

SANDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ANNUAL ASSEMBLY held at **Sandon School**
on Thursday, 23rd May 2019 commencing at 7.30 pm



PRESENT: Councillors: Dee Hyatt - Chairman
Martin Cross – Vice Chairman
Alan Kalbfell
Cedric Calmeyer
James Colbeck
Elaine Williamson

In attendance: 36 recorded electors of the Parish and members of the surrounding community
Ted Munt, Clerk
Cllr Ian Grundy, Essex County Council
Cllr Ian Wright, Chelmsford City Council
Cllr Bob Shepherd, Chelmsford City Council
Mr Andrew Weaver, Head Teacher, The Sandon School
Matthew Lynwood, Hammonds Farm
Revd. Terry Brown
Mrs Judy Cecil, Sandon NDP
Mrs Jane Willis, Sandon NDP
P.C. Paul Arthey, Sandon Dog Unit

The meeting commenced at 7.35 p.m. with the Chairman welcoming the gathered assembly, the members of the Parish Council, and the invited guests. She explained the format for the meeting. The first half would comprise of the meeting formalities, followed by presentations from the guest speakers. The meeting would then adjourn for refreshments and to enable parishioners to talk to the various invited guests around the hall. The meeting would then reconvene to summarise the main points made during the informal discussions, to encourage comments about the Neighbourhood Development Plan, and to sum up.

- 1 **Emergency Procedures** – The Chairman explained the emergency procedures in the event of a fire.
- 2 **Apologies for absence** – apologies were received from, Cllr R. Ambor, Cllr R.Whitehead, Sarah Sapsford, Jenny Robinson
- 3 **Introduction of Parish Councillors and Guests:** – Cllr Hyatt introduced and thanked the Parish Councillors for the time and effort they had given the Parish in the past year. Cllrs Bullus and Hoare had left during the year, and Cllrs Williamson and Kalbfell had joined. Note that there is still one vacancy. Cllr Hyatt outlined what each of the councillors responsibilities were, and asked them to say a few words about themselves. Cllr Hyatt then thanked Andrew Weaver for letting us his excellent facilities once again.
- 4 **The Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on 24th April 2018** were agreed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair.
- 5 **Chairman’s Report and Presentation of Sandon Cup.** – Cllr Hyatt ran through the notable issues that had affected the parish over the last year (see appendix 1 for the full report.) It was agreed to award the Sandon Cup to Ron Bullus for his selfless dedication to parish matters since he joined the council back in 2005.

6 Presentation of the unaudited accounts for the year 2018/19 – Cllr Cross then gave a report on the unaudited accounts for 2018/2019. To summarise, there was £52,000 in the bank account, the precept was £31,150, and the council had made a surplus of £7,600 over the year. Note that expenditure this coming year is likely to be high. We have already bought a second mower, and the allotments need some maintenance, as well as having to be extended.

7 Presentations:

- a. **Neighbourhood Development Plan – Mrs Jane Willis** gave a presentation updating the meeting with the latest on the NDP. All remains on plan with the team currently compiling the various policies that are needed. They meet once per month and welcome any volunteers that wish to join.
- b. **St Andrews Church – Rev Terry Brown** reminded us all of how old the church was, and how important it has been to the residents of the village. He was looking for help and support to ensure that it remained for a further thousand years. Help could be given by joining, or supporting, the Friends of Sandon Church. Leaflets were available with further information.
- c. **Essex Police Dog Unit – PC Paul Arthey** gave a presentation explaining what the Sandon Dog Unit gets up to. He brought in two different dogs and explained how each of their duties were different. He thanked the residents of the village for their understanding in having a working dog unit in their parish.
- d. **Sandon and Howe Green Form Groups – Cllr Martin Cross** explained the function of the two forums. He encouraged more people to sign up, and showed them how to do this.
- e. **History of Sandon Village – Cllr Cedric Calmeyer** wished to draw the residents' attention to the reprint of Reg Bush's book on the history of the village. Copies were being sold at £10 each, and any profits would be going to the Friends of St Andrews. Copies could be bought during the interval, or from the Parish Office after the meeting.

The meeting then adjourned at 8.35 pm to allow parishioners to talk to the invited guests around the hall and partake in refreshments. The meeting reconvened at 9.05 pm.

8 Summary of main points made during the informal discussions – Cllr Hyatt led a discussion on those items that had been flagged up during the interval.

9 The Neighbourhood Development Plan – Mrs Willis and Mrs Cecil said that they had not had any contentious conversations during the interval.

10 Questions from the floor to the council

Cllr Ian Wright thanked the residents for voting him, and his colleagues, back onto the CCC. They are available should the residents need them.

A resident wanted to know whether the old posts left over after the removal of the mirrors on Butts Green Road could be removed.

The Council will look into the request for a defibrillator for the village.

Could the meeting let the council know if they wanted different guest speakers next year?

A resident raised the issue of an overgrown hedge on Hall Lane. CHP to be notified.

Cllr Ian Wright to be contacted about the poor state of those grassy areas on Hall Lane that are the responsibility of CCC.

Cllr Ian Wright warmly thanked the P.C. for their efforts over the past year.

The Chairman thanked parishioners and guests for attending, and for the support and hard work of her fellow councillors. She also thanked Sandon School for the use of the hall, and the WI ladies for providing the refreshments. There being no further questions, the Chairman then drew the meeting to a close.

The meeting formally closed at 9.19p.m.