

# SANDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL



## **SANDRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**

Met at Marshalswick Community Centre on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> JULY 2024**

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024 to 14<sup>th</sup> August 2024, it having been previously circulated. It was unanimously;

**Resolved**

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

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

**Resolved**

That Members approve payment of this schedule on 13<sup>th</sup> 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 at 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.

