

SANDON TOPICS

Spring 2019 Newsletter from Sandon Parish Council



www.sandonparishcouncil.co.uk



Chairman's message

I hope you have had a wonderful 2018, a very festive Christmas and wishing you a belated happy New Year.

Winter is almost behind us and we have Spring to look forward to. Sandon is looking a bit sad but only to be expected with leafless trees, and dormant plants, but the grass seems to have recovered from its very brown burnt look during our wonderfully hot summer. People are still kindly picking up litter around the Parish, BUT we could always do more. Home owners could pick litter outside their homes that has been mindlessly thrown from passing cars etc. It all helps. We still need some kind soul to adopt the flower beds down Gingerbread Hill on Southend Road! Is there a kind local house owner who is willing to spend a little time weeding etc?



Sandon Village Green looked resplendent outside St Andrews during the Christmas period with the superb tree supplied by the Council and beautifully decorated by the ladies of the Sandon WI. Being so tall, I was very impressed by whoever took on the job of putting the angel on the top!

We had a surprise visitor too, offering lots of Christmas cheer, and sung lots of lovely carols followed by a hot drink, mince pies



and eats. Well done all at St Andrews who put on this lovely festive occasion.

The Councillors, partners and friends had a lovely Christmas evening out together and were surprised that we managed to spend an evening without discussing Council business which was nice.

Cllr Dee Hyatt

All Parish Council information is available on our website including minutes of meetings at www.sandonparishcouncil.co.uk. The Council meets at 7.15 pm on the 2nd 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

Community event this summer?

Sandon Parish Council have been looking to do a Community Event for some time now, and think they have found just the right event!

Too early to say exactly what it is yet, as lots of planning to be done, but look out for the full information dropping through your door in our next Topics for an event in summer.

Everyone will be invited, and we are looking to get a lot of people involved!!

Hope to see you then



Sandon Neighbourhood Development Plan – or 'the NDP'.

Development and Planning are rich in acronyms, abbreviations and jargon, but the important word here is 'Neighbourhood.' You are a neighbour, and you have neighbours and you are all affected by this aspect of local planning. The NDP is a community led plan, based on the views of people who live and work and play in Sandon.

So far the small Steering Group of eight volunteers has:

1. Delivered a questionnaire to every residence in the Parish and analysed the results
2. Gathered opinions at local events such as the Church Fete and the Annual Assembly
3. Is preparing to give a presentation to the Scouts at the Village Hall and asked for their ideas
4. Is preparing to send out a questionnaire to local businesses (those we know about)
5. Contacted the Head of Sandon School to arrange for students to complete an on-line questionnaire

We have also enjoyed meetings with the City Council and Rural Community Council of Essex, both helpful in guiding our faltering steps through the detailed process required to produce a Plan which will be accepted as a Policy Document with legal force.

We are still in the vital stage of evidence collection; evidence means your opinions about what Sandon should look like in the coming years. Houses **will** be built in Sandon and you can only affect how this happens by making your views known.

SO...

***we encourage businesses to respond to the questionnaire coming your way,
we encourage school pupils and the scout group to help us with your ideas
and then ask everyone to look out for updates of survey results on the website:***

ndp4sandon.co.uk

Thank you from the NDP steering group



MAKE A CHANGE, BECOME A PARISH COUNCILLOR FOR SANDON!



SANDON PARISH COUNCIL is calling on residents who are passionate about their community to stand for election in the May 2019 parish elections.

What do parish councillors do?

Parish councillors are the champions of their community and give residents a voice on the decisions the council makes.

Becoming a parish councillor will allow you to make a real difference in your community by:

- (a) engaging with residents, local groups and businesses to find out their needs
- (b) making decisions on which services and projects the council should take forward
- (c) getting involved locally to ensure the services are meeting your community's needs.

How long does it take?

Sandon is not a complex parish. We estimate that councillors put aside, on average, 1 hour per week for council work. This includes attending the monthly meeting (second Monday in the month), engaging with residents and liaising on behalf of the council to other bodies.

Can I stand?

Most people will be qualified to stand for election to our council but there are a few rules. You must be:

- A British citizen, or a citizen of the Commonwealth, or the European Union
- 18 years of age or older
- Live in an area that is served by Sandon Parish Council

How can I get involved?

Contact the Parish Clerk at parishclerk@sandon.info to find out more and submit your interest. Note that the nomination period is between Wednesday 27th March and Wednesday 3rd April.

PLEASE GET INVOLVED – YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Spotlight on a local resident – Mike Haley

Mike Haley was born and raised in Essex, and considers himself to be a true Essex man having never lived outside God's own county. He has lived in the County Town, and then the City of Chelmsford, for nearly 40 years. He was born at No. 47, Melville Road, Rainham, Essex, in the "best room"; the front parlour of his grandmother's terraced cottage. His mother, Gerda Erica Martha was born in 1920, and was a war bride, who arrived in England from Germany in 1947. She came from the town of Spandau, which after WW2 was to find itself in the British Sector of West Berlin, but only a few miles from the border with the German Democratic Republic (East Germany). His father, Maurice John, (Jack), was born in 1927 in Saffron Walden, and was the eldest son of a family of 8 children. Jack served with the Royal West Kent Fusiliers and was stationed in Berlin as a member of the post war occupation forces.

Mike's working life was spent in computers and telecommunications working for the City of

Westminster council. He is a divorcee who now lives alone in Sandon Village, and has a daughter Michelle, and two grandsons Callum and Connor who live in Springfield. He is an ardent fan and season ticket holder for Chelmsford City Football Club, and a regular attendee at many local writing and poetry reading groups.

Nowadays he is now a poet, songwriter and novelist with a substantial back catalogue. Writing poems, songs and short stories since he was about 16, his favourite poets, have always been the songwriters Bob Dylan and Roy Harper. He bought his first "proper" guitar, a 12-string acoustic, in 1968. He taught



himself to play, and intends to carry on doing so until he gets it right.

Between 2000 and 2008, he recorded over 100 self-penned songs on 12 demo albums. During this time he would have been seen busking in Chelmsford town centre. In addition, from 2000 to 2007, Mike played in church bands at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Forest Drive and Holy Trinity Church in Old Springfield.

Frequently he performs solo; one man, one guitar, and at other times in bands, of which a recent one was called Redberryash. He has appeared at the lunchtime concerts in the Cramphorn Theatre, and regularly attends open mike sessions in the Chelmsford area. Recently he has been working in a duo, together with his partner, Nicole. Their band called "Rocks, Stones and Old Bones", is providing entertainment in Care Homes and for various organisations that specialise in looking after people with Alzheimer's disease.

Most of his creative emphasis up until 2012, had been in writing songs and poems. After spending over 30 years writing practically all poems and songs he finally began to undertake something more substantial in 1998. This was a never published auto-biography, following on from his two heart attacks and a bypass operation. It wasn't until 2012 that the spark finally ignited the flames for him to become a published novelist.

Since then he has written three novels, compiled two poetry books, and recorded two new albums. Mike's first novel is part one of a two part series, titled "Chelmsford 2012 - Many Hearts - One Mind". The second novel is part two, titled "First City of Essex - Many Diversions, One Destination". His third novel is called "Angel's Rainbow."

His first poetry book is a collection of Poems and Songs titled "An Idea Appeared". The second is a compilation of poems, songs, stories and recording history in a biographical format covering the period 1949 to 1998 called "Turning Over Stones". This will eventually be a three volume series. Volume two is due for publication in late 2019 and will be titled "Tall Words on a Wall". Volume three is due for publication in late 2020 under the title "Walls come Tumbling Down". Future projects include further visits to the recording studio, and the imminent publication of a collection of short stories with the inspiring title of "A Small Collection of Short Stories".

Recently Mike launched his personal website "redberryash.co.uk". You can also contact Mike at his official email address: info@redberryash.co.uk All the published works are available from Amazon by surfing the redberryash website.

You may ask, why "redberryash"? There is good reason.

Redberryash is a colloquial name for the rowan tree, sometimes also known as the mountain ash. It was known in neo-druidry as the portal tree, because it was considered to be the threshold between this world and the otherworld, or between here and wherever you may be going. Hopefully some of Mike's output could transport you to somewhere else in your thoughts or your memory. Mike declares that it has been a long and tortuous trail from spotty teenage poet to wrinkly old songwriter, and grey-haired novelist, but he wouldn't want to change one minute of the experience.

Cllr Cedric Calmeyer



Flooding issues in Sandon



Our latest endeavour has focused on the intersection of Hull's Lane and Mayes Lane with Woodhill Road. This is a dangerous junction at the best of times without it being a flood zone as well. We found the infrastructure to be in good order. Drains, guttering and ditches were well designed, arranged and constructed. The maintenance of the system, however, was not so good. There are drains which have become compacted with silt and road grit resulting in the road becoming awash with rain water while the ditches remain dry. We approached the Highways Department using the LHP (Local Highways Plan) system and explained in detail the problem and the solution. We suggested a very simple and inexpensive maintenance plan but, alas, the Highways Department's response was negative. They didn't think there was a problem or that any work was necessary at all. This was disappointing but not entirely unexpected. We will, of course, keep pressing for action. In the meantime, we are also looking at a flood zone in Mayes Lane. Residents are very welcome to join in with our investigations or to raise any flood issues with us.

Cllr Ron Bullus



Some memories of old Sandon!



If you have any more, and would like them possibly appearing in future editions of the Topics, then please contact the Clerk.

Important contact details

TED MUNT – CLERK Sandon Parish Council, Recreation Ground, Rectory Chase, Sandon, Chelmsford, CM2 7SQ. Tel: 01245 477111 parishclerk@sandon.info Hours 09:30 – 12:30 Mon a.m. and Wed a.m.			
Parish Councillors		Areas of responsibility/representation	
DEE HYATT Peartree Lodge, 2 The Old Orchard, Howe Green CM2 7TX Tel: 01245 697015 dee.hyatt@virgin.net		CHAIRMAN Planning Sandon Quarry Liaison Committee Rep	
MARTIN CROSS Magrathea, East Hanningfield Road, Howe Green CM2 7TQ Tel: 01245 478910 martincross@gmail.com		VICE CHAIR Finance Parish Transport Committee	
CEDRIC CALMEYER 25 Hall Lane, Sandon, CM2 7RJ Tel: 01245 478900 ccalmeyer8@gmail.com		Maintenance Allotments	
RON BULLUS Rumbolds House, Hammonds Road, Sandon CM2 7RS Tel: 01245 473633 rbullus188@btinternet.com		Sandon Sports Club Committee Rep Personnel Sandon Village Hall Rep	
ELAINE WILLIAMSON t.b.a.			
JAMES COLBECK 51 Hall Lane, Sandon, CM2 7RJ Tel: 07949849674 jameshcolbeck@gmail.com		Parochial Church Council (PCC) Rep	
ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR IAN GRUNDY Tel: 01277 840737			
CITY COUNCILLORS (LITTLE BADDOW, DANBURY & SANDON)			
RICHARD AMBOR Tel: 01245 222874		2 Hay Green, Danbury, Chelmsford, CM2 4NU richard.ambor@chelmsford.gov.uk	
BOB SHEPHERD, MBE Tel: 01245 223709		2 Chase Cottages, Riffhams Chase, Little Baddow, CM3 4AU b.shepherd@chelmsford.gov.uk	
IAN WRIGHT Tel: 01245 226289		Farm Cottage, Sporhams Lane, Danbury, CM3 4AJ 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	01245	205605	
Neighbourhood Watch	01245	471589	
LOCAL ORGANISATIONS			
St Andrew's Church - Priest in Charge	Revd Terry Brown	01245	698988
Church Wardens	Mr M. Puffett	01245	222066
	Mrs J. Cecil	01245	225660
	Dr M. Worboys	01245	224612
PCC Secretary	Mr N. Bobeldijk	01245	471756
Bell Ringers	Mr R. Cecil	01245	225660
Women's Institute	Mrs D. Gray	01245	223609
Howe Green URC		01702	342120
Howe Green URC Elder	Mrs P Knott	01245	471691
Village Hall Management Committee	Ms J. Fisher	01245	475976
Village Hall Bookings www.sandonvillagehall.webs.com			
Cubs	Mr Steve Eatley	07957	802898
Scouts	Ms J. Blake	07956	580404
Sandon Tiny Tots/Mother and Toddler Group	Mrs A Read	01245	474858 or 07720 718372
Chelmsford Rambling Club	Ms M Say	01245	381262
Sandon Parish Magazine Editor	Mr R. Cecil	01245	225660
Sandon Sports Club	Mrs V. Kohler	07957	300027
Are your details correctly listed? If not, please contact the Parish Council Clerk on 01245 477111			