

SANDON TOPICS

Spring 2020 Newsletter from Sandon Parish Council



www.sandonparishcouncil.co.uk



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Spring is here and we are looking forward to the leaves appearing on the trees, the gardens springing to life and the planting of seeds. A new year has truly begun.

This is the time of the year when the Parish Council is beginning to receive planning applications to consider. We have included an explanation of what we look for in this issue so that you are aware of the criteria that we have to use.

Coronavirus. We are currently experiencing strange times. We hope that you all stay well over the coming weeks but if you are in need of additional support, or know someone who is in need, do let us know. We feel sure that the community will rally to look out for and support one another through this time. Some residents have already kindly offered their assistance if needed. Our personal details are at the back of this issue for you to contact us if needed. As a result of this pandemic, the Annual Assembly at Sandon School will be postponed, or even cancelled, this year until we know the threat of infection during gatherings has gone. We do not want to put anyone in harm's way.

Community Speed Watch scheme Sandon Parish Council would like to run this scheme in Howe Green and Sandon. This allows volunteers to monitor the speed of passing vehicles using a hand-held speed detection device. The volunteers record the details of vehicles which are exceeding the speed limit by around 10%. These details are passed to the Police who will issue a letter to the vehicle owner. This will advise them of the dangers of speeding, and reminding them of the law. If three letters are issued to the same vehicle owner, the Police carry out further investigation.



Only two to four volunteers are allowed to operate at one site at a time, and they must be in plain view of vehicle drivers at all times with high visibility jackets. **IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN OUR TEAM, PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK ON parishclerk@sandonpc.plus.com or phone 01245 477111 on a Monday or Wednesday morning.**

THE PLANNING PROCESS



Planning Applications and how Sandon Parish Council deals with them.

Planning Applications are dealt with by Chelmsford City Council, and within this process the application will then be publicised (using methods such as site notices and notifying neighbours and parish councils) so that people have the chance to express their views. People normally have 21 days to respond and make comments on the application. Written comments (as they relate to planning matters) will be taken into account when a decision is made.

Planning legislation requires that applications should be decided in line with the policies of the CCC Local plan, unless some other material planning consideration persuades us to make a decision contrary to the plan policies. When approaching a planning decision Sandon Parish Council:

- read and understand the officer's report, which will set out the description and context for the proposal, outline the relevant policies and responses received to the proposal, and will then analyse the proposal against relevant policies and material considerations before putting forward a recommendation on the application (ie to grant or refuse permission)
- seek clarification on any matters you are concerned or unclear about
- listen to the presentations and any representations by third parties at committee, listen and contribute to the debate
- come to a view on the proposal, in line with the planning policies and other material considerations.

We look at the Local Plan and NPPF and make sure any development is sustainable. This means that we do not always agree to development that clearly is unacceptable (for example because it has an unacceptable impact on the environment, poor transport aspects, poor quality design).

Material considerations. Many issues are capable of being material considerations, but in broad terms should relate to the use and development of land. The following material considerations are relevant in most planning applications:

- national planning policy and guidance
- environmental impacts of the proposal (eg impact on ecology or landscape value),
- social impacts (eg loss of privacy, light or overshadowing) , and
- economic impacts of the proposal (eg regeneration value, new homes bonus, s106 contributions)
- access (including disabled persons access) and provision of infrastructure for the site
- the design and appearance of the proposal
- the planning history of the site
- the views of organisations and individuals in relation to relevant planning matters
- the likelihood that the development will be delivered (especially including economic viability).

Sandon Parish Council do their best to be fair and unbiased, based purely on the paperwork presented to us, and our knowledge of the neighbourhood, the Village Design Statement, the Local Plan and NPPF. We look at each and every application with an open and unbiased outlook.

WARNING – CRIME SCENE!



Some of you may recognise this recycling bin. It is on the Woodhill Road Sports Ground and is sited between the Sports Club pavilion and the P.C. portacabin. It is used reasonably regularly by some of you who are kind enough to sort out your unwanted clothes and textiles, and donate them to a worthy cause. This particular bin is operated by BUI on behalf of Essex Search and Rescue. Unfortunately, it is being targeted by a criminal gang. I suspect its isolated location makes it an easy target. They are regularly turning up, sorting out the good stuff, leaving (and dumping) any rubbish, and clearing off.

The bin owners are well aware of this gang. They know who they are, where they live, the registration number of their van, and the circuit they take (Sandon is not the only village that is raided). They have passed this info to the police but no action is ever taken. I guess theft of second hand goods does not sit too high on their list of priority crime! So, if you are happy to keep using this bin, knowing that your donations are used to fund crime, then please continue to use it. If you would rather your clothes, etc, end up at a more deserving organisation, then either donate your clothes to a less vulnerable site, or better still, take them directly to a charity of your choice. There are many different shops in Chelmsford supporting all types of charitable activities. There is even a home for the more tatty items, the RSPCA shop on Moulsham Street. Animals are not fussed whether their bedding material is from Prada or Primark!

WELCOME PACKS



The parish council have put together a Welcome to the Parish Information Pack which can be accessed via the Local Information page on the parish website. Please feel free to download this and pop it round by way of an introduction to your new neighbours and to the community. We will be keeping an ear and an eye open so that we can welcome new parishioners to the community. Could you please let us know if you find out someone new has arrived!

Thank you!

UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENTS

I (writes Cllr Dee Hyatt) attended a briefing on this subject and thought you may like to hear a few facts about how the Police and the Essex County Wide Traveller Unit (ECTU) of ECC deal with encampments. Sgt Paul Downes leads the Gypsy, Traveller and Rural Engagement Team for the whole of Essex with some seven other PC's and Specials, with another four PC's due to join this year. They deal with everything from encampments to dumping, to hare coursing and anything else in the countryside.

The Police and ECTU can issue a S61 removal notice for various reasons. They include where two or more persons are trespassing on land for the common purpose of residing, or if the land owner has asked them to leave his property, plus if they have six or more vehicles, cause damage to the land or property, or have been abusive to the land owner or their representative.

The Police or land owners, etc. can use the Courts to remove incursions but this can take up to seven days on average. This is for anything not covered above.

When the Police or ECTU get a call via 999 regarding unauthorised encampment they get to the location and read the microchips on the caravans and do vehicle checks. Any offence is dealt with such as stolen vehicles or tax offences etc. They look at the humanitarian needs of the travellers, animal welfare, criminality, and anti social behaviour etc. All information goes on a central computer. As the same team is dealing with the whole of Essex, then they know the travellers and what to expect. They have reduced the number of unauthorised encampments, but not completely. They do not have the ability in Essex to move them to a temporary site as none are available.

Nomadic life is protected under the Equality Act 2010 where it makes it unlawful to treat someone less favourably because of characteristics including race, nationality, ethnic or national origins.

Private land owners can remove with reasonable force, via the courts and bailiffs. Once they are told to leave travellers cannot return to the same site for three months. They cannot be removed from the Highway unless causing an obstruction, this means any public road and verge.

The Police commented that the Government are looking at making it illegal to move onto land that is not yours, by making it trespass. We hope this will become law.

The Police would like you to report any problems a.s.a.p. via 999 or 101 if less urgent or online. They need EVIDENCE to prosecute, so if you have a picture, or CCTV, please let them have these. Without evidence, they cannot act efficiently.

Remember, it wasn't that long ago that we had a putative unauthorised encampment in the field adjacent to The Lintons in Sandon!

SANDON DOG UNIT

If you were lucky enough to be at last year's Annual Assembly, we were treated to an excellent demonstration and talk from PC Paul Arthey of the Essex Police Dog Unit. For those of you who missed the experience, here is a brief overview of what the Sandon based unit does for Sandon Parishioners:

The section works under a Unit Commander of Inspector rank. The Inspector is responsible for a Sergeant and three Police Constables on the training team and four shifts comprising of five Police Constables and two Sergeants on the Operation Team. These are backed up by three permanent kennel staff and most importantly thirty seven police dogs. This might seem a lot of canine power for sleepy Sandon. However, they are deployed to provide 24/7 operational coverage county-wide and on occasion support neighbours in Kent, Herts, and other South Eastern Police Forces.

Twenty five of the dogs, German Shepherds, Belgian Malinois and a Dutch Herder are described as General Purpose, they are trained to track human scent and property, search buildings and rural locations and for Public Order situations.

Six of the dogs are fully trained to assist in firearms incidents. They are used when the Silver Commander feels that a less lethal option is appropriate. In such a situation one particular dog is trained to bite, neutralise and drag the suspect towards the firearms team.

Seven dogs, mostly Spaniels, specialise in finding and recovering weapons, drugs and currency. On the more macabre side, two dogs are specifically trained to detect buried or concealed human remains.



Anyone wishing to keep up to date with the exploits of the section can follow them on Twitter.



Essex Police Dog Section @EPDogSection · Jan 17
Following a stop check on a vehicle linked to drugs by QZ06 in Chelmsford, we used PD Pablo to search the vehicle. Pablo found drugs and cash and as a result the drive was arrested for drug driving and possession. In custody suspect was also found to have further drugs on him 🍑🐕



Essex Police Dog Section @EPDogSection · Jan 12
A few days ago, 1 of our old boys proved he hasn't lost it. Following reports of a burglary in Colchester, PD Ollie tracked from the scene and found 4 suspects hiding nearby.... still with stolen property on them. Turns out they has done 2 further burglaries aswell. 4 arrested 🍑



Two recent examples of Essex Police Dog Section tweets from Essex Police Dog Section @EPDogSection.

V.E. DAY 8th MAY

Note that there is going to be a celebration in the village on V.E. day Friday 8th May (subject to corona virus developments). The tentative plans are that it will be held in The Crown from 15:00 to 17:00. There should be a quiz, music, and a raffle. There may be a small charge levied to pay for refreshments. Everyone, including children, are encouraged to attend but numbers may be capped. Please look out for more information closer to the date.

SOCCABILITY IN SANDON

There are huge numbers of young people with varying disabilities and special educational needs that would, given the opportunity, like to participate in sports. In Essex alone there are more than 22,000 children registered with a special educational need. Many of these children are unable to take part in sports because mainstream clubs do not offer the facility for inclusive participation. In fact, in Essex, there are only a handful of football clubs currently offering this.



Baddow Spartak FC, as part of Sandon Sports Club, strongly believes that whatever the ability or disability, you have the right to be able to participate in whatever sport you choose. They aspire to be a truly inclusive youth football club for the local community of Sandon and surrounding areas and as such their doors are open to everyone.

In June 2019, with support from the Essex FA, they introduced Soccability. This is for young people with any special educational need or impairment. Their primary focus is to provide a safe and fun environment to play football and be a part of this amazing community club.

In the short time that Soccability has been running, the club are witnessing young people with disabilities enjoying themselves, making new friends, and developing social and sporting skills. They have been greatly assisted by the many young people from their mainstream youth teams volunteering with coaching each week. The benefit this is bringing to these young people and their parents/carers has been clear to see, the smiles they are seeing every weekend are quite simply amazing.

If you would like to know more, or help support this amazing initiative, then do please get in touch as they would love to hear from you. Contact: www.baddow-spartak.squarespace.com or via their secretary Vikki Kohler on 07957 300027

BROADBAND IN THE VILLAGE

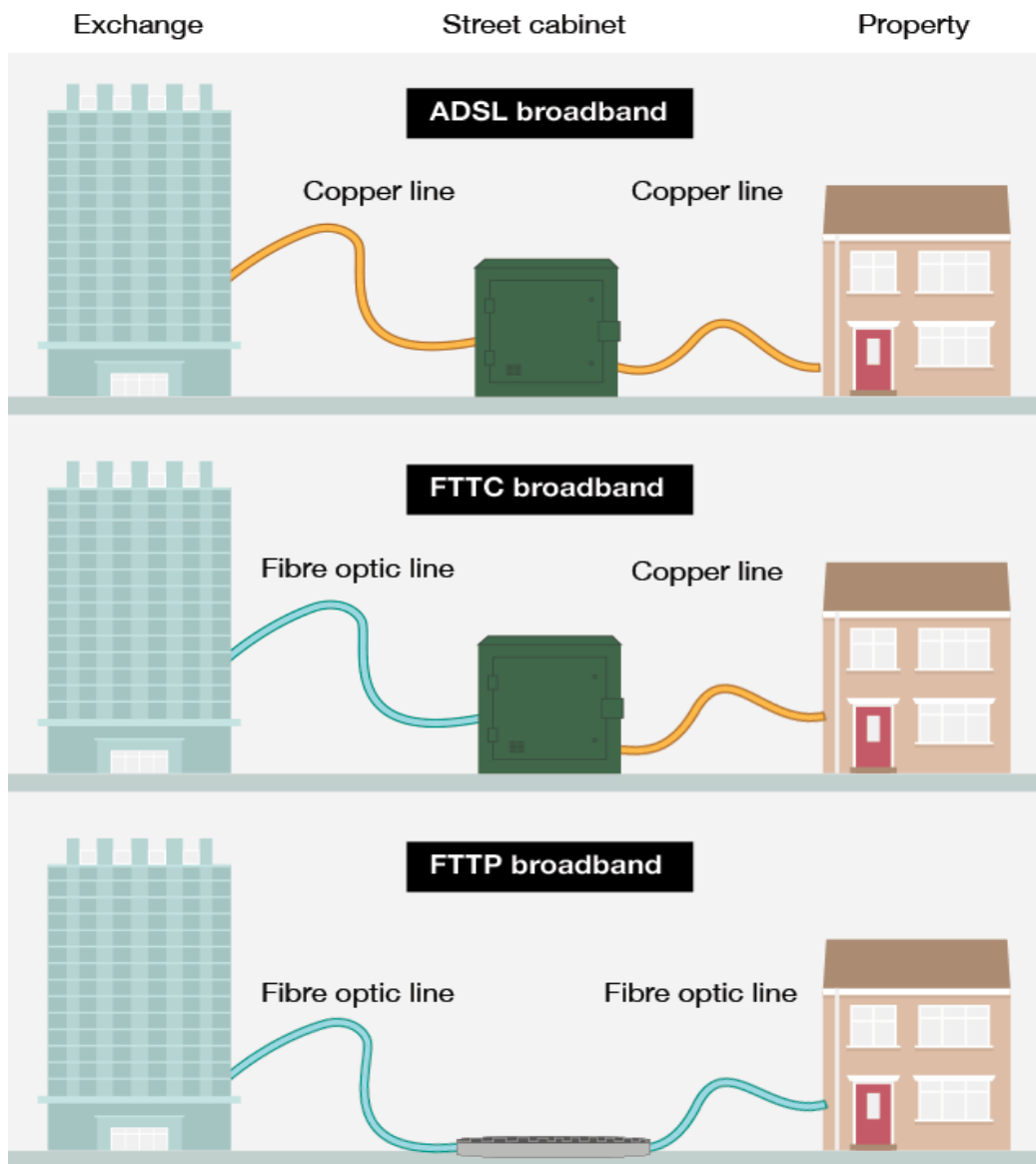


Whether we have chosen to embrace it or not, no one could possibly deny that the internet has provided opportunities to improve many aspects of our lives whether it be by doing our shopping 'online' from the comfort of our own armchair, staying in touch more easily with relatives and friends overseas or watching a favourite film at a time that suits us. The way that we connect to the internet is through broadband. Upgrades to the fibre network in the area have been successfully delivered over recent years by the Superfast Essex programme in collaboration with Essex County Council, BT/Openreach, and others, which means that most of us can now expect to access a reasonable service if we want to upgrade.

There are two types of fixed line fibre broadband available:

1. 'Fibre-To-The-Cabinet' (FTTC) known as 'Superfast'.
2. 'Fibre-To-The-Premises' (FTTP) known as 'Ultrafast'

Broadband choices



With fibre-to-the-cabinet, fibre optic cables run from the telephone exchange to a street cabinet before using standard copper telephone wires to connect to homes. Most fibre connections in the heart of the village are now thought to be the fibre-to-the-cabinet service, which typically is sold as offering speeds of 'between 25 – 50 megabits per second' (Mbps) which is the speed that data can be transmitted over the internet. Service standards do diminish the further that you are away from the street cabinet.

Fibre-to-the-premises broadband as the name suggests, involves fibre optic cables running directly to your home. It is much faster (often by 10 times or more) than fibre-to-the-cabinet but currently only constitutes a minority of local broadband connections. At the present time, this service is also only available through BT. The UK Government has recently announced plans to deliver fibre-to-the-premises broadband to all homes and businesses by 2025.

Until 2025, the fibre broadband service available will very much depend on where you live. No one is upgraded automatically and there will usually be additional costs associated with any upgrade package. To take advantage of fibre broadband upgrades in your area, residents are urged to contact their chosen internet service provider to discuss what options are currently available to them and any ongoing upgrade plans that might be on the horizon.

Residents are also encouraged to register their demand for fibre broadband where it is not currently available by accessing the following link on the Superfast Essex site.

<https://www.superfastessex.org/get-involved/>

Our thanks go to a Sandon resident, Mark Mayhew, for providing this article.

IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS

NOTE NEW EMAIL DETAILS FOR THE COUNCILLORS AND THE CLERK!

TED MUNT – CLERK Sandon Parish Council, Recreation Ground, Rectory Chase, Sandon, Chelmsford, CM2 7SQ. Tel: 01245 477111 parishclerk@sandonpc.plus.com 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 763744 cllrhyatt@sandonpc.plus.com		CHAIRMAN Planning Sandon Quarry Liaison Committee Rep	
MARTIN CROSS Magrathea, East Hanningfield Road, Howe Green CM2 7TQ Tel: 01245 478910 cllrcross@sandonpc.plus.com		VICE CHAIR Finance Parish Transport Committee	
CEDRIC CALMEYER 25 Hall Lane, Sandon, CM2 7RJ Tel: 01245 478900 cllrcalmeyer@sandonpc.plus.com		Maintenance Allotments	
ALAN KALBFELL 4, The Tythings, Howe Green CM2 7TU Tel: 07802 762620 cllrkalbfell@sandonpc.plus.com		Sandon Sports Club Committee Rep Sandon Village Hall Rep	
ELAINE WILLIAMSON cllrwilliamson@sandonpc.plus.com		Personnel	
JAMES COLBECK 51 Hall Lane, Sandon, CM2 7RJ Tel: 07949849674 cllrcolbeck@sandonpc.plus.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 BOB SHEPHERD, MBE Tel: 01245 223709 IAN WRIGHT Tel: 01245 226289		2 Hay Green, Danbury, Chelmsford, CM2 4NU richard.ambor@chelmsford.gov.uk 2 Chase Cottages, Riffhams Chase, Little Baddow, CM3 4AU b.shepherd@chelmsford.gov.uk 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	For U.C. 0800 1448444
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	224747
	Dr M. Worboys	01245	224612
PCC Secretary	Mr N. Bobeldijk	01245	471756
PCC Treasurer	Dr M. Worboys	01245	224612
Bell Ringers	Mrs D. Gray	01245	223609
Women's Institute		01702	342120
Howe Green URC	Mrs P Knott	01245	471691
Howe Green URC Elder	Ms J. Fisher	01245	475976
Village Hall Management Committee			
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	224747
Sandon Sports Club	Mrs V. Kohler	07957	300027
Are your details correctly listed? If not, please contact the Parish Council Clerk on 01245 477111			

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