

SANDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting held at Sandford Parish Hall, 8.00pm, on Thursday 4th January 2024.

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

Chair – Cllr R Ward

Parish Councillors - P Larcombe, J Crooke, M Snow, D Crosby, B Fyfe, S Miles, R Stoyale,
L Hooper, J Stephens and P Sandys,

MDDC Cllr H Tuffin Parish Clerk Mr M Vallance

1) Chairs opening remarks – The Chair welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

2) Apologies – DCC Cllr M Squires MDDC Cllr M Jenkins SPC Cllr D Hope

3) Declarations of Interest - None

4) MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on December 7th December 2023

The Minutes, which had been circulated prior to the Meeting, were confirmed as a correct record and Signed by the Chair. Proposed Cllr Stoyale, 2nd Cllr Crosby.

5) Open Forum – No Parishioners present.

6) Matters Arising (Not on the Agenda)

a) Cllr Miles proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr Ward (Chair) for arranging the Christmas tree and lights in the Square.

b) Online Banking at Lloyds Bank

Cllr Miles had spoken to Lloyds Bank who had advised that to obtain higher rates of interest on monies invested it was NOT dependent on having Online Banking.

It was agreed to reinvest part of the Parish Council's funds to attract a higher rate of interest :-

- i) Open a 6-month fixed term saving account (3.5%) with a deposit of £20K
- ii) Open a 33 -day account (2.6%) with a deposit of £10K

Proposed Cllr Miles, 2nd Cllr Sandys, and carried.

Two of the current Signatories would need to contact Lloyds Bank to arrange this. **SM/JS**

A discussion took place on the pros and cons of Online Banking.

It was agreed NOT to proceed with this proposal but to carry on with the current Banking arrangements.

- c) "Furlongs" footpath update meeting - Cllr M Snow had met with Richard Spurway (PROW) to discuss this matter and had sent a report of the Meeting and the proposed action needed :-
- i) *To write to Belfield Homes to request the removal of the earth at the base of the bank in two lengths where it was still over the path and to straighten up the line.*
 - ii) *Spoil Heaps – These have now been removed albeit there was still a fair amount of earth there where they have levelled the final height rather than sloped it as was the original proposal. This could still put pressure on the bank above Meadowside. Richard Spurway had suggested SPC needed to ask Adrian Devereaux to have a look to confirm this.*
 - iii) *The manhole is still raised below Brady Close.*
 - iv) *Richard had also suggested that SPC made certain that when we are gifted the land that this does not include the bank so we will not be liable for any subsidence or slippage in the future.*

(The Bank was not included on the map showing the land to be gifted).

The Clerk had heard back from Richard Spurway to say that he would be contacting Belfield Homes to meet and formally discuss the outstanding issues, including the drawing up of a Dedication Agreement for the section between the estate and the existing path.

It was suggested that a member of the Parish Council also attend the proposed meeting.

MJVMS

Cllr Stephens raised the matter of the proposed Footpath from Snows to join the "Furlongs Footpath" from the current track which was in need of upgrading.

A suggestion was made as to whether this could be financed partly from the Crediton Clean Air Fund as part of the proposal of a Cycle/Footpath from Sandford to Libbets Grange ?

It was felt that the proposed Footpath could become a SPC Project.

It would be necessary to engage with Parishioners for discussion, and to research the necessary finance.

The Clerk was asked to raise this issue with Richard Spurway.

MJV

Cllr Ward and Stephens agreed to complete one of the new SPC " Project Proposal/ Community Need " form to test this process.

JS/RW

It was pointed out that it was also be necessary to liaise with Sandford Millenium Green Committee, and interested parties, over the future of the land to be Gifted at this location.

7) Committee and Sub-committee feedback and Review of Committees

- a) Planning Committee – No recent meeting had taken place.
Cllr P Sandys gave a report on a recent DALC Planning Training course he had attended. The Clerk was asked to distribute a copy of the slides used, and other information, that had accompanied the presentation. **PS**
- b) Finance Committee – The date of the next Meeting was set for 5th February 2024.
- c) Communications Committee - No recent Meeting had taken place.
- d) Play Area Committee –
- i) Drain cover replacement – This was still awaited.

ii) Ball Park Project – It was reported that the promised donation toward the project would be sent to the Parish Council Bank account within the next few days. An invoice for an “Advance Payment for installation” covering 60% of the costs had been received.

It was felt that this payment should not be paid at the present time.

In view of the recent wet weather the installation should not be carried out until the Spring.

The Clerk was asked to convey this to Cllr Hope.

MJV

f) Projects Committee – No recent meeting had taken place.

g) Staffing matters Sub-committee – Date for Meeting set for 19th February 2024.

8) Planning

24/00012/MARM Removal of Condition 3 and Variation of Condition 1 of planning permission 22/00063/MARM - Reserved matter for the erection of 257 dwellings and up to 5 gypsy and Traveller pitches; associated works in connection with 8.6ha of land to facilitate future Crediton Rugby Club and up to 1.1ha of land for future primary school; details of landscaping, public open space and other associated infrastructure and engineering operations and access and highway work following outline approval 17/00348/MOUT - to allow removal of the thatched roofs and substitute plans Location: Land at NGR 284185 101165 (Creedy Bridge) Crediton Devon

A Planning Committee meeting date was set to discuss this application.

(Monday 8th January at 7.00pm Sandford Sports Pavilion).

Cllr Fyfe advised that Upton Hellions (Parish Meeting) would also be discussing this application.

23/01877/HOUSE Kerswell Cottage Sandford

Creation of a new entrance and visibility splay on adjoining road from West Lodge to Rose and Crown Hill

It was agreed to strongly object to this proposal as not only were SLOW signs already painted on the road at this location, but it was also between two Parish Accident Black Spots.

(It appeared that MDDC Planning had not formally notified SPC of this application).

23/01911/TELCOM Land at NGR 282527 100941 Higher Road Frogmire Site Vicinity Grid Ref: 282463 101013 Parish: Sandford

Prior Notification for the installation of base station (CSR 20782421) - The electronic communications equipment comprising of the installation of a 21.00m Swann 1003UP Tower on concrete foundation complete with 3 antennas, 1 GPS Module, 1 300 Dia Dish, 1 Cabinet, 1 meter Cabinet and associated ancillary works

Noted

23/01610/FULL Linscombe Farm New Buildings

Variation of Condition 2 (21/01610/FULL) amended plans to include a plant room **Noted**

Approval of Planning Permission Noted

23/01716/FULL Land and Buildings at NGR 283090 102105 (Mill Farm) Mill Lane.
Variation of conditions 2 and 4 of planning permission 18/01174/FULL and 19/01200/FULL
(Conversion of barn to dwelling) to allow the substitution of previously approved plans relating to
boundary treatment.

23/01695/FULL: Land and Buildings at NGR 282491 101456 (Frogmire Farm) Sandford
Erection of five dwellings and associated garages, ecological enhancements and landscaping
following demolition of agricultural barns

23/01315/HOUSE 1 Creedy View Sandford Crediton - Erection of a front porch, rear lean-to and
installation of 2 rear dormer windows

9) Items for Discussion / Proposals

- a. Parking proposals in and around Sandford Square – Cllr P Sandys gave an over
view of the current ongoing parking problems, and possible suggestions, for helping
solve this ongoing issue. These included the suggestion that Parishioners, who
needed to park in the Square, also consider the use of the Creedy View, and Parish
Hall car parks
- b. “ Project Proposal/ Community Need” – Cllr P Sandys had produced a draft form
for discussion. Cllr Larcombe felt before this could be Adopted it needed to studied
in detail by the Parish Council. It was agreed to discuss this at the next Meeting. .
MJV/PS
- c. Grants and Donations for 2023/2024 Applications had been received for a
contribution towards the running costs of the CAB (North Devon). and Mid Devon
Mobility Transport.
There were no funds available in the Grants/Donations/Elections Reserves at the
present time.
It was agreed that this matter should be discussed by the Finance Committee, when
they met, to establish whether funding could be found from other Reserves for this
purpose. **MJV/SM**
A request for a contribution, of £150, had been received from Sandford Parish Hall
towards the cost of the installation of a Defibrillator at the Hall.
It was agreed to make a donation of £150.
Proposed Cllr Fyfe, 2nd Cllr Sandys, and carried

10) Council Feedback

- a. Mid Devon District Council – MDDC Cllr H Tuffin confirmed that the Crofts
Parking issues, in connection with the building of the Sandford Zed Pods, was still
being discussed.
A formal Parking Review by MDDC would be taking place.
- b. Devon County Council – No report.

11) Correspondence

- a) Sandford AFC had written on the matter of their Insurance.
How did this fit in with the Agreement for the use of the Sports Pavilion by Sandford
AFC ?

The Chair had looked at the Agreement and had confirmed that for Insurance purposes the Building was the responsibility of the Parish Council. The Contents cover was the responsibility of Sandford AFC. The Chair advised that he was awaiting confirmation from Sandford AFC of the Minutes of the recent meeting concerning various AFC/SPC related matters.

12) Replies

- a) Justin Denno had responded to the enquiry on the “Weavers Way” Public Open Space and access “Neither the Public Open Space (POS) nor the road will be blocked so as to prevent access to pedestrians over the private road onto the POS. These are areas that will not be in control of the residents and therefore it is not appropriate to include anything in the transfer, these areas will belong to the management company”.
- b) St Swithun’s PCC had sent a letter of thanks for their Churchyard donation

13) Matters reported to the Clerk

These included cars parking on the pavement at “Crofts”, and a blocked drain in the Square.

It was reported that the ongoing issue of the non-functioning Street Light in Fanny’s Lane had been fixed that day.

14) Police Matters – No new matters reported.

15) Receipts & Payments

a. Receipts:

Lloyds Bank interest (November 2023)	£61.15
Lloyds Bank interest (December 2023)	£60.94

b. Payments:

Mr M Vallance Salary £604.33, Use of home ¼ £54.00. postage £12.00, Stationery £31.15	£701.48
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Cheques signed by Cllrs Stoye and Snow.

16) Councillors Forum

- a) Cllr Stephens gave details of a Public Meeting (25th January, 8.00pm, at the Parish Hall) to discuss the future of Sandford Flower Show.
- b) Cllr Larcombe brought to the Council’s attention the poor state of the road from West Henstill to New Buildings.
It was agreed this needed to be formally reported to DCC Highways and the Clerk agreed to circulate this Link.
<https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/>

MJV

- c) Review of Committees – The Clerk had circulated a List of current Members of the of the various Committees.
Discussion followed regarding additional Councillors joining existing Committees.
Concern was expressed at the functionality of a Committee with more than 6 Members (4 plus Chair and Vice Chair “Ex Officio” on all Committees.).

17) Next Meeting 1st February 2024, 8.00pm, Sandford Parish Hall

The date for the 2024 Annual Parish Meeting was set for 21st March 2024

Provisional dates for 2024 Meetings of SPC were agreed (**See Appendix 1**)

There being no other business the Chair closed the Meeting at 10.00pm.

Appendix 1

SANDFORD PARISH COUNCIL DATES OF MEETINGS 2024

VENUE - Sandford Parish Hall

8.00pm unless stated otherwise

(First Thursday of the Month)

4th January

1st February

7th March

21st March ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

4th April

2nd May - 7.30pm at Sandford Sports Pavilion

5th June (Wednesday) - 7.30pm at Sandford Sports Pavilion

4th July - 7.30pm at Sandford Sports Pavilion

August (No Meeting scheduled unless needed)

5th September - 7.30pm at Sandford Sports Pavilion

3rd October

7th November

5th December