

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 13th February 2023 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs N Áldis, A Lock, R Lock, C Osborne, M Scott, and S Sutton (Chair)

Absent: Cllrs J Ivanciu-Wilkinson, L Ivanciu-Wilkinson, and N Thompson.

In attendance: Mr P Truppin (Interim Finance Officer), Cllrs Hewitt, Pettitt, Sharman and Mr C Andrews – Deputy Chief Executive, BRCC.

Action

1 Apologies for Absence (68-2022/23)

Apologies were received from Cllrs J Ivanciu-Wilkinson and L Ivanciu-Wilkinson.

Admin

2 Declaration of Interest and requests for dispensations (69-2022/23)

- i) *Disclosable Pecuniary Interests* – None.
- ii) *Non-Pecuniary Interests* – None
- iii) *Dispensations* – None.

3 Minutes of previous Meeting (70-2022/23)

RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the Community Services & Environment Committee held on Monday 9th January 2023 and to approve them as a correct record of proceedings.

4 Public Participation Session (71 -2022/23)

No members of the public were present.

5 Action List (72 -2022/23)

Members received and noted the action list.

Allotments & Community Orchard at Beeston:

The updated lease was still awaited but was expected in time to be reviewed at the Town Council meeting on 6th March 2023.

At this point **it was RESOLVED** that agenda item 10 (Beeston Allotments) be considered and to receive a presentation from Mr Cliff Andrews, Deputy Chief Executive, BRCC.

Mr Andrews proceeded to explain the current ideas for the site, stating that BRCC had previously prepared a Management Plan for the site to include provision for a Community Orchard and a

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Community Allotment. BRCC has received funding for this. Mr Andrews informed Members that nothing has been progressed as the houses have not been built but he would explore whether, if the Management Plan cannot be progressed, the money could be transferred to another site if the community orchard was to be moved.

Deputy Clerk

Cllr Sutton, from the Chair, stated that the Town Council would be reviewing its Allotment Policy in the light of potential new allotment sites. It was observed by Members that the Council had a duty to provide allotments but not community orchards, however desirable. It was also mentioned that there were access issues for the woodland site so allotments had been ruled out. It was stated by a member that the Allotment Association would have to be reformed.

Mr Andrews thought that a project that combined a smaller community orchard with a community allotment plus space for traditional allotments could be a possible way forward.

It was RESOLVED that:

Deputy Clerk

- (a) the Council undertakes a full survey of the Beeston Green site to assess the required work relating to foundations/hardcore from historical farm buildings and to seek advice from the National Allotment Association.
- (b) The Town Council rejoin the National Allotment Association.
- (c) To address the issue of a Community Orchard on the site, together with matters of security and ongoing maintenance.
- (d) The Council review all subscriptions to outside organisations to ensure value for money.

Admin Team Leader

Consideration of the matter of the Beeston Allotments having been concluded **it was RESOLVED** to resume consideration of agenda item 5.

It was RESOLVED that the following amendments be made to the Action List:

Deputy Clerk

- (a) To remove all references to the Days Inn site apart from the Conference Centre.
- (b) To delete the item on the SID sign locations and installation.

Town Clerk

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- (c) Agreed to invite Tim Price, Senior the Sustainable Transport Officer from CBC to the 6th March meeting of Council to update on EV charging plans for Sandy.
- (d) To note that Carolyn Blake has withdrawn from the Mosaic project but that there had been a good response from the Robert Peel School.
- (e) To note that the work being undertaken by the IDB on Beeston green was being postponed until April.

6 Winter Maintenance (Salt/Gritting) – Areas of the Town (73 - 2022/23)

The Committee considered the report tabled by the Deputy Town Clerk. Support from CBC would be required for the Town Council to take on gritting in the Town Centre and it had been suggested that the Town Council purchase a push along gritter at an approximate cost of £450.

Members felt a number of issues needed to be addressed, namely should the area of the Town Centre extend beyond the Market Square, was there a need for another gritting machine, were there staffing implications and to what extent if outside normal working hours and also whether any provision could be made for Fallowfield.

It was RESOLVED that:

- (a) Any gritting should be confined to the Market Square.
- (b) Gritting would only be undertaken during normal staff working hours.
- (c) Suitable equipment should be sourced.
- (d) A grit bin be requested from CBC for Fallowfield.

Deputy
Town
Clerk

7 Proposed Land Adoption – Goldfinch Road (74-2022/23)

It was confirmed that the land in question was already in the possession of the Town Council.

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8 **Sunderland Road Recreation Ground (75-2022/23)**

The Committee considered requests made for the use of the part of the Recreation Ground that is used for fairs and **It was RESOLVED that:**

- (a) The Spring Fair 27th March to 3rd April was agreed.
- (b) It be noted that the Sandy 10 organisers no longer needed parking on site for 2nd April.
- (c) Sandy Tigers were granted permission to use the site on 20th and 21st May.
- (d) For all events the area for car parking needs to be defined to include the number of vehicles.
- (e) That all requests for on-site parking at the recreation ground be referred to the Community Services and Environment Committee for consideration
- (f) Agree for Sandy Football Club to use the grass area of Sunderland Road recreation ground for extra parking provision for its tournament on 2nd and 3rd September 2023.

Deputy Clerk

Deputy Clerk

Deputy Clerk

9 **War Memorial – Wreath Management (76-2022/23)**

The Committee considered a request from the Royal British Legion to install suitable hooks on the surrounding walls to enable more wreaths to be laid at the site. Councillors noted the request and the comments submitted by the War Memorials Trust and **it was RESOLVED** to defer further consideration of this item so that more research into options, to include consulting with the Conservation Officer at CBC, can be undertaken.

10 **Beeston Allotments (77-2022/23)**

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting at minute 72 - 2022/23.

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11 Events Working Group and Proposed Coronation Event - Sunday 7th May 2023 (78-2022/23)

Members received and considered a report of the Events Working Group held on 26th January 2023. The Group were recommending that the Town Council hosts a picnic based Big Lunch to be held on 7th May with various activities and that a large screen be hired to stream the Coronation Concert and a replay of the Coronation Ceremony. An application for a National Lottery Community Grant has been submitted.

It was observed that the total cost of the proposed events would exceed the allocated budget and that the acquisition of the big screen would need to be dependent on a successful outcome to the grant application or use of reserves.

It was RESOLVED to recommend to Full Council that:

- (a) The Council proceeds with the picnic based Big Lunch event to be held at Sandye Place on 7th May.
- (b) A decision on the Big Screen be deferred until the outcome of the grant application is known.
- (c) Spending from Council funds on the Coronation Event not to exceed £5,000.

Deputy Clerk

Deputy Clerk

Town Clerk

12 Scout Hut – Boundary Fence Issues (79-2022/23)

Consideration of this item was deferred to the next meeting of the Committee.

Deputy Clerk

13 Great British Spring Clean - 7th March to 2nd April 2023 (80-2022/23)

The Committee was requested to consider a suggestion that the Town Council supports a litter pick on Friday 24th March 2023 between 11am and 12.30pm. The Council would provide volunteers with litter pickers, gloves and rubbish bags and the Council would ensure disposal of collected rubbish/recycling items. Members were encouraged to attend and the scheme would be supported by the Grounds Team, Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, the Community Engagement Officer and BRCC. Members indicated they were happy to support this scheme.

Deputy Clerk

14 Chairman's Items (81-2022/23)

There were none.

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15 Date of Next Meeting (82-2022/23)

Monday 27th March 2023.

The meeting closed at 21:25