

# Sandy Town Council

## Minutes of a meeting of the Community Services and Environment Committee of Sandy Town Council held virtually via Zoom on Monday 25th January 2021 commencing at 7.30pm

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

**Absent:** Cllr M Scott and N Thompson

**In Attendance:** Cllrs J Hewitt, M Pettitt, Mr C Robson (Clerk) and Mrs C Baker-Smith (Admin Team Leader)

### Action

- 1 **Apologies for absence (73-2020/21)**  
Apologies were received from Cllrs Scott. Admin
- 2 **Declarations of Interest (74-2020/21)**  
There were none.
- 3 **Minutes of Previous Meeting (75-2020/21)**  
**RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Community Services and Environment Committee held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2020 as a correct record of proceedings. Admin
- 4 **Public Participation Session (76-2020/21)**  
There were no questions from the public.
- 5 **Action List (77-2020/21)**  
Members received and noted the action list. The Chair asked the Clerk to include action dates in the list in future.

Community Orchard/Allotment site: CBC's legal team still due to contact STC solicitors to progress lease. Matter chased with CBC. Key dates of communication are to be included in future action lists.

The Meadows Virtual Site Visit: Members asked when would people be using the site? The Clerk said that although he had chased this question up with CBC, he had not received a response. A Member indicated that they believed the site was already in use.

SID Sign locations an Installation: An administrator had chased this item up with CBC and explained that the purchase had been approved in this financial year and STC would like to install a sign before the year end. Awaiting CBC response.

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## 6 **Tree Planting (78-2020/21)**

Members received a recommendation from the Environmental Working Group on a submission to Central Beds Council's Tree Fund.

A Member said that both the report and proposals were good. Regarding 4.1 planting in the middle of the open space at Fallowfield – a consultation with the residents was needed as this might not be the preferred use for such a large communal area. The Chairman confirmed this would form part of an application to the second round of funding allowing time for consultation.

Another Member said that in 3.3 – In the past the mature trees were taken out at Sunderland Road as they were overhanging the football pitches and smaller trees were planted. Cone shaped trees could be used.

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the Community Services & Environment Committee approve the areas identified for inclusion in an application to be submitted prior to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

A report would be taken forward to the next meeting of the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee outlining the costs of the planting project.

## 7 **Electric Car Charging Points (79-2020/21)**

Members received and noted an update on a proposal to install two electric car charging points in the Council car park. The original location was no longer feasible, and the committee considered approval of an alternative location.

A Member said that he supported the alternatives but asked if the charging point on The Meadows is for general or private use? The Clerk said he would check with Central Bedfordshire Council.

A Member commented that he hoped in the future more electric charging points could be added at Belfry Court, the Village Hall and the SSLA car park. Another Member said that points would one day be needed all over Sandy.

The Clerk informed Members that the Co-op were looking at putting points in their car parks but at this stage it is not known if Sandy's store will be included.

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It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the Committee continue to work on the Council's ambition to have electric car charging points installed in the town centre and that the Clerk work with BP Chargemaster to pursue the alternative suggested location within the car park. That the Clerk continue to look for other possible locations in the town and contact the relevant landowners to gauge interest/possibility in siting a charging point.

## 8 **Skatepark Working Group – Terms of Reference (80-2020/21)**

Members received and considered the draft Terms of Reference for the Skatepark Working Group.

Members discussed whether everyone joining the group, councillors, experts, residents and volunteers would have equal voting rights and follow the Council's Code of Conduct. As it is the council's ambition that it will operate and manage a new skatepark facility, the group would need to discuss an eventual hand over from the Sandy Skatepark Association to the council. A trustee of the charity indicated that funds held by the SSA could be passed to the council to support the project. A Member said that meetings of the group should be regularly scheduled to ensure progression. The Terms of Reference were accepted.

Skatepark  
Working  
Group

The Clerk said he was drafting a project plan and the group would meet, discuss the plan, elect a chair and then present their project plan at the next CS&E Committee meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

## 9 **Community Safety (81-2020/21)**

Members noted that CBC's Community Safety Partnership were continuing to run drop-in sessions for Town and Parish Councils.

After discussion it was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that Members would attend meetings with the partnership on a rota basis once a fortnight.

Town Clerk

Cllr Hill indicated he would attend the first scheduled meeting.

## 10 **Events Working Group (82-2020/21)**

Members received notes from a meeting of the Events Working Group and proposals within for events to be held in 2021.

A Member commented that the report showed the Council had achieved a good number of events given the restrictions that had been in place over the year. The Friends of Sandy Christmas Lights had now indicated that they would hold their annual event on 28<sup>th</sup>

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November 2021. A Member commented that switching on the Christmas Lights earlier last year was well received by residents.

A Member said that the Carnival Committee were meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February to see if they can hold an event in August/September this year.

The Clerk confirmed that a press release was to go out regarding events held in 2020.

Admin

**11 Greensand Country (83-2020/21)**

Members received and noted a communication from the Co-Chairman of Greensand Country on a volunteer opportunity.

A Member said that SHRG were putting together a project recording residents' memories of 'years gone by'. He would tell the group about the free training available.

**12 Chairman's Items (84-2020/21)**

There were no Chairman's items.

**13 Date of next meeting (85 -2020/21)**

The date of the next Committee meeting is Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.