

# 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 in the Council Chamber at 10 Cambridge Road, Sandy, Bedfordshire on Monday 13 December 2021 commencing 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  
7<sup>th</sup> December 2021

*Following the easing of Covid19 restrictions the government has stated that it is 'expected and recommended' that people should wear face coverings (unless exempt) in crowded public settings. Due to the size of the Council chamber and the potential number of people present, Councillors, officers and members of the public continue to be strongly encouraged to wear face coverings before, during and following the meeting except when invited to speak.*

## **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.)*

*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) Dispensations*
- iii) Non Pecuniary Interests*

# Sandy Town Council

## 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 minutes of the meeting of Sandy Town Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021 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) Development Scrutiny Committee held on 8 November 2021 and 22 November 2021
- ii) Community, Services and Environment Committee held on 8 November 2021
- iii) Policy, Finance and Resources Committee held on 22 November 2021

**RESOLVED to RECOMMEND** to approve in principle the proposed purchase of an Etesia electric truck at the best price that can be negotiated. That this be subject to Councillors having further demonstrations of the truck and agreeing a timescale.

## 6 Reports from Central Bedfordshire Councillors

- i) To receive reports or points of information from Sandy's Central Bedfordshire Ward Councillors.
- ii) To receive notes from a meeting of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Central Bedfordshire Ward Councillors.

Appendix  
I

## 7 Action List

To receive and note an action list on Full Council items.

Appendix  
II

## 8 Leisure Services Jenkins Pavilion Proposal

To receive any updates on Central Bedfordshire Council's Jenkins Pavilion Leisure Proposal.

Appendix  
III

## 9 Planning Applications

To receive and consider a planning application from Central Bedfordshire Council on the proposed extension to the Jenkins Pavilion, Sunderland Road recreation ground, Sandy.

To follow

# Sandy Town Council

## 10 Neighbourhood Development Plan

To receive a report from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Appendix  
IV

## 11 Correspondence

i) To receive correspondence from Central Bedfordshire Council's Environmental Services in relation to glass recycling banks.

Appendix  
V

ii) To receive and note correspondence received in regards to a Temporary Road Closure for Station Road/New Road.

Appendix  
VI

## 12 Consultations

i) To receive and consider Public Notices from Central Bedfordshire Council on various roads in Sandy. Members should note that the Council has been given an extended deadline to submit comments to the Notices so they could be considered at the meeting.

Appendix  
VII

a. Swan Lane

Appendix  
VIII

b. Kings Road

Appendix  
IX

c. Laburnum Road and Robert Hunt Gardens

Appendix  
X

ii) To receive and consider a drafted response to a consultation on Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016. Consultation documentation can be found via the following link;

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XI

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/water-quality/amendments-to-the-epr-for-groundwater/>

iii) To note Central Bedfordshire Council are currently carrying out Town Centre benchmarking surveys;

<https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/38/consultations/1068/surveys-town-centre-benchmarking-and-experimental-traffic-regulation-order-for-leighton-buzzard-high-street>

iv) To note a Central Bedfordshire Council consultation on Community Buildings and Village Halls;

<https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/38/consultations/1063/community-buildings-and-village-halls-consultation>

v) To note a Central Bedfordshire Council consultation on Adult Carers Strategy 2022 to 2027;

<https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/38/consultations/1071/consultation-adult-carers-strategy-2022-to-2027>

vi) To note a Central Bedfordshire Council consultation on Tenancy Strategy;

# Sandy Town Council

[https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/38/consultations/1032/consultation\\_tenancy\\_strategy](https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/38/consultations/1032/consultation_tenancy_strategy)

vii) To note a Central Bedfordshire Council consultation on Housing Allocation;

[https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/38/consultations/1030/housing\\_allocation\\_scheme\\_consultation](https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/38/consultations/1030/housing_allocation_scheme_consultation)

viii) To note that Central Bedfordshire Council are currently carrying out a survey on Pharmaceutical Needs;

[https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/38/consultations/1067/pharmaceutical\\_needs\\_survey\\_2021](https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/38/consultations/1067/pharmaceutical_needs_survey_2021)

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

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

i) To receive a report from Cllr S Sutton on the AGM of the ATC.

Appendix  
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ii) To receive and consider a report from Cllr Hill on the SSLA.

Appendix  
XIII

iii) To receive a report from Cllr Hill on the FOSCL and the recent switch on event.

Appendix  
XIV

iv) To receive a report from Cllr Hill on the Sandy Twinning Association.

Appendix  
XV

## **14 News Release**

## **15 Chairman's Items**

## **16 Mayoral Engagements**

To note a list of recent engagements undertaken by the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor;

- Saturday 6 November - Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended Winchester Road Pride of Place Day.
- Saturday 6 November - Mayor drew the Sandy Rotary Grand Draw.
- Wednesday 10 November – Mayor took part in CBC Teams Meeting for Town & Parish Councils on the subject of COP26 and the Sustainability Plan.
- Sunday 14 November – Mayor and Mayoress, Deputy Mayor and Councillors attended Sandy Remembrance Day Service.

# Sandy Town Council

- Sunday 21 November - Mayor and Mayoress, as well as Ms G Leach, judged Sandy Carnival Prince & Princess Competition.
- Sunday 28 November - Mayor and Mayoress attended Sandy Christmas Lights Switch on.

**17 Date of Next Full Council Meeting:** 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022

**18 COMMITTEE IN PRIVATE SESSION**

Exclusion of Public and Press RECOMMENDED In terms of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, the following items will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters and it is, therefore, RECOMMENDED that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded.

**19 Staffing Matters**

To receive and consider a motion from Councillor Gibson.

<b>SANDY TOWN COUNCIL</b>
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Notes from a meeting of the CBC Ward Members and STC Representatives held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 at 11am in the Sandy Town Council Chamber.

Present; Cllrs Pettitt, Hewitt,  
CBC Cllrs Maudlin, Stock, Ford  
Mr C Robson, Town Clerk

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**1. Apologies**

None received.

**2. Sustainability / COP 26**

The group discussed the recent CBC Town and Parish Council seminar at which CBC's Sustainability Plan was presented. Cllr Pettitt commented on how useful the presentation had been and that he is keen to look at how STC's plans, and actions can tie into the overall Sustainability Plan for the area. CBC would be sending the slides, and these would be made available to all Councillors for information and a future discussion. The Clerk would consider how the information presented could be best disseminated to all Councillors.

Cllr Pettitt commented that he hoped that any plans coming forward for the Jenkins Pavilion would include consideration of points set out within the Sustainability Plan.

**3. Local Parishes Shared Issues Meeting**

Cllr Pettitt informed the group that he and the Clerk were in the process of contacting neighbouring parishes to set up an initial meeting with representatives to discuss areas of shared interest on our concern. The initial meeting would feature issues such as the A1 and EWR, but it was hoped that a more regular forum could be established to discuss numerous topics. It was previously suggested by Mr Richard Fuller that such an approach is taken to help build up a clear and supported argument.

The group felt that an initial meeting via zoom with a couple of representatives from each Council would be a starting point. The Councils to be invited would include Biggleswade, Potton, Blunham, Northill and Sutton.

Cllr Pettitt would be looking to hold the meeting in January 2022. He would then be contacting Richard Fuller's office to advise him of the meeting and to request any updates or progress since the meeting he arranged with Martin Fellows of Highways England.

It was noted that a pre-meeting questionnaire/survey could be circulated to representatives to get an understanding on what their priorities are.

#### **4. Sandy to Potton Cycle Way**

The group was informed that work on developing the cycle way was ongoing and that Sandy Town Council should shortly be receiving documentation and a letter which would also be going to Potton and Sutton parish councils. There is now renewed progress and a designated route, which should be explained in communication to come through to the Clerk.

#### **5. Waste Amnesty**

The group reviewed the Pride of Place Day held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2021. There was a general feeling that the day had been a success and that the waste amnesty had proved popular. Other towns were now asking for similar amnesties. It was queried whether other waste amnesty days could happen in locations around Sandy. If this was to be the case, funding would need to be raised as the waste amnesty held was in the context and funding of the Winchester Road regeneration scheme.

The group discussed the potential negatives regular waste amnesty days could have, including building a level of complacency and expectation that waste will be taken care of in such a way. It was also queried as to whether such days would result in reduced fly tipping.

Some concern was also expressed at the level of waste brought to the amnesty that was equipment which was still in good condition. The group considered how things might be able to re-enter the cycle of use. Ideas such as re-use and repair are happening elsewhere. The group felt that more promotion about recycling, encouragement and explanation on how people could dispose of waste is needed.

#### **6. Leisure /Jenkins Proposal**

Cllr Pettitt explained that he had met with the SCC to discuss a replacement tractor shed and where this could be located. The actual positioning will come forward as part of CBC's planning application for the site.

CBC need to submit a planning application which will then come forward to Sandy Town Council for consideration. CBC would also be sharing with STC communication to go out to the public alongside the planning application.

The Clerk stated that he had obtained a price for moving outdoor gym equipment should that become necessary as part of plans for a new SSLA/SCC storage shed. It was noted that the costs were high.

It was reiterated that it was important the CBC and STC Members gave their views when the application comes forward.

**7. The Meadows**

There are still no decisions in place with regard to the future use of the former conference facilities at The Meadows. The facilities are currently being used by emergency services for training purposes. There continues to be interest in the site and there must be a balance between commercial interest and the community. It was agreed that it was appropriate to ask Mr T Keaveney to meet with STC or representatives thereof in the New Year to provide an update.

It was noted that the RSPB will be converting some of their space to conference facilities, reducing a need for such provision from The Meadows site.

**8. Sandye Place**

The Clerk informed the group that he and Cllr Gibson had met with Ben Pollard of CBC who had agreed in principle to the Carnival Committee and the Council using the Sandye Place open grass areas for events in June 2022. This would be the Sandy Carnival and a possible Queen's Jubilee celebration to be organised by the Council. A proposal on such an event still needed to be brought to and considered by the Council.

There were no further updates following the recent public consultation on applying for the release of the site from its educational status. Results of that consultation are to be provided in due course.

A request from some residents to purchase part of the site for their gardens had been directed to CBC's asset team. Given the educational status of the site, it seemed unlikely any consideration could be given to this at present.

**9. Medusa Way / Shannon Close**

The group briefly discussed the proposed restrictions to be applied at Medusa Way / Shannon Close. Cllr Pettitt and CBC Ward Members had spent some considerable time with a concerned resident and in speaking with the school and CBC's Highways department. It was agreed that some action needed to be taken in the areas. Cllr Pettitt outlined the Town Council's response to the Public Notice which had been submitted.

It was noted that not all residents supported the proposed scheme or felt that there was a large-scale problem.

The matter would go to a traffic management meeting and residents should be encouraged to attend and express their views.

**10. A1/New Road**

Cllr Stock has continued to chase Richard Fuller's office in regards to holding a survey on potential closure of the gaps on the Sandy stretch of the A1. There has been no response to date.

The group briefly discussed the closure of the gap, with some concern over the impact such a closure would have on the rest of Sandy. It was agreed that a reconfiguration would seem to be most appropriate, but Highways England had already ruled that out.

There was concern expressed over launching a survey which did not fully consider the impacts closing of the gap might have and how these would then subsequently be addressed.

It was noted that the next step in the process is Highways England carrying out a safety survey on the junction. There is no known date for this, but the outcome of that survey needs to be understood to help things move forward. Cllr Stock will chase the matter up again.

**11. Vehicles and Parking Issues around Sandy**

It was noted that a number of Public Notices had been published on proposed amendments to restrictions on Swan Lane, Kings Road and Laburnum Road. These would be brought to Full Council for consideration in December.

Mr P Bryne from CBC had provided an update on issues around high numbers of works vehicles parking on roads in Sandy and the issuing of a CPN. This was now in place for Swan Lane and was having a positive effect. However, there is some concern that the issue has now moved to other areas in the town, including London Road. It was noted that vehicles on London Road did not present the same safety issue as those on Swan Lane, which makes it more difficult to act. For any action to be taken, witness statements are needed and these may be more difficult to obtain. The situation would need to be monitored.

**12. Glass Recycling**

Due to noise complaints, CBC are looking to relocate glass recycling banks away from the Fallowfield Co-Op. Cllr Stock has received a complaint about trees being cut down at George Town and upon investigating this, it was reported that CBC Waste are looking to relocate the glass recycling banks to that area.

Neither Cllr Stock, nor the CBC Executive Member for Waste was aware of the proposed relocation to George Town. Cllr Stock is looking into the matter further and will report back to STC..

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.	The Council submitted a response to the most recent EWR consultation on 9th June 2021. Letter issued to MP's office reaffirming Council's view. Members previously received and noted information shared by Cllr Blaine from the BATPC AGM which related to the EWR.
<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.	<p>Representatives of STC previously joined a meeting with a representative from Highways England, facilitated by local MP Richard Fuller. Notes were received by Council. R. Fuller's office is pressing for a response from Highways England to matters raised at the meeting.</p> <p><a href="#">Working Group response to Highways England consultation was previously considered and agreed by Council.</a></p> <p><a href="#">CBC Cllr Stock following up with R. Fuller's office.</a></p> <p><a href="#">Cllr Pettitt and Clerk setting up meeting with representatives of neighbouring parishes to discuss shared issues and concerns.</a></p>
<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.	<p>Members received briefing notes from CBC on the process involved in getting the SPA site released from the DfE and educational use. Following the last meeting of the Council a response was issued to a letter received from CBC's agent in relation to educational use at SPA. Extra ordinary meeting of Council considered the CBC public consultation on SPA. Response sent re-stating Council's previous position and emphasising value of site as a community asset.</p> <p>No further updates following consultation on educational status.</p>

**Sandy Town Council**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> December 2021</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Central Bedfordshire Council Jenkins Leisure Proposal</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Chris Robson, Town Clerk</b>

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide Members with an update on the Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) Jenkins Leisure Proposal.

**Recommendation**

2. That the Council note the report and consider and submit comments on the Planning Application once received.

**Background**

3. The Council previously met with representatives from CBC to hear feedback received as part of the consultation on the proposed expansion of the Jenkins pavilion, along with confirmation that improvement works to the Village Hall changing rooms would be included in the project to ensure those changing rooms would also be suitable for use and add to changing provision in the immediate area. Members were informed that CBC were looking to submit a planning application and that the Council would receive this through the formal process to consider and respond to.

**Information**

4. CBC's Leisure Services Contracts manager has stated that they are awaiting the planning application to be validated and that there has been a hold up in this process. However, it is anticipated that a planning application will be validated within the coming week and that a planning application will be going live.
5. Once an application is live Sandy Town Council will receive the application for formal consideration and response at a Council meeting. This will be a full planning application. The application will need to be considered by the Full Council rather than Development Scrutiny committee due to its significance and the impact it will have.
6. CBC will also be issuing communications alongside the application, and these will be shared with Sandy Town Council.
7. CBC's Leisure Services Contract manager will be contacting Jenkins user clubs the week of 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021 to arrange a call or feedback from the clubs around how they presently or would wish to access and use the kitchen area to make sure that any when the process comes to look at design and needs it attempts to capture all comments/needs where possible. Once these conversations have been had CBC will collate and share these and their plans with Sandy Town Council for feedback and comment.
8. The next stage for Sandy Town Council will be to receive, consider and comment on a planning application. Although not received at the time of writing this report, an allowance has been included on the agenda to consider the planning application.

**Sandy Town Council**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> December 2021</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Report</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Cllr Amanda Gibson, Chair of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group</b>

**Purpose of the Report**

1. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group report for Council. The purpose is to provide Members with an update on progress that is being made and the key decisions made at each Council meeting as agreed in the Terms of Reference.

**Recommendation**

2. That the Council note the information within the report.

**Background/Information**

3. The following report provides an overview of progress made since the last report at Full Council on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021. Since the last report the Steering Group has met twice and key output from the meetings are as follows:

**Vision and Aims**

4. The Steering Group has agreed a working Vision and Aims to be used to guide our next steps. These may be amended over time as we receive further evidence from engagements and consultations with residents and businesses.

**Vision**

To enhance and protect the unique environment and heritage assets that Sandy has to offer its community. To promote the town further as an attractive, sustainable, prosperous place with opportunities for everyone to live and thrive.

**Aims**

- Protect and add to places and public spaces that people enjoy for recreation and culture.
- Enhance our existing green spaces, and seek opportunities to create new green spaces, to protect and improve our natural environment including improving access where appropriate.
- Protect and preserve our heritage assets, historic buildings and bring Sandye Place back into community use.
- Attract new businesses to the town and High Street and enable existing businesses to grow and prosper.
- Improve public transport, road and rail links to help people to get where they need to go, safely and sustainably.
- Develop better connectivity within the town and surrounding areas for walking and cycling and reduce traffic flow through the town.
- Require any new development of homes, commercial and leisure facilities to be well designed, connected to the community, environmentally friendly and energy efficient.

- Any significant growth in housing or commercial property must provide for sufficient infrastructure ahead of occupation and add to the cultural and recreation amenity for Sandy.

**Working Groups**

4. We have set up working groups to carry out a deeper review of the comments from the initial survey and to identify where further consultation may be needed to inform the policies that may be proposed in the plan. Working groups will meet at their own frequency and bring back their proposals and policies to the steering group for review. The working groups will have at least two steering group members and will have additional residents joining. Currently we have the following working groups:

- Town Centre & High Street
- Environment and Green Space
- Leisure & Culture, including Sandye Place
- Housing & Design

Other working groups will be added when required, for instance Infrastructure and crime reduction both of which may have topics addressed by other groups.

**Grant Funding Applications**

5. The following grant funding have been applied for:

- High Streets & Infrastructure, up to £15k of funding for consulting on improvements. We passed the initial assessment, now need to put a more detailed plan with costs of how the money would be used. This needs to be submitted by end March, working with Locality who will make the application on our behalf. Initial thoughts are to explore a pedestrianisation survey to create flexible use of the Market Square. Monies, if awarded, need to be spent in FY22/23.
- Green Infrastructure Plan Update, phase 1 grant funding of £1.5k applied for to support the initial consultation work to be completed by March 22.

**Communication/Events /PR**

6. The following communication/events/PR has occurred since the last meeting:

- Neighbourhood Plan has had a stand at two events - the Winchester Road Pride of Place Day and Sandy Christmas Lights - both were used to provide feedback from the initial survey results.
- The windows of the old Barclays building have been redressed and will be decorated for Christmas hopefully drawing people to look at survey results.
- Our Plan for 2022 includes
  - Presence at all community events, including markets, Carnival etc.
  - Specific consultation /presentations to be determined by the Working Groups
  - Continued updates through our social media pages, press releases and surveys

**Next Steering Group Meeting**

7. Next Steering Group Meeting is 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021. Whilst the levels of Covid remain high in the community, we have decided to hold steering group meetings on Zoom for the foreseeable future.

**Sandy Town Council**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> December 2021</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>CBC Waste Services – Glass Recycling Banks</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Town Clerk</b>

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide Councillors with a copy of communication receive from Central Bedfordshire Council's Environmental Services for consideration.

**Recommendation**

2. That Councillors consider the communication and advise if they have any queries they wish the Clerk to respond with.

**Communication**

The following email has been received;

Good Morning,

I am emailing from the Environmental Services Team to provide an update on the glass bottle banks site located at Kestrel Way, Sandy. We have been receiving reports from local residents about issues concerning this site, I believe the Town Council and Cllr Stock have also received some of these reports which have been escalated. The reports range from issues around noise, fly tipping, unsociable hours of use and commercial use of these banks.

The Environmental Services Team has put in place a number of measures to mitigate the impact of these issues. Lined banks were introduced to reduce the noise created by the banks, locks were placed on all banks to prevent large scale deposits, improved signage was installed to advise on acceptable hours of use and warn of fly tipping consequences, the site was visited three times a week by our glass collection crew and twice a week by our street cleansing crew to ensure the site was kept tidy. We have also been working to identify alternative sites to accommodate these banks.

Unfortunately we have continued to receive reports of issues at this site, a decision has been made to remove the bottle banks from this location until we are able to find a suitable alternative site. We are aiming to remove the banks week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> December, signs will be installed at the site advising the banks have been removed and sign post residents to alternative sites. We will continue to have a crew monitor the site for a period after the banks have been removed to ensure the site is kept clear.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Kind regards,

Harry Adams-Rimmer  
Environmental Services Officer  
Environmental Services

**Central Bedfordshire Council** Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, Bedfordshire, SG17 5TQ

your  
reference

our reference CBC 9794  
please ask for Streetworks  
direct line  
e-mail [streetworks@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:streetworks@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)  
web-site [www.roadworks.org](http://www.roadworks.org)

date 1<sup>ST</sup> December 2021

For your information

**Proposed Temporary Road Closure – Station Rd/ New Rd, Sandy**

I have a request for a Temporary Road Closure at the above location to enable Various Improvement Works to take place safely. Details are listed in the schedule below and having assessed the application I am satisfied the request is justified.

The restrictions are to be in operation only when the necessary signs are erected on site. The Legal Order will be made to cover a 12 month period. Access may be allowed from time to time according to local signing.

If you have any observations, you wish to make I would be grateful if you could let me know as soon as possible.

Streetworks Team

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**Road:** Station Rd/ New Rd, Sandy

**Application from:** RJ –obo CBC - 03003008049

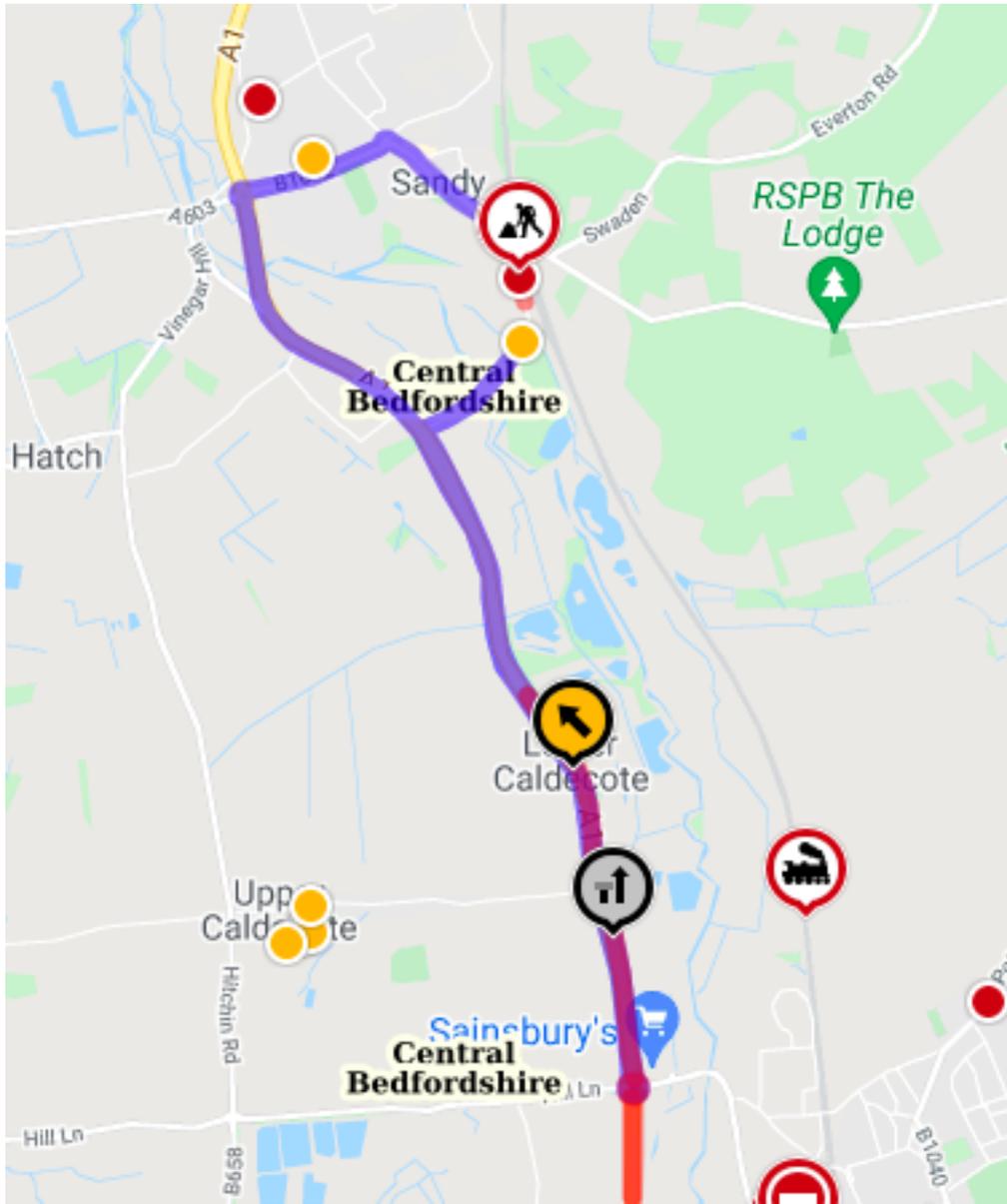
**Reason:** Install Tactile Crossings, Raised Tables signs and lining

**Length affected:** from High St to Centurion Walk

**Date:** The closure will be in place from 0900-1530 from 7<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**Diversion Route** Head south-west on New Rd towards High Rd/A1, Turn left onto High Rd/A1, At Biggleswade North Roundabout, take the 4th exit and stay on A1, At Sandy Roundabout, take the 3rd exit onto Bedford Rd/B1042, At the roundabout, take the 3rd exit onto Downing Ct/B1042, exit onto Station Rd

**NB. The applicant will be responsible for taking down all Central Bedfordshire Council public notices immediately after the works requiring the Order have been completed.**



# PUBLIC NOTICE

## **CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PROPOSES TO INTRODUCE WAITING RESTRICTIONS ON SWAN LANE AND LABURNAM ROAD, SANDY AND AMEND WAITING RESTRICTIONS ON KINGS ROAD, SANDY**

Reason for proposals: These new markings are intended to prevent obstructive parking effecting the free flow of traffic and to prevent parking obstructing visibility at junctions. The removal of sections of waiting restrictions are intended to provide additional parking opportunity.

Effect of the Order:

### **To introduce No Waiting at any time on the following lengths of road in Sandy:-**

1. Swan Lane, northern spur, both sides, from the junction with B1042, Bedford Road and extending southwards for approximately 15 metres.
2. Swan Lane, northern spur, both sides, from the junction with the southern spur of Swan Lane and extending northwards for approximately 15 metres.
3. Swan Lane, southern spur, north side, from the junction with the northern spur of Swan Lane and extending westwards for approximately 11.5 metres, ending at a point in line with the eastern flank wall of No. 2 Swan Lane.
4. Swan Lane, southern spur, north side, from the junction with the northern spur of Swan Lane and extending eastwards for approximately 26.5 metres.
5. King's Road, east side, from the common boundary of No. 13 and No. 15 King's Road and extending in a north-westerly direction for approximately 32 metres, ending at a point where the existing double yellow lines end.
6. Laburnum Road, eastern spur, north side, from the junction with the northern arm of Laburnum Road and extending in a south-easterly direction for approximately 8.5 metres, ending at a point where the existing School Keep Clear Markings begin.
7. Laburnum Road, eastern spur, from the junction with the southern spur of Laburnum Road and extending in a south-westerly direction for approximately 15 metres ending at a point in line with the south-west flank wall of No. 3 Laburnum Road.
8. Laburnum Road, northern spur, both sides, from the junction with Robert Hunt Gardens and the eastern spur of Laburnum Road and extending in a north-westerly direction for approximately 13.5 metres ending at a point in line with the common property boundary between No. 6 Laburnum Road and No. 1 Robert Hunt Gardens.
9. Robert Hunt Gardens, north side, from the junction with the northern spur of Laburnum Road and extending in a north-easterly direction for approximately 15 metres.
10. Laburnum Road, south-side, from the southern spur of Laburnum Road and extending in north-easterly direction for approximately 15 metres, ending at the junction with Robert Hunt Gardens.
11. Laburnum Road, southern spur, both sides, from the junction with the eastern spur of Laburnum Road and extending in a south-easterly direction for approximately 15 metres.

### **To remove No Waiting at any time on the following lengths of road in Sandy:-**

1. King's Road, west side, from a point 9 metres north of the common boundary between 15 Bedford Road and 2A King's Road (Bag End) and extending northwards for approximately 9 metres.
2. King's Road, both sides, from the southernmost point of King's Road where the bollards separate King's Road from Swansholme Gardens and extending northwards for approximately 5.5 metres.

Details may also be viewed online at [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices).

Comments should be sent by e-mail to [highways.consultation@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highways.consultation@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) by 10 December 2021. Any objections must state the grounds on which they are made **and must quote unique reference number A00169**. If you want to send in your comments in writing please send them to the address shown below FAO Emily Hirst.

Please note that any comments received will be redacted of personal information and uploaded onto the Central Bedfordshire Council website as part of a report on the scheme a few days before the proposal is discussed at the relevant Traffic Management Meeting, where it will remain in the public domain. If you do not wish for your comments to be part of the report please state this explicitly within your response.

Order Title: If made will be “Central Bedfordshire Council (Bedfordshire County Council (District of Mid Bedfordshire) (Civil Enforcement Area and Special Enforcement Area) (Waiting Restrictions and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2008) (Variation No.\*) Order 202\*\*”

Central Bedfordshire Council  
Priory House  
Chicksands  
Shefford SG17 5TQ

Daryl Harvey  
Head of Highways

19 November 2021

# Swan Lane Proposals



— Proposed Double Yellow Lines

# Kings Road Proposal 1



 Proposed Double Yellow Lines

 Proposed Removal of Double Yellow Lines

# Kings Road Proposal 2



— Proposed Removal of Double Yellow Lines

# Laburnum Road/Robert Hunt Gardens Proposals



— Proposed Double Yellow Lines

Sandy Town Council

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> December 2021</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Environmental Permitting Regulations (England and Wales) 2016</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Chris Robson, Town Clerk</b>

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide Members with suggested responses to the DEFRA consultation on Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 which may impact on cemeteries.

**Recommendation**

2. That the Council consider the briefing document on Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 and the questions highlighted within the document.
3. That the Council consider the draft question/consultation responses and agree to submit these, with any amendments or additions to DEFRA.

**Background**

4. NALC have provided Councils with a briefing document on key changes proposed by DEFRA to Environmental Permitting Regulations. DEFRA are currently consulting on amendments. These changes could have impacts on cemetery management and burial capacity, potentially reducing site capacity by up to 50%.
5. The Clerk has drafted responses to the questions highlighted by NALC for Members' consideration. The Clerk has focused the narrative of his response under the question relating to increasing minimum size of a burial plot area.

**Consultation Question Draft Responses**

1. **(Q3a): To what extent do you agree with the proposal to make General Binding Rules available for small-scale cemetery developments in low-environmental risk settings?**

Neither agree or disagree.

Simplifying procedures and rules around small scale cemeteries, which have low environmental risk settings is welcomed. However, there needs to be greater clarity on rules around exemption for small scale burial sites and what constitutes such a site.

2. **(Q3b): To what extent do you agree that the draft exemption conditions for small-scale cemetery developments in low-environmental risk settings in Annex B are appropriate?**

*Strongly Disagree*

While the Council supports steps to ensure that burial sites do not cause pollution of surface water or ground water, this must be balanced with the pressure placed on provision of burial land within communities and the challenges Town and Parish Councils face in providing such land.

The Council agrees that burial of human remains, other than a burial of human ashes from crematoria, should not be undertaken directly into groundwater or in an area susceptible to groundwater flooding. The Council, along with other Councils and Burial Authorities, already takes steps within its procedures to check for groundwater as part of burials and not burying remains in a plot with standing water.

The Council strongly disagrees with the proposed amendment to increase a minimum plot size to 5m<sup>2</sup> in area. In most cases this will lead to a significant decrease in burial site capacity, placing pressure on land supply within parishes which is already often beyond a local Council's means to obtain.

Sandy Town Council is in the process of completing a cemetery extension which would see it able to provide burial space for an additional 30 plus years. However, the increase of a minimum burial plot area to 5m<sup>2</sup> would potentially result in the loss of 50% of available plots. This would significantly reduce the lifespan of the site and would leave the Council in the position of having to obtain further burial land significantly earlier than it would have otherwise done. There is of course a high cost to the tax-payer in obtaining new land, which is at a premium.

New burial land is not readily available to Councils, with many Councils having to rely on new developments coming forward to bring new burial space as part of developer agreements. Land pressure will only be intensified by reducing the number of burials that can take place on existing sites.

As part of Sandy Town Council's cemetery extension, a full-scale archaeological excavation had to be carried out on the site and reported as part of planning conditions. This work alone cost the Council approximately £100,000. This expenditure, along with site development costs, is already a potential strain on smaller Burial Authorities tax base. The Council proceeded with the extension of the cemetery site, and the costs involved in part on the basis that costs can be reclaimed over the lifespan of the new site via the cost of burial plots. This will no longer be the case if sites capacity is drastically reduced.

The pressure on burial land and the reduction in capacity and income could result in the need for Burial Authorities to increase their burial fees, impacting negatively on residents and overall burial costs which have previously been highlighted as a concern nationally.

It should be remembered that there is no duty that Councils provide burial space within their parish. The un-needed pressure which will be placed on cemetery lifespans by introducing a 5m<sup>2</sup> minimum plot size may result in Councils not proceeding with the provision of new land and the high costs involved in doing so. Again, this could place pressure on the burial system as a whole nationally.

Rather than expanding the minimum plot area and placing pressure on cemetery land, a more appropriate approach may be to stagger burial locations, meaning that after a certain length of time the existing graves close by could count towards the 5m<sup>2</sup> as the contaminants will have already dispersed into the soil. This would also help address what would happen with existing pre-purchased plots.

Burial Authorities across the country have large numbers of pre-purchased plots that were sold at the area size as was dictated at the time. If existing sites must also use the increased lot area, it will mean that significant numbers of existing burial plots are lost. In Sandy's case this will put yet more pressure on capacity as those plots will need to be refunded and alternatives found. This is not practical for the Authority or sensitive to the plot owner, especially as the Environmental Agency has indicated there is no need to apply this minimum size.

It is our understanding that the Environment Agency's main point of concern is around having consecutive burials focused in one area leading to potential increase in contamination. For small cemeteries, such as Sandy, full scale burial numbers are low, and this risk is therefore reduced. This is especially the case when burials in pre-purchased plots are taken into account.

Applying the proposed minimum plot size to existing cemeteries where many plots may be pre-purchased, is both unpractical and unnecessary in light of the EA's concerns. In terms of new sites, that EA's concerns can be addressed via cemetery management and staggering of plots, rather than increasing plot area. Staggering of plots is already something the Council's outdoor team are considering, as it ensures the structure of adjacent plots is stronger when burial occurs.

**3. (Q3c): To what extent do you agree with the proposal to make General Binding Rules available for closed loop ground source heat pump activities in low environmental risk settings?**

*Neither agree or disagree*

The Council would echo the concerns of the National Association of Local Councils that proposals may present obstacles to progression of 'green energy' by Burial Authorities and local councils. Again, the Council agrees with the aim to reduce pollution in groundwater, but some of the proposed restrictions and distances could prohibit authorities reducing carbon footprints and adopting heat pump technology.

**4. (Q3d): To what extent do you agree that the draft exemption conditions for closed loop ground source heat pump activities in low-environmental risk settings in Annex C are appropriate?**

*Disagree*

**5. (Q3e): To what extent do you agree that the draft exemption conditions for closed loop ground source heat pump activities in low-environmental risk settings in Annex C should apply to all sizes of such activities?**

*Disagree*

As detailed earlier, the proposals may impede moves to 'greener energy' by communities and parish councils. In many cases community responses will be small scale and this should be taken into account.

**6. (Q6): To what extent do you agree with the proposal to add these new rules to the General Binding Rules for Small Sewage Discharges to ensure that multiple discharges should not be located in close proximity to each other?**

*Neither agree or disagree*

**22 (Sandy) Squadron Air Cadets ATC/ACF Cadet Centre, Alnwick Close, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 1UA****Minutes from the AGM of Civilian Committee for 22 (Sandy) Squadron****18<sup>th</sup> November 2021****Present:**

James Mansion (JM) – Chairman

Dave Ellis (Wing Chairman)

Sally Walsh (SW) – Treasurer

Colin Osborne (CO) – Honorary President

PO Jeffery Henshaw (JH) – Officer Commanding

Jane Godley (JG) – Squadron Chaplain

Angus Foster (AF) – Secretary

Louise Keetley (LK)

Susan Sutton (SS)

	<b>Subject</b>	
1.	<b>Chairman's Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> – The Chairman opened the meeting at 20:00 and welcomed all present – The Chairman then introduced the Civilian Committee & Staff to the guests present	
2.	<b>Apologies For Absence</b> – N/A - All Members were present	
3.	<b>Minutes Of The Last Civilian Committee AGM Held On The 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019</b>  There were no matters arising regarding the last meeting and so the Chairman signed the copy as a true record of proceedings	
4.	<b>Chairman's Report</b>  The Chairman started his report by thanking PO Jeffery Henshaw for yet another year of commitment & to congratulate him on his promotion to the position of Pilot Officer & the Squadron's Commanding Officer. In addition, he wanted to thank the other members of the Committee for their support during the last 12-24 months.  The last 2 years have been very trying & worrying & not a great deal has happened, but the Committee has continued to meet on a regular basis & support the Squadron  The Chairman also wanted to congratulate the Squadron & Cadets on their continued activities during & post lockdown but wanted to leave the details for the CO's Report, which was following.	



<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p> <p>The Treasurer presented to the AGM the FY2019/2020 &amp; FY2020/2021 accounts – 2020 AGM accounts started at £11,110 &amp; closed at £8,541. 2021 AGM accounts started at £8,541 &amp; closed at £8,989</p> <p>The vast majority of the money was spent on the flight simulator, uniform &amp; kit and also WFW rations. Even though 2020/2021 was a difficult year the accounts closed on approx. £450/500 up on its opening balance – this was mainly down to the Cadets that continued to pay subs during lockdown. SW suggested that it may be nice for the Squadron to officially say thank you to the parents as without their support &amp; continuing to pay during lockdown the accounts would have taken a dip</p> <p>During &amp; post lockdown, the plan was to spend money to aid recovery</p> <p>The end of year accounts are complete &amp; will be submitted to Wing after the AGM</p> <p>The Chairman formally agreed &amp; adopted the accounts FY 2019/2020 &amp; 2020/2021</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>CO's Report</b></p> <p>PO Jeffery Henshaw prepared a presentation highlighting the success and achievements of the Squadron during 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 and a copy is attached</p> <p>Average Cadet numbers have remained at 35 since the last AGM – however numbers prior to lockdown had risen to 52 at its peak</p> <p>Since returning from lockdown in April 2021, 12 new Cadets have joined &amp; this is without any extra recruitment activities – however there will be a separate recruitment day at the local schools &amp; this is initially planned for Dec 2021</p> <p>Recent activities have included:</p> <p>Providing the staff &amp; infrastructure to the Sector, to enable 2 rotations of Blue Road Marching</p> <p>16 Cadets have recently completed the Essential 1<sup>st</sup> Aid Course &amp; having the new Resus Annie's has made this possible</p> <p>During September 2021 Cadets from the Squadron attended the Sector Training Weekend at RAF Henlow &amp; participated in activities including, Rifle, Cyber, Radio Comms &amp; Road Marching</p> <p>3 Cadets have recently attended 2 different residential Activity Training Camps</p>



	<p>Due the extended footprint of the Squadron which now includes the Sandhills &amp; the playing fields opposite, the Squadron can now offer Fieldcraft activities &amp; training – PO Henshaw wanted to thank the Sandy Town Council for their assistance in setting this up</p> <p>Technically the Squadron are still the reigning winners of the last Wing Field Weekend (June 2019) – 19 Cadets from the Squadron attended &amp; they came 4<sup>th</sup> in Drill, 1<sup>st</sup> in Air Rec &amp; came 1<sup>st</sup> place overall – The Squadron wanted to thank the Civ Com for their support.</p> <p>ATC Sunday was held in Sandy February 2020, but it was cancelled on the day due to bad weather, but the Squadron attended &amp; an invite went out to the local Sandy resident to join them &amp; it was well attended by Cadets, their families &amp; residents</p> <p>Upcoming activities will include: Sector Training, Gliding, Road Marching, Easter Camp &amp; a Squadron visit to the RAF Museum at Cosford</p> <p>Staffing levels are currently: 3 Officers, 2 Civilian Instructors, 1 Padre &amp; 2 Registered Civ Com</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>Election Of Officers</b></p> <p><b>Election Of Chairman</b> – Susan Sutton proposed that James Mansion be re-elected for 2021 &amp; this was seconded by Colin Osborne</p> <p><b>Election Of Treasurer</b> – Susan Sutton proposed that Sally Walsh be re-elected for 2021 &amp; this was seconded by Colin Osborne</p> <p><b>Election Of Secretary</b> – Susan Sutton proposed Angus Foster be re-elected for 2021 &amp; this was seconded by Colin Osborne</p> <p>The elections were all unopposed</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><b>Election Of Committee Members</b></p> <p>Susan Sutton, was re-elected as a Committee member for 2021 &amp; Louise Keetley was also elected as a new member of the Committee – The Chairman thanked the members of the Committee for their continued support</p> <p><b>Honorary President</b> – Colin Osborne confirmed his position of Honorary President for 2021. This was unchallenged &amp; the Chairman &amp; Committee thanked him for his time &amp; continued support</p> <p><b>Squadron Chaplain</b> – During the evening, Jane Godley confirmed her position as the Squadron Chaplain for 2021 – The Chairman &amp; Committee thanked for her continued support</p>



9.	<p><b>Any Other Business –</b></p> <p>During the evening Susan Sutton wanted to thank the Squadron on behalf of Sandy Town Council &amp; The Royal British Legion for their support during the 2021 Remembrance Day Parade</p> <p>At the end of the evening the Wing Chairman wanted to thank the Staff &amp; Committee for their activities since the last AGM &amp; for keeping it going through these troubling times</p> <p>The Committee also wanted to thank the Wing Chairman for his time &amp; assistance and to wish him all the best for the future as he will stepping down from his role shortly</p> <p>The Chairman closed the AGM at 20.27</p>	
	<p><b>Date Of Next AGM</b></p> <p>To Be Confirmed – <b>Suggested End November 2022</b></p>	

**Sandy Town Council**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> December 2021</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Sandy Sports &amp; Leisure Association (SSLA)</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Cllr Max Hill</b>

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide the latest updates from the Secretary of Sandy Sports & Leisure Association (SSLA).

**Summary & Key Bullet Points**

2. Summary below:

As will be seen from the significant amount of information below, a huge amount has happened with regard to the all-weather pitch since the last report. It has proved a major operation to get all the outstanding tasks completed but a lot of people have worked very hard and liaised effectively to get things done. At the end of the day, despite the hiccups, we should be pleased that the new pitch looks very good and by all accounts the playing surface is excellent.

Issues which are on-going:

- Terry Seymour of TCS Electricals has confirmed he will carry out the necessary works to the car park lighting in line with his estimate which was supplied dated 1 June 2021 for £1875.00 plus VAT. Since additional new lighting will be installed when the car park is extended as part of the Jenkins Pavilion project, it may be possible to make some interim saving on the present quote to avoid / prevent duplicate expenditure, at the same time ensuring adequate and safe lighting is maintained in the existing car park. An on-site meeting was suggested to discuss and confirm the extent of essential works and the cost.
- The tree branches and other prunings have still to be cleared from the school side of the car park fence and the grass in the car park cut after all litter etc. was picked and removed a fortnight ago.
- SIS were asked to provide a supplementary quote to undertake further essential fence repairs on the north side as well as patching and securing work around the other three sides of the pitch. Scott from SIS looked at what was required on 3 November and promised a written quote which has not been received. In the meantime, Sam Watkins from Huntree Fencing visited on 10 November. Huntree did work on site on behalf of SLL in 2015 and Sam was very familiar with the area, having once been a pupil at SSS. Huntree Fencing Ltd have now provided a very detailed estimate for £1675.00 + VAT and have provisionally scheduled to undertake the work in early February 2022.
- No progress on treatment of the original wooden rebound boards.
- Sandy & Shefford Hockey Club members are in the throes of refurbishing the seats and seat supports in the old smaller shelters.
- Issues around the safe operation and efficiency of the new winch mechanism and division net remain unresolved. Having previously been branded by some as being, "unfit for purpose" we are now told that difficulties are of our own making as we are simply not using the equipment in the way it was designed to be used. Following a further long telephone discussion with him this week, Matt Young is presently asking SIS to identify where else, within a reasonable radius from Sandy, we could visit to inspect and witness the same equipment being operated, "correctly".

- Three floodlight lamps (I believe) have recently been replaced by Highlights Floodlighting Ltd on the instructions of SLL, so all lamps in the eight lamp heads are now operating.
- The new Friction Drag Mat was delivered to site on 24 November. The following day Phillip Rose and Ross Rhodes of SLL connected the mat to the Electric Etesia vehicle and together were used for the first time to sweep around 25% of the pitch. The first sweep was completed the following day, and all seems to have gone to plan. The mat appears to do what it is designed to; it picks up debris from the carpet including leaves, seeds and other detritus and filters and returns sand to the carpet.
- Signage. Signs supplied by SE and SIS are now mounted on the perimeter fence, on the north side.

Additional Items for Noting / Information.

- In April 2021 Highlights Floodlighting Ltd provided SLL with a detailed inclusive quote (£1920.00 +VAT) to carry out a full service on all parts of the Floodlighting system. The service was carried out and paid for by SLL. As noted above, blown lamps were replaced as part of a separate order placed, and paid for also by SLL. We have been concerned for some time with cracks and degrading in the concrete around the bases of the eight columns. In their original quote, Highlights **included** the cost of an inspection and Non-Destructive test on all the floodlighting fitting bolts and column foundation bolts.
- In a phone discussion with Mark Peckham of Highlights Ltd this week he expressed the personal opinion that the cracks etc. in some of the concrete bases is almost certainly superficial and nothing to be overly concerned about. However, he agreed it would after 25+ years, be sensible and prudent to have it checked out. Mr. Peckham will therefore provide a follow up quote for the tests to be carried out on the fitting and foundation bolts which will include inspection above and below ground of the concrete bases with a condition report and recommendations. The estimate is now awaited.
- We have received £2750.00. from SLL in respect of the insurance claims settlement for the stolen Kubota mini tractor. We will need to consider disposal / sale of the drag brush assembly currently being stored in the garage.
- In the last few days, a further Stage Payment Certificate, Valuation 3 has been received from SIS Pitches, approved by Matt Young for £3496.82 + VAT; payment due by 27 December 2021. I'll be forwarding this to Treasurer Phil shortly. This leaves a retention in the region of £2k due in a few months' time.
- What is intended as a low-key pre-Christmas event is being held by Sandy & Shefford Hockey Club on Tuesday evening next, 7 December beginning at 6pm to which all members of SSLA are invited. This will I believe feature mainly the junior members of the club (seasonally dressed) but is seen by the club as an opportunity to promote their activities in conjunction with the pitch refurbishment, to formally thank CBC for support funding and to garner some publicity which should help to promote the facility generally.

**Sandy Town Council**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> December 2021</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Friends of Sandy Christmas Lights (FoSCL)</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Cllr Max Hill</b>

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide the latest updates from the Friends of Sandy Christmas Lights Committee (FoSCL)

**Summary & Key Bullet Points**

2. Summary below:
  - The annual switch-on event for the Sandy Christmas lights duly took place on Sunday November 28<sup>th</sup>. The weather remained fine if cold and there was a good turn-out of local residents, perhaps not quite in the numbers of last year, but with only two of the local schools performing on stage, this is perhaps not surprising.
  - Gee leach and her small team worked extremely hard to organise the event and special mention has to be made of the Council staff, both the admin. and outdoor teams, who all turned out on the day and whose varied contributions were crucial to the smooth running and success of the event.
  - It would be appropriate for Councillors to express their thanks to all the organising team. This continues to be the largest such event in the area and the organisation demands a huge amount of time and effort. All the feedback to date has been very positive.

**Sandy Town Council**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> December 2021</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Sandy Twinning Association</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Cllr Max Hill</b>

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide the latest updates from Sandy Twinning Association

**Summary & Key Bullet Points**

2. Summary below:
  - We have now written to the jumelage in Malaunay, giving them a realistic assessment of the likelihood of being able to organise any activities during 2022. With case numbers now rising rapidly in France and the recent announcement about the new Omicron variant, it is impossible to plan anything at present with confidence.
  - We have already cancelled the English summer schools in Poland, which is also seeing a sharp rise in new infections. No responses received from either of the two secondary schools which is perhaps not surprising in the current climate.
  - The Twinning Association is still intending to hold its AGM at the beginning of January, and it is then that definitive decisions will be made based on what happens over the next month or so.