

Minutes of Sandon Parish Council Meeting
Wednesday 13th January 2021 at 7.30 pm
Remotely via Zoom

Present: Cllr F Cannon, Cllr K Chamberlain, Cllr B Morris and Cllr J de Uphaug (Chair) Cllr B Wordley

In attendance: Mrs C Scott Responsible Financial Officer, Mrs H Stubbings, Clerk, Cllr S Jarvis and 12 members of the public.

20.77 Welcome.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for absence – None

20.78 Requests for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interest on items on the agenda – Localism Act 2011 s33 dispensations as standing. None

20.79 To confirm the Minutes of Sandon Parish Council's meeting held on 9th December 2020. Proposed by Cllr Fiona Cannon, seconded by Cllr Beth Morris - **resolved**

20.80 Matters arising.

a) Appointment of Internal Auditor. A local resident had shown some interest in taking on the role but would not be available until September 2021. The Clerk will approach Mrs Jill Jones who is the clerk for Buntingford Town Council to ask if she would be the Internal Auditor for Sandon for 2021. Her usual fee is £50

20.81 To hear reports from nominated representatives for the following:

i) Access/Rights of Way Cllr Wordley reported on the Definitive map Modifications. Hertfordshire's definitive map showing all foot-paths, bridleways and bye ways is available on the HCC website. In 2026 the law will change and all old evidence regarding f-p's etc will be lost. Regular users can log a right of way. There are nine current listings for Sandon; three of these are not current, the remaining six include a f-p at Doe Bridge, a Drovers lane at Green End, f-p at Redhill, The Drift, Sandon School, f-p 30 and Lye End. Reviews of the status of f-p's and bye ways vary according to activity.

i) Highways.

a) Spring Litter Pick, with the current restrictions of Covid it is not possible to use NHDC litter picking equipment. It was suggested that residents might be encouraged to (13th March) take a walk and pick up litter in a manner in accordance with current government advice. The PC would consider funding the purchase of litter pickers.

This will be promoted via Sandon Village News as the Village Gazette will not be printed for the next couple of months.

b) It was noted that due to winter conditions and harvesting activities the roads at Gannock and at the far end of Sandon Lane, near Buntingford are sustaining considerable verge damage.

iii) Church – open for private prayer

iv) Sports Club and Roe Green – no action to report

v) Village Hall – currently shut, no issues to report

vi) Planning applications

1) former Poultry Farm, Redhill in 2000 made brownfield site. Main objections regarding highways, impact on local area and environment and sustainability on both counts; build and location. Highways have made a case for refusal. Cllr Cannon proposed, seconded by Cllr de Uphaug that the PC strongly object to this application as there is no merit to the application - **resolved**

20.83 To hear from District Councillor.

Cllr Steve Jarvis reported that gullies in the village are being cleaned at night so as not to hinder traffic movement during the day.

Improvements to the safety of A505, particularly at junctions are being implemented.

- 20.83 To note the Safety Officers Report.
The Safety Officer reported that there were no areas of concern to report. Roe Green is soaking wet and so the swings etc are difficult to get to.
- 20.85 To receive the Responsible Financial Officers report including
The RFO reported that thank you letters had been received from the Organisations who received \$137 Grants.
- a) 2020 -21 Year to date financial summary- finances on track no extensive expenses; income £9,157.34 and expenditure of £4,652.23.
 - b) January 2021 payment requests; Officer's salaries £1,900 and anticipated mower repairs up to the value of £250 Proposed by Cllr de Uphaugh, seconded by Cllr Cannon - **resolved**
 - c) The Budget for 2021-22 had previously been circulated and agreed.
 - d) The request for the 2021-22 Precept has been submitted, with no increase.
 - e) Internal Audit plan; the plan will require updating prior to the Internal Audit
 - f) Financial & Business risks review – The RFO will circulate this in due course.
- 20.86 To adopt the LGA Code of Conduct
The Councillors of Sandon requested that further information be gathered before the formal adoption of the Code which will be brought to the next meeting. The Clerk will liaise with HAPTC and send out the DPI forms.
- 20.87 To confirm the dates of coming meetings
10th March 2021, 5th May, 7th July, 8th September, 10th November
- 20.87 It was requested that the statement about meeting procedure be added to the agenda whilst zoom meetings are being held.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Chairman

Date