

Sandy Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of Sandy Town Council held in the Council Chamber at 10 Cambridge Road, Sandy, Bedfordshire on Monday 14th August 2017 at 7.30pm

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

Absent: Cllrs C Maudlin (CBC) and P Smith (CBC)

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

	Action
<p>1 Apologies for Absence (62-2017/2018) Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr C Maudlin (CBC).</p>	Admin
<p>2 Declaration of Interest and requests for dispensations (63-2017/2018)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) <i>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests</i> - Noneii) <i>Non Pecuniary Interests</i> – Cllrs Aldis and Jackson declared an interest in Item 6 (iii) as they are both Trustees of the Sandy Skating Association and they would retire from the meeting and not vote on this item.iii) <i>Dispensations</i> – None	
<p>3 Public Participation Session (64-2017/2018) A Member stated that the land adjacent to the Sandcaste path had been sold by auction.</p> <p>A Member stated that the Re-dedication Ceremony at the War Memorial on the 13th August had gone well, but suggested that a better PA system was needed as it was difficult to hear the music and those speaking. It was suggested that the Council should consider providing a system.</p> <p>A Member referred to the unmade part of Pleasant Place and suggested that this be considered at a future meeting of Council.</p>	

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4 Minutes of previous Town Council Meetings (65-2017/2018)

- i) **RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the Meeting of Sandy Town Council held on Monday 26th June 2017 and to approve them as a correct record of proceedings.
- ii) **RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of Sandy Town Council held on Monday 24th July 2017 and approve them as a correct record of proceedings.

A Member asked why Town Council Councillors names were not recorded in the minutes of meetings but CBC Councillors' names were. It was queried whether minutes should be written to reflect individual Councillors' comments. It was agreed that the Council's minutes policy would be brought to a future Policy, Finance and Resources meeting for the matter to be reviewed.

Town Clerk

5 Co-option of new Council Member for Pinnacle Ward (66-2017/2018)

The Mayor welcomed the three candidates and briefed the meeting on the procedure for co-option.

The three candidates presented themselves separately and were asked questions by Members.

It was proposed and seconded and **RESOLVED** that all three candidates were put through to the voting round. Voting was by paper ballot.

The Mayor stated that a majority of eight was required for the winning candidate. In the event of a tie the Mayor could have a casting vote as per Standing Orders.

Following voting by Members the Mayor announced that Dr Thompson had the required majority of votes and was therefore co-opted onto the Council.

RESOLVED to co-opt Nicholas Thompson as a member of Sandy Town Council.

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A Member thanked the other candidates for applying and urged them to get involved with local community groups.

Dr Thompson made the Declaration of Acceptance.

6 Minutes of Committees and recommendations therein (67-2017/2018)

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) **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Human Resources held on 3rd July 2017.

It was proposed and seconded and **RESOLVED** to approve the Recommendation from the Committee that Cllrs Jackson and Scott act as emergency contacts for the Clerk in cases where quick attendance at an alarm call out is required and the Grounds Team Leader and Clerk are unavailable.

- ii) **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Development Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 26th June, 17th July and 31st July 2017.
- iii) **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Community Services and Environment Committee held on 17th July 2017.

Cllr Aldis stated that the Sandy Skating Association Trustees would like to accept a rolling lease option and will re-tarmac the area and remove the youth shelter.

Cllrs Aldis and Jackson retired from the meeting.

A Member asked if the youth shelter could be re-sited but was told that it did not belong to the Council.

It was proposed and seconded and **RESOLVED** to approve the Recommendation that Council negotiate with the Sandy Skating Association a new rolling lease on an annual basis and include in the lease that they remove the Youth Shelter and remind them that if they release it to the council, they return the area to how it was.

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Cllrs Aldis and Jackson returned to the meeting.

- iv) **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee held on 31st July 2017.

It was proposed and seconded and **RESOLVED** to approve the Recommendation that the Council support the 2017 Fireworks event via the loan of up to £4,000 for the cost of running the event and that the Council is repaid from the events profits. The loan is on the condition of the Scouts providing accounts and profit and loss for the event.

A Member commented that he felt that at the Policy, Finance & Resources meeting on the 31st July 2017 comments made by some other Members were abrasive and that they be reminded that the scouts do not have to organise the yearly event. Another Member stated that the Council's aim was to co-operate with the scouts in the event.

It was proposed and seconded and **RESOLVED** to approve the Recommendation that the Council approve the required works to two damaged street lights and that the funds be taken from the streetlight maintenance budget with the remaining balance of £2,850 to come from the Rolling Capital Fund.

It was proposed and seconded and **RESOLVED** to approve the Recommendation that work required to Bedford Road recreation ground trees be carried out within the current financial year and that funds for the work are taken from the horticultural budget, with the remaining balance of £1,230 coming from the Rolling Capital Fund.

It was proposed and seconded and **RESOLVED** to approve the Recommendation that the Council carry out work required to Beeston Village Green trees within the current financial year and that the costs be taken from the Rolling Capital Fund.

7 Financial Matters (68-2017/2018)

- i) **RESOLVED** to note a summary statement of income and expenditure against budget for the year to date (previously circulated and scrutinised at a meeting of

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Policy, Finance and Resources Committee on 31st July 2017).

- ii) **RESOLVED** to note a list of payments made since the last Town Council meeting (previously circulated and scrutinised at a meeting of Policy, Finance and Resources Committee on 31st July 2017).

8 Reports from Central Bedfordshire Councillors (69-2017/2018)

- i) The briefing report was received and noted. Cllr Stock reported that there would be a meeting next week regarding Winchester Road and a survey suggested an additional 57 car parking spaces were needed. The removal of planters could create the room for the required spaces. The cost would be £250,000 and Aragon Housing were being asked to match fund. She also said that there was four criteria points for applications for the new social housing in Beeston being: a local connection with Beeston, a local connection with Sandy, associated with Sandy, a CBC connection.

Cllr Stock also offered a meeting with the CBC Councillors similar to the quarterly meeting held with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Town Clerk, to the Town Council Councillors to meet and discuss matters. Other Town Councillors were in favour and the Mayor asked anyone interested to contact the office.

All
Councillors

- ii) The Clerk's summary report was received.

Winchester Road: To be discussed in Item 10.

Orchard Road, Beeston: A Member stated that lorries were still leaving via Orchard Road but were not Bartram's lorries.

A Member raised the subject of lorries still going through the Fallowfield estate to Sunderland Road and asked what action was being taken. Cllr Stock confirmed that she was liaising with the Town Clerk and a letter would be issued.

Police & Crime Commissioner: A meeting has been arranged for the 2nd October 2017 at the council offices

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at 7.30pm which the Commissioner will be attending. If members have any questions please send them to the office by the first week in September. It was asked that other local parishes be contacted for their concerns also.

All
Councillors

9 Action List (70-2017/2018)

Members noted the action list.

10 Winchester Road and Area Improvements (71-2017/2018)

Cllr Stock updated the meeting on progress for the improvements. She asked whether the Town Council would consider providing any match funding for the project via the Rural Match Fund. A member said that the Council should offer their support and when the project costs were clearer the Council could discuss whether funding via the Rural Match Fund was appropriate. The matter was discussed at length and it was proposed and seconded to **RESOLVE** to support the funding of the improvements in principle.

11 The Future of the A1 (72-2017/2018)

- i) Cllr Aldis' report was received and noted.
- ii) The A1 East of England and Oxford to Cambridge Expressway Strategic Study was received and noted.

Councillors debated the future of the Sandy A1 section in light of options put forward in the A1 East of England Study. It was proposed and seconded to **RESOLVE** to support either option A or B, and stressed the importance that something was done to improve this section of the A1, including the removal of the A1's last remaining roundabouts. Option A proposes the creation of a new road, either east or west of the existing A1, while option B proposes the removal of roundabouts and the introduction of local improvements and a local bypass. Members agreed that it was becoming critical that decisions are taken over the road's future, especially in light of Central Bedfordshire Council's Local Plan and as such the Council would support either option to ensure improvements are made. It was proposed and seconded to **RESOLVE** to seek a meeting with the Department of Transport and Local MP Alistair Burt to put the Council's view across and stress the necessity

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of critical improvements required to this section of the A1.

12 Central Bedfordshire Local Plan (73-2017/2018)

The Clerk's report was received and considered. It was proposed and seconded to **RESOLVE** to thank the landowner for inviting the Council to send representation to the proposed meeting which was agreed. The Council's position on the Local Plan is to be made clear to the landowner.

13 Cemetery Extension (74-2017/2018)

The Clerk's update report was received and noted.

14 Crime Figures for Sandy (75-2017/2018)

The crime figures for Sandy for June and July were received.

The Town Council has previously expressed increasing concern over both the level of crime in Sandy and the reporting of crime figures. Members felt that the information available, which lists crimes in Sandy over the month, was not complete and did not offer a true representation of incidents which were reported to police.

It was **RESOLVED** to seek further clarification as to how the figures are drawn up and whether they include crimes which have an incident number as well as those which have crime numbers. The Council would also like to see the figures indicate when police attended an incident and what action was taken. The Council will be raising their concerns in a future meeting with Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner.

Town Clerk

15 Reports from Representatives on outside bodies (76-2017/2018)

The report from Cllr Hill for the Sandy Sports and Leisure Association was received and noted.

16 News Releases (77-2017/2018)

- i) Co-option of new Councillor
- ii) A1 position
- iii) Cemetery update
- iv) Crime statistics

17 Chairman's Items (78-2017/2018)

The Mayor reported that on the 1st July he and the Deputy Mayor had attended the Nexus Band practice display at the Queen's Head Public House. They went on to take 4th place in a

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competition the following day. On the 17th July he unveiled the first mosaic in Sandy, together with pupils from St. Swithun's Lower School. Two mosaic workshop sessions had taken place at the council offices over the last two weeks with local residents attending. The Deputy Mayor Cllr Scott attended the opening of the Magpas Charity shop on the 7th August in Shannon Court. The Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, The Royal British Legion and members of the public attended the War Memorial Re-dedication Ceremony on the 13th July at Bedford Road. The Mayor thanked Cllr Pettitt, the Clerk and the admin team for seeing the project through to fruition.

**18 Date of Next Meeting (79-2017/2018)
Monday 25th September 2017**