

Sandridge Parish Council



Simon Thwaites
Parish Clerk

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

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

3rd January 2024

www.sandridge-pc.gov.uk

TO: MEMBERS OF THE SPORTS AND RECREATION GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Councillors: Graham Leonard (Chair), Jenny Roberts, Mike White, Adam Twidell, James Lambert, Raihaanah Ahmed

Public members: Jez Cox, Chris Cooke

Officers: Rebecca Pannese; Project, Amenities and Community Engagement Officer
Simon Thwaites; Parish Clerk

A meeting of the Sports and Recreation Grounds Committee is to be held on Wednesday 17th January 2024 at 7.30pm at Marshalswick Community Centre

A G E N D A

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Disclosures of Interest and Dispensations**
To receive declarations of interest from Members on items on the agenda and to receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests.
- 3. To approve the minutes of the Sports and Recreation Grounds Committee meeting held on the 20th September 2023**
- 4. Bike track update**
Following on from the Committee decision at the last meeting to pursue this project to completion, the PACE officer had a telephone conversation with the planning officer at St Albans District Council regarding the next step in order to ensure the Parish Council satisfies

Herts Highways concerns around the entrance to the Jersey Farm Open Space. The planning officer was informed that a traffic consultant has been appointed by the Parish Council to carry out the following;

Ascertain and demonstrate achievability of suitable visibility splays, identify any necessary amendments to the access, such as widening and resurfacing. This would be informed by swept path analysis and relevant design standards. Provide an indicative drawing illustrating the haul route, vehicle turning areas and contractor parking areas. While not having been raised in the Highways comments, also prepare a plan illustrating construction vehicle routing to the site, as this is also important and is expected could be raised going forward.

The report has now been received and circulated to the Committee. The report has also been sent directly to the officer at Herts Highways for their consideration.

It is likely that a new planning application will need to be submitted to the District Council (SADC) in order to accommodate the larger area with which works will need to be carried out. It is not possible to submit a new site plan with the existing application.

Once, and if, an agreement can be made with Highways and SADC (as land owners) as to the way forward the PACE officer will seek quotes to fulfill the requirements. Depending on the cost of completion of these works it is hoped that the existing provision within the draft 2024/25 budget will be sufficient (for clarity, this would not mean works being delayed until the new year, rather that some of the existing funding would be used in the knowledge that there are funds in 2024/25 to complete the project). If the additional costs to satisfy Herts Highways are considered excessive a report will be made to Full Council.

5. 2023/24 Capital works

The final addition to the 2023/24 works programme has been completed at Sherwood Park Open Space. Only the line marking remains outstanding.



6. Skate Ramp Art Project

The Clerk has written asking for a provisional date for the artwork to continue.

7. **2024/25 Sports and Recreation Committee Budget**

Committee Members are asked to note that the sum of £30,000 has been included in the draft 2024/25 budget presented to the Finance Committee on the 30th October 2023. The budget will be presented at the upcoming Full Council meeting on the 14th December for approval. As discussed at the last committee meeting, it is noted;

1. That the funds may be used in part towards completion of the bike track with the remainder being used elsewhere on apparatus to be agreed and first presented to a Full Council meeting.

2. If the committee considers the bike track no longer viable, the entire £30,000 budget may be used to fund enhancements elsewhere, again, following presentation to Full Council.

8. The Committee has recently had two walkabouts to view our playgrounds and facilities and to discuss new ideas for future capital works. The following suggestions have been made for consideration in future year's programs;

Jersey Farm Adventure Playground

- Replace the hanging loops with a climbing wall or an alternative.
- Picnic benches in the playground
- Replace the timbers on the walkway apparatus
- Paint the apparatus
- Basketball and dribble area outside of the adventure playground

Harness Way Playground and Open Space

- Surfacing for entrance gateway and to connect both playgrounds
- Replacement of the spider apparatus
- Picnic benches for outside of the playground

St Leonards Playground and Open Space

- Replace timbers on slide
- Picnic tables outside of playground
- Replacement swing seats

William Bell Playground and Open Space

- Replacement apparatus for the "horse merry go round"

The PACE Officer will seek to further investigate the suggestions ahead of the March meeting and report back to the Committee. Members are asked to note that the capacity to carry out these works will depend on the remaining funds from the 2024/25 budget once the total cost of the completion of the pump track is known.

9. **Engaging Young People to work with The Parish Council through the DoE Scheme in Maintaining High Quality Play and Sports Facilities**

Draft project papers will be tabled this evening for discussion and approval. The project is aiming to create young Ambassadors for each of the open spaces/play areas.

10. **Matters of Note**

- The Clerk has contacted both Play in the Parks and HAPpy (HCC), offering free use of the Astroturf court next Summer as requested at the last meeting.
- Further to receiving a quotation for conversion of the floodlights at Spencer Meadow to LED, the Clerk has enquired whether the Parish Council would qualify for an Environmental Projects Grant from Veolia. Unfortunately, the eligibility criteria require the facility to be in the vicinity of designated Veolia facility which this isn't.

- Broadmead Leisure will be repairing the damaged wetpour around the see-saw in St Leonard's playground as raised in the annual play inspection. The cost of the repair is £350 and will be carried out as soon as possible.
- The damaged skatelite sheets have been replaced on the skate ramp on the Jersey Farm Open Space. The cost of replacement was covered by insurance less an excess of £150.

11. Matters Arising Since the Circulation of the Agenda

12. Suggestions for Future Meetings

Date of next meeting – 7:30pm Wednesday 6th March 2024 at Marshalswick Community Centre