



SANDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Met at Marshalswick Community Centre on Wednesday 13th October 2021 at 7.30pm for a meeting of The Council

PRESENT:

Councillors John Hale (Chair), Neil Harris, Jenny Roberts, Graham Leonard, June Reid, John Foster, Claudio Duran, John Newton-Davies, Patsy Cann, Geoff Churchard, Janet Churchard, Sam Vosper

OFFICERS:

Simon Thwaites, Parish Clerk
Emma Hostler, Deputy Clerk
Rebecca Pannese, Project and Amenities Officer

IN ATTENDANCE:

No members of the public were present

5185 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors Lyn Bolton and Jon Hegerty and accepted by Councillors present.

5186 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Cllr Jenny Roberts disclosed an interest in relation to item 15 on the Agenda (minute 5197). Cllr John Hale welcomed Cllr Sam Vosper to his first meeting.

5187 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 8th SEPTEMBER 2021.

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 8th September 2021 were reviewed. They were agreed to be a correct record and it was unanimously;

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting be approved and signed by the Chair.

QUESTIONS TO OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

5188 Questions to Officers

There was none.

5189 Public Participation – an opportunity for residents to raise issues or ask questions of Members

There was none.

CLERK'S REPORTS

5190 Monthly Accounts

Members reviewed a schedule of creditor payments due for the period 9th September to 13th October 2021. Questions were asked and responded to before it was unanimously;

Resolved

To approve the schedule for payment on 15th October 2021.

5191 Combined Community Centres Committee Terms of Reference (TOR)

At a meeting on September 13th the Combined Community Centres Committee reduced the number of Public Members from 5 to 4 and amended the TOR accordingly. It was unanimously;

Resolved

To approve the above amendments to the Combined Community Centres TOR.

5192 Planning Committee Terms of Reference (TOR)

At a meeting on September 23rd the Planning Committee made several amendments to the Committee TOR which were circulated to Members. These were reviewed and it was unanimously;

Resolved

To approve amendments to the Planning Committee TOR.

5193 Budgetary Control Report

Councillors noted that a budgetary control report was presented to the Finance Committee at a meeting on 27th September showing budget and projected outturn for 2021/22. Overall savings on budget of £1,771 are projected.

5194 Asset Transfer of Wheat Close Playground and adjacent Open Space, and Jersey Farm Woodland Park

Members received a written report from the Clerk concerning devolution of Wheat Close Playground and adjacent Open Space from St Albans District Council (SADC) to Sandridge Parish Council, and also Jersey Farm Woodland Park which is currently leased to the Parish. There followed some discussion, after which it was unanimously;

Resolved

That the Clerk produce and submit a business case to SADC to request devolution of Wheat Close Playground and adjacent Open Space to Sandridge Parish Council.

It was further unanimously;

Resolved

That the Clerk produce and submit a business case to SADC to request devolution of Jersey Farm Woodland Park to Sandridge Parish Council.

5195 Parish Council Road Sign Spring Plantings

Councillors were briefed by the Project and Facilities Officer on an initiative, following an enquiry from a resident, to promote the planting of early spring bulbs through volunteer groups organised by residents under suitable roads signs within the parish. SADC has given approval, subject to receiving notice of locations and completed risk assessments. The approximate cost of bulbs per 1,000 is £120. It was unanimously;

Resolved

To purchase 5,000 early spring flowering bulbs at a cost of approximately £600, comprising £200 of funding from Sandridge Parish Council, and £400 of funding from the HCC Locality Budget approved by Cllr Hale.

5196 Matters of Note

- A draft budget for 2022/23 will be presented to the Finance Committee later this month prior to presentation to Full Council.
- A hardcore path across Skyswood is to be laid in November. There has been a minor delay in this project due to works being pushed back by the fuel crisis and material supply shortages.
- Resurfacing of Spencer Meadow court 2 is now due to commence in November, this has also been delayed due to supplier delivery problems.

- Network Power has removed a diseased Beech tree on the perimeter of Spencer Meadow playing field. This was in response to the tree survey carried out by SADC. They have also reduced the adjoining trees removing all growth from the power lines overhead.
- Another large diseased Beech tree is due to be removed from St Leonard's church yard, scheduled for 22nd October.
- Officers are awaiting a meeting with a chartered surveyor to discuss the next step with regards to the path leading from the Ridgeway to William Bell open Space and the damage from the Poplar tree roots.
- Public consultation regarding the pump track in Jersey Farm Open Space will take place in November at Jersey Farm Community Centre (most likely a Sunday afternoon depending on committee availability).
- SPC volunteers have been back out hedge laying on JFWP.
- The feeder pillar in Sandridge village will be connected to power on the w/c 11th October. Work is expected to take 2/3 days. We can then obtain an energy agreement and apply for the stage one license (to erect the decorations on the highway).
- MCC drainage works are due to start in early November.
- The Clerk and Parish Chair have met with an officer at the District Council to discuss the potential for electric vehicle (EV) charging points in the parish. A report will be made to Full Council in due course.

(Cllr Patsy Cann left the meeting at this point)

COUNCILLOR AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

5197 Grant Applications

- Jersey Farm Day Care Centre

Following discussion, it was unanimously;

Resolved

To award the Jersey Farm Day Care Centre the sum of £1,800 to offset the hire costs of Jersey Farm Community Centre. This award was made using the General Power of Competence.

5198 Sandridge Parish Council Event Jersey Farm Woodland Park 2022

Cllr Jenny Roberts presented a written report and proposal concerning holding a summer event on the Jersey Farm Woodland Park to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Some discussion ensued and, after the proposal was seconded by Cllr June Reid, it was unanimously;

Resolved

To draft Terms of Reference and form a working group, coordinated by Cllr Roberts, for agreement at the next meeting of Full Council.

5199 Sandridge Evening Women's Institute

Cllr Hale proposed an increase in the annual sum paid to the Sandridge Evening Women's Institute to maintain the island garden at the foot of Sandridgebury Lane from £200 (already approved at the 8th September Full Council meeting) to £250, commencing in this financial year. This was seconded by Cllr Reid, and it was unanimously;

Resolved

To increase the annual payment to the Sandridge Evening WI for maintenance of the island garden from £200 to £250 to commence this financial year (a further £50 payment to be made in November).

5200 Meetings of Committees:

There were no issues raised from the following draft Committee minutes produced since the last Full Council meeting.

- Finance Committee 27th September 2021
- Jersey Farm Woodland Park Management Committee 20th September 2021
- Combined Community Centres Committee 13th September 2021
- Planning Committee 16th September and 7th October 2021

5201 Planning Matters

Sandridge Parish Council’s Planning Committee meets every three weeks to review and respond to planning applications received from the Planning Authority, St. Albans District Council. Planning applications objected to since the last Full Council meeting are;

62 Kingshill Avenue, St Albans - Planning Application: 5/2021/2399

3 Eastfield Court, St Albans - Planning Application: 5/2021/2425

Sandringham School - Planning Application: 5/2021/2280

Please note: Planning applications received at the Parish Office from the Planning Authority *after* the Parish Council agenda has been published may also be discussed at the meeting as may applications of complexity or applications likely to impact heavily on the Green Belt.

The following application was referred to Full Council by the Planning Committee in accordance with its Terms of Reference.

Ivens Orchids, St Albans Road, Sandridge – Planning Application: 5/2021/1359

Following discussion it was;

Resolved

That the Clerk write to SADC on behalf of Sandridge Parish Council objecting to the above planning application on the grounds that it does not comply with the terms of the Sandridge Neighbourhood Plan.

5202 SUGGESTIONS AND/OR MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Cllr Hale on the quarry at Hatfield Aerodrome.

5203 MATTERS OF NOTE ARISING SINCE THE CIRCULATION OF THE AGENDA

Cllr Hale updated Members on status of the Symondshyde development plans and the Council agreed that the Clerk should write to Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council reaffirming the Council’s objections to these plans.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Sandridge Parish Council will be held on Wednesday, November 10th at 7.30pm at Marshalswick Community Centre.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Chair

Date

Cllr John Hale