

Sandy Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of Sandy Town Council held in the Council Chamber at 10 Cambridge Road, Sandy, Bedfordshire on Monday 11 April 2016 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs P N Aldis, P Blaine, T Cole, A M Hill, W Jackson (Mayor), C Osborne, M Scott, D Sharman, P Sharman, J Sparrow and S Sutton

Absent: Cllrs J Ali, G Leach, M Pettitt, D Quick.

In attendance: Cllr Stock (CBC), Mr C Robson (Town Clerk), Mrs C Baker-Smith (Admin Team Leader) and one member of the public.

		Action
1	Apologies for Absence (135-2015/2016) Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs, G Leach, M Pettitt and CBC Cllrs Maudlin and Smith.	Admin
2	Declaration of Interest and requests for dispensations (136-2015/16) i) <i>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests</i> – None ii) <i>Non Disclosable Interests</i> – None. iii) <i>Dispensations</i> – None	
3	Public Participation and Central Bedfordshire Councillors Session (137-2015/16) Cllr Aldis informed Members he had received a question from a member of the public. What action is Sandy Town Council taking to engage with Health Care providers in the town given the difficulty in obtaining a doctors' appointment, due to the large demand in Sandy. Another member stated that with additional houses being built in Sandy, the demand for doctors and dentists would become a greater problem and it is important that this is addressed. Members went on to discuss the potential relocation of the Kings Road Surgery to Shannon court. The Town Clerk informed Members he had not received any further updates but would formally write to the surgery asking them to outline their current intentions. CBC Cllr Stock informed the meeting that a previously proposed scheme for six social housing homes and an orchard on CBC land in Beeston had progressed and this would now go forward.	

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A member stated that it was recommended that only 4 houses would be built in Beeston. Cllr Stock replied that a need for 6 houses had been identified by BRCC.

A Member stated he hoped that residents of Beeston would be given priority within the housing scheme. Cllr Stock said they would be and it would be on a first come first served basis.

Cllr Stock went on to inform Members;

That following the deadline for submission of land under the Call for Sites there would be an update from the portfolio holder over the next few months.

A reminder that at the Grove Theatre in Dunstable a fundraising evening is being held in aid of Diabetes UK and tickets are available from CBC Cllr Maudlin.

Community Alcoholic Partnerships (CAP) has launched its 100th scheme in Biggleswade. CAP aims to tackle alcohol-related harm, reduced the sale of alcohol to under 18s, drive down alcohol-related anti-social behaviour and increased local residents' feelings of safety.

BCG is extending current engagement with people to review community health services in an effort to improve them.

Current Consultations being carried out: Housing, parking, community transport strategy, Children's Centre feedback.

A member stated that there was a lot of information to take in and asked if the CBC Councillors would submit a written report before the meeting to enable members to submit queries or questions at the meeting. Cllr Stock said that a report will be produced beforehand.

Cllr
Stock

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk write to Central Bedfordshire Council and the National Health Service expressing the council's concerns and to Dr Graffy regarding the status of the Kings Road Surgery move to Shannon Court.

Town
Clerk

4 **Minutes of previous Town Council Meeting (138-2015/16)**

RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the meeting of Sandy Town Council held on Monday 7 March 2016 and to approve them as a correct record of proceedings.

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5 Minutes of Committees and recommendations therein (139-2015/16)

To receive and note the minutes of the meetings of the following committees and sub committees (if applicable) to approve recommendations therein which do not arise elsewhere.

- i) **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of meetings of Development Scrutiny Committee held on 14 March and 4 April 2016.
- ii) **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the meeting of Policy Finance and Resources Committee held on 14 March 2016.
- iii) **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the meeting of the Human Resources Committee held on 21 March 2016.

6 Financial Matters (140-2015/16)

- i) Members noted a summary statement of income and expenditure against budget for the year to date (previously circulated and scrutinised at a meeting of the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee held on 14 March 2016).
- ii) To note a list of payments made since the last Town Council meeting (previously circulated and scrutinised at a meeting of the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee held on 14 March 2016)

7 Action List (141-2015/16)

The Action List was noted.

8 Engayne Avenue (142-2015/16)

Members welcomed the proposals for the introduction of 'No waiting at any time' in Engayne Avenue and Waverley Avenue, Sandy and looked forward to the project being completed quickly so the 73 bus service can be returned.

Cllr Stock reported that 94% of the public when consulted welcomed the return of the Number 73 bus and the results of the consultation would be published.

A member stated he had two concerns, how the parking will be monitored and the effects on the local shop.

A member asked that the Town Clerk write to Central Bedfordshire Council to ask that the area is monitored closely once the enforcement comes in to effect to ensure it is working.

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Another member asked that if it goes to a Traffic Management Committee then the Council be informed in order that a member may be present.

9 **Allotment Site (143-2015/16)**

The Town Clerk's report was received and noted. He stated that he is working with the Allotment Association and Central Bedfordshire Council and will update Council at a meeting on 9th May 2016.

A member stated that this was short notice and perhaps it should be brought to the next cycle of Council meetings.

Another member asked if Central Bedfordshire Council had refunded the survey fee for the site. The Town Clerk will chase this query.

Town
Clerk

10 **Bartram's Timber Planning Application (144-2015/16)**

The Mayor thanked Mrs Elliott-Flockhart for the comprehensive report which was received and noted.

A member stated that there were four areas of concern namely the flagrant disregard for the conditions of the planning consent, the rapid expansion of the site, the increase in operation hours and the access and egress problems. It was commented that Central Bedfordshire Council had failed to enforce the planning conditions and answers should be obtained from them. A member stated that we have witnessed CBC opening enforcement cases for other more minor matters and their hesitance to do so in this case was puzzling. The Town Council has raised objections to planning applications and it was felt CBC had let down residents and the Council by failing to take action.

Cllr Stock informed members she has requested a weight restriction on Orchard Road and has met with highways to have a traffic survey carried out. A member stated this did not solve the issue that HGVs should not be going down bridleways, through residential areas and across the verges of the Village Green.

Members discussed the impact on the The Village Green. A member said that The Green was the Council's responsibility and as such action must be taken to protect it. The Beeston Green management plan should be progressed to look at the issue and report on how we could protect the green.

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	<p>After a lengthy discussion it was RESOLVED that a delegation from the Council should meet with Central Bedfordshire Council's Planning and Enforcement departments to discuss the Council's concerns.</p>	Town Clerk
	<p>It was also RESOLVED that a letter be sent to Highways England stating the Council's concerns, copied to Alistair Burt MP.</p>	Town Clerk
11	<p>Councillor Workshop – Monday 4th April 2016 (145-2015/16) The Town Clerk reported that the Call of Sites consultation ended today and it was</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) RESOLVED that the Town Clerk write to Central Bedfordshire Council to initiate discussions on engaging with CBC's Local Plan and express Councillors views on the future development of Sandy in light of constraints to growth and the need for long term planning.ii) RESOLVED that a Community Plan Steering Group be appointed with the following members Cllrs Aldis, Blaine, Cole, Hill and Scott, the Mayor and the Chair/Vice Chair of Development Scrutiny Committee.	Town Clerk
12	<p>News Release (146-2015/16) Bartram's Timber Yard issues Queen's 90th Celebration Beacon event</p>	Town Clerk
13	<p>Chairman's Items (147-2015/16) A letter of thanks be sent to Ray & Julie Morrissey who have rescued the Talk of the Town mini-bus service by securing a new minibus.</p> <p>The Chair reminded members of the Civic Service on Sunday 17th April and to reserve seats with Mrs Elliott-Flockhart as soon as possible.</p> <p>The Chair also reminded members of the Annual Town Meeting on Monday 25th April and asked that the Chairs of the council committees accompany him on the top table for the meeting.</p> <p>The Mayor's Awards nominations close on the Wednesday 13th April and will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting.</p>	Admin Team Leader

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The Chair stated that he and the Town Clerk together with their partners have been invited to Skarszewy in June and will be funding the visit personally, with the Town Clerk taking annual leave.

RESOLVED that as the Town Clerk was invited as a representative for the Council that he should not be expected to take annual leave for the visit.

14 Date of Next Meeting: Monday 9th May 2016