



SANDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Met at Marshalswick Community Centre on Wednesday 13th March 2024 at 7.30pm for a meeting of the Parish Council

PRESENT:

Councillors Jenny Roberts, Mary Ternouth, Maurice Wells, John Hale, Mike White, Carol Chalkley, Adam Twidell, Graham Leonard (Chair), Debbie Chachulski, Julie Oakley, James Lambert

OFFICERS:

Rebecca Pannese, Project, Amenities and Community Engagement Officer, Simon Thwaites, Parish Clerk, Emma Hostler, Deputy Parish Clerk, Stef Hayes, Centres Manager

ABSENT:

Councillor Luke Sieger

IN ATTENDANCE:

District Councillor Simon Johns

5678 TO RECEIVE AND FORMALLY ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Raihaanah Ahmed, June Reid (apology received after commencement of meeting).

5679 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There was none.

5680 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 14th FEBRUARY 2024

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14th February 2024 were reviewed. They were agreed to be a correct record and it was unanimously;

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting be approved and signed by the Chair.

QUESTIONS TO OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

5681 Questions to Officers

There was none.

5682 Public Participation

Wheathampstead and Sandridge District Councillor Simon Johns attended the meeting to introduce himself to Parish Council members.

CLERK'S REPORTS

5683 Monthly Accounts

Members reviewed a schedule of creditor payments for the period 15th February 2024 to 13th March 2024. It was unanimously;

Resolved

To approve the schedule for payment on 15th March 2024.

5684 Lone Worker Policy

Members reviewed the Parish Council's Lone Worker Policy, including two amendments to the original document approved by the HR Committee on 5th February. Following discussion and recommendations from Councillor White it was;

Resolved

1. To include in the policy an option for staff to have their phones tracked should they so wish (for security).
2. The policy to include a request to staff to upload the ICE Contact (In Case of Emergency) software on their phone to send a pre-composed message and GPS location to a selected ICE contact in case of an emergency (as appropriate and optional when the phone is not employer issued).
3. That Full Council ratifies re-adoption of the policy and amendments for review in two years.

Note: Councillor Chachulski undertook to speak to the Clerk in respect of further standardising all policy documents.

5685 Additional Clothing Bank

Following discussion it was unanimously;

Resolved

To ask the Parish Clerk to write to the Salvation Army asking for a clothing bank to be installed in the Sherwood Avenue car park.

5686 Safeguarding Policy

Members reviewed a draft Safeguarding Policy, being a revised version of that presented to the last Full Council. It was unanimously.

Resolved

To adopt the policy for review annually.

5687 Treasury and Investment Policy

It was unanimously;

Resolved

To re-adopt this policy for the forthcoming year.

5688 Grievance Policy

It was unanimously;

Resolved

To re-adopt this policy for a further three years.

5689 Matters of Note

- An officer from the Woodland Trust has agreed to attend a Parish Council meeting to share what's currently happening in Heartwood Forest and what's planned for the future. The Full Council meeting on June 12th has been provisionally agreed.

- The Parish Conference took place at Redbourn Parish Council on March 11th.
- An HAPTC training day for councillors and staff has been arranged for Monday May 13th from 3pm to 6pm. Attendees are encouraged to let the Clerk have details of any topics they'd like covered (this can be absolutely anything relating to the role of a councillor, the function of a council, working with other organisations etc).
- Councillor Wells, in collaboration with the Committee for Sustainability and the community garden volunteers has installed two 1,000 litre water butts to the front of Marshalswick Community Centre. These will collect rainwater to sustainably irrigate the community garden.
- Redevelopment of the Marshalswick Parish Office and Community Hall Site – the Clerk is working to agree a date for Councillors Twidell, White and Wells to meet with Wheathamstead Parish councillors to discuss the building of their new accommodation.
- The Clerk and Councillor Hale, Chair of the Finance Committee, met with Trustees of the Sandridge Youth and Sport Community Association (SYSCA) on 26th February to agree a recovery plan to be part-funded through a Parish Council grant. Various works were agreed and prioritised.
- The Project, Amenities and Community Engagement Officer was interviewed by Radio station Mix 92.6 on February 23rd to further discuss the expansion of the Paradise for Pollinators project.
- There will be an internal audit of the Parish Council's Annual Return on 25th April 2024.
- The Parish Office is obtaining quotes to re-carpet the Parish Office and hallway.

COUNCILLOR AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

5690 Grant Applications

- Sandridge Primary School (Sandridge 10k). Following discussion it was proposed by Councillor Chalkley, seconded by Councillor White and unanimously;

Resolved

To award the sum of £750 to the Sandridge 10k for the purposes outlined in the application. This award made under S.137 of the Local Government Act 1972. The Clerk to ask for details of what donation the school receives as a result of the event.

5691 A Report on the Effectiveness of the Sandridge Neighbourhood Plan in St Albans District Council Planning Decisions from 1st June to 31st Dec 2023

A report by Councillor Ternouth circulated with the agenda was reviewed. It was noted that comments made by the Planning Committee to the Planning Authority make increasingly detailed reference to the Sandridge Neighbourhood Plan to ensure planning officers reviewing an application consider the relevant elements. The report was formally noted.

5692 B651 Footpath/Bridleway

A summary of a meeting held on February 21st to discuss this permissive bridleway was given by Councillor Ternouth. No further meetings are scheduled at this time.

5693 Parish Summer Event 1st June 2024

Councillor Roberts provided a comprehensive update on plans for the Parish Summer Event to be held on 1st June 2024.

5694 Meetings of Committees:

- Members received a brief summary from the Chair of each of the following committees;
- 6th March 2024 Sports and Recreation Committee
 - Planning Committee – please see below

5695 MATTERS OF NOTE ARISING SINCE THE CIRCULATION OF THE AGENDA

Councillor Hale updated Members on progress in reinstating public access to the Oaklands College site. He suggested visiting the Oaklands College website's community page or the Marshalswick North Residents Association Facebook page for future updates.

Also discussed was the potential closure of the B651 when installing mains services to the former Iven's Orchids development site.

5696 PLANNING MATTERS

It was noted that the Planning Committee met on 19th February 2024 and 11th March 2024. One planning application has been commented on since the last Full Council;

40 Ardens Way, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 9UJ – Planning Application: 5/2024/0253

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.

5697 SUGGESTIONS AND/OR MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

- An update on Oaklands College public access (April)
- Highways flooding in the parish (May)

Next meeting date – 10th April 2024 at 7.30pm – Marshalswick Community Centre (this will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm)

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.54 pm

Chair

Date