



SANDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Met remotely via video conferencing on Thursday 22nd April 2021 at 7.30pm for a meeting of The Council

PLEASE NOTE: THIS MEETING WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 14TH BUT WAS POSTPONED UNTIL APRIL 22nd IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 S.243 AND IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEATH OF HRH PRINCE PHILIP

PRESENT (VIA VIDEO):

Councillors John Hale (Chair), Neil Harris, Jenny Roberts, Lyn Bolton, Janet Churchard, James Lancaster, Geoff Churchard, John Newton Davies, Graham Leonard, June Reid, Jon Hegerty, John Foster, Patsy Cann

APOLOGIES:

Councillor Claudio Duran

ABSENT:

None

OFFICERS (VIA VIDEO):

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

ALSO PRESENT:

One member of the public

This meeting followed the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm

5089 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were none.

5090 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 10th MARCH 2021

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10th March 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.

5091 QUESTIONS TO MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

1. Public Participation

There was none.

2. Questions to the Officers

There was none.

CLERK'S REPORTS

5092 Monthly Accounts

Members reviewed a schedule of creditor payments due for the period 11th March 2021 to 14th April 2021. A question was asked and responded to before it was unanimously;

Resolved

To approve creditor payments as detailed on the schedule.

5093 Potential Future Devolution of Council Services

Members briefly discussed a request from a panel of Hertfordshire Clerks to review services currently provided by the three tiers of local government and consider how parish and town councils might adopt certain services in the event of the creation of a unitary authority.

The Chair asked Members to contact the Clerk with their thoughts in order that a response be made before the end of May.

5094 Banking

The Deputy Clerk, acting on a request by Full Council, confirmed that she had identified a bank that would provide for the opening of a suitable additional account to allow the Parish Council to benefit from further cover under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). It was unanimously agreed to follow the recommendation to begin the process of opening an instant access savings account with Unity Trust Bank and to transfer an initial £85,000 at the earliest opportunity.

5095 Matters of Note

- An additional two raised beds have been constructed by volunteers in the community garden. The benches in the garden are already attracting a large number of residents wanting to sit outdoors and meet friends.
- The skate ramp at the Jersey Farm Open Space has suffered some minor vandalism, requiring the replacement of two panels. A claim will be submitted to the Council's insurers to cover the cost of repair.
- The Register of Interests may sometimes require updating and Members are asked to revisit their own entry on the Parish Council website to ensure the interests recorded are relevant and complete. Members belonging to other organisations should be aware of the potential for conflicting pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests and abstain as appropriate during discussions and voting.
- Additional fencing has been installed at the Jersey Farm Woodland Park to guide walkers and their dogs away from potential skylark nesting habitat.
- The Community Centres Committee is preparing documents to allow the transfer of the Marshalswick Pre School from the current owner to a new owner. The transfer will allow for an increase in the hours for which the school occupies Marshalswick Community Centre. Councillor Bolton updated members on progress.

COUNCILLOR AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

5096 Parish Environmental Assets and Paths (PEAP) Committee

Members received a verbal update from Councillor Roberts, Committee Chair, on current projects and the coming year's plans for this committee. Subjects included rights of way, tree planting and repairs to footpaths.

5097 Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor Hale updated the meeting on the progress of the Neighbourhood Plan. Most importantly, the draft Plan will go to referendum on May 6th.

5098 Grant Applications

- *Abbey Flyers Nomads Netball Club*

An application for grant funding towards equipment, competition management and facility hire was discussed. It was proposed by Councillor Graham Leonard, seconded by Councillor Janet Churchard and;

Resolved

To award the sum of £1,000 towards equipment under the General Power of Competence and to ask the Clerk to seek further details from the club in respect of the other items.

5099 Meetings of Committees:

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

- Sports and Recreation Committee 17th March 2021
- Combined Community Centres Committee 18th March 2021
- Jersey Farm Woodland Park Joint Management Committee 12th April 2021
- Planning Committee 11th March & 1st April 2021

5100 MATTERS OF NOTE ARISING SINCE THE CIRCULATION OF THE AGENDA

There was none.

5101 PLANNING MATTERS

No matters were raised. It was noted that the Planning Committee had objected to/commented on the following applications since last Full Council.

- 5/2021/0549 57 Harness Way
- 5/2021/0413 47 St Albans Road
- 5/2021/0607 8 Gladeside
- 5/2021/0627 3 Furse Avenue
- 5/2021/0540 9 Berkley Close
- 5/2021/0650 112 High Street, Sandridge

The following application had previously been considered by The Council when it was resolved not to lodge an objection. Councillor Newton Davies, who had lost connection to the virtual meeting on that occasion asked that, regardless of the resolution, his view be minuted as follows;

This application is at variance with aims stated in our Neighbourhood Plan going to Referendum on 6th May in respect of Policy D1 (Settlement Boundary). And, in particular, D2, (Potential Development Land). It also goes against previously stated objectives against the coalescence of communities.

5102 SUGGESTIONS AND/OR MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Early distribution to councillors of the parish magazine was raised. The Clerk pointed out that an electronic version is put on the website at the start of distribution.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Sandridge Parish Council will be held on Wednesday, May 5th at 7.30pm. This will be held remotely via video conferencing.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.48 pm.

Chair

Date

Cllr John Hale