SANDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL



SANDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL	Met at Marshalswick Community Centre on Wednesday 11 th September 2024 at 7.30pm
PRESENT:	Councillors Jenny Roberts, John Hale, Graham Leonard (Chair), Mary Ternouth, June Reid, Adam Twidell, Luke Sieger, Mike White, Raihaanah Ahmed, Debbie Chachulski and James Lambert.
OFFICERS:	Simon Thwaites, Parish Clerk, Stef Hayes, Community Centres Manager, Emma Hostler, Deputy Parish Clerk.
ABSENT:	Councillor Julie Oakley
IN ATTENDANCE:	Three members of St Albans First Responders

- 5794 TO RECEIVE AND FORMALLY ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Maurice Wells and Carol Chalkley
- 5795 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS There was none.

5796 TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 10th JULY 2024

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10th July 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

- 5797 Questions to Officers There was none.
- 5798 Public Participation

There was none.

CLERK'S REPORTS

5799 Monthly Accounts

Members reviewed a schedule of creditor payments for the period 11th July 2024 to 14th August 2024, it having been previously circulated. It was unanimously;

Sandridge Parish Council – 11th Sept 2024

Resolved

That payment of this schedule, made on 16th August is ratified by Members.

Also reviewed was a schedule of creditor payments for the period 15th August to 11th September 2024. It was unanimously;

Resolved

That Members approve payment of this schedule on 13th September 2024.

5800 Community First Responders

Three First Responder volunteers kindly joined the meeting to provide more information about their organisation and the work it carries out locally and across the district (in which there are eleven First Responders). It was explained that the ambulance service alerts them as the same time as an ambulance is despatched because they're usually most local to any incident. Questions were asked and responded to before they were sincerely thanked for the extraordinary work they do.

Note: Councillor Twidell joined the meeting during the above presentation.

5801 Street Name Suggestions – Land between Hopkins Crescent and the Former Baptist Chapel, St Albans Road, Sandridge

Having been approached by the District Council, on behalf of Hightown Housing Association, Members considered potential street names for the new close on land between Hopkins Crescent and the Former Baptist Chapel. One was put forward by Councillor Wells – Edward Warner VC who was born in St Albans and died at Ypres in 1915. The suggested name therefore was agreed as Warner Close. It was unanimously;

Resolved

To submit this for consideration.

Note: This suggestion has now been adopted.

5802 Schedule of Action Points

Members considered the continued use of the schedule of action points distributed after each Full Council. It was unanimously;

Resolved

To permanently adopt the use of this schedule.

5803 Flowers Flowers

An application by a local family business to sell flowers from a vehicle in the Council's car park between Marks and Spencer and Marshalswick Community Centre was discussed at some length. After this discussion it was proposed by Councillor Hale, seconded by Councillor Reid and;

Resolved

To approve the request for a trial period of six months, this subject to the licencing authority, St Albans District Council, awarding a licence to trade. Also that the Clerk would establish the rate of any rental charged by the District Council for the pitch used on St Peter's Street, any rental charged at this location not to exceed that sum.

5804 Playground /Sports Installations

The PACE Officer updated Members on the progress of installations and renovations initiated through the Sports and Recreation Committee. Also noted were the new improved Christmas lights at the front of Marshalswick Community Centre.

5805 External audit 2023/24

Members noted that the Parish Council's External Auditor, PKF Littlejohn, has completed the 2023/24 external audit with no issues requiring attention or recommendations made. The office team were congratulated for their work.

5806 Sandridge Parish Council's Risk Management Policy

Following electronic circulation of this policy it was unanimously;

Resolved

To re-adopt the policy as circulated on 9th August for review in September 2025.

5807 Safety of Lithium Ion Batteries

Members discussed an email received regarding safety issues around lithium ion batteries, particularly in scooters and ebikes. The Council was asked to consider supporting a campaign to introduce a Bill to improve the safe use and disposal of these batteries. It was;

Resolved

Not to formally support the draft Bill at this stage without being sufficiently well informed.

5808 Matters of Note

- New carpet has been fitted in the Parish Office and reception hall.
- Following the approval of funding, the PACE Officer is seeking three quotes for a full structural survey of Marshalswick Community Centre.
- The proposed bike rack to the front of Marshalswick Library has not yet received approval. The library manager is hopeful of this happening soon.
- Timber planters have been installed at the entrance to Marshalswick Community Centre to provide a brighter welcome to Hall users and their guests.
- The obsolete Christmas tree lights to the front of Marshalswick Community Centre have been removed with new, brighter sets replacing them.
- The new Quadrant bus shelter (opposite the community garden) and planters are now on order through Herts County Council. Councillor Chalkley has been liaising with officers.
- BOAT 3 (Byway Open to All Traffic) running through Bentsley Spinney has been resurfaced by the County Council.
- Filming will take place at Marshalswick Community Centre on Friday 20th September for a scene in a new ITV drama called 'Code of Silence'. It is likely that a number of parking spaces will need to be reserved for film crew on the day.

COUNCILLOR AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

5809 Grant Applications

There have been no grant applications this month.

5810 Woolam Park – Pre Application Engagement

Councillor White provided a verbal update from a meeting he attended on August 19th between the District Council and the development company involved in Woolam Park.

5811 St Leonard's Flower Festival

Councillor Roberts requested the sum of £100 towards Sandridge Parish Council's contribution to this year's festival, the theme of which is Remembrance and Thanksgiving. It was proposed by Councillor Leonard, seconded by Councillor Hale and;

Resolved

To approve funding of up to £100 for this purpose.

5812 MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES:

- No committee meetings
- Planning Committee see below

5813 MATTERS OF NOTE ARISING SINCE THE CIRCULATION OF THE AGENDA

- County Councillor Hale reminded Members that local community groups are able to apply for road salt through himself or County Councillor Allison Wren. There is a criteria that must be met.

- Councillor Hale reminded Members that Herts County Council will be holding a Growth and Environment Engagement Event on 26th September between 6pm and 7.30pm. Attendees may participate in person or virtually.

- Councillor Ahmed informed the meeting that Wheatfields School will be holding a public fireworks event on November 3rd at the school.

- Councillor Chachulski and other residents have met with the Senior Deputy Headteacher of Sandringham School to have positive discussions around the issues of local parking.

5814 PLANNING MATTERS

The Planning Committee met on 22nd July, 12th August and 2nd September 2024.

Planning applications commented on since the last Full Council meeting are;

- 23 Windmill Avenue, St Albans, AL4 9SH Planning Application: 5/2024/1072
- Land at Hatfield Aerodrome, Off Hatfield, Herts, St Albans, AL4 OLU Appeal: APP/M1900/W/24/3346607
- 1 Slimmons Drive AL4 9AN 5/2024/1406
- 18 Hazelmere Road AL4 9RW 5/2024/1408

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.

5815 SUGGESTIONS AND/OR MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT FUTURE MEETINGS There was none.

Next meeting date – 9th October 2024 at 7.30pm – Marshalswick Community Centre

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55 pm

Chair Date