

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 June 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs N Aldis, L Ivanciu-Wilkinson, T Knagg, R Lock, C Osborne, M Scott, S Sutton (Chair).

Absent: N Thompson.

In attendance: Mrs N Sewell (Clerk), Mrs C Baker-Smith (Admin Team Leader), Cllrs J Hewitt, and P Sharman and Mr R Lawrence BRCC.

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| 1 | Apologies for Absence (1-2022/23)
Apologies were received from Cllr M Pettitt. | Admin |
| 2 | Election of Community, Services and Environment committee Deputy Chairman for the Council year 2022/23 (2-2022/23)
Cllr Ruth Lock was nominated, seconded and duly elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Community, Services and Environment Committee for the forthcoming year. There were no other nominations. | |
| 3 | Declaration of Interest and requests for dispensations (3-2022/23) <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) <i>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests</i> – None.ii) <i>Non-Pecuniary Interests</i> – Cllr Sutton for Item 13 as a relation to a member of Sandy 10 Committee.iii) <i>Dispensations</i> – None. | |
| 4 | Minutes of previous Meeting (4-2022/23)
RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the Community Services & Environment Committee held on Monday 9 th May 2022 and to approve them as a correct record of proceedings. | |
| 5 | Public Participation Session (5-2022/23)
Richard Lawrence of the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity was present to assist with questions pertaining to item 7. No other members of the public were present. | |
| 6 | Action List (6-2022/23)
Members received and noted the action list. | |

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Allotments & Community Orchard at Beeston:

It was noted that no objections had been made in regard to the planning application and that CBC's solicitor were now in a position to draft a lease. Clerk to follow up with CBC officers.

Use of Former Days Inn Conference Site

Members decided to place the issue on hold for the next few months and invite Tony Keaveney to a meeting in the Autumn to give Council an update.

SID Sign Locations and Installation:

The original meeting with Cllr Sutton, the Clerk and OPPC has been postponed to 4th July.

The Clerk has had correspondence with other Parish and Town Councils within CBC and will compile a report. It was confirmed that CBC Highways has the final agreement on the placing of SIDs across the county.

Clerk to investigate if there is a Speedwatch group in Sandy.

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EV Charging Points

Some charging points are being placed in the new car park by the train station. No further updates in regard to the wider area at this time.

Support for Ukraine and use of the Meadows

Resolved to remove this item from the Action List as complete.

Queen's Jubilee – Commemorative Artwork

Members agreed to run a competition for under 16-year-olds to create a design for a commemorative mosaic to make up part of Sandy's current mosaic trail. Initial deadline for entries 1st September. STC to liaise with schools and other youth groups to encourage entries.

Admin

Community Engagement

Resolved to remove this item from the Action List as complete and Councillor surgeries all resolved.

AMP Battery Pods

It was resolved to explore the possibilities of housing the AMP Battery Pods at all the recreation sites within the town. Clerk to organise a meeting to discuss this further.

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Beeston Green Drainage

CBC contractors have been asked to maintain further cuts to the grass surrounding the culverts in the area to allow access to maintain the area.

Drainage Board looking to come out to undertake work to clear the area by the Autumn. There would be a need to undertake public engagement around the clearance work as the silt would need to be placed on the banks and would have an unpleasant odour, so residents must be made aware.

7 Riddy Stewardship and Grazing Agreement (7-2022/23)

Members received and considered a request from the grazier to graze a bull at the Riddy alongside other cattle under a grazing agreement between the grazier, STC and Bedfordshire Wildlife Trust.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council agree to allow the bull to graze on the Riddy for the 2022 season and that this agreement be reviewed on an annual basis with the following criteria to be met:

- The grazier must adhere to the guidance given by the Health & Safety Executive.
- The grazier submit risk assessments and method statements on how the bull will be managed on site.
- That full liability for any accidents/damage caused by the bull lies with the grazier and should it be necessary, immediate removal of the bull from site to take place under instruction from Sandy Town Council.
- Sandy Town Council to work with Wardens to ensure the required signs are placed in the area.
- A community engagement event be held on Sunday 3rd July with the grazier to educate users of the Riddy on how to properly behave around cattle and tell them more about the breed grazing there.

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8 Dog Fouling Sunderland Road (8-2022/23)

Members received and considered the Clerk's report.

Members agreed that the Council should do all it could to reduce the problem of dog fouling and the issue of dogs off leads at Sunderland Road Recreation Ground. It was **RESOLVED** to place further metal signs around Sunderland Road to highlight fines for not clearing up dog mess, the need to keep dogs on a lead and general notices about good practice when walking dogs in a public space.

It was noted that the Clerk has already ordered some A4 signs from CBC for this purpose and that if bolder or stronger signs were needed, they would be designed and purchased. Clerk to look into whether any S106 money could be used for this purpose.

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9 Pinnacle and Riddy Working Group (9-2022/23)

It was **RESOLVED** that the Pinnacle and Riddy Working Group consisting of Cllrs Aldis, Lock, Scott and Hewitt be re-instated and that the group would commit to meeting once a year to discuss matters.

10 Replacement Play Equipment at Bedford Road (10-2022/23)

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to PF&R Committee to agree to replacing the play equipment at Bedford Road with the suggested three-piece train set. Clerk to investigate funding opportunities to cover the costs of this.

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11 Skatepark update and launch event (11-2022/23)

Cllr Hewitt gave a verbal update on the new skatepark at Sunderland Road. A start date of 27th June had been agreed by the contractors and Cllr Hewitt would be engaging with outside organisations likely to be affected by the works. It was hoped the project would be completed within 6-8 weeks.

A launch event agreed as part of the build contract would take place on Saturday 24th September.

12 Events Working Group (12-2022/23)

Members received a summary report from the Clerk regarding the events and that many positive comments had been received by those attending. A couple of complaints received at the event, and one received since had been resolved.

Cllr Hewitt reported speaking to the MP Richard Fuller who had complimented the Council on a fantastic event and commented that

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it had highlighted what an important site Sandye Place would be for future events and community use. Members all agreed that it would be important to be able to use Sandye Place as a community space and would work to make this possible.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Events Working Group would meet in the near future to undertake a full debrief of the Jubilee celebration event following numerous obstacles that had to be overcome and take learnings forward for future events as well as call another separate meeting to discuss other future events to take place in 2022/23.

13 Sandy 10 Parking enquiry (13-2022/23)

Councillors reviewed a request to use part of Sunderland Road Recreation ground for parking at the Sandy10 Running Events on 22nd September and 2nd April 2023 and considered a request to use an area of the grounds as a new finish for the race. The latter requiring temporary alterations to perimeter fencing.

It was **RESOLVED** to agree for the Sandy10 to use an area of the park for parking if it didn't encroach on any of the football pitches on site and agreed for the temporary alterations to take place to perimeter fencing to allow an alternative finish for the race.

14 Events Calendar (14-2022/23)

Members received and noted the Events Calendar for 2022/23.

One Member suggested that if possible, some of the events for the year should be cut back due to staffing issues. It was agreed that responsibility of organising and managing the Sandy Green Wheel Walks should be held by the Friends of Sandy Green Wheel Group and that until this could be confirmed, no further walks would be publicised.

15 Chairman's Items (15-2022/23)

There were none.

16 Date of Next Meeting (16-2022/23)

Monday 25th July 2022.

The meeting ended at 20:50