

Sandy Town Council

Minutes of the meeting of Sandy Town Council held in the Council Chamber at 10 Cambridge Road, Sandy, Bedfordshire on Monday 28 September 2015 at 7.30pm

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

Absent: Cllrs M Scott and S Sutton, Cllrs T Stock and P Smith (CBC)

In attendance: Cllrs Maudlin (CBC), Chris Robson (Town Clerk), Ms M Bracey (Minutes Clerk) and two members of the public.

	Action
<p>1 Apologies for Absence (65-2015/2016) Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs M Scott and S Sutton and Cllrs P Smith and T Stock (CBC).</p>	Admin
<p>2 Declaration of Interest and requests for dispensations (66-2015/16)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i) <i>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests</i> – Noneii) <i>Non Disclosable Interests</i> – Cllr Aldis is a member of the Sandy and District Allotments and Leisure Gardens Association which will be discussed at item 11 on the agenda.iii) <i>Dispensations</i> – None	Admin
<p>3 Public Participation Session (67-2015/16) A member of the public raised the question of the planning application CB/15/02943/MW, discussed at the Development Scrutiny Committee on 14 September 2015. He was concerned that no objections had been raised about the increase of HGV traffic, particularly because of the tight turn. A member explained that the applicant had addressed the concerns regarding HGV traffic. The member of the public also raised the question of Allotments and the proposed £15,000 spend for ten years. He considered this to be a large spend for that short a time and asked how many applicants had requested an allotment. The Town Clerk informed the resident that 88 expressions of interest had been received. A member added that the costs could be more than £15,000 but that these would be recoverable from CBC if the site doesn't go its full term. The Town Council has a duty to provide allotments if required by residents.</p> <p>A member had been approached by residents in Swansholme Gardens regarding the closure of the tidy tip in Biggleswade and the green waste collection. They had asked if they could put out more than two bags of green waste for collection. The office had spoken to CBC and</p>	Admin

Sandy Town Council

had received a negative response. A member thanked the Council Officer Mrs Val McFarlane for her work on this. Members felt that this was a deplorable situation and agreed to send a letter to the Portfolio Holder for Waste Management at CBC to again offer the use of Sandy Town Council car park for this.

A number of residents had raised the trip hazard outside the Queens Head pub. Members agreed to write to Greene King about this.

4 Minutes of previous Town Council Meeting (68-2015/16)

RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the meeting of Sandy Town Council held on Monday 17 August 2015 and to approve them as a correct record of proceedings.

Admin

5 Police Matters (69-2015/16)

PCSO Jeeves spoke to a report on reported crime in Sandy which had been previously circulated. There had been an increase in tools being stolen either from vans or sheds. She said that there could be a need for information about making tools safe, taking photographs of them so that they can be easily identified and marking them. A member asked if they were planning any community engagement days for residents before Christmas. PCSO Jeeves said she would look into perhaps arranging one. She also informed members that she was proposing to meet with Neighbourhood Watch and promote home security and prevention. A member asked if there was some way of enforcing 'no cold calling'. PCSO Jeeves advised residents that 'no cold calling' was not strictly enforced but if they see anybody suspicious or there are issues with cold calling they dial 101 and report their concerns. There had been incidents of a car in Sandy throwing objects from the window to passersby and front gardens. The plate had been checked and it was out of the Sandy area. The car owner had been written to and she urged residents to report if there are further incidents so that action can be taken, if necessary.

Admin

6 Minutes of Committees and recommendations therein (70-2015/16)

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 24 August 2015 and 14 September 2015 with the amendment of a member not being present at a meeting with DLP Planning who was on the Minute as present.

ii) **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services and Environment Committee held on 14 August 2015

iii) **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the meeting of the

Admin

Sandy Town Council

Extraordinary Town Council meeting held on 7 September 2015
iv) **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the meeting of the Human Resources Committee held on 7 September 2015.

v) **RESOLVED** to note the minutes of the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee held on 14 September 2015, with **RECOMMENDATION** that £600 be allocated from Earmarked Reserves for the annual rent in regards to the lease and £15,000 be allocated from the Rolling Capital Fund for expenditure on preparation of site.

A member proposed an **AMENDMENT** that the £600 be taken this financial year from savings made on election costs and that this amount be budgeted for in future years from the revenue budget as an allotment cost. This was agreed.

7 **Financial Matters (71-2015/16)**

i) **RESOLVED** to note a summary of the statement of income and expenditure against budget for the year to date as previously scrutinised by the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee.

ii) **RESOLVED** to note a list of payments made since the last Town Council meeting (previously circulated).

Admin

8 **Cemetery Extension (72-2015/16)**

Cllr Aldis reported that the planning application had been approved with some small conditions. Funding is now being sourced for the archeological dig which will be a substantial cost. The Town Clerk is investigating various funding streams that may be available. A member asked how thorough these digs had to be. The Town Clerk replied that they dig test pits and if something is uncovered they may dig further. A member asked if members of the public could be charged to visit the site. And was informed that they usually hold open days.

Admin

9 **Breast Screening Mobile Unit (73-2015/16)**

RESOLVED to give permission for this.

10 **Quality Parish Status (74-2015/16)**

The Town Clerk presented the report to Members and went through some of the background and the benefits of being part of the scheme. A member asked about the Investors in People scheme and the Town Clerk replied that the Quality Parish Status scheme was specific to Local Government. A member raised a question on page 7 of the report relating to the Risk Management Scheme which he thought was available as a previous Town Clerk had done a lot of work on this. The Town Clerk will check. The importance of Community Engagement was discussed and how to achieve this. Costs to produce a letter and distribute was discussed and also to build on the website in relation to

Admin

Sandy Town Council

community engagement. The Town Clerk was complemented on the clear and concise report.

RESOLVED to agree the recommendations.

11 Allotments (75-2015/16)

The Town Clerk presented a verbal report on Allotments. He stated that the Head of Terms and Lease had not been signed as Sandy Town Council was not in a position to sign at this time. CBC had given the tenant of the land notice to vacate and the land would be vacant on 25 December 2015. The Council could sign the lease on this date but the Town Clerk recommended that the Council arrange a site visit once access to the land is available and the lease be signed in March 2016. This would give the Council more time to establish costs particularly, the cost of water supply and other large outlays. This would also give CBC more time to regularise the status of the land and allow the Clerk time to ensure all questions are answered. The Clerk reported he had spoken with the Chair of The Sandy and District Leisure Gardens and Allotment Association who agreed with the time scale. A Member stated that as not all the land would be needed for the allotments the Council need to give serious thought about what to do with the rest of the land which will require maintenance and what activities or other pursuits could take place on it.

RESOLVED to delay the signing of the Lease until March 2016.

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12 Representatives on outside bodies (76-2015/16)

The Town Clerk presented the report. Members were unsure if the Sandy Town Team were still active. The Town Clerk will check.

RESOLVED that Cllr Blaine will be the representative for the Chamber of Trade and the Sandy Community Children's Centre.

Admin

13 Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations (77-2015/16)

The Mayor felt that Sandy had to do something to mark the 90th birthday of the Queen in 2016. He suggested a service followed by a tea party but would welcome suggestions from members.

RESOLVED to bring this to the meeting of the Community Services and Environment Committee on 16 November, 2015 so that costs can be budgeted for.

Admin

14 Pinnacle Electricity Sub station (78-2015/16)

The Town Clerk presented the verbal report. Morrison Utility Services thanked Sandy Town council for their co-operation in their improvement works to the sub station. On completion of the works there will be an official thank you to the Mayor.

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Sandy Town Council

15 East West Rail link (79-2015/16)

A consultation will take place about the proposed East West rail link and a presentation will be held at the Forest Centre at Marston Moretaine on Thursday 1 October, 2015. Some Members and the Town Clerk declared they will be attending. Members felt that this was a very important matter for Sandy and its future. Members felt it was important that the Council express a view on the proposed rail routes at some point and consider whether the Council should lobby to promote Sandy. A Member stated the Council should think about adopting a Neighbourhood Plan.

The Town Clerk will prepare a report for the next Town Council meeting.

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16 News Release (80-2015/16)

None.

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