



Sandon Parish Council

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Sandon Parish Council Meeting to be held on **Wednesday 14th January 2026** **Sandon Village Hall at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs John Davies (Chair), James De Uphough, Nikki Hawxby, Lisa Megraw
Attending: C Scott (Clerk), DCllr S Jarvis, MP C Hinchliff, Tracy Westgate (Community Partnership Officer), 13 members of the public

Minutes

Meeting opened 19:30

26/001 Apologies

To receive apologies for absence.

None

26/002 Interests

- a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda
- b) To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests; and
- c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None

26/003 Co-option

To review applications for the vacancy of Sandon Parish Councillor

None

26/004 Minutes

To confirm the minutes of Sandon Parish Council Meeting held on the 12th November 2025 as an accurate record of proceedings.

Resolved, proposed Cllr N Hawksby, seconded Cllr L Megraw, signed by the chairman

26/005 Public Issues

To invite members of the public to address the meeting.

To be opened to the public in the planning item.

Sandon Saddlery – the landowner reported to the council his

plans for the Sandon Saddlery and surrounding land. A temporary stop notice had been issued. A planning application will be submitted in 2026.

Parishioners questioned the plans.

DCllr S Jarvis reported the councils position, the stop notice was not complied with and is still in place. MP C Hinchliffe arrived

20:04

MP C Hinchliffe responded to a question from Cllr J DeUphaugh

26/006 **Reports to the Council**

To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies, local authorities and agencies.

DCllr S Jarvis – still in the process of agreeing the budget and working towards improving the pothole budget. Herts Lynx bus to be increased number of buses with a varying number of seats. 20mph limits are being worked towards in areas of the district.

A505 – DCllr S Jarvis spoke about the ideas towards the changes to the junctions on the road. Reduction of the speed on the road would benefit the road, the district council has decided to change the policy of deciding how speed limits are decided being what the road would suit rather than what people already drive. MP C Hinchliffe has had a large quantity of correspondence from constituents. He will be attending a road safety board to hopefully open communications with Department for Transport.

26/007 **Policies**

Annual Mandatory:

- a) Financial Risk Assessment
- b) Asset register
- c) Calendar of meetings

All above items **resolved** proposed Cllr J DeUphaugh,
seconded Cllr N Hawksby

26/008 **Planning**

To receive a planning report on applications and decisions

- a) Walnut tree TPO Sandon Saddlery - 25/03010/TPO **Resolved**
proposed Cllr J DeUphaugh, seconded Cllr J Davies,
Unanimously agreed to respond with comment:
25/03010/TPO – Clerk to send a comment to the District
Council:

The council would like to ensure that due process is followed and the council tree specialist consultants report on the conclusion of the work. The walnut tree is one of the most impressive specimens in the parish and we want to make sure its upkeep is protected for future generations.

b) Sandon Saddlery – reported in item 26/005 above

26/009 **Finance – Report**

a) To note receipt of income **noted**

b) To receive summary report of receipts and payments against budget

c) To receive bank reconciliation **received** and signed by Cllr J Davies

d) To consider grant applications from local groups **none**

e) To authorise payments made in accordance with the budget **resolved** proposed Cllr N Hawksby, seconded Cllr L Megraw

f) To note the 2025-26 Internal auditor interim report **noted**

g) To set the precept for 2026/27 **resolved** proposed Cllr N Hawksby, seconded Cllr L Megraw. Due to a healthy reserves balance It was agreed that the precept would be £8500. With the automatic addition of the CTRS grant from NHDC of £293.65 the precept and CTRS amount would total £8793.65.

26/010 **Reports from Working Parties and Committees**

a) HR committee – staff review to be conducted

b) Highways – discussed above. 2 really bad potholes on the Five House Road, it is potentially having improvements in this coming financial year.

c) Church – Church Warden would like to thank the wider community for all the volunteering for flowers and clearing up

d) Sports Club and Roe Green - none

e) Village Hall -none

f) School – looking for financial support towards transport for trips. They are looking for crowd funding to avoid a financial deficit, another teacher has been appointed for KS1, they are looking for a new caretaker. FOSS are looking for new chairman and treasurer

g) Spring Celebration plans – Come back with ideas

26/011 Date of next Sandon Parish Council Meeting and items for the agenda

To note that the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th March 2026