



# SANDON TOPICS



## Spring 2015 Newsletter from Sandon Parish Council



Website: [www.sandon.info](http://www.sandon.info)



### The 2015 Annual Assembly

It's that time of year again! You are all cordially invited to Sandon Parish Council's Annual Assembly which this year will be held in the **Main Hall of Sandon School, Molrams Lane, CM2 7AQ\*** on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2015 at 7.30 pm. This is your opportunity to ensure that your Parish Council is living up to expectations; it is also **a meeting that every Sandon resident should endeavour to attend.** Members of the Parish Council will be available to chat to and as usual we have invited local officials and service providers, people we feel are relevant to community life - such as city councillors and the police - to attend the meeting, brief us on developments and answer questions from parishioners.

Among those invited are the Essex County Councillor Eddie Johnson who is the Cabinet Member for Highways and Small Scheme Delivery. In view of the ongoing problems with flooding at a number of locations in the Parish - problems which appear to be largely attributable to outstanding road and drainage maintenance issues, Councillor Johnson's attendance to clarify matters on behalf of parishioners would obviously be very welcome -but we are still awaiting a reply from his office as to whether he or one of his officers will attend.

Other invited guests include:

- ❖ The Police & Crime Commissioner for Essex, Nick Alston (his response is still awaited)
- ❖ Essex County Councillor Ian Grundy
- ❖ Chelmsford City Councillors Ian Wright and Bob Shepherd
- ❖ Claire Stuckey - Chelmsford City Council Planning
- ❖ Representative of the Revd Terry Brown (St Andrew's, Sandon)
- ❖ Farleigh Hospice

Please come along and make your contribution or ask questions on matters affecting you as residents.

Refreshments will be served. We look forward to seeing you all there!

*\* Please note the change of venue from previous years.*



**Sandon Gardens Open For Charity**



### **Sandon Open Gardens Event: Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2015 from 11am - 5 pm**

Gardens in Sandon will once again be open to visitors from across Essex and beyond to raise much needed funds for Farleigh Hospice.

There will be the opportunity to enjoy wonderful cream teas, lunches and a barbeque as well as enjoy the gardens themselves. Also on offer will be an art display/sale, vintage/classic car display & new for this year a Pimms tent! Free taxi buses will go around the route continuously.

Sandon Parish Council first became involved with this event in 2010 at the instigation of Cllr Dianne Neal who sadly passed away in 2013. The council is committed to ongoing support of this event, which we see as honouring the memory of Dianne as well as supporting a worthy cause. If you would like to open your garden and take part in a real village event, please do contact:

Andy Hilton on 07885 330511 (email: [andy@hiltonpm.co.uk](mailto:andy@hiltonpm.co.uk) or

Darren Chaplin on 01245 478325 (email: [drmchpln@aol.com](mailto:drmchpln@aol.com))



*Farleigh Hospice relies on fundraising and gifts in Wills to provide vital services for local people affected by life limiting illnesses. For more information visit [www.farleighhospice.org](http://www.farleighhospice.org) or follow Farleigh on facebook at [www.facebook.com/FarleighHospice](http://www.facebook.com/FarleighHospice)*



## **Time to make a difference? – Forthcoming Parish Elections 2015**

Parish elections will be held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015; on this date **all** current serving councillors will cease to be so and newly elected councillors will take office on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

### **Could YOU make a difference?**

Parish councillors have a long tradition of promoting wellbeing and a sense of pride in the community. This role should be further enhanced by the national government initiative to modernise local government, making it more accountable to the community they serve. To stand for election, you must be:

- ❖ A British subject, or a citizen of the Commonwealth or the European Union, and
- ❖ On the 'relevant date' (i.e. the day on which you are nominated or if there is a poll, the day of the election) 18 years of age or over;
- ❖ On the relevant date a local government elector for the council area for which you want to stand, or
- ❖ Have during the whole of the 12 months preceding that day occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the council area; or
- ❖ Have during that same period had your principal or only place of work in the council area; or
- ❖ During that 12 month period resided in the council area.



### **What do Councillors do?**

- ❖ Local involvement – getting the best for your community;
- ❖ Monitoring – enduring best value for money is obtained;
- ❖ Decision making – deciding how local money is spent to improve their community.

If you are interested in joining the council, please speak to Sue Dobson, Parish Clerk or any of the current serving parish councillors detailed overleaf to find out more. Sue will be holding copies of nomination forms; if you would like to stand, please contact her for a form.

The notice of election will be published by Chelmsford Borough Council on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2015, and nomination papers will be received at the borough council offices between the dates Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March to 4pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

We hope that there will be nominations of current serving councillors and new members of the parish who would be interested in joining us.

## **HIGHWAYS: Community demands action on flooding at Hulls Lane**



Flooding in various parts of the parish remains high on this council's agenda. We are determined to ensure that Essex County Council's Highways Dept realises the strength of feeling generated within the parish by their unacceptable failures in maintaining our local roads and drains. Hulls Lane has been a particularly significant problem area and has even been featured in recent editions of the Essex Chronicle. The situation there has not been helped by the County Council attributing partial blame for the flooding on the owners of nearby farmland who, ironically, have already commissioned independent surveys (at considerable personal cost) conclusively establishing the blocked drainage as

entirely a matter for ECC to sort out. Concerted pressure from the community has included a letter sent by this Parish Council to ECC Cabinet members warning of the potentially fatal consequences of this neglected problem: **"If a fatality occurs ... Essex County Council Councillors and Officers would be held responsible for manslaughter"** our letter stated.

After months of prevarication ECC Highways have finally undertaken some remedial work to deal with the problem. It is too early to say whether the situation has actually improved as a result, but we will continue to monitor and of course keep the pressure on to ensure an effective long term solution.

## **Woodhill Road Parking – Update**

In our continuing search for a solution to the problems caused by inconsiderate parking in Woodhill Road (linked to parents dropping off or picking up children at Sandon School) we have put in an application to Chelmsford's Local Highways Panel (LHP) for the installation of bollards to discourage and prevent parking on yellow lines outside the school. We are advised in a recent communication from the Liaison Officer for the LHP that our proposal has been added to the LHP Potential Schemes List. The Panel are currently prioritising those schemes they wish to recommend for funding in 2015/16 and recommendations are expected by the end of March 2015.

## **Maldon Local Development Plan**

Residents may be aware that the Maldon Local Development Plan is currently being scrutinised by the Planning Inspector, and this contains a recommendation that several thousand houses are to be built in the Maldon District over the next 15 years. This will, of course have the effect of increased traffic through Sandon and Danbury and ECC Highways have already put forward suggestions (to help alleviate the pressure) which reflect increased likelihood that some of the traffic problems will be shifted over to adjoining areas. In view of this, your Parish Council, along with others, has agreed to be part of a joint meeting with Danbury Parish Council and ECC Highways to look at the problem. As many residents will remember, this parish council has tried unsuccessfully to have the 30mph speed limit of this road extended from the village gateway to the Sandon Dog Section. This will be one of the requests that we will put forward at this joint meeting.

## **Sandon Quarry update**

We have been made aware via the Bretts Liaison meetings, at which this parish council is represented, that Bretts are intending to submit a planning application later this year to infill the northern void and complete the restoration of the site. They will be holding a residents information afternoon/evening on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2015 from 3pm to 8pm at the Howe Green United Reformed Church. This will give residents the opportunity to comment on the proposals. Further details will be available nearer the time.

## **Resignation: Cllr. Darren Chaplin**

We are sorry to announce the resignation of Cllr Darren Chaplin from Sandon Parish Council on the 9<sup>th</sup> March. Darren achieved much in the short time he served on the Council. He was actively involved in all aspects of the Council's work with a particular interest in Highways matters. With his proactive approach and energy he played a key part in getting some action from the ECC Highways Department over the past year. On the Open Gardens project in 2014, he was part of a small team who, from a standing start, put on an excellent event - generating some £3862 for the Farleigh Hospice. He will be

involved in running the event again this year and will also continue with his other charity work. We owe a great deal to Darren and wish him all the very best for the future.

## YOUR PARISH COUNCIL

All Parish Council information is available on our website including minutes of meetings at [www.sandon.info](http://www.sandon.info). The Council meets at 7.15p.m on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each Month at St Andrews Church meeting room and on alternate months at Howe Green Chapel. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

## WE EXTEND A VERY WARM WELCOME TO ALL NEW RESIDENTS

<b>SUE DOBSON – CLERK</b> Crack Willows, Mayes Lane, Sandon, CM2 7RP Tel: 01245 227734 <a href="mailto:сандонparishclerk@gmail.com">сандонparishclerk@gmail.com</a>	
Parish Councillors	Areas of responsibility/representation
<b>RON BULLUS</b> Rumbolds House, Hammonds Road, Sandon CM2 7RS Tel: 01245 473633 <a href="mailto:r.bullus188@btinternet.com">r.bullus188@btinternet.com</a>	<b>CHAIRMAN</b> Highways
<b>MARTIN CROSS</b> Magrathea, East Hanningfield Road, Howe Green CM2 7TQ Tel: 01245 478910 <a href="mailto:xfamily@nildram.co.uk">xfamily@nildram.co.uk</a>	<b>VICE CHAIR</b> Finance Sandon Village Hall Committee of Management Parish Transport Committee
<b>CEDRIC CALMEYER</b> 25 Hall Lane, Sandon, CM2 7RJ Tel: 01245 478900 <a href="mailto:cedhilcal@aol.com">cedhilcal@aol.com</a>	Maintenance Allotments
<b>DEE HYATT</b> Peartree Lodge, 2 The Old Orchard, Howe Green CM2 7TX Tel: 01245 478203 <a href="mailto:dee.hyatt@virgin.net">dee.hyatt@virgin.net</a>	Planning Sandon Quarry Liaison Committee
<b>RON ROBBIN-COKER</b> 10 St Swithins Cottages, Howe Green, CM2 7TN Tel: 01245 476808 <a href="mailto:ronrobco@gmail.com">ronrobco@gmail.com</a>	Youth Matters Publicity & Newsletters

## CITY COUNCILLORS

**BOB SHEPHERD** - 2 Chase Cottages, Riffhams Chase, Little Baddow, CM3 4AU  
 Tel: 01245 223709      [robert.shepherd@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:robert.shepherd@chelmsford.gov.uk)

**IAN WRIGHT** - Farm Cottage, Sporhams Lane, Danbury, CM3 4AJ  
 Tel: 01245 226289      [i.wright@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:i.wright@chelmsford.gov.uk)

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Chelmsford City Council	01245 606606
Police	01245 491491 Ask for S Woodham Ferrers
Broomfield Hospital	01245 443673
Citizens Advice Bureau	0845 4040506
Neighbourhood Watch	01245 471589

## LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

St Andrew's Church - Priest in Charge	Revd T Brown	01245	698988
Church Wardens	Mrs J Terry	01245	472997
	Mr M Puffett	01245	222066
Bell Ringers	Mr N Tovey	01245	472692
St Andrew's Youth Fellowship	Mrs E Ellis	01245	222682
77 Youth Club	Mrs E Ellis	01245	222682
Women's Institute	Mrs D. Gray	01245	223609
Howe Green URC	Rev J Sermon	01245	601662
Howe Green URC Elder	Mrs P Knott	01245	471691
Village Hall Management Committee	Ms J. Fisher	01245	475976
Brownies	Mrs S Little	01621	840525
Guides	Mrs A. Malin	01245	476584
Beavers	Mrs J Bernades	01245	476830
Cubs	Mrs Jean Blake	01245	603155
Scouts	Miss A. Agombar	07549	206055
Village Hall Bookings	Mr R. Kerslake	01245	472386
Parish Magazine Editor	Mr R. Cecil	01245	224747
Sandon Tiny Tots/Mother and Toddler Group	Mrs A Read	01245	474858
Chelmsford Rambling Club	Ms M Say	01245	381262

Are your details correctly listed? If not, please contact the Parish Council Clerk on 01245 227734 (email: [сандонparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:сандонparishclerk@gmail.com)) with any updates.