

Sandy Town Council

To: Cllrs N Aldis, J Ivanciu-Wilkinson, L Ivanciu-Wilkinson, A lock, R Lock, C Osborne, M Scott, S Sutton (Chair), N Thompson
c.c. P Blaine, J Hewitt, R lacey, M Pettitt, P Sharman

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Community Services and Environment Committee of Sandy Town Council to be held in the Council Chamber at 10 Cambridge Road, Sandy SG19 1JE on Monday 9th January 2023 commencing at 7.30pm.



Nicola Sewell
Town Clerk
10 Cambridge Road
Sandy, SG19 1JE
01767 681491
4th January 2023

A G E N D A

1 Apologies for absence

2 Declarations of interest

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) Non-disclosable Interests*
- iii) Dispensations*

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting

To consider the minutes of the Community Services and Environment Committee held on Monday 21st November 2022 and to approve them as a correct record of proceedings.

Sandy Town Council

4 **Public Participation Session**

Members of the public may ask questions or make representations to the committee about items of business which are on the agenda.

5 **Action List**

To receive the Action List and any updates.

Appendix I

6 **Winter Maintenance (Salt/ Gritting) - Areas of the Town**

The Committee is advised that at the Council Meeting in December 2023 it was requested a report be submitted to this meeting. Due to the Christmas holidays etc it has been difficult to access the required information from Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) to make a report to this Committee meeting. Reports on the provision of new services including winter maintenance and their feasibility for the Town Council will be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

7 **Calendar of Events 2023**

The Committee is invited to discuss items for the Events Calendar including;

- Town Centre Markets
- Coronation of King Charles III – Celebrations - 6 May
- Green Wheel Walks (partner organisations to develop the walks)
- Mosaic – Unveiling
- Skate Park Celebrations
- Remembrance Sunday

8 **Sandy Community Day 15 April 2023**

To receive a report at the meeting on the Community Day from the 'Let's Get Going' community interest company

9 **Proposed Land Adoption – Goldfinch Road**

To consider a request from Persimmon Homes for the Town Council to consider taking ownership of a small section of land adjacent to a larger stretch of land already in the ownership of the Town Council

Appendix II

10 **Chairman's Items**

11 **Date of Next Meeting – Monday 13 February 2023**

Agenda Item 5 - Community Services and Environment Committee - Action list

Subject	Action to be taken Action	Response /Status
Full Council Meeting 20/04/16		
Allotments and Community Orchard At Beeston (CBC owned land) Min (22-16/17)	Progress and update reports to go to the Community Services and Environment Committee.	<p>October 2021 – Update received from CBC officer to inform Clerk that this land is to be included with notices regarding other parcels of land and should be in the paper by the time of the Council meeting.</p> <p>Update received on 7th December 2021 – Notice still to go in paper, other notices to go with the Community land notice. Those involved were asked to have notices ready by COB 7th December to go into the paper for that week.</p> <p>Councillors resolved that they did not wish for the Council’s solicitor to undertake any work on the lease or incur charges until CBC had progressed the disposal notice and started work on a lease.</p> <p>Clerk has chased CBC to ask if any objections were made to the application advertised in March and as none were made progress is now going ahead with the lease.</p> <p>Clerk received an email from Lee Newton to say that a draft lease was being created and should be ready for review on Wednesday 13th July. However, of 14th no lease has been forthcoming. Clerk to chase.</p> <p>Clerk sent draft lease to Woodfines for comment on 14.10.2022. Not response yet received despite Clerk sending reminder emails on 21.10.2022. Last follow up sent from Clerk on 15.11.2022</p> <p>Updated lease to be brought to full Council at meeting 23 January 2023</p>
CSE Meeting 24/08/2020		

<p>Use of former Days Inn conference site</p> <p>Min (24-20/21)</p>	<p>RESOLVED to write to CBC with ideas about potential use of the former Days Inn conference site.</p>	<p>Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Clerk had call with Tony Keaveney in January 2022 and asked for an update on the site. At this stage there are no further agreed plans for the conference site and Mr Keaveney again offered assurance that he would come and speak with the Council about any plans. Mr Keaveney offered to meet with the Council again if Members wished.</p> <p>Clerk to invite Mr Keaveney to Sept/Oct meeting of CSE to give an update on the site.</p> <p>Invite extended to Mr Keaveney on 14.09.2022 to attend CSE meetings on either 26th Sept or 17th Oct.</p> <p>The Meadows</p> <p>Mr. Keaveney attended CS&E meeting on 21st November and gave Members an update on the site.</p> <p>Mr. Keaveney told members that his team were currently working through a discharge of planning conditions, and that a fencing contractor had been appointed to commence work to improve the area and replace the current Heras fence on site.</p> <p>He added that they were also looking to remove the flagpole. A member questioned this decision and suggested that the prominent siting of the flagpole would make it a town asset and Mr. Keaveney said he would be happy to take that decision back to the team for discussion.</p> <p>Windows on the building along the A1 side were to be replaced to improve noise reduction and it was planned for works to start early in the New Year.</p> <p>The team was also looking to improve the footpaths both internally on site and those externally and were working with CBC Highways on the issue.</p> <p>Finally, the team was waiting on an estimate to undertake landscaping work on site, and they had been consulting with the Greensands Country Landscape Partnership on this. The farmer that grazes his cattle on the wetlands there was also due to return next year.</p> <p>Former Days Inn Conference Centre</p> <p>Mr. Keaveney assured members that CBC would not be undertaking any work on the site without making STC aware. He also stated that they did not intend to do anything that would have a detrimental impact on the community of Sandy.</p> <p>He told members that CBC had received a number of high money offers on the building but when weighed up</p>
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		<p>against any benefit the proposals would bring to the community the numbers did not stack up. There were some discussions with an organisation looking at a potential building swap with the intention of re-opening the site as a meeting venue that could be hired out.</p> <p>Mr. Keaveney said that they were looking for organisations that could not only afford to buy the property but also had the means to make the facility work over the long term. He added that they remained open to ideas.</p>
<p>CSE Meeting 05/10/2020</p>		
<p>SID Sign locations and Installation</p> <p>Min (37-20/21)</p>	<p>RESOLVED to approve sign locations and the Clerk work with CBC to arrange installation.</p>	<p>Local policing team to express their support for SID signage in Sandy to CBC. CBC Highways informed the Clerk that due to the number of requests for SID signs they wanted to review their approach. No new signs to be agreed by Highways until a new guidance document is produced.</p> <p>CBC Highways contacted the Clerk and stated that they have considered request and do not consider that a SID would be appropriate along Sunderland Road, however they have added the issue of 'vehicle speeds along Sunderland Road' to their four-year plan.</p> <p>Other individuals, including Cllr Maudlin and the PCC offered to raise matter with CBC. No progress was made.</p> <p>Council agreed to undertake a traffic flow and volume study at a cost of £300 which may be able to provide the evidence needed to have an SID sign agreed by CBC. Report on agenda.</p> <p>Meeting between Clerk and Cllr Sutton cancelled at the last minute a new date is being fixed for this meeting. Clerk reached out to other CBC Clerks to understand how they had dealt with the same issues. Confirmed that CBC has the final say on whether SID can be installed.</p> <p>Cllr Sutton and Clerk met with Philip Eaton and Wayne Humberstone from the Office of the Police Crime Commissioner to discuss the issue on 04.07.2022. They agreed to pursue the matter with CBC. The response from CBC was: "<i>CBC Engineers are aware of the speed concerns, anticipating that a SID installed in isolation was unlikely to be effective or unlikely to have the desired impact on driver behaviour - leading to disappointment.</i>"</p> <p><i>They believe it is better to investigate the problem, so have included the location in the 2022 annual road plan, ensuring a thorough review of the speeds and</i></p>

		<p><i>appropriate measures when they will be able to update the Town Council.</i></p> <p><i>Subject to CBC / TC accepting verge parking, The Camera, Ticket, and collision unit aims to provide the periodic presence of a high visibility marked safety camera van in the area that will influence driver behaviour and encourage compliance of the speed restriction.</i></p> <p><i>As well as the above I will be speaking to the OPCC comms lead to promote the idea of a speed watch in the Sandy area and would also ask that you promote this scheme through whatever communication channels you have will residents and businesses.</i></p> <p><i>I do not have any timeline for the work CBC are going to do but feel that this is matter has been highlighted to them and included in their 2022 plan.”</i></p> <p>No current Speedwatch in Sandy. Clerk to help OPCC promote Speedwatch and make a call out to volunteers via social media and newspapers.</p> <p>Publicity on facebook and Council website published in July. Unfortunately, response from residents was negative. Clerk contacted Cllr Maudlin to suggest a possibility of merging streetwatch and speedwatch as the former had proved successful. Cllr Maudlin asked if STC Members would also volunteer to join the groups to help boost numbers.</p> <p>Clerk sent a follow up email to Philip Eaton and Wayne Humberstone on 14.09.2022 to progress matters.</p> <p>Clerk received a template letter and leaflets from OPCC Operation. No further action has been taken. After Christmas Lights Switch on a full push again on social media and leaflets displayed will again ask for volunteers. At a meeting of Full Council on 14.11.2022 Ward Cllr Maudlin asked Members to join the Speed Watch Group.</p> <p>Community Engagement Officer will be asked to set out a programme of communication to engage the community around this issue in early 2023.</p>
<p>CSE Meeting 23/08/2021</p>		
<p>Min (33-21/22) EV Charging Points</p>	<p>RESOLVED that the Clerk submit a list of STC owned sites for consideration as part of CBC’s EV Charge Point Scheme.</p>	<p>EOI for sites submitted on 24th August 2021. Acknowledgment of receipt received.</p> <p>CBC previously went out to tender to find a company to lead on the EV scheme. BP Pulse has been appointed to install and run the network. The first round of sites is to be agreed and the plan is to get a good geographical</p>

		<p>spread, but CBC’s Head of Sustainability has pushed for charge points in Sandy to be included.</p> <p>It may be that sites with good connection points/grid and capacity are focused on during the initial stage. More information should be known soon. Lead Councillor and staff member to be appointed as contacts for CBC as part of Clerk’s exit and handover.</p> <p>Clerk contacted Stephen Mooring at CBC on 25.07.2022 Reply received on 20.9.2022 (see below*). Clerk has invited Mr Mooring to come to the September or October meeting of the Committee.</p> <p>Confirmation from Tom Price Senior Sustainable Transport Officer and Steven Mooring Head of Sustainability that they will attend the CS&E meeting on 21.11.2022</p> <p>Tom Price Senior Sustainable Transport Officer at CBC was present to talk about why Sandy’s recent bid to have Electric Charging Points had failed and to answer questions on what to do next.</p> <p>Mr. Price explained that Sandy’s original bid for electric vehicle charging points had failed because of the cost of connecting to the grid.</p> <p>He reported, however, that Sandy would get charging points and plans were being looked at to see how higher cost sites could be bundled together to overcome this funding issue, both in Sandy and elsewhere. They had identified the High Street car park as a prime location for starters where they would be looking to install 3 charging points. This would require an area the size of 6 parking bays, and it was a balance the Town Council would need to consider. These would be the Rapid Charging Points.</p> <p>In addition, they would look to put further domestic charging points at the same location, but again this would require some sacrifice of parking bays.</p> <p>Other sites had been ruled out for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market Square, because of the loss of parking bays • Railway Station Car Park, as it is on private land • Jenkins Pavilion (SSLA Car Park), as the perception was that the area was not accessible 24 hours a day • Sandy Cemetery as the parking facilities on site were not suitable and the site was too out of the way. <p>Mr. Price also talked about other options that were being explored such as a gully to enable those who must park</p>
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		<p>on the street to charge from their homes without causing a trip hazard on the pavement and utilizing street lighting columns, although these did not offer a rapid charge option. These options will be explored further next year.</p> <p>In terms of Sandy, Mr. Price said the town would see installation of Rapid Charging Points taking place over the next 12 to 18 months with domestic chargers taking a further 12 months to install.</p>
<p>TC Meeting 07.03.2022</p>		
<p>Min (207-2021/22)</p> <p>Jubilee Beacon/Community Art Funding</p>	<p>RESOLVED that a gas beacon be used on the day and that a permanent memorial request be referred to the CS&E Committee. One vote against was recorded.</p>	<p>S106 funding agreed for what was originally planned to be a Jubilee Beacon for the town. Following decision on 7th March it was agreed that a new Beacon would not be needed and Clerk to investigate how/if S106 funding could be used in an alternate way.</p> <p>It was confirmed by CBC that the S106 funding could be used for a community Arts Project and if it fitted with the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A commissioned bespoke piece of art to commemorate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee to be displayed in the town or 2) Suggest an arts-based community engagement event <p>Members of the public have been encouraged to send suggestions in through the Annual Parish Meeting, social media, and TC website.</p> <p>Suggestions were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mosaic from artists that supplied Story in Stone • Engage with local children to produce a design to be judged by the Mayor/Deputy Mayor <p>A competition was set up asking school age children to produce a design that would then be turned into a mosaic to contribute to the current mosaic trail in Sandy.</p> <p>Press release and competition details have been published and circulated to all local schools, the library and sent to the Chronicle. Local Artist to be engaged as part of the judging panel. Let’s Get Going have been asked to include activity on the competition during the Wellbeing Day at Sunderland Road on 18th September.</p> <p>Original mosaic story in stone team Carolyn Blake and Oliver Budd have been engaged and working with the Clerk to organise a children’s community event with art workshop held in the October half term at the Chamber with Carolyn enabling children to take part in creating the new mosaic for Sandy. The new Lord Lieutenant had</p>

		<p>accepted an initial invitation to an official unveiling in November.</p> <p>The deadline for entries was to be 21st September.</p> <p>Following the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II, the Clerk placed any further publicity for the competition on hold for Members to agree a way forward and whether the mosaic should be used to celebrate the life, not just the reign of the HM Queen Elizabeth II. Carolyn Blake is to send through alternative dates that would see the event take place later in the year. An update to the community workshop and the competition to also be submitted.</p> <p>Cllrs Hewitt and Sutton met with Carolyn Blake with the Clerk on zoom on 17.11.2022 to discuss next steps. A potential event will be planned for February half term.</p>
CSE Meeting 21.03.2022		
CSE Meeting 09.05.2022		
<p>Min (130-2021/22)</p> <p>AMP</p>	<p>It was RESOLVED that the Clerk seek more detail from AMP about the proposed enclosure for the pod and ask if other sites could be considered that would have less visual impact within an open space.</p>	<p>Details circulated to Members</p> <p>Further information circulated to Members. Suggestions for suitable pockets of land requested.</p> <p>STC has given permission to AMP to contact utilities to explore sites around Sandy for the installation of the battery pods. A report will be circulated once information is forthcoming.</p> <p>Update chased on 15.09.2022. Clerk followed up 15.11.2002 no response yet.</p>
CSE Meeting 09.05.2022		
<p>Min (134-2021/2022)</p> <p>Beeston Green Drainage</p>	<p>Meeting between Philip Lovesey, Operations Manager at Bedford Group of the Drainage Board took place with Cllr Scott, Ward Cllr Stock the Clerk and Members of the Public.</p>	<p>An inspection of the site was made and problems with strimming identified that prevented access to the culvert and therefore any action to remove blockages at site.</p> <p>STC Outdoor Team undertook strimming of the area to enable better access to culvert and CBC Contractors have been briefed by Clerk to maintain the area as now set.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Letter received from Bedfordshire and River Ivel Internal Drainage Board outlining works to be conducted during 2022/23 programme along the River Ivel to advise us that the following work would be taking place:</p>

		<p>De silting De silting/clearing Weed-cutting Spraying Flailing Flailing/Clearing Hand-work</p> <p>Work has started on the lvel w/c 5.09.2022 Clerk saw works being undertaken in the area alongside the Green Wheel Walk by Girtford Bridge.</p> <p>Clerk has requested an update on works from Philip Lovesey as the works promised for Beeston have yet to be undertaken. He responded that they had missed the window for this year and that the weather was now too wet to undertake the work and so hoped it would be conducted in March/April 2023</p>
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***RESPONSE FROM STEPHEN MOORING REGARDING ELECTRIC CHARGEPOINTS.**

Hi Nicola,

Apologies for the delay in coming back to you on this. The current situation is that we have just received confirmation of funding for 12 sites through the On-Street Residential funding Scheme (ORCS). It'll see the addition of 48 new chargepoints (96 sockets) so is a big first step forward for the wider Central Bedfordshire area. It's important to stress that this funding focuses on the provision of chargepoints for the use of residents without access to off street parking with strict criteria around 24-hour access etc, and our ability to make the case that this is needed in a specific location to meet the needs of residents without access to driveways.

Along with bp pulse, we looked at around 150 locations, including the ones put forward by STC. Of the 150 only 12 met the pre-April 22 ORCS criteria (which is the funding round we bid in to) and were also deemed affordable when grid connection costs were taken into account. The reason we focused on this is that percentage scheme funding is 75%, with the post April 22 ORCs scheme being 60%. Grid connection cost is by far the biggest issue we are facing (along with the time to get quotes) and rule many sites out.

Unfortunately, for this round we couldn't make a strong enough case for the sites put forward by STC, so none have made it into the final 12. This was primarily because of grid connection costs, as well being able to demonstrate demand in those areas from residents who have EV's but nowhere off street to charge them.

It's important to stress that this doesn't mean that they are ruled out, but just not suitable for this specific round of ORCS funding round that we bid in to.

The scheme rules have been changed so there is a little more flexibility and Tom is reviewing the long list again in light of the new criteria. It may be that Tom needs to come back to you to get a view on some of the issues which made the site unsuitable for the first round, such as 24-hour access etc.

Running alongside this is the work that the bp pulse network team are doing focusing on the wider public charging network. It's this that I think is more relevant to the sites STC put forward.

They have been given a list of sites and are currently doing surveys, with their recommendations for first phase installs due before the end September. This includes the sites in Sandy. The focus for the first round is getting geographic spread across the area and linking to major transport routes and other attractor (town centres, retail, tourist locations etc). These will be rapid chargers designed for shorter stay so a better fit for your carparks. I will let you know as soon as bp pulse have confirmed this first phase and either Tom or myself will talk you through what we need to do next.

Further to this, in 2023 we expect to be able to bid to the Local EV Infrastructure Fund (LEVI), this will be broader in terms of the types of sites that can be delivered, with less of an emphasis on residential charging. We will look at a charging hub in all our major towns, including Sandy.

I can only apologise for the time this is taking. Just getting connection quotes back from the DNO for grid connection has taken twice as long as it should, meaning the evaluation process is taking many months so this is proving to be quite a frustrating area of work for us too.

I'm happy to come and meet to discuss and work out the best way forward for STC or attend a meeting with your members as required.

Many thanks

Stephen

Stephen Mooring MIEMA C. Env
Head of Sustainability

Agenda item 9

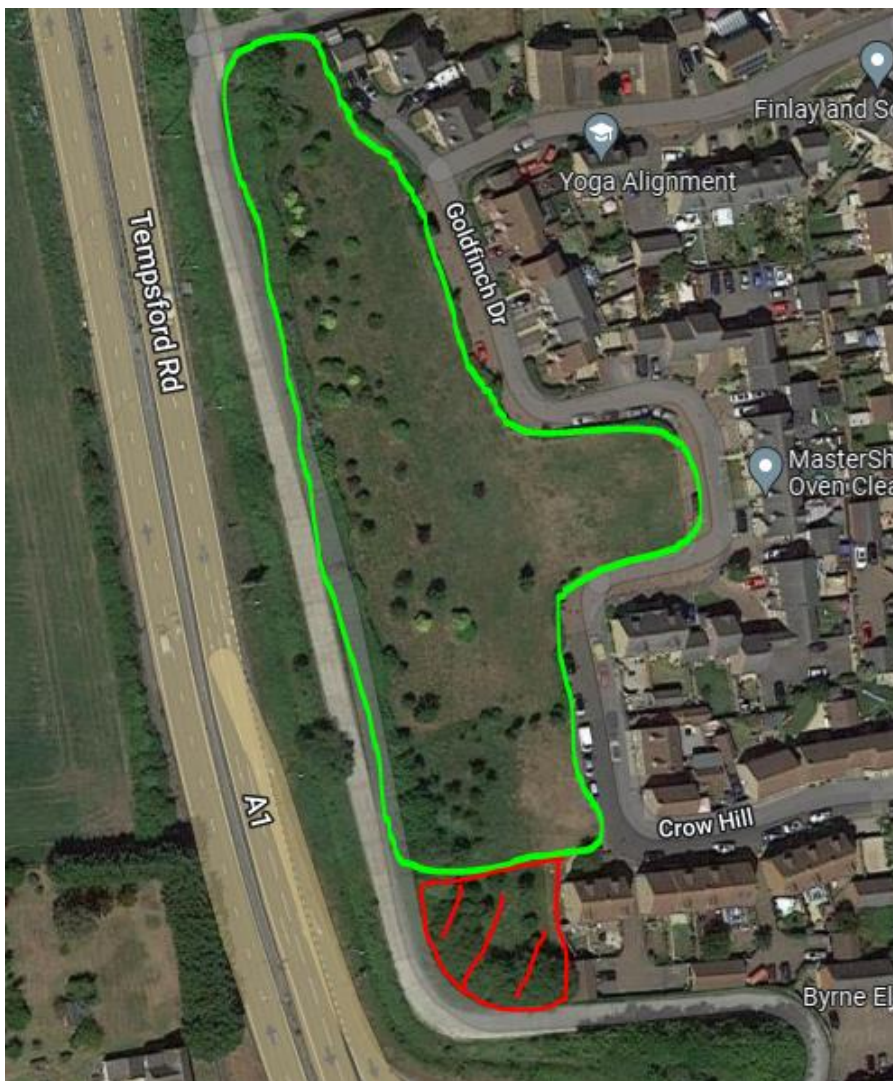
Appendix II

From: Holt, Nathan <nathan.holt@persimmonhomes.com>
Sent: 19 December 2022 12:50
To: Admin <Admin@sandytowncouncil.gov.uk>
Subject: Public Open Space - Goldfinch Drive, Sandy

Good Afternoon

On a recent review of our land holdings, we noticed that we still own and maintain a small area of open space land on Goldfinch Drive, Sandy. This small area of land is part of a larger area owned by Sandy Town Council. I thought I would get in touch to ask if you were aware of this land, and if there was any reason why it was not transferred to Sandy TC with the larger area? Would you have any interest in this land being transferred to you now?

For information, I have very roughly marked the areas on the screen grab below, with Sandy TC's land in green and the area owned by Persimmon Homes marked in red. I'd be very grateful if you could review and let me know your thoughts on the matter.



Many thanks
Nathan

Nathan Holt | Closed Site Engineer