

SANDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a REMOTE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING (held on Skype), on 4th June 2020, at 7.30pm.

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

Cllr J Stephens (Chairman).

Messrs – G. Griffin J.P, B Fyfe, N Unstead, D Hope, S. Haley and M. Snow.

MDDC Cllr E Wainwright DCC Cllr M Squires The Parish Clerk Mr M Vallance.

The Meeting commenced with “A moment for quiet contemplation” reflecting on the current Coronavirus Emergency.

- 1) APOLOGIES – Cllrs Lee, Stoye, Ford, Dalton and Miles
Declaration of Interests - None

- 2) OPEN FORUM – No one present.

- 3) PARISH COMMENT BOOK / MATTERS REPORTED ON THE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE PLUS MATTERS REPORTED TO THE CLERK AND PARISH COMMENT BOOK –
 - a) Shooting (Complaints over early morning and late evening shooting in the Village).
As reported in the Crossing this had been carried out, on Munday family land, due to rabbits devouring their crops.
Theft of wheely bin in Church Street – This had been reported to MDDC and a replacement was awaited.
 - b) Dog problems – Dogs had attacked and killed sheep at Upton Hellions.
Also at West Sandford where, as the dog was on his land, the Farmer had shot the dog involved.
A dog had also attacked some chickens in the Village.
THE CLERK POINTED OUT THAT CONCERNS OVER DOG WORRYING HAD BEEN HIGHLIGHTED IN THE JUNE CROSSING.
 - c) Sandford bus 369 – From 15th June the bus would only be allowed to carry 20% of its passengers to conform with Coronavirus rules. This would mean only 6 of the usual 30.
Concern had been expressed that as the bus started from Morchard Bishop it would be “full” by the time it arrived in Sandford. If this was so Dartline had told the Clerk that it would just drive on by.
Passengers on the bus would be expected to wear face masks.

- 3a) SANDFORD PULLS TOGETHER (Formed to deal with Parish Needs during the Coronavirus Outbreak)
An update as to how this is functioning at the present time – Things were working well and a Volunteer had even delivered fish and chips to an elderly lady craving for them at East Village.
A suggestion had been made to recognise the efforts by by the Community Stores Team, also their Volunteers, and to the Sandford Pulls Together Volunteers
A suggestion was made to produce a Certificate of Thanks that could be framed and hung on the wall in the Shop. Suggestions for wording had already been circulated.

Cllr Hayle also praised Rachael Vowles for her entertaining Remote Parish Hall Quiz every Monday evening and it was agreed this needed to be recognised.

IT WAS AGREED THAT ALL THE THANKS COULD BE INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED PARISH CELEBRATIONS LATER IN THE YEAR.

- 4) MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd April 2020
Item 14) Any other Business - It was agreed to add "Plans to establish a Cycle/Footpath from the Village to Pedlars Pool were still being pursued". The Minutes were then confirmed and would be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

- 5) To report on MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a) V.E. / V.J. Day Event – Despite Social Distancing still in place a small number of Parishioners had gathered outside the Lamb, on the 8th May, to Celebrate the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. 1940s music had been played, the Lamb and railings had been decorated with WW2 posters, and the Message from the Queen had been broadcast.
- b) 125th Anniversary of Sandford Parish Council - Update on plans for Boundary walk/Beating the Bounds

The Clerk had prepared a Report (see Appendix 1)

The location of the Sandford Boundary Stones (B.S.) had now been found on the O.S. Map (Thanks to Mike Brett).

The locations had been identified, and photographed, though no Boundary stones had been found. If the Boundary Stones were replaced in accordance with the offer from Ben Huggins (see Appendix 1), and a new B.S. placed at Pedlars Pool erected, the first ever SANDFORD BEATING OF THE BOUNDS could take place.

- When ? Later in 2020 when the Lock down had been lifted as part of the suggested "Sandford Festival Celebrations.
- Route ? The actual route still needed to be confirmed and it was felt this would need to take place over two days.
- Finance Ben Huggins had offered to make a Sandford B.S. (Cost approx £500) and this could be filled with precast concrete. The cost of one B.S would therefore be Approx £200. The Parish Council still had unused Parish Celebrations funds.
A donation of £125 had already been received.
Parish Organisations to be asked if they would like to cover the cost of B.S. (e.g. Sandford Heritage Group etc).
Also adjoining Parishes to be asked to contribute.
- Estimate F.J Stevens had submitted a quote :-

"To supply and install granite boundary stone, work down 3 lettering panels and complete with incised letters of inscription is £645.60 inc vat. (Sizes: 48" x 10" x 12)".

"A new bit of granite which works out quite a bit more at £1101.60 inc vat (52" x 12" x 12)".

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO REPLACE ALL THE SANDFORD BOUNDARY STONES. ALSO A NEW BOUNDARY STONE FOR PEDLARS POOL.

THE CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT THE MATTER COULD BE DISCUSSED FURTHER AT THE NEXT MEETING AND THIS WAS AGREED.

- c) Annual Parish Meeting – Still planned for later in the year.
- d) Meeting to discuss Facebook Policy – Still awaited.
- e) New Buildings notice board – This was now in place. It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to Mr Andy Hopper for his help in erecting the replacement noticeboard
- f) Car park area front of Pavilion – A delivery part load of the scalplings had been received and more were awaited. Once these arrived, and were rolled, in this would improve, and increase the size of the car park outside the Pavillion.

The cost of approx £1500 would be shared between SPC and SFC.

The Chairman also reported on a Meeting to with SFC, and Dave Munday, to discuss replacing the fence at the far end of the field behind the post. This was agreed with the cost to be shared between the Munday Family and the Parish Council. The Football Club suggested a gate or a stile in the fence to allow access to the adjoining field to collect footballs and this was agreed with and SFC would cover the cost.

6) POLICE MATTERS – No new matters had been received.

7) REPLIES

a) Sandford Tennis Club – A response had been received from Steve Mc Culloch (Chairman) to the suggestion to install a basket ball hoop on the Court.

The Council were reminded that if it was not for the continued support by the Tennis Club “..the court would have been condemned years ago”.

Whilst the Committee “were unanimous in supporting the the provision of active facilities for all members of the community” they did have a number of questions over the suggestion including administration, allocated slots, preferential use, contributions, and maintenance of the perimeter. grass and shrub cutting etc.

They also asked whether there was a possibility of creating a separate area for basketball ?

THE COUNCIL AGREED CONSULTATION WOULD BE NEEDED, BETWEEN THEM AND THE TENNIS CLUB, IN THE EVENT OF THE SUGGESTION TO INSTAL A BASKET BALL HOOP WAS PROGRESSED.

(CLLR HOPE ADVISED THAT THE APPLICATION FOR A CALOR GAS GRANT, TO PAY FOR THE SUGGESTED BASKET BALL HOOP, WAS STILL RECEIVING CONSIDERATION.

AT THE SAME TIME THE PARISH COUNCIL AGREED THAT SANDFORD TENNIS CLUB WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE EXLCUSIVE USE OF THE COURT DURING THE TENNIS SEASON.

8) CORRESPONDENCE

a) Mr N Silk (Landlord the Lamb Inn) had submitted a request to place picnic tables on the Cobbles at the front of the Lamb during the time the pub was in lock down.

Food would be “Waitress” served and the tables would be socially distanced.

DCC Highway had advised that they were not happy with this suggestion.

THE PARISH COUNCIL FULLY AGREED TO SUPPORT THIS SUGGESTION AS A “ONE OFF” AT THE PRESENT TIME DUE TO THE CURRENT FINANCIAL CLIMATE.

b) An invitation had been received from the local Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner appealing for Councillors to join the Councillor Advocate Scheme. It currently had 150 nominated advocates.

CLLR S HALE AGREED TO REPRESENT THE PARISH COUNCIL AND IT WAS AGREED TO SUPPORT HIS NOMINATION.

c) Current Road safety issues Church Street (June 2020) - 15 Parishioners had written to express their ongoing concerns over road safety matters. This included large vehicles (e.g. farm machinery, haulage vehicles, etc), and speeding issues , on the approach road to Sandford from Kennerleigh outside and above the Sandford school front entrance currently closed.

Many of these matters had been discussed at a Joint Site Meeting on the **30th August 2019**.

Extract from September 2019 Minutes.

A Meeting had taken place on 30th August, at short notice, with Cllr G Griffin (Vice Chairman) and the Parish Clerk as Steve Tucker and Margaret Squires had been in the area, and passing the School, and had been able to review current issues regarding safety concerns.

(The DCC Road Safety Officer had been away and was only just catching up with matters that had been reported).

- *Steve Tucker confirmed that the Lines on the road, outside the School entrance in Fanny's Lane were on the list for re-painting. There was currently a backlog.*
- *At the same time he was aware of the Parents who persisted in Parking on the Lines to drop children off. He felt the Police needed to make the occasional visit.*
- *He was encouraged to hear that the School were hoping to erect a barrier at the bottom of the School slope, on to Fanny's Lane, to stop children running out onto the main road. HE WAS UNHAPPY THAT CHILDREN, AND VEHICLES ACCESSING THE SCHOOL, WERE MIXING TOGETHER.*
His suggestion was to utilise the "Sunnyside" Footpath that ran up beside the car park to allow a Pedestrian access.
- *As the two former MDDC Council House homes at "Sunnyside" had in all probability been purchased by the Residents the District Council would need to be approached to confirm Ownership of the Footpath.*
- ***HE STRESSED THE NEED FOR ALL CURRENT POTENTIAL ROAD SAFETY ISSUES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SANDFORD SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN.***

IT WAS AGREED THAT AN UPDATE OF THIS MEETING COULD NOW BE PASSED TO MATT THEEDOM, AND SANDFORD SCHOOL, WHO COULD LIAISE WITH DCC CLLR M SQUIRES AND DCC AS TO THE WAY AHEAD.(The Clerk had subsequently been told that Matt Theedom was no longer a Governor).

(The Suggestion to establish a new School entrance through Sunnyside was subsequently discussed but not pursued owing to the footpath being privately owned).

Current Road safety issues Church Street

Speeding concerns – Comments over speeding were noted.

It was pointed out that there was no documentary evidence to support allegations of vehicles speeding

When complaints over Speeding at New Buildings had been made this had then been subsequently "measured" only to be found that the Speeding was "perceived".

Large vehicles – This was the same problem in Sandford as other parts of the County.

The Parish Council had in the past written to Local Farmers requesting that their Contractors Drive Safely through the Parish.

Extract from report for the Meeting prepared by DCC Cllr M Squires :-

- 1. Parking appears to be an issue – We have previously discussed the possibility of yellow lines but if the road was clear it may speed up traffic.**
- 2. All road markings (right through the village) have been requested and we are awaiting confirmation.**
- 3. I note the speed issues. 20MPH speed limits are not agreed within rural areas within Devon County currently – there is a trial taking place and nothing in respect to 20MPH is available until the outcome of the trial is known.**
- 4. My experience of results of handheld speed assessments are that invariably there is not an issue. In most villages it is the perception of speed. As you will appreciate, I have 29 parishes, 8 primary schools in my county division which I have represented for seven years.**
- 5. I have asked the Neighbourhood Highways Officer to do a hand held survey but this will not happen until lock down has finished as results now are probably not a true record of a normal results.**
- 6. I note that 20s Plenty sign has been suggested. As you know that I have said before they are not statutory signs and as such would not be delivered by DCC. However some parishes have installed them. They cannot be erected on highway land and must not imitate statutory red signs.**
- 7. The parish can request a SCARF (Speed Compliance Action Review Forum) process.**

DCC Cllr M Squires “I explained to Steve Tucker (DCC Highways) that they (School flashing lights) haven’t been working for some time and he said he will get them re-programmed

He did say he had reprogrammed them some 18 months ago but they are not the ones used widely any-more if they cannot be fixed he will request some fresh ones.

I encourage the Parish Council working with the Sandford School and recommend a possible update of the school travel plan and we can work with various partners”.

SANDFORD PARISH COUNCIL SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTION WERE AGREED :-

Sandford School Travel Plan – Was this being updated, and pursued. on a regular basis ?
ASK SANDFORD SCHOOL AND REQUEST IF IT WAS POSSIBLE TO SEE A COPY.

Flashing Signs - In operation at School opening and closing time but not at the present time.
CONTACT SANDFORD SCHOOL TO ASK IF THESE HAD BEEN TURNED OFF ?
WERE THE SCHOOL PURSUING THE MATTER THAT THEY WERE OUT OF ORDER ?

Sandford School – Liaise with the Governors over current issues.

Yellow Lines – It was agreed installing these, in Church Street, opposite the school front entrance and removing cars parked at this location would only increase traffic speed.

Speeding Survey – Await the outcome of the request for a Hand Held survey requested by DCC Cllr M Squires.

“20's Plenty Sign” - The Clerk had been researching this suggestion and it was agreed to make a purchase. Location would need to be agreed (erection on the Highway was not an option).

Rumble strips – These had fallen out of favour. It was agreed to look at the current ones and see if any repairs were needed ? A site meeting was suggested.

Request a SCARF (Speed Compliance Action Review Forum) from DCC.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE THE CHAIRMAN PROPOSED THAT A COPY OF THE EMAILS ON THIS MATTER BE SENT TO DCC CLLR STUART HUGHES (CHAIRMAN OF THE DCC HIGHWAYS CABINET) AND A REQUEST MADE FOR HIS ASSISTANCE ON THESE ISSUES. THIS ACTION WAS AGREED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL.

9) SANDFORD COMMUNITY SPORTS PAVILION & PLAY AREA – See item 5 (f).

10) PLANNING

20/00706/HOUSE Lilly brook Cottage East Village
Installation of sewage treatment plant below ground RECOMMEND APPROVAL

Grant of planning permission

20/00550/HOUSE Downhayne East Village - Erection of ground floor extension to Downhayne and for erection of first floor extension and alterations to adjoining barn

20/00679/PNAG Hawthorns Creedy Park
Prior notification for the provision of an agricultural track

11) RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS & SUB COMMITTEE

Both DCC Cllr M Squires and MDDC E Wainwright had sent reports and these had been circulated. Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic both DCC and MDDC were meeting remotely at the present time. MDDC were starting to make officer planning site meetings again and currently had 3 vacancies for Councillors.

Devon had recorded one of the lowest Coronavirus rates but concern was being expressed over how this could change with the arrival of tourists.

12) CHURCHYARD GRANTS (2019)

Churchyard Grants for 2019 were agreed the same as for previous years

Sandford Congregational Church £135 PCC Sandford with Upton Hellions £305.00.

12a) RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

Receipts

Lloyd's Bank Interest (April 2020)	£0.19
Lloyd's Bank Interest (May 2020)	£0.55
DCC (Covid 19 – Prompt Action Fund Grant)	£308.25
HMRC (Vat Refund)	£131.97

Payments

Mr M Vallance (Salary) £454.00, flags £17.49	£471.49
Mr R Carter (Weed spraying)	£300.00
Mr S Mc Culloch (Grass cutting)	£134.13
Sandford Congregational Church	£135.00
PCC Sandford with Upton Hellions	£305.00
Community First (Insurance Renewal to include Pavillion)	£666.79

Cheques to be signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman.

12b) PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS TO 31st MARCH 2020 & COMPLETION OF “ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR) 2019/2020”

The Accounts were formally adopted by the Meeting.

It was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk should sign the AGAR for 2019/2020. Once this was done the form could be submitted to the External Auditor and the Accounts posted on the Parish Council website.

Proposed Cllr Griffin, 2nd Cllr Snow, and carried unanimously.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Clerk for looking after the Council's finances.

Due to an error at the Bank the Internal Auditor had been paid twice (£60 x 2) and for this reason he would not be making a charge this year.

The Clerk had taken up the matter of the duplicated payment with Lloyd's Bank.

The Internal Auditor advised that from 2021 his charge would increase to £70 and this was accepted by the Parish Council.

13) ROADS AND FOOTPATHS – No new issues raised.

14) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Cllr N Unstead offered to investigate the possibility of installing a Defibrillator in the BT call box at New Buildings (likely cost approx £1800).

Enquiries would be made locally to see whether any grants could be claimed.

DCC Cllr M Squires offered to contribute £250 from her DCC Locality Fund.

b) The Chairman proposed that the Best Gardens and Tubs contest be run again in 2020 and this was agreed. Regrettably the 2020 Sandford Flower Show had been cancelled due to Coronavirus and there would be no contest this year to find the Best Kept Allotment.

15) Date of next Meeting – 2nd July 2020 (Remote) or 9th July 2020 at the Parish Hall.
There being no other business the Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.20pm

APPENDIX 1

SANDFORD BEATING THE BOUNDS 2020 (Up pdate for 4th June Meeting)



Hopefully with green shoots continuing to appear on the “Coronavirus Unlocking” we can push on with the suggested Parish Celebrations later in the year. This will make up for losing out on our V.E. Day Celebrations and also V.J. Celebrations which it seems will be on hold.

During the Anniversary year we held our Reception, with new and old Parish Councillors, which was well received. We were also able to engage with Sandford School to plant 125 trees, on Friday 13th March, the last day the Parish met in numbers before the Lock down. So the only thing that is now outstanding is the Anniversary Boundary Walk which might now become a **SANDFORD BEATING OF THE BOUNDS !**

Over the past few weeks, and months, this matter has been trundling along nicely so time for an update for the 4th June Parish Council Meeting :-

- Mike Brett has identified the locations of the Sandford Boundary Stones though they are no long there. They are located at the Boundaries with – Upton Hellions, Crediton, Copplestone, Morchard Bishop, Kennerleigh and Stockleigh English. We now have map and photo locations for these.
- A decision has already been made to erect a new Boundary Stone at Pedlars Pool and a quote is awaited from the Monumental Masons in Crediton.(Estimate has been promised in time for our Meeting). The Crediton Boundary Stone location is up the lane from the A3072 towards Crediton Cemetery.
- Margaret Squires has given us her Route she used, when she walked the Parish Boundary, and we now need to come up with a Route over 1 or 2 days we can Walk (with refreshment stops etc).
- The latest development is the most exciting. :-
We have been in touch with Ben Huggins and he has offered to make a Sandford Boundary Stone mould that can then be filled locally with pre cast concrete.
We are now proposing to reinstate the 7/8 Missing Boundary Stones at the same time as creating the new one at Pedlars Pool ? (He as also suggested suggested the possibility of having QR codes on the rear of the stones that could be used as part of a local history trail).

