we will raise awareness of the work of local councils with and for young people. I ask you to pledge to actively

encourage your council to work with residents and your partners to ambitiously shape the future development of your place. Making full use of the resources and powers you have, including attaining the general power of competence – a power of confidence and innovation – to make it easier for you to make the vital difference your community and the country needs. And to place young people's current and future needs firmly on your agenda.

### **Rethink engagement**

Our 100,000 councillors are the closest democratic representatives to residents. They can play a key role in restoring faith in democracy and confidence in how our country is governed and decisions which affect our lives. But we cannot simply rely on the ballot box every four years to deliver this.

Communities thrive when people get involved, give up their time and come together to take action on the issues they care about. The pandemic has provided a real boost to this community spirit and my big aspiration for the year ahead is for all councils to build on this newfound civic pride, to find ways to keep new volunteers motivated and actively involved in the wider life of their community as the pandemic recedes.

It is by local councils being ambitious and realising your potential that I am sure more people will come forward as they recognise and appreciate the difference local councils really can make.

I pledge through NALC's Make a Change campaign to work with county associations to promote local elections, encourage more people to stand, and provide resources and information to assist local councils. I ask you to pledge to actively seek out and encourage more people to come forward to be a councillor. If you know someone who cares about where they live, ask them to stand. Make sure your council's activities and processes attract a wide and diverse mix of people of all backgrounds and ages. Provide time and resources to publicise, support and encourage elections and see them as the lifeblood of your democratic credibility.

The best councils continuously communicate with residents of all ages and from all backgrounds; online, in print and in person. They regularly engage with and consult people on key issues such as budget decisions, help residents to get involved through volunteering, provide opportunities to come together through events, and support community hubs and village halls for activities and people to meet when rules allow.

I pledge that NALC, as well as county associations, will communicate regularly with you, providing the information you need to do your job and on what we are doing on your behalf, through our website, social media channels, newsletters, bulletins, and opportunities to come together. I ask you to pledge to ensure you

are engaging and communicating effectively with your residents and to use the flexibility to hold remote meetings to connect people with your important work.

I have never known a more challenging time for the first tier of local government. Yet it is a time so equally exciting and full of opportunity. A time where I know local councils will continue to be ambitious for our communities and make a change.

I pledge this to a year to help build back stronger, better communities, and I hope you will too.

**SANDY TOWN COUNCIL**

**DATE:** 18 January 2021

**SUBJECT:** Central Bedfordshire Council Budget 2021/22 Consultation

*Central Bedfordshire Council are currently consulting on their 2021/22 budget. The following information is taken from Central Bedfordshire Council's website for Members information. Full information, including the full budget proposal can be found on Central Bedfordshire Council's website at;*

[https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/141/budget/893/budget\\_2021](https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/141/budget/893/budget_2021)

**BUDGET 2021 OVERVIEW**

Each winter, Central Bedfordshire Council refreshes its budget proposals and updates its four-year financial plan (called the Medium-Term Financial Plan).

Although the national pandemic means that this year our plans are less certain than usual, we are still required to set a budget in February, which will include:

- our spending plans for the year ahead
- the areas where we plan to make efficiency savings
- our planned Council Tax increases
- 

The full detail of the plans and **draft budget proposals** are spelled out in a report to the Executive Committee of the Council, which you can find on our website.

It's quite a long and complicated document, so here are the summarised headlines, with a focus on the plans for 2021/22.

**SPENDING PLANS**

In the next financial year (from April 2021 until March 2022), the Council expects to be spending £402million on its services and operations across Central Bedfordshire. This is known as the revenue budget and is largely funded by Council Tax and business rates.

The largest proportion of the funding is spent on more specialist services for those who are most in need of help, including those who are disabled, may need care services or protection. This includes services for children and young people as well as older or other vulnerable adults.

This budget also funds our core services. These include services that everyone has access to, such as refuse and recycling, roads, leisure, libraries, parks and countryside services.

Next year the Council plans to make specific investments to meet pressures in some key areas such as public health, social care, children's services (including services for children with special educational needs/disabilities), as well as focusing on economic recovery and supporting job creation.

A further £128million is expected to be spent on schools, roads and other infrastructure projects. These infrastructure projects are funded from our capital budget. This is funded through loans or selling land or buildings the council owns and reinvesting this money. You can see the full detail of the capital budget on the website.

### **EFFICIENCY PROPOSALS**

The Council continues to review how it works to ensure we are as efficient as possible. The budget plans for 2021/22 include efficiency proposals totalling £10.7million. These relate to:

- using technology to create online access to our services
- reviewing operating costs and getting better deals from new contracts
- building on the home-based working that has been necessary during the pandemic, so we spend less on offices, printing and travel costs
- streamlining our ways of working across the Council

In broad terms the Council is proposing a balanced budget which is focused on delivering community services and driving down operating costs, for an average council tax increase of less than £1.50 per week.

You can read more detail on the efficiency proposals on the website.

When the budget is approved, any of the proposals which could result in significant changes affecting residents or staff will be subject to individual consultations before a final decision is taken. But at this stage we are seeking your feedback on our overall approach and particularly the proposals for Council Tax.

### **COUNCIL TAX**

The budget proposes an overall increase in Council Tax for Central Bedfordshire Council\* of 4.95%.

**3%** of this increase would be only used to support social care services for vulnerable adults, either living in their own homes or in residential care.

**1.95%** of this increase would be used to support the Council's other services.

\*In addition to Central Bedfordshire Council's Council Tax charges, other public services (Bedfordshire Police, the Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service and your local Town or

Parish Councils) will also be making a Council Tax charge which they set independently of Central Bedfordshire Council.

**What does this mean for me?**

If you pay Council Tax, depending on the value of your property, it is proposed that your Council Tax charges would increase next year.

So, as an example, somebody living in a Band D property (which is the mid-point value on the range of council tax values) would pay (excluding the other public service charges):

- a weekly Council Tax increase of **58 pence** for social care
- a weekly Council Tax increase of **90 pence** for other services
- a total weekly increase of **£1.48**

Details of which Council Tax band your property falls within will be included in your annual bill.

**CONSULTATION**

Please answer the following questions relating to the budget consultation and submit your response by Wednesday 27th January 2021.

Q1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed 3% Council Tax increase for social care services? (please select one)

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed 1.95% increase for other Central Bedfordshire Council services? (please select one)

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Q3 Please use this space to give us any other thoughts, suggestions or feedback you have on the budget proposals.

Q4 Are you responding as: (please select one)

- Resident
- Town or Parish Council
- Local Business
- Voluntary or Community organisation
- Other

If Town or Parish Council, please specify:

Elected Councillors will consider your feedback before setting a final budget in February 2021.

In March, each household will receive an information leaflet which will explain the detail of what has been agreed and its implications for our service users and Council Taxpayers.

When the budget is approved, any of the proposals which could result in significant changes affecting residents or staff will be subject to individual consultations before a final decision is taken.

**SANDY TOWN COUNCIL**

**DATE:** 18 January 2021

**AUTHOR:** Cllr M. Hill

**SUBJECT:** Sandy Sports and Leisure Association (SSLA)

**1. Summary**

Little has happened because of the on-going pandemic but the Secretary has continued to provide members of the Association with periodic updates.

**2. Key Bullet Points**

- Planning permission for the proposed realignment of the fence line to accommodate the spectator area and player shelters remains work in progress but with a fair wind, MP would like to hope everything will be resolved in our favour before the end of January.
- Thanks to mutual support and co-operation between representatives of Stevenage Leisure and Sandy Secondary School, the pitch continued to be used by pupils for curriculum activities during the lockdown in November when it was closed to the public to comply with government guidelines. Stevenage Leisure staff did what was required to oversee usage.
- MP was in contact with Matt Young of TGMS/PSD in late autumn. There was initially a hope that restarting the tender process during January would be feasible. Since then of course things have changed for the worse and it is likely to be the spring before further developments can be contemplated.
- No sign yet of any Heads of Terms from CBC relating to the expiring leases etc. but we expect to be in discussions with CBC Officers soon into the New Year when an urgent update will be sought. We hope!

**SANDY TOWN COUNCIL**

**DATE:** 18 January 2021  
**AUTHOR:** Cllr M. Hill  
**SUBJECT:** Sandy Twinning Association

**1. Summary**

As was predicted in the last update for Councillors, the pandemic has resulted in what will effectively prove to be a complete cessation of all twinning activities until 2022.

The summer schools in Poland didn't happen last year and have already been cancelled for 2021 because of the uncertainties, and all the other usual activities have been put on hold. We have to hope that we will be able to celebrate 40 years of the link with Malaunay in 2022, probably here.

Skarszewy had its own 700 birthday celebrations curtailed because of the pandemic and we have not been able to have any joint activity to celebrate 25 years of Sandy –Skarszewy. Both communities have suffered during the pandemic.

The situation in Malaunay largely reflects what has been happening round here but in Skarszewy, which had almost no cases last spring, life has been really hard since November. Local factories have been hard hit by Covid cases, and the weather is currently snowy and very cold. Locals are reluctant to venture out for any reason.