

**Minutes of the meeting of Sandymoor Parish Council Held at  
Hazlehurst, 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.00 p.m.**

**Present**

Cllrs S Mahon (Chair), T Willett (Vice Chair), M Graves, S Hurst, A Irvine, B Schon, J Secker and P Wright

Louise Irvine RFO

Five members of the public plus Borough Councillor Ryan.

**1/7/23 Apologies for absence**

Arthur Neil, Clerk

**2/7/23 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Irvine declared interest in matters relating to the RFO and the academy.

Cllr Hurst declared an interest in matters relating to the academy.

**3/7/23 Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd June 2023**

The minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June were approved as a correct record.

**4/7/23 PCSO report**

A report was emailed to the clerk as no officers were available to attend – this will be attached at the end of these minutes.

Cheshire police would like to reiterate to residents if there are any incidents to report them directly to the police as they don't have the resources to monitor local social media groups to follow any reporting there.

**5/7/23 Community Engagement.**

The following items were raised by members of the public:

The clerk was emailed about tipper/gravel type trucks (in excess of 30 trucks in a day) using Walsingham Drive. This has been previously deemed not an appropriate route due to the make-up of the road structure – Vistry will be contacted about the issue and Mike Ryan will bring this up with HBC.

One resident asked for permission to use the jubilee forest for an armistice service on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November. The council have no issue with it being used for that but have asked the resident organiser to look at things like accessibility for wheelchair users and potential parking issues within the organisation of the event as part of any

Signed..........Chair 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023

risk assessment for an event organiser to carry out. It was suggested that the advertising should encourage those that are able to, to walk to attend and that parking arrangements should be made clear by the organiser as Swans' Reach does not contain any non-resident parking facilities or room. The council are happy to promote this event on the community section of the website if this does go ahead and will await details produced by the resident to promote.

Two residents and Cllr Mike Ryan all brought up the cost of hiring the sports facilities, in particular the tennis courts, at the school, saying they are far more expensive than others within the area and suggested that we re-visit the agreement with the school around the community usage. It was pointed out to the residents that SOA lease the playing fields from the parish council and are therefore free to set the charges as they see appropriate. This will be brought up at the next meeting between the school and the parish council about the playing fields after the school reopens in September. The council stated that they would be happy to receive a grant request for seed funds to start a formal tennis club and would encourage anyone wishing to do so to get the school on board with this first.

A resident was concerned over the maintenance of area. There are some paths that are very overgrown without any cutting back of bushes and trees. The resident was asked to provide details of the locations of these areas with photos if possible, which the council will pass on to HBC to address.

A resident asked about what was happening with the local centre and the building sites. Cllr Mike Ryan is keeping on top of this issue and reported that LIV housing is due to appoint a new contractor for the flats and bungalows, but this is taking time as they need assurances over the quality of the building so far. Mike is also writing to the administrators to look at the state of the site including potholes and open grids which are safety issues. Shops owned by another group who are still trying to let the remaining units.

Regarding the expressway closure, we've had 6 forms sent in and points discussed. These were mostly about HGV's using routes that were inappropriate for them, Delph Lane and Runcorn Road through Moore. The issues have been sent to John Gill who is responsible for the improper usage of these routes. It was also suggested that there could be improved signage for the weight limit earlier on the route to stop HGV's before they get onto Sandymoor.

#### **6/7/23 Noise Abatement/Survey**

Giles Parker from Sound Barrier Solutions was due to address members regarding noise issues on the expressway, but this was postponed until the expressway re-opens as it's currently not a true reflection of the traffic & noise volume at the moment.

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### **7/7/23 Speed Indicator Device**

A proposal was put to the council from the Safety, Health & Environment working group for the council to purchase a Speed Indicator Device for the council's own usage. The cost is £6000 for 10-year SID contract which includes all the maintenance and repair of the device over the 10 years and it's relocation 4 times a year. Any increase in the number of times it's relocated will be at an extra cost. The council's plan is for the data from the device to be used to identify problem areas to focus on other speed awareness initiatives and allow us to liaise effectively with the police.

Cllr Ryan suggested that we should apply to HBC for an area forum grant to fund this, as other parish councils have applied for a similar initiative.

The councillors voted to apply to HBC for the grant and if this was unsuccessful, to fund the purchase of the device ourselves. This vote passed with 7 councillors voting for the motion and 1 against.

Cllr Paul Wright had to leave the meeting after this agenda point.

### **8/7/23 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk submitted a written report which was read out by the Chair and is attached at the end of these minutes.

### **9/7/23 Strategy Meeting Report**

The council received the Clerk's note on the recent strategy meeting. It was agreed to make this a main subject of discussion at the September meeting.

Main strategy would be an overarching improvement project which would include the sub-projects mentioned in the report.

### **10/7/23 Borough Council Report including Highways issues**

Cllr Davidson was unable to attend so sent in a written report. This is attached at the end of these minutes.

Cllr Bradshaw did not attend and did not provide a report or update.

Cllr Ryan raised many issues that he has been working on including the concern over the cost of using the sports facilities at the school being too high, an ongoing issue over slippage on Runcorn Road in Moore.

He's also been chasing LIV housing about getting a new contractor to complete the building work and making the current sites safe.

Cllr Ryan held his first outdoor surgery, along with parish councillor Willett, which was very successful & lasted 3 hours instead of the planned 2 hours. The topics

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raised by public the included expressway closure as well as the bridleways not being maintained and being overgrown, which he will look into. Following on from the success of this, Mike is aiming to do another outdoor surgery in September.

He highlighted that there is a planning meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> august 6:30 at Runcorn town hall for the Sandymoor South planning application. Mike has been involved in investigating the noise pollution from expressway, and highlighted that once the expressway re-opens, the only stretch of expressway that will be 60mph is the one from Evenwood roundabout to Mersey gateway bridge and is looking to see if this could be lowered in line with all the other expressways in the area. This would decrease both noise pollution and air pollution for residents.

Mike has been in contact with Morris homes over the state of Actons Wood Lane and has assurances from them that the potholes will be filled in before the winter and the top, finishing layer of the road will be added once all the other construction using that road is complete.

Mike has a meeting with Tim Gibbs, at HBC, about the ongoing flooding issue in the area as well as following up on residents' issues on some of the newer parts of the estate with solar panels where there is an inherent problem that the solar panels don't restart or stay in fault mode after a dip or interruption of power supply and are therefore not working.

### 11/7/23 Planning Applications

The Council made the following comments on 23/00292/FUL Proposed installation of an additional 25 car parking spaces at Sigmalex (Uk) Ltd Manor Farm, Road Runcorn Cheshire WA7 1TE – no comment from any councillors.

### 12/7/23 Accounts for payment

The Council approved the following payments:

Payee	Description	Ex VAT	VAT	Total
Staff	Salaries	1122.97		1122.97
HMRC	Employer Tax & NI Payments	150.44		150.44
Cheshire Pensions	Employer Pension Payment	391.92		391.92
A L Neil	Expenses	78.34	1.91	80.25
L A Irvine	Expenses	0.00		0.00
Microsoft	Office 365 Standard	18.80	3.76	22.56
Microsoft	Office 365 Basic	4.50	0.90	5.40
Zoom	Annual Zoom Invoice	119.90	23.98	143.88
PW Direct	Deep Mud Warning Signs x4	32.37	6.47	38.84
Wilko	Plant Food for Planters	37.45	7.50	44.95
PW Direct	Wildlife Signs x4	77.87	15.57	93.44

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Severnside	Defibrillator & Familiarisation	1660.00	332.00	1992.00
Defibs	Training			
Halton Housing	Buffet for Jubilee Forest Opening	202.50		202.50
CLM Ltd	Jubilee Forest Maintenance	1080.00	216.00	1296.00
	Quarterly Invoice			
CLM Ltd	POS Maintenance Quarterly	2571.16	514.23	3085.39
	Invoice			
CLM Ltd	Signs and bin base installation	150.00	30.00	180.00
Co-Sign Ltd	Bench Signs	52.50	10.50	63.00
Amazon	Lamintor Pouches	7.30	1.46	8.76
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>7758.02</b>	<b>1164.28</b>	<b>8922.30</b>

### 13/7/23 Finance Report

The Chair gave the following report on the Council's finances:

Previous Bank Balance (19/06/23):	£91,216.25
Total Bank Balance:	£137,494.41
Current Bank Balance (21/07/23):	£87,214.93
Savings Account (21/07/23):	£50,279.48
Expenditure (July):	£5,001.32
Income (July):	£1,000
POS Dowry <sup>1</sup> :	£723,407.80
Dividend Received for Quarter (28/04/23):	£7,744.50
Sink Fund <sup>2</sup> :	£39,749.55
Dividend Received for Quarter (28/04/23):	£425.55

The quarter 1 finance report prepared by the RFO was also circulated around the councillors to review.

**There was no Part B required.**

The meeting closed at 9:15pm.

Signed.....Chair 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## Monthly Report JULY 2023

### Sandymoor Daresbury, Windmill Hill.

02/07/23. There has been a break in at the allotments on Haddocks Wood. 4 spades, a rake and forks and other gardening tools have been taken. Select DNA supplied and design out crime officer has visited offered advice.

02/07/23 A Small fire was distinguished by county Fire in a bin outside of the COOP on Sandymoor.

06/07/23 Reports of a youth razzing around Otterburn and Moore on a electric Scooter. Search made no Trace.

06/07/23 Theft of pedal Cycle windmill Hill Avenue.

16/07/23 Manor Park Blackheath Lane unit broken into.

16/07/23 Barhill Close attempt Burg at building site.

09/07/23 Phoenix Park off Road motor Bikes.

With the warm weather here, thieves will take any opportunity to take advantage of open windows unlocked vehicles etc. Please be vigilant don't leave things out, secure sheds and outbuildings and lock your windows when you go out and turn your cctv system on... you'll be surprised some don't.

With the summer school holiday on us youth ASB spikes, if you do have children please make sure you know where they are and who they are with.

**Please don't become one of the surprised Parents whose child is brought home by officers.**

## **Clerk's Report to Council July 2023**

### **Defibrillator**

This has been proving to be an adventure of sorts. After delivery of the defibrillator agreed at the last meeting, I received notice from the ambulance service that our application for funding had been approved and that they would supply and install one at Chatwin's, the location identified in the application.

Subsequently, Hazlehurst/Halton Housing agreed that we could site one there but not connect to their electricity supply until their snagging period is over in October.

I have been made aware by a resident of the potential for another defibrillator to be made available free of charge by the ambulance service and the Academy have been approached about a –

location by the community entrance. It appears that the response is positive at this stage.

Therefore, although we have had delays, we may shortly have three defibrillators in Sandymoor.

### **Speed Indication Device**

We have had contact with the appropriate officer at Halton BC who has given us the following.

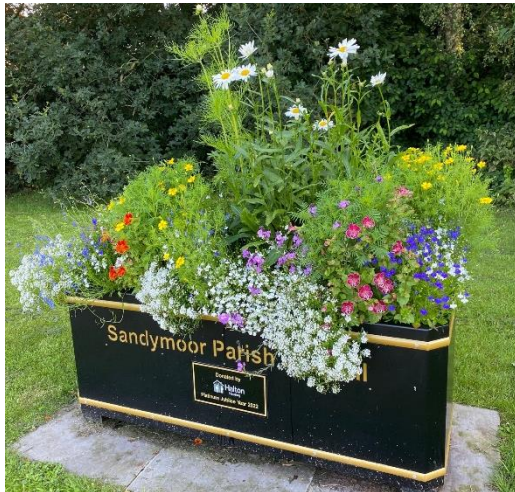
'The SiDs we use all come from a company from Traffic Technology. They are pretty robust, very accurate and provide good data. The devices we order all have Bluetooth, a data downloader, solar panel, rechargeable battery and the anti-race app that cuts out the speed display at a certain threshold. We charge external bodies £6000 per SiD and this price includes for all future repairs, the moving of the SiD between sites, any posts / brackets required and data downloads and management of files. If the Parish Council does wish to order a SiD I would recommend purchasing just one device and asking us to move it between pre-determined sites, as the longer the device stays in one location, the less effective it becomes. I could not really support the Parish Council purchasing your own unit and installing yourselves, as works within the adopted highway can only be undertaken by the local Highways Authority and their approved Contractors. Also, I'm not sure how you would be covered for third party indemnity insurance if someone were to hit it (HBC are covered as a local Highways Authority).

For your information I have attached a copy of a data file from a SiD we had in New Moore Lane last year. This is the information we can get out of them and should a particular speeding problem be identified we will pass the data to Cheshire Police with a request for enforcement action.'

The funding is approximately what has been agreed and the terms seem acceptable.

## **Planters**

Further to the discussion a few months ago we have been able to establish a group of volunteers to water and maintain the planters which they have been doing with great enthusiasm and pride.



## **Public Open Space**

Our proposal to David Wilson Homes has been accepted and I understand that the matter is now with solicitors.

We are still awaiting a response from Bloor.

## **Signage**

Following the discussion last meeting the Chair and I met on site with the sign company used by HBC and safety signs were erected around Swan's Reach. I have to commend the company for being very prompt in their delivery.

## **Halton Borough Council**

I have contacted the Chief Executive to ask for a catch-up meeting to discuss, among other issues, CCTV and Sandymoor South.

## **Sandymoor South and Wharford Farm**

I have emailed Keepmoat to ask if we could meet to discuss a partnership to take this development forward with a strong community input.

## **Public Address System**

I am pleased to report that Rose at Hazlehurst has agreed that we can store it at Hazlehurst.

Arthur Neil

**Clerk**



21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

## Cllr Siân Davidson – Sandymoor July Update

Since the last Sandymoor Parish Council meeting I have carried out a number of duties which has included following up queries from residents, keeping updated with road closures and attending various meetings in my role as a Borough Councillor.

The main concern in the ward at present is the closure of the A558 Daresbury Expressway which was originally due to begin on 5<sup>th</sup> July and the potential issues from diverted traffic which may arise. At the time of writing this update the closure has now been postponed until 24<sup>th</sup> July. Upon hearing this news I contacted Highways for an update. I have been informed that closure of the A558 Daresbury Expressway will end 13 weeks after the closure and that it will be opened to allow for traffic accessing Creamfields. I will continue to keep updated with the process of the closure and any issues that may arise – please do get in touch if you have any issues or concerns during the closure.

On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July I attended the Daresbury Laboratory Open Day. It was a great event and very informative to learn about all the work that is currently taking place in our area and the opportunity to speak to those who work there. I was informed that despite the weather the event was well attended.

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July I attended an event by John Dwyer, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire who held a meeting for Halton Borough Councillors, Warrington Borough Councillors and Parish Councillors in the North Cheshire Area. John Dwyer and the accompanying officer who was from Runcorn discussed the policing issues and the challenges, but also the success in the area too. We were given the opportunity to ask questions beforehand where I brought up the issue of anti-social behaviour in the ward and what they will be doing to tackle this, especially during the summer so that we do not have the same issues as last year. I was informed that they are aware of the ongoing issues with anti-social behaviour in the Sandymoor area from young people and that the police will be working in the area more along with looking into this further for us. I have also been in touch with Vibe who do youth work in the area asking if they could visit the ward over the summer which they are currently looking into doing in Sandymoor.

In my role as a Borough Councillor I have been placed on the Development Management Committee and on the Health Policy and Performance Board. I have recently attended two Development Management Committees and a Health and Performance Board meeting. I have also attended a Public Health Scrutiny Group meeting where I will be involved in looking at improving health in the Borough of Halton. I also attended a full Borough Council meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> July.

Over the coming months I would like to organise a litter pick in each part of the ward. If there is a particular area of Sandymoor where you feel would benefit from litter picking please get in touch.

If you have an issue or a concern, please do get in touch either via email or phone and I will look into it on your behalf.

Kind Regards,  
*Cllr Siân Davidson*  
*Daresbury, Moore and Sandymoor Ward*

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