

Sandy Town Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Community Services and Environment Committee of Sandy Town Council held in the Council Chamber at 10, Cambridge Road, Sandy, Bedfordshire on Monday 24 August 2015 commencing at 7.30 pm

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

In Attendance: Cllr Smith (CBC), Mrs C Baker-Smith (Acting Clerk), Ms M Bracey (Minutes Clerk). Also in attendance Christopher Robson (Town Clerk Designate) and 8 members of the public.

The Chair advised that he would take item 11 after item 5.

- 1 **Apologies for absence (28-15/16)** **Action**
Cllr Pettitt, Cllrs Stock and Maudlin (CBC)

- 2 **Declarations of interest (2915/16)**
 - i) Disposable Pecuniary Interests – None
 - ii) Non-disposable Interests - None

- 3 **Minutes of previous meeting (30-15/16)**
RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Community Services and Environment Committee held on Monday 13 July 2015 as a correct record of proceedings, with the amendment of removing Cllr Osborne from those present as he was absent which was also signified in the Minutes. Admin

- 4 **Public Participation Session (31-15/16)**

A member of the public spoke on behalf of the Sandy and District Leisure Gardeners and Allotment Association (SDLGAA) on Item 5 and said the Association felt that the site was an excellent site and that the only issues still to be clarified was the access to the site and water.

A member of the public spoke on behalf of Meadowcroft residents on item 11 to say that the area in question should not be built upon as it is a public open space. He produced documentation stating that public open spaces should not be built upon within settlements. He requested that the proposal be quashed before it goes any further.

Cllr Aldis thanked the speaker for his work on this matter.

- 5 **Allotments (32-15/16)**
Cllr Aldis presented the report and talked through a sketch plan of the site on display. A revised cost plan was tabled. Cllrs Aldis & Sutton

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Cllrs Aldis and Sutton answered members' questions and outlined the changes to the Management Plan. Sandy and District Leisure Gardeners & Allotments Association (SDLGAA) will not peg out the allotments or install the rabbit fencing around the allotment zone and this will come under the Town Council. In answer to a member's question they said that the Town Council will make the decision on the amount of the rent for an allotment. They are currently in discussion with the Association regarding this.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND:-

1. To name the site "The Amen Corner Allotment Site".
2. To authorise the Chair and Vice-Chair of CS&E in conjunction with the Clerk (Christopher Robson) to continue acting as the Council's representatives in negotiations with the Sandy & District Leisure Gardeners and Allotments Association.
3. To note and comment on the Financial costs for establishing the Allotment site Agreed to request PF & R to consider the funding of this project.
4. To continue researching the costs of setting up an allotment site sand to bring a further detailed report to the next meeting of the CS & E Committee.
5. To agree Heads of Terms for a management plan with the Sandy & District Leisure Gardeners and Allotments Association. Agreed this to be taken as part of number 2.

11 Berwick Way Estate (33-15/16)

Members present at the meeting with TILCo on 4 June 2015 strongly disagree with the statement in the report that TILCo had received a 'positive response' to their proposal to build 3 dwellings on the site. A meeting with TILCo was suggested to outline the Town Council's intention to get the land adopted once it was fit for purpose. A number of issues had been identified concerning the lack of maintenance of the shrubs and trees.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND Cllrs Aldis, Ali and Hill and the Town Clerk meet with TILCo without Central Bedfordshire Planning Officers being present to discuss the adoption of the amenity areas after they have been brought up to the required standard.

Cllrs
Aldis, Ali,
Hill and
Town
Clerk

6 Cemetery Project Update

There has been no outcome from the planning application and no further correspondence received. The consultant is seeking funding for the archaeological dig.

Cllr Aldis

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- 7 **The Princes Trust (34-15/16)**
The Acting Clerk stated that the Chambers is hired out to Community Groups at £5 an hour. Members agreed that the Princes Trust be charged this nominal charge to use the Chamber.
- 8 **Charity Market Stall (35-2015/16)**
This item had been withdrawn. Admin
- 9 **Bedford Road Recreation Ground (36-15/16)**
Cllr Pettitt informed members that Sport England were keen to get involved with this project of installing outdoor gym equipment on Bedford Road Recreation ground and would provide 100% funding. Some members wondered about the need for this equipment and how much it would be used. It was agreed that more information was required about the need for this equipment. Cllr Pettitt
- 10 **Draft River basin Management Plan Consultation –River Ivel (37-2015/16)**
Members were unhappy with the report and had concerns that this would not be an effective flood defence. It was stated that whatever is planned to be done will not be done without a full consultation. It was raised that the weir may be listed and it was suggested that English Heritage might be asked to investigate and whether there are bodies who may wish to defend this heritage. It was agreed to write to the necessary authorities re this. A member added that there was also a vole population. Admin
- 12 **Winchester Road (39-2015/16)**
Cllr Aldis presented the report There had been a multi agency Project in this area but there seemed to be a reluctance to pursue the actions. Cllr Aldis
RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND To request the Assistant Portfolio Holder for Stronger Communities at CBC (Cllr Caroline Maudlin) to give a report at a future Town Council meeting on the progress of the project, the actions that have been taken and the plans for the future maintenance and improvement of the area.