

## SANDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at SANDFORD SCOUT HUT, 7.30pm, on WEDNESDAY 4th JANUARY 2023

At a meeting of the Council held this day those present were :-

Vice Chairman - D Hope

Messrs – M Lee, J Stephens, Snow (arrived during the Meeting), Stoyle, Haley and Padgham

Mesdames – Dalton, Miles, Ford, and Larcombe

Three Parishioners

The Parish Clerk Mr M Vallance

1) APOLOGIES MDDC Cllr E Lloyd SPC Cllr B Fyfe.

2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Speakers -Andy Busby and Steve Densham (MDDC Services) spoke about cuts in Services, and Funding, provided by the District Council in the forthcoming financial year 2023/2034.

Two of the Sandford Parish play areas belonged to MDDC the one at Linhay Park, and also the one at New Buildings.

Mid Devon Council were offering these two play areas to Sandford Parish Council free hold, or on a 25 year lease.

The offer, if taken up, would see the Parish taking on the responsibility for maintenance, grass cutting, insurance etc.

It was noted that the New Buildings play area equipment was now over 20 years old and would soon be in need of replacing

The Parish Council were unsure of the benefits to be gained from this suggestion ?

It was felt that any change would just see funding coming from the Parish Precept rather than the MDDC Council tax.

It was agreed to consult the residents of New Buildings as to the use of their play area and also a suggestion to turn this into a Green Area ?

3) The MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022, which had been circulated prior to the Meeting, were agreed and signed by the Vice Chairman as a true record.

4) To report on MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) 20's Plenty (G. Padgman) – Further discussion took place on the suggestion from the December Meeting to purchase 4 x 20's Plenty signs at £1120.

As DCC Cllr M Squires had pointed out that DCC Highways would not permit these signs with a red back ground it was agreed this would need to be green.

It was formally agreed to place an order for 4 x 20's Plenty signs at £1120.(Green back ground). Proposed Cllr J Stephens, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr E Dalton, and carried.

b) Site Meeting at Weavers Way

Following the Site Meeting, to discuss the Revised Planning application, comments from the Parish Council were finalised ahead of submission to MDDC Planning.

It was agreed to place a copy of the comments on the Parish Council web site once submitted.

c) Carols in the Square – This had gone off well, despite a clash of dates with two Carol events on the same evening, and the collection had raised £270.

Disappointment was expressed over the non use of the Christmas tree provided in time for Carols in the Square.

A Parishioner had donated the cost of the tree and another, who had made use of the tree had sent a donation to the Crediton Food Bank.

It was pointed out that the event had now been taken on by St Swithun's and no longer run by the Parish Council

It was suggested that St Swithun's liaise with the Landlord of the Lamb Inn over the date of the 2023 Carols in the Square, and in future years, to avoid a clash of events.

There was no formal agreement in place but the Parish Council would be happy to supply a Christmas Tree if they were approached in time for Carols in the Square.

d) 2023 HATOC (Mid Devon) – The outcome of the review had not been sent to the Parish Council.

The Clerk had accessed the DCC Website and found that at the Meeting of the HATOC (Mid Devon) Committee the following had been agreed :-

“SANDFORD: No Waiting At Any Time on specified lengths of Back Lane, Road from West Lodge Cross to Rose and Crown Hill Cross and The Square”.

Devon County Councillor Margaret Squires confirmed this scheme would be implemented, in accordance with the published maps that were issued as part of the Review..

e) Listing of Sandford Congregational Church as a Community Asset – Reply awaited.

#### 4) MATTERS REPORTED ON THE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE PLUS MATTERS REPORTED TO THE PARISH CLERK

It had been brought to the attention of the Clerk that a large number of roof tiles had been dumped around the Parish on hedges, field gateways etc during December.

Coincidentally a house in the Square had been re roofed during this time.

The matter had been reported to MDDC.

The Roofing Contractor had been in touch and offered his apologies, and was arranging to pick up and remove the tiles which Cllr M Snow had kindly collected

#### 5) OPEN FORUM

Matters raised :-

##### **Pull in at Beacon Church**

A Parishioner raised concerns over the road surface, and levels, at the vehicular entrance to the Church.

When the road was resurfaced a few years ago the levels were left poor.

There was a dip where the water puddled.

Vehicles used the splay to pass and over the last few years there had been repeated incidents of damage to the walls and church gate.

This obviously had an on going cost to the church as no one ever owned up to causing damage.

Ctty Cllr M Squires suggested an email trail from the PC to her and Steve Tucker (DCC Highways) would help to resolve the matter.

##### **Planning application**

22/01240/FULL Langlands Farm New Buildings

Erection of 5 dwellings following demolition of existing barns (Revised scheme)

A Parishioner raised concerns regarding this application particularly as the applicant was now believed to be applying to construct a new agricultural building.

The Parishioner considered that the Class Q planning process and time scales were flawed.

It was recommended that the parishioner made their views known to MDDC

It was noted that the application had been refused.

6) POLICE MATTERS No new matters reported.

## 7) REPLIES

a) Sylvia Homes (MDDC) had sent a copy of an email acknowledging the Parish Council Complaint over the delays by MDDC in resolving the issue of Non Compliance of Planning Regulations at Weavers Way.

It appeared from the email that the matter had been circulated to various Heads of Departments at MDDC but the Complaint had but yet had to be formally resolved..

The Clerk had responded accordingly and the Parish Council agreed that the time had come to ask the Ombudsman (Local Government) to intervene on their behalf.

b) MDDC – Details had been sent of the current S106 balances. :-

Provision of new play equipment at Creedy View - £1166

Provision of new adult exercise equipment at Sandford Play Area - £15112

As the equipment had been supplied it was agreed to formally request these funds be transferred to the Parish Council by MDDC.

Proposed Cllr M Snow, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr S. Haley, and carried.

## 8) CORRESPONDENCE

a) S & M Colombe – A letter of complaint had been made over potholes and mud on the roads between West Sandford and Crediton.

It was noted that “patching” had taken place in this area a few days prior to the Meeting though the area dealt with had been “minimal”.

It was agreed to reply stating that a copy of the letter had been sent to the Farmer involved and that Parishioners were encouraged to continue reporting potholes on the DCC Highways website.

b) Nick Silk – 2023 Coronation of King Charles III and reflections on 2022 Jubilee Celebrations – Discuss at next Meeting.

## 9) SANDFORD COMMUNITY SPORTS PAVILION & PLAY AREA

### 10) RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS & WORKING GROUPS

In view of the Christmas holidays no Meetings had taken place.

## 11) PLANNING

22/00063/MRM Creedy Bridge Crediton (Sandford)Reserved matter for the erection of 257 dwellings and up to 5 Gypsy and Traveller pitches etc

IT WAS AGREED NO FURTHER COMMENTS WERE TO BE SUBMITTED.

DISAPPOINTMENT WAS NOTED THAT THE ACCESS ROAD FROM THE A3072, IN THE DIRECTION OF EAST VILLAGE, WOULD PASS THROUGH THE ESTATE TAKNG LORRIES AND FARM MACHINERY.

Refusal of planning permission

22/01240/FULL Langlands Farm New Buildings

Erection of 5 dwellings following demolition of existing barns (Revised scheme)

## 12) RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

### Receipts

Lloyds Bank ( December interest)	£6.55
Donation towards Christmas tree	£20.00

### Payments

Mr M J Vallance (Salary) £475.00 Use of home (3 months) £54.00	
Expenses £56.55	£585.65
Mr R Lee (Christmas tree)	£24.00
Cheques Signed by Cllrs Dalton and Stoyale	

13) ROADS AND FOOTPATHS – No new matters reported though disappointment was noted over the recent pothole patching between Ruxford Barton and Shute Cottage as only modest patching had taken place.

## 14) TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR DONATION/FINANCIAL AID

- a) Sandford Parish Hall
- b) C.A.B.
- c) Mid Devon. Mobility
- d) Age Concern Crediton

**It was agreed to discuss these applications at the February 2023 Meeting**

## 15) SETTING THE 2023 / 2024 PRECEPT

*(The Finance Sub Committee had met, at 6.30pm, prior to the monthly Meeting comprising of Cllrs Hope, Miles, and Ford plus the Parish Clerk.*

*The first draft of the Precept for 2023/2034 had been discussed and would be presented to the full Council Meeting that evening.*

*Discussion had also taken place over the updating of the Council's Banking.*

*Cllr Miles had visited Lloyds Bank that day to discuss this.*

*The Recommendation was for the Council to move over to Electronic Banking)*

After discussion it was agreed to set the 2023/2034 Precept at £33172.(See Copy attached)

Also to take the necessary action to change over to Electronic Banking.

Proposed Cllr Ford, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr M Lee, and carried.

Enquiries to be made as to how payments were to be confirmed and processed ?

Currently cheques were signed at the Meeting by two Councillors

## 16) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) 2023 Coronation of HM King Charles III

On this occasion the Parish Council saw themselves taking on the role of Facilitator.

A suggestion was made to invite Representatives from Parish Organisations, to put forward suggestions for Sandford Coronation Celebrations, and forming a Group to take this forward. This would include any fund raising needed.

It was suggested that these suggestions, once agreed, could be discussed at the proposed Annual Parish Meeting.

It was pointed out that by the Coronation date (6<sup>th</sup> May 2023), there would be a new Parish Council with Local Elections to take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

**Discuss the Celebrations further at the February 2023 Meeting**

b) Boundary Stones / Boundary Walk - **Discuss at February 2023 Meeting**

c) Annual Parish Meeting – March 2023 - **Discuss at February 2023 Meeting**

17) Date of next Meeting Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023 Sandford Scout Hut

This venue was also agreed for the 1<sup>st</sup> March and 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 Meetings

There being no other business the Vice Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.50pm.

**Sandford Parish Council Budget / Precept 2023/ 2024**

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>Actual 2021 / 2022</b>	<b>Budget 2022 / 2023</b>	<b>Probable 2022/2023</b>	<b>Precept 2023 / 2024</b>
	(For Comparison)			
<b>GENERAL ADMINISTRATION</b>				
Clerk's Salary	£6,118.00	<b>£6,375.00</b>	£7362.00	<b>£7,481.00</b>
Clerk's expenses, stationery etc (Accrual)	£539.00	<b>£675.00</b>	£622.00	<b>£650.00</b>
Office equipment (Accrual)	£25.00	<b>£25.00</b>	£25.00	<b>£1,000.00</b>
Insurance	£679.00	<b>£750.00</b>	£754.00	<b>£800.00</b>
Maintenance (Accrual)	0	<b>£150.00</b>	£100.00	<b>£150.00</b>
Grants / Donations / Election costs	£950.00	<b>£1,000.00</b>	£1,000.00	<b>£2,000.00</b>
Subscriptions	£457.00	<b>£550.00</b>	£449.00	<b>£500.00</b>
Audit Costs	£60.00	<b>£350.00</b>	£260.00	<b>£350.00</b>
Training / travel	£0.00	<b>£150.00</b>	£70.00	<b>£500.00</b>
Village Maintenance (Weeding etc)	£375.00	<b>£400.00</b>	£200.00	<b>£400.00</b>
Hall Hire	£0.00	<b>£250.00</b>	£150.00	<b>£250.00</b>
Parish footpaths	£570.00	<b>£570.00</b>	£570.00	<b>£570.00</b>
Parish activities (Accrual)	£200.00	<b>£500.00</b>	£500.00	<b>£750.00</b>
Website	£190.00	<b>£200.00</b>	£153.00	<b>£200.00</b>
Churchyard donations	£440.00	<b>£444.00</b>	£355.00	<b>£355.00</b>
Car park /20's Plenty Signs	£0.00	<b>£100.00</b>	£1,120.00	<b>£100.00</b>
<b>RECREATION</b>				
Equipment/refurbishment/maintenance	£7,000.00	<b>£7,000.00</b>	£7,000.00	<b>£1,000.00</b>
Grass cutting (All areas)	£635.00	<b>£700.00</b>	£831.00	<b>£900.00</b>
Maintenance (Accrual)	£108.00	<b>£150.00</b>	£150.00	<b>£150.00</b>
Safety survey	£148.00	<b>£200.00</b>	0	<b>£200.00</b>
<b>CREEDY VIEW CAR PARK</b>				
Maintenance (Accrual)	£250.00	<b>£250.00</b>	£250.00	<b>£250.00</b>
<b>PAVILLION</b>				
Maintenance (Accrual)	£250.00	<b>£250.00</b>	£250.00	<b>£250.00</b>
<b>CYCLE / PATHWAY (Accrual)</b>		<b>£10,000.00</b>	£10,000.00	<b>£7,500.00</b>
<b>FUTURE PROJECTS (Accrual)</b>				<b>£7,500.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>£31,039.00</b>		<b>£33,806.00</b>
<b>LESS INCOME</b>				
Bank Interest	£2.10	<b>£10.00</b>	£30.00	<b>£60.00</b>
Wayleave	£4.75	<b>£4.00</b>	£4.75	<b>£4.00</b>
DCC Footpaths	£570.00	<b>£570.00</b>	£570.00	<b>£570.00</b>
Grants and Donations	£9,500.00			
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>£584.00</b>		<b>£634.00</b>
<b>BUDGET /PRECEPT</b>		<b>£30,455.00</b>		
<b>PRECEPT</b>		<b>£30,455.00</b>		<b>£33,172.00</b>