

Sandy Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of Community Services and Environment Committee of Sandy Town Council held in the Council Chamber at 10 Cambridge Road, Sandy, Bedfordshire on Monday 9th May 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs N Aldis, A Gibson, L Ivanciu-Wilkinson, R Lock, M Scott, and S Sutton (Chair)

Absent: Cllrs T Knagg, C Osborne and N Thompson

In attendance: Mrs N Sewell (Clerk), Mrs C Baker-Smith (Admin Team Leader), Mrs V McFarlane (Administrator), Cllrs J Hewitt, M Pettitt and P Sharman

- | | | Action |
|----------|---|---------------|
| 1 | Apologies for Absence (125-2021/22)
Apologies were received from Cllrs T Knagg and C Osborne. | Admin |
| 2 | Declaration of Interest and requests for dispensations (126-2021/22)
i) <i>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests</i> – None.
ii) <i>Non-Pecuniary Interests</i> – None.
iii) <i>Dispensations</i> – None. | |
| 3 | Minutes of previous Meeting (127-2021/22)
RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Community Services & Environment Committee held on Monday 21 st March 2022 subject to the following two amendments: that the meeting was 'extraordinary' and that, under Item 4 – Public Participation – that the Clerk would investigate to see if the land might be available for allotments; and to approve them as a correct record of proceedings. | |
| 4 | Public Participation Session (128-2021/22)
There were no members of the public present and no questions. | |
| 5 | Action List (129-2021/22)
Members received and noted the action list. | |

Allotments & Community Orchard at Beeston:

It was noted that the notice was published on 8th April with an objection/comment deadline of 8th May. Clerk to follow up for an update.

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Use of Former Days Inn Conference Site

The Clerk said a response had been received and had been forwarded to all Councillors.

SID Sign Locations and Installation:

The meeting that was to be held on Friday was cancelled that morning. The Clerk and Cllr Sutton were awaiting further dates to be suggested.

It was commented that other parish councils have got signs installed already, which provides a wealth of data. A member queried why STC are being denied such signage. It could be that there are different officers dealing with this at CBC and data taken at the northern end of Sunderland Road gave reasonable data. This is to be pursued with the PCC.

It was suggested that maybe other signs have been put up without CBC sign off. Clerk to investigate costs of signs at Tempsford and to try and understand what criteria Tempsford met that enabled them to get approval from CBC when Sandy had been refused.

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A Member said that it had been agreed at a previous meeting that STC would pay, and a budget had been approved, but CBC will not allow signage on their land without approval.

EV Charging Points

CBC's EV Charge Point Scheme is on their priority list, and we will wait to hear their responses.

Queen's Jubilee – A permanent memorial to mark the occasion

A Member had spoken to various people for ideas, one of which was to continue the mosaic theme to provide a permanent memorial, suggesting that an artist could come up with a design, maybe the original artist who designed the Story in Stone. A Member queried the cost of the project, and the Clerk said there is a grant in place.

It was suggested that children could come up with some designs and then be judged by the Mayor/Deputy Mayor.

The Mayor added that this has been put on the agenda for the Annual Town Meeting and we should then be able to collate ideas and consider again in the summer, to have it ready for the autumn.

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Queen's Jubilee – WI and RBL's requests to plant a tree

The trees will be planted in the autumn and the Outdoor Team Leader will oversee.

Community Engagement

Details of the surgeries have been circulated to Councillors.

Admin

6 Land at Sunderland Road (130-2021/22)

Members received and considered a request from AMP Clean Energy to lease a small amount of land at Sunderland Road to house a battery pod.

It was RESOLVED that the Clerk seek more detail from AMP about the proposed enclosure for the pod and ask if other possible site could be considered that would have less visual impact within an open space.

Town Clerk

7 Sunderland Road Electric and Water Supply (131-2021/22)

Members received and considered a request from the organiser of the visiting Funfair for the Town Council to install water and electric supply points for theirs and the Circus visits at Sunderland Road.

Town Clerk

It was RESOLVED not to provide facilities for water and electricity at the site due to likely costs and logistical restrictions.

8 Sunderland Road Parking (132-2021/22)

Members received and considered a request from Sandy 10 for permission to use an area of Sunderland Road Recreation Ground for parking on an ongoing basis for its annual race.

It was RESOLVED that the Council would speak to the school to better understand the issue and then re-evaluate when more information had been received. Further suggestions for parking at other sites would also be explored.

Town Clerk

9 Beeston Village Green Verging (133-2021/22)

Members received a report from Cllr Scott and the Beeston Working Group regarding damage to verges on the Village Green.

It was RESOLVED that the recommended work is undertaken, and cost for the removal of moles be reported to the PF&R committee.

Town Clerk

The Chair thanked the Beeston Green Group for their work and asked if anyone would be interested in joining the group. There

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may be someone from outside the Council able to join in the long term.

10 **Beeston Green Drainage (134-2021/22)**

Members received a verbal update on drainage issues at Beeston Green.

The meeting with Phillip Lovesey, Operations Manager at Bedford Group of Draining Boards was due to take place last week but will now be next Wednesday 18th May and an update was deferred until after that meeting.

A Member commented that when the stream was restored, it would be a nice place for families to visit, and for the Council to meet environmental and biodiversity aims.

11 **Queen's Platinum Jubilee (135-2021/22)**

Members noted an update from CBC on costs for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Concert at Sandye Place Academy.

The Chair thanked Katie Barker (Administrator), the Clerk and the Events Group for all their hard work in arranging this concert and the Jubilee Event.

The Clerk informed members that growing costs were being accrued due to Health & Safety Requirements set out by the Safety Advisory Group and reminded the Council it had a statutory obligation to ensure the safety of visitors to its events.

Members were informed that extra costs not originally anticipated included the provision of professional licensed Marshalls to undertake crowd control and on-site security. A Member commented that Marshalls would still be a cheaper option than if something were to occur during the event, without adequate provision.

Other costs being considered were for ground matting to protect the ground at St Swithun's school from large vehicles using this access, use of pedestrian barriers to enable the Council to comply with its licensing obligations and professional noise control advice. In addition, it was reported that costs for First Aid and Staging were more than had been.

It was RESOLVED to make the recommendation to increase the budget for the Jubilee event by £3,500, to the next Policy, Finance and Resources committee meeting. **It was noted** that the extra

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expense was a requirement to enable the event to go ahead rather than a request.

12 Tree Works Orchard Road (136-2021/22)

Members noted a decision made under delegated authority for works to be undertaken to a damaged tree in Orchard Road at a cost of £900 following a report from a resident and subsequent tree survey.

It was RESOLVED that on confirmation, the tree did fall under the responsibility of STC and the work be approved.

Town Clerk

13 RSPB Woodland Assured Scheme (137-2021/22)

Members considered a request from the RSPB to be consultees and (if asked) take place in an audit of their practices and agree to be contacted by the Soil Association to give feedback and an opinion on the management of RSPB woodlands.

It was RESOLVED that Members would take part once the questions were reviewed and it was possible for them to make a meaningful contribution.

Town Clerk

14 Chairman's Items (138-2021/22)

The Council had received a request from CBC Licensing to comment on an application for a trading license for Joe's Ice Cream to operate in the local area. The Council made **no objection** to the application.

The Chair thanked the volunteers who've come forward so far for the Jubilee Event and that those who would be attending would receive adequate refreshments on the day.

15 Date of Next Meeting (139-2021/22)

Monday 13th June 2022.

Meeting ended at 8.55pm