

Sandy Town Council

To: Cllrs N Aldis, A Gibson, L Ivanciu-Wilkinson, T Knagg, R Lock, C Osborne, M Scott, S Sutton (Chairman), N Thompson
c.c. P Blaine, J Hewitt, W Jackson, 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, Bedfordshire on Monday 9th May 2022 commencing at 7.30pm.



Nicola Sewell
Town Clerk
10 Cambridge Road
Sandy, SG19 1JE
01767 681491
4th May 2022

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 extraordinary meeting of the Community Services and Environment Committee held on Monday 21st March 2022 and to approve them as a correct record of proceedings.

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.

Sandy Town Council

- 5 Action List** Appendix I
To receive the Action List and any updates.
- 6 Land at Sunderland Road** Appendix II
To receive and consider request from AMP Clean Energy to lease a small amount of land at Sunderland Road to house a battery pod.
- 7 Sunderland Road electric and water supply**
To receive and consider request from the organiser of the visiting funfair for the Town Council to install water and electric supply points for the visiting Fun Fair and Circus at Sunderland Road.
- 8 Sunderland Road Parking** Appendix III
To receive and consider request from Sandy 10 for permission to use an area of Sunderland Road Recreation Ground for parking on an ongoing basis for its annual race.
- 9 Beeston Village Green Verging** Appendix IV
To receive report from Cllr Scott and the Beeston Working Group regarding damage to verges on the Village Green.
- 10 Beeston Green Drainage**
To receive a verbal update on drainage issues at Beeston Green and confirm date of meeting with Phillip Lovesey, Operations Manager, Bedford Group of Drainage Boards.
- 11 Queens Platinum Jubilee** Appendix V
To note update from CBC on costs for Queen's Platinum Jubilee Concert at Sandye Place Academy.

To make recommendation to PF&R Committee to increase event budget for provision for further extra costs.
- 12 Tree works Orchard Road**
To note decision made under delegated authority for works to be undertaken to a damaged tree in Orchard Road at a cost of £900.00 following a report from a resident and subsequent tree survey.
- 13 RSPB Woodland Assured Scheme**
To consider request from RSPB to be consultees and (if asked) take place in an audit of their practices and agree to be contacted by the Soil Association to give feedback and an opinion on the management of RSPB woodlands.

Sandy Town Council

14 Chairman's Items

15 Date of Next Meeting: Monday 13th June 2022

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 in regard to 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>Notice published in papers on 8th April, with objection/comment deadline of 8th May.</p>
CSE Meeting 24/08/2020		
Use of former Days Inn conference site Min (24-20/21)	RESOLVED to write to CBC with ideas about potential use of the former Days Inn conference site.	<p>Letter summarising Council’s comments issued. Clerk liaising with CBC who has confirmed receipt of the letter. 15/12/20 – Communication indicating thoughts about how it could be used were well received. CBC waiting for other projects to feedback, which they will by the end of the April 2021. Board deferred matter until this time, at which point CBC will be able to pick up dialogue again with the local community. CBC T Keaveney provided update to Council on 24th May 2021. A further letter was issued by the Clerk to Mr Keaveney in response to his update and reminding him of the Council’s views.</p> <p>In September 2021 Members received information about the approval of the planning application for The Meadows and the CC were still giving thought to the long-term options for the land to the rear of the site and the conference centre.</p> <p>Site currently used for emergency services training and COVID site while other options are considered. 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 emailed Brett Douglas and Tony Keavney on 1st April with STC request to use The Meadows to house Ukrainian Refugees if capacity at site allowed. Response received from Charlotte Gurney 3rd May forwarded to all councillors.</p>

APPENDIX I

CSE Meeting 05/10/2020		
<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>Clerk wrote to Office of the Police Crime Commissioner to garner support from them to place SID at Sunderland Road after CBC stated that it would not be a priority area for them. A meeting is set for Friday May 6th between Clerk, Cllr Sutton and Wayne Humberstone Director of OPCC Operations Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to discuss the issue.</p> <p>Clerk also contacted Clerk at Tempsford after Cllr Scott reported a new SID had been installed on Station Road. The Parish Council had decided they wanted a sign fitted and had paid for the unit themselves. Clerk has details of companies approached by Tempsford Parish Council but no costs.</p>
CSE Meeting 23/08/2021		
<p>Min (33-21/22)</p> <p>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 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. No further updates at present.</p>

APPENDIX I

CSE Meeting 14/03/2022		
(105-2021/22) Queen's Jubilee	RESOLVED that this item – whether the Council wishes to have a permanent memorial marking the Queen's 70 th Jubilee – should be referred to the Sandy Town Centre Group for their input and for them to include the community's ideas. It should also be advertised on the council website, Facebook and at the Annual Town meeting. Clerk to investigate with CBC if there is a time limit to spend the funds.	Clerk confirmed with Julia Scott at CBC that there is no spend by date, the criteria is that the money is spent on public art, so that could be a bespoke design, designed by an artist / crafts person, and involve an element of community engagement in the design process or could be spent on community engagement activities focused on art. An example would be to appoint a public artist to host a series of art workshops working with the local community - working in clay/ceramics, mosaic, print, chainsaw art, photography, audio project.
CSE Meeting 21/03/2022		
Min ((118-2021/22) Queens Jubilee	RESOLVED that both the WI and RBL's requests to plant a tree at the site be approved. It was agreed that the Outdoor Team Leader would liaise with both RBL and the WI on this to approve and oversee the planting.	Clerk contacted both groups and Outdoor Team Leader instructed to liaise with both regarding the type of tree suitable and be present when planting took place. Outdoor Team Leader advised both groups to plant in the autumn for the best chance of survival.
Min (119-2021/22) Community Engagement	RESOLVED that the surgeries be re-started on a six-week cycle with the date of a surgery to take place shortly before a Full Council meeting so issues are reported back to that meeting and that spring and summer surgeries take place in the Community Stand.	Administrator circulated details of days to all councillors via email on 04.05.2022

Community, Services and Environment Committee

Date:	9th May 2022
Title:	Land at Sunderland Road - AMP Clean Energy
Contact Officer:	Town Clerk

Purpose of the Report

1. To receive a request from AMP Clean Energy to house a small battery pod at Sunderland Road Recreation Ground.

Recommendation

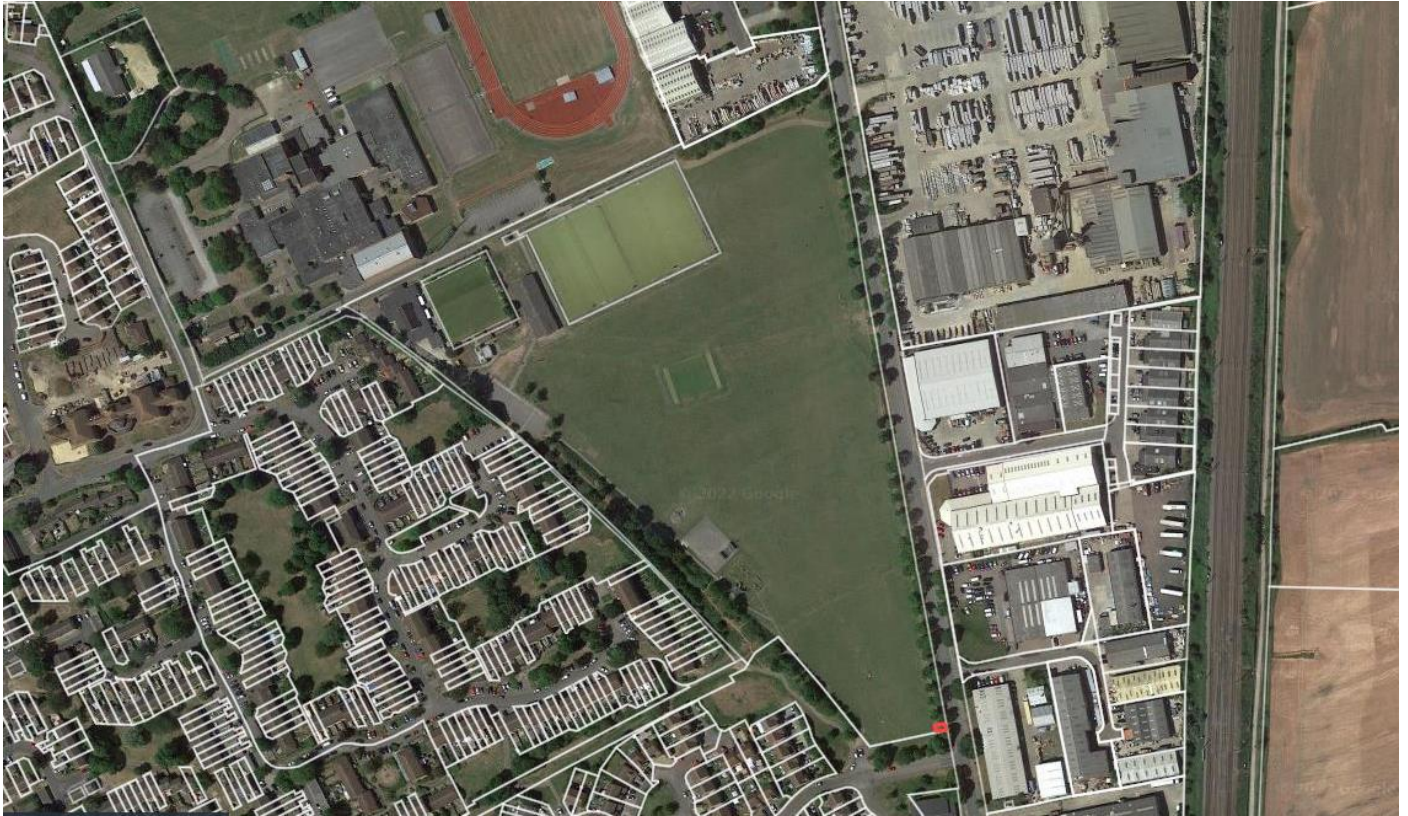
2. That the Council receive the request and advise on a way forward.

Background

- 3.1 AMP has been in grid balancing for more than four years and have more than 60 projects balancing the grid across the UK. They own and operate more than 160 biomass boilers in schools, nursing homes and industry, and also supply wood fuels to more than 3,000 customers.
- 3.2 They have been an approved vendor on the YPO framework for some time for its innovative funding and energy.
- 3.3 AMP are looking for sites to host a small discreet battery pod to assist in balancing the local electricity grid. Schools, colleges & sports clubs are ideal hosts, as they are usually close to conurbations and possibly have a small plot of redundant land of approximately 26 sqm.
- 3.4 They pay to lease the plot and their commercial terms are:
 1. £1,000 per year per battery pod or
 2. £10,000 upfront and then a peppercorn rent or
 3. No rent but we will install between 1-3 EV chargers between 7kW-50kW, this will depend on the network and site requirement.
- 3.5 Energy storage allows more renewable energy to be grid connected as they are the back up when wind or solar projects do not generate. AMP charges the batteries at night and release the energy during the day.

Information/Proposals

- 4.1 With the grid under more strain than ever the host will be assisting in the fight against climate change.
- 4.2 Please see suggested area to house battery (red box):



Financial Implications

5. None.

Legal Powers

6. Council holds the General Power of Competence, for which Sandy Town Council is eligible and is a power of first resort (Localism Act 2011, s.1)

Policy Implications

7. Supporting Clean Energy use would support the work that the Council wishes to do under its Environment Action Plan demonstrating leadership through practical action.

Community, Services and Environment Committee

Date:	9th May 2022
Title:	Sunderland Road Parking
Contact Officer:	Town Clerk

Purpose of the Report

1. To receive a request from Sandy 10 to use an area of Sunderland Road Recreation Ground for parking for its annual event.

Recommendation

2. That the Council consider the request and either agree request or make further recommendation.

Background

- 3.0 After a recent hiatus, Sandy 10 is planning to resume its annual race on Sunday 11 September this year, with spare race proceeds set to go to its nominated charities, Sue Ryder and St John's Ambulance.
- 3.1 Unfortunately the substantial building works due to take place at Sandy Secondary School where participants have always historically parked will now mean that for this race and future races, this parking provision will no longer be available.
- 3.2 The event attracts up to 600 runners as well as associated club supporters and family members and as such, a sufficient level of off-road parking is required. While the organisers encourage participants to use public transport and car-sharing where possible, the limited services offered on a Sunday must be taken into account and so some parking provision is vital to the event.

Information/Proposals

- 4.0 The request from Sandy 10 is:
 - To get permission to use the area beneath the last football pitch in the picture below (the end closest to Berwick Way) as parking for the race.
- 4.1 Parking would need to be offered from 7.30am (the bulk will arrive from 8.15am-9am) until approx 1pm on 11 September.
- 4.2 The event runs annually in September but there will also be a one-off event on 2nd April 2023 as a warm-up race for entrance into the London Marathon.



Financial Implications

5. These are hard to determine as damage to the area would need to be rectified and looked at on an event-by-event basis, bearing in mind the event will take place in early autumn. Funding would need to come from the budget line for the park, or the Council could consider a fee for use of the area for parking.

Legal Powers

6. Council holds the General Power of Competence, for which Sandy Town Council is eligible and is a power of first resort (Localism Act 2011, s.1)

Policy Implications

- 7.1 Any damage sustained to the area may conflict with STC's environmental plan to work towards the protection and enhancement of Sandy's Environmental Health and managing land for nature.
- 7.2 Sandy Town Council looks to work with and support the community with ongoing and historic events, both for the benefit of its residents and to attract visitors to the town.

Community, Services and Environment Committee

Date:	9th May 2022
Title:	Beeston Green Verges
Contact Officer:	Town Clerk

Purpose of the Report

1. To receive a report and recommendations from Cllr Scott and the Beeston Green Working Group.

Recommendation

2. That the Council note the report and agree the group's recommendations of remedial works by STC Outdoor Team.

Background

- 3.0 The two remaining members of Beeston Working Group, Cllr Tracey Stock & Cllr Michael Scott, met at 4pm on Tuesday 26th April to look at, as requested by Sandy Town Council, the verges either side of the road through and along Beeston Green. The whole length was walked and various areas were checked by scooping away the earth to find where the true edge of the Green really should be.
- 3.1 It was concluded that in the most part the edge of the Green had in fact collapsed onto the road but even taking that into consideration, very little damage was actually found to the Green itself. Two areas where damage has occurred has been caused by water not being able to drain away and leaving the area very soft and so liable to some damage though not extensive. In one of those areas, a blocked drain was found which Tracey has reported, which should help that area in future.
- 3.2 One area outside The Knolls where a vehicle has driven over the kerb and has sunk into the grass does need repairing by filling in and levelling, as the person cutting the grass is avoiding that area.
- 3.3 While we were there, the rest of The Green was looked over and there are problems with extensive damage by moles that needs attending to and the very large area of stinging nettles just to the left of the Elm Farm entrance requires an urgent spray treatment before they get any higher and more difficult to spray.
- 3.4 It is suggested that Members look at Ickwell Green to compare to Beeston Green to decide how they would like the area to be cut going forward.

Information/Proposals

- 4.0 Request the Outdoor Team undertakes the following remedial works on site:
 - To fill in and level an area of land by The Knolls where a vehicle has sunk into the ground causing an issue for grass cutting
 - To remove a small dead tree lying across the verge near the field's entrance as it is impeding grass cutting in that area.

Other than those listed above, the recommendation is that no action is necessary at this time to protect those edges of the Green but should be reviewed if we have a long-wet spell which may change things.

AGENDA ITEM: 9

APPENDIX IV

4.1 Request agreement on:

- treatment for damage to land by moles
- spraying and removal of stinging nettles to the left of Elm Farm entrance.
- method of grass cutting.

Financial Implications

5. Costs for pest removal and repairs would need to come from budget for Recreation Grounds and Open Spaces budget. Costs TBC and agreed by PF&R.

Legal Powers

6. Council holds the General Power of Competence, for which Sandy Town Council is eligible and is a power of first resort (Localism Act 2011, s.1)

Policy Implications

7. Work at Beeston Green would support STC's environmental plan to work towards the protection and enhancement of Sandy's Environmental Health and managing land for nature.

Community, Services and Environment Committee

Date:	9th May 2022
Title:	Platinum Jubilee Event
Contact Officer:	Town Clerk

Purpose of the Report

1. To receive an update on accumulated costs to date for the Platinum Jubilee Open Air Concert on 2nd June 2022.

Recommendation

2. That the Council note the report and make recommendation to PF&R to increase the event budget from £5,624.00 to cover the extra costs that will be incurred.

Background

- 3.0 Following contact with Central Bedfordshire's Safety Advisory Group (SAG), several extra costs have been accumulated, which are necessary to ensure that the event can take place.
- 3.1 It is clear from the SAG requirements that the original budget of £5,624 is not sufficient to cover the costs of the event even without the extra requirements by SAG.

Information/Proposals

- 4.0 The following costs have been agreed under delegated authority by the Chair and Clerk of the Committee:
 - Pedestrian Barriers for licenced area: £524.75 (not originally budgeted for)
 - First Aid £550 TBC (originally budgeted for at £400.00)
 - Staging £3600.00 (originally budgeted as £2350.00)
- 4.1 The following are extra costs that will need to be incurred:
 - Sound Engineer Noise Controller (costs TBC awaiting quotes)
 - Onsite Security/Marshals (costs TBC awaiting quotes).

There will be a small saving from original budget as no road closures will be necessary.

Financial Implications

5. Costs for the event are to come out of Rolling Capital Funds, original budget of £5,624.00 will not be sufficient.

Legal Powers

6. Council holds the General Power of Competence, for which Sandy Town Council is eligible and is a power of first resort (Localism Act 2011, s.1).

Policy Implications

7. We have an obligation to carry out due diligence and ensure the safety of residents at our events. The requirements outlined above are necessary to the event being run properly and in line with HSE requirements. There are legal and reputational implications if due procedures are not followed, and public safety must be prioritised.