# Sandridge Parish Council



Marshalswick Community Centre, The Ridgeway, St.Albans, Herts AL4 9TU

4th April 2024

Tel: 01727 831871 www.sandridge-pc.gov.uk Email: clerk@sandridge-pc.gov.uk

To: Councillors Graham Leonard (Chair), June Reid, John Hale, Jennifer Roberts, Adam Twidell, James Lambert, Julie Oakley, Maurice Wells, Carol Chalkley, Mary Ternouth, Raihaanah Ahmed, Debbie Chachulski, Mike White, Luke Sieger

You are summoned to attend a meeting of Sandridge Parish Council, to be held at Marshalswick Community Centre on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7.30pm – please note that this meeting will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm

Simon Thwaites
Parish Clerk

Members of the public and press are invited to attend this meeting. Questions or concerns may be submitted to the Clerk in advance of the meeting via email using clerk@sandridge-pc.gov.uk or by post, address as above.

## AGENDA

- 1. TO RECEIVE AND FORMALLY ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Councillors Raihaanah Ahmed, Debbie Chachulski
- 2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS
  - 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
- 3. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THE 13th MARCH 2024

#### 4. QUESTIONS TO OFFICERS

## 5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – AN OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTS TO RAISE ISSUES OR ASK MEMBERS QUESTIONS

#### **CLERK'S REPORTS**

#### 6. Monthly Accounts

Please find attached a schedule of creditor payments for the period 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024. The accounts under the heading 'Online Transfers' are due to be paid on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024. It is;

#### Recommended

That the Online Transfers schedule is approved for payment and all other payments are ratified by Full Council.

## 7. County Councillor Allison Wren

An opportunity for Members to hear from and raise issues with the newly elected County Councillor for Harpenden North and Rural (including Sandridge Village).

## 8. Local Policing

An opportunity to meet and hear from local officers PC Phil Burns and PCSO Chris Stokes.

#### 9. Sports and Recreation Committee - Retention of Reserved Funds for other Purposes

At a meeting of the Sports and Recreation Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> March the difficult decision not to continue with the pump track project was made. This was due to the excessive cost of compliance with Herts Highways planning requirements, failure to meet which would have resulted in a planning refusal.

The Committee has a budget in 2024/25 of £30,000. This was to be used in part for funding new apparatus and in part for funding the Herts Highways compliance works above. There is also the sum of £50,000 earmarked in reserves for the track's construction. The Committee requests that this is released for the progression of other projects, the case being that The Committee has foregone works over two years, opting instead to hold money in reserves for the eventual completion of the now redundant project. It is;

#### **Proposed**

That The Sports and Recreation Committee is authorised to utilise the sum set aside for the pump track, all works excluding minor repairs to be notified to Full Council in advance of commencement.

#### 10. HAPTC Member and Officer Training

The Clerk has yet to receive ideas for inclusion in upcoming training with the County Officer on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Members and officers are asked to consider what discussions might be helpful and what learning outcomes are desired.

## 11. Wildflowers in Sandridge Parish

An update from the Project Officer on year two of this Parish Council initiative.

## 12. Matters of Note

- John O'Conner Ltd have been planting trees on verges throughout the parish on behalf of the Parish Council. The County Council have also been planting at numerous sites.
- Bay marking has been completed at Spencer Meadow car park and the Parish Office car park.
- The Year-End Internal Audit will focus around the auditor attending the Parish Office on 25th April.

#### **COUNCILLOR AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## 13. Grant Applications

- Holiday at Home (St Mary's)
- Emergency pull-cord for elderly and vulnerable residents (St Mary's)

## 14. D-Day 80 Commemoration – 6th June 2024 at 8.30pm

The Clerk met with Councillors Twidell and Roberts on March 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss this event. Councillor Twidell to provide a verbal update to Members on progress made.

# 15. Meeting with Members of Wheathampstead Parish Council regarding Parish Building Redevelopment

The Clerk and Councillors White and Wells met with the Wheathampstead Clerk and Councillor McKenzie on 20<sup>th</sup> March to view their new building and consider whether this council would benefit from undertaking a similar building project. Councillors White and Wells to give a verbal update.

#### 16. Parish Summer Event

Councillor Roberts to provide a verbal update on plans for the Parish Summer Event to be held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024.

## 17. Jersey Farm Woodland Park Drainage

The soakaway fed by an Aco gulley at the start of the track leading on from St Helier Road (Footpath 27) is no longer working. Excavation works including CCTV have found the pipe leading from the Aco to the soakaway to be unclearable. The soakaway itself is also likely to be silted beyond repair.

The consequence of this is more surface water running off the Woodland Park onto the lower section of St Helier Road, possibly contributing to existing wearing of the unadopted surface.

It is recommended for the old soakaway to be fully excavated and a new one, ideally using purpose made plastic crates, to be installed and connected to the existing gulley. Whilst the Parish Council is under no legal obligation to carry out these works, there has been historical collaboration between the Parish Council and residents to mitigate this issue. At the request of the Woodland Park Committee it is;

#### **Proposed**

That the sum of up to £3,500 (estimate) be made available from reserves to bring the soakaway back into operation (subject to a further survey).

## 18. Bus Stop on The Ridgeway

A verbal update from Councillor Chalkley on plans to install an enhanced bus shelter on the Ridgeway (opposite the library).

## 19. Oaklands College - public access

A verbal update from Councillor Hale.

#### 20. Meetings of Committees

- 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 Jersey Farm Woodland Park Committee
- Planning Committee please see below

#### 21. MATTERS OF NOTE ARISING SINCE THE CIRCULATION OF THE AGENDA

The Council may not make decisions under this item

#### 22. PLANNING MATTERS

The Planning Committee met on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

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.

The Chair of the Planning Committee to update Full Council on any comments submitted to the Planning Authority following the above meeting.

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.

#### 23. SUGGESTIONS AND/OR MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

Note: In accordance with the Local Government Act 1972, the Parish Council meeting will be open to the Public unless the Parish Council resolves otherwise

Next meeting date – 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.30pm – Marshalswick Community Centre (this is the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council)