



SANDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Met remotely via video conferencing on Wednesday 8th July 2020 at 7.30pm for a meeting of The Council

PRESENT (VIA VIDEO):

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

APOLOGIES:

Councillors Janet Churchard, Julie Booth

OFFICERS (VIA VIDEO):

Simon Thwaites, Parish Clerk
Rebecca Pannese, Project and Amenities Officer
Martine MacRae, Centres Manager and Website Manager

4950 The Chair informed Members that Councillor Julie Booth had resigned as Parish Councillor.

4951 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Councillor Jenny Roberts – Declared herself a member of Sandridge Evening Women's Institute (see grants).

Councillor Geoff Churchard – Declared a family member with connections to Wheatfields School (see grants).

4952 The Chair informed the meeting of the sad passing of former Sandridge Parish Councillor Stefania Estacchini.

4953 The Chair informed the meeting of the sad passing of former Chair of Sandridge Parish Council, Pat Forward. Members were reminded of her role in helping to create the Jersey Farm Woodland Park and of her involvement with the Sandridge Evening Women's Institute and local scouts.

4954 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 13th MAY 2020

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13th May 2020 were reviewed. They were agreed to be a correct record and it was;

Resolved

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

4955 QUESTIONS TO MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

1. Public Participation

No members of the public were present (via video).

2. Questions to the Officers

There were none.

CLERK'S REPORTS

4956 Monthly Accounts

Members reviewed a schedule of creditor payments previously advised by email and made for the period 14th May to 10th June 2020. Questions were asked and responded to. It was unanimously;

Resolved

To ratify creditor payments as detailed on the schedule. It was further unanimously;

Resolved

To approve a second payment schedule, also circulated with the agenda, relating to creditor payments for the period 11th June to 8th July 2020.

4957 Projects in the Parish

A verbal update was given by the Project and Amenities Officer on various ongoing projects including;

- Skate ramp
- Playground enhancements at Sherwood Park
- Basketball at William Bell
- Outside gym at Spencer Meadow
- Spencer Meadow games court
- Community Garden
- Bolingbrook roundabout

Councillor Bolton asked to have her objection to the skate ramp installation and concerns about it minuted. The council approved the initial payment for the installation of the skate ramp. Several councillors congratulated the Project and Amenities Officer on progress made on all schemes despite difficulties arising from the pandemic. The Community Garden at Marshalswick Community Centre was particularly commended.

4958 Community Centres

A verbal update was given by the Centres Manager on the latest position regarding the hiring of facilities and the arrangements being made to ensure future safe use as hirers returned.

4959 Jersey Farm Open Space

Members discussed the adoption of the Jersey Farm Open Space and the maintenance of the lagoon within. Councillor Hale asked that the matter be deferred to a future meeting and that councillors considered meanwhile the implications of taking ownership of the open space, with or without the lagoon.

4960 Re-adoption of Standing Orders

An electronic version of Standing Orders was sent to Members on 24th June 2020 for review. It was unanimously;

Resolved

That Standing Orders are re-adopted for the forthcoming year.

4961 Matters of Note

- **Business Interruption Insurance**

The Clerk is in discussion with Zurich Municipal Insurance regarding a decision made not to accept a claim for lost community centre income resulting from the pandemic. There is a question over the policy wording relating to cover having been in place for business interruption resulting from 'Notifiable Diseases'. This has been amended to refer to specified diseases only for the current year. The FCA is currently pursuing a test legal case, due to conclude at the end of June, after notification of which the position will be clearer.

- Members were reminded that grants of up to £1,000 are available to assist local community organisations either impacted by or helping to ease the impact of the pandemic. Applications to the Clerk in the first instance.
- Hanging baskets have been hung throughout the parish through the Parish Council's Grounds Maintenance Contract.
- The District Council (and Herts County Council) has given permission for Marshalswick North Residents Association to create two planted beds close to the foot of Barnfield Road, on either side and just before the service road. The Project and Amenities Officer is working with association members to bring the project to fruition. Taylor Wimpey will be providing some funding towards the cost of the plants.

COUNCILLOR AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

4962 Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor Hale talked Members through a paper circulated with the agenda. It was noted that the District Council will now arrange a consultation on the final agreed version of the Plan which is expected to conclude on September 21st. Examination by an inspector could then take place in October this year.

4963 Grant Applications

- Wheatfields Infants and Nursery School
Following discussion it was;

Resolved

To award under the Power of Competence the sum of £5,000 towards the provision of a sensory room. *(Cllr Churchard lost video and audio connection during this item).*

- Sandridge Evening Women's Institute
Following discussion it was unanimously;

Resolved

To award under the Power of Competence the sum of £250 towards the cost of celebrating the institute's golden birthday year.

4964 Meetings of Committees:

There were no issues raised from the following draft committee minutes produced since the last Full Council. Committee Chairs briefly summarised each meeting to Members.

- Finance Committee 1st June 2020 (remote)
- Planning Committee various 14th May – 25th June 2020 (remote)

4965 MATTERS OF NOTE ARISING SINCE THE CIRCULATION OF THE AGENDA

- Councillor Hale informed Members that he is in correspondence with a Sandridge resident regarding parking at the foot of Sandridgebury Lane.
- Councillor Hale, in his capacity as County Councillor, informed Members of various resurfacing works taking place in the parish.
- The provision of the currently suspended shopper's bus provided by Sandridge Parish Council was discussed with a consensus that the service should remain suspended for now.

4966 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.

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. A number of applications to which objections were lodged by the Planning Committee were noted.

4967 SUGGESTIONS AND/OR MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Councillors were encouraged to consider new ideas and future initiatives.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Sandridge Parish Council will be held on Wednesday, September 9th, 2020 at 7.30pm. It is anticipated that this will be held remotely via video conferencing but this will be confirmed in due course.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Chair **Date**

Cllr John Hale