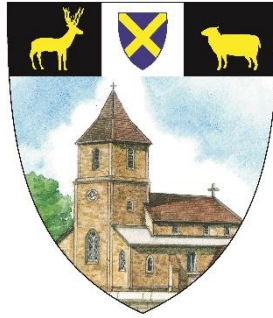


# *Sandridge Parish Council*



Simon Thwaites  
Parish Clerk

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17<sup>th</sup> April 2024

## **TO: MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR SUSTAINABILITY**

Councillors: Jenny Roberts (Chair), Maurice Wells, Mary Ternouth, June Reid,  
Debbie Chachulski, James Lambert, Mike White

Public Members: David Kealey (St Albans & District Footpaths Society)  
Julian Thornton (Herts County Council)  
Mark Carter (Warden), Jim Watson (Friends of Jersey Lane)  
Representative of Sustainable St Albans

Officers: Simon Thwaites (Parish Clerk), Emma Hostler (Deputy clerk), Rebecca  
Pannese (Project, Amenities and Community Engagement Officer (PACE))

A meeting of the Committee for Sustainability is to be held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024 at Marshalswick Community Centre at 7.30pm.

## **AGENDA**

- 1. To receive and accept apologies for absence**  
Councillor Debbie Chachulski
- 2. Disclosures of interest and dispensations**
- 3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024**  
Members are asked to review and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Committee for Sustainability held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024.

## **Protecting and Supporting Nature**

### **4. Wildflower Initiative**

An update from the PACE officer on seeding existing wildflower areas, the expansion of those beds and where new beds have been created.

### **5. Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust**

Mr Tim Hill MCIEEM, Conservation Manager at the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust to attend. It's hoped to identify ways this committee can be involved in the Trust's current conservation work.

### **6. Community Garden installation of Water Butts**

Two 1,000 water tanks have been installed at Marshalswick Community Centre to allow volunteers to maintain the Community Garden using rainwater (when available). Councillor Wells to update the Committee on the progress of this project.

## **Improving the Natural Environment for Residents**

### **7. Update from Julian Thornton (HCC) on footpaths and Rights of Way**

### **8. Footpaths at the Harness Way Open Space**

Please see attached a report by Councillor Chalkley, produced in consultation with Councillor Wells to propose the enhancement of the Harness Way Open Space through the provision of a footpath, benches and new planting.

## **Recycling, Reusing, Repurposing, Repairing**

### **9. Installation of Mixed Recycling Bins**

An update on continued efforts to obtain a quote from Veolia to collect recyclables from two local parks. The Clerk is in correspondence with the District Council's Chief Executive in this regard and is awaiting follow up.

### **10. Repair Workshop**

We have compiled a list of six volunteers that responded to an article in the Winter edition of Neighbourhood News. Skills on offer include electronics, woodwork, sewing and computer maintenance. Additionally, Councillor Wells attended a workshop in Cottonmill to better understand what is involved. It is hoped that, with kind assistance from Sustainable St Albans we can now schedule our first Repair Shop here in Sandridge parish.

### **11. Parish Event**

The Deputy Clerk to update Committee Members on efforts to ensure the Parish Council's Summer Event takes place sustainably. Successes so far include;

- The Green Man Public House will use compostable glasses only at its bar
- No food to be served in plastic containers
- Additional efforts are being made to ensure separation of recyclable materials
- Ice Cream van not to have engine idling during operation

### **12. Sandridge Parish Council involvement in this year's Sustfest**

The Clerk has spoken to a local photographer regarding making a short film on the Paradise for Pollinators project. Unfortunately, fees are impractical, even allowing for the reduction offered. It's also unclear if we have sufficient material available. Members may want to consider other means of participating.

## **Carbon Reduction and Capture**

### **13. Solar Energy Battery at Jersey Farm Community Centre**

Councillor Wells has carried out some investigation into the feasibility of storing solar energy at Jersey Farm Community Centre. To update the committee.

### **14. Committee Budget 2024-25**

Members are reminded of this committee's budget for the coming year.

<b>Committee for Sustainability</b>	<b>2024/25 Budget</b>
	<b>£</b>
Sustainability Projects	6,000
Old PEAP Budget	0
Community Garden	1,500
Wildflower/Pollinator Initiative	2,750
Tree Planting	5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,250</b>

### **15. Matters of Note**

- A fourth clothing bank will soon be installed at Sherwood Park. All monies received to date and ongoing will be earmarked for use by this committee.
- The Project, Amenities and Community Engagement Officer was interviewed by Radio station Mix 92.6 on February 23<sup>rd</sup> to further discuss the expansion of the Paradise for Pollinators project. Another local organisation is this year following the model to produce a jigsaw of wildflower beds.
- There has been significant tree planting on verges in recent months. Some of these have been planted through the County Council and others through Cllr Chalkley's scheme for residents to sponsor a tree planting adjacent to their property. Some six residents took part with further interest registered for the current year.
- Councillor Wells continues to wait on a decision from Marshalswick Library regarding permission to install a planter incorporating bike racks outside the building. A meeting with the Estates Manager was held in February but a decision from their legal team is still awaited.
- The Jersey Farm Woodland Park Committee has resolved to plant a new hedgerow (1,800 whips) on the south bank of FP 27 from St Helier Road to Woodland House to provide further habitat for wildlife. This will take place in the early autumn with the help of regular parish volunteers, and hopefully recruits from the Parkrun community.
- The Woodland Park Committee has also resolved to install cycle parking for up to 8 bikes on the south side of the Woodland Park. This will be installed prior to the summer event in June.
- Additionally, the Woodland Park Committee is updating and overhauling the faded wooden information boards around the park. These pieces of artwork inform visitors of the landscape, bird life and other wildlife that may be found there.
- A new hedge has been planted alongside the footpath at St Leonard's Open Space.
- Wood Anemone rhizomes have been planted by volunteers at the Jersey Farm Woodland Park.

### **16. Items for inclusion in the agenda of the next meeting**

#### **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Committee for Sustainability will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at Marshalswick Community Centre.