

**Minutes of the meeting of Sandymoor Parish Council Held at Hazlehurst, Acton's Wood Lane, 7 p.m. 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Present**

Cllrs S Mahon (Chair), M Graves, S Hurst, B Schon, and J Secker

Arthur Neil, Clerk and Louise Irvine RFO

Nine members of the public plus Borough Councillor Ryan.

**1/9/23 Apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs A Irvine, Wright ,T Willett and Borough Councillor S Davidson.

**2/9/23 Declarations of Interest**

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

**3/9/23 Minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

These were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**4/9/23 PCSO report**

We now had a new Beat Manager, but she had been unable to attend. The Clerk would contact to remind her of when we meet and ask for regular reports.

**5/9/23 Community Engagement.**

Issues raised included speeding and the bus service not reaching Hazlehurst. A member of the public undertook to send some specific questions on Speed Indicator Devices to the Clerk who would seek clarification from Halton BC. The Clerk would liaise with Cllr Ryan to ask the bus company if the route could be amended to include Hazlehurst. A further issue raised was access to Hazlehurst from Acton's Wood Lane. The Clerk would raise this with Halton Housing Association.

**6/9/23 Plaques on benches-** a request had been received from a member of the public to commemorate a resident by way of a plaque on a bench at the Jubilee Forest. It was agreed that this would be permitted, and the clerk would supply the enquirer with the required dimensions and other details and that there would be no charge

**7/9/23 Speed Indicator Device**

The Clerk reported that Halton BC had agreed to manage a SID on our behalf if Sandymoor PC met the capital cost and was prepared to pay £100 each time they wished to move it. The Clerk had applied to the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Local Area Fund for funding. As the PCC funding was not due to be known until December it was agreed that the Council proceed with the purchase after hearing the

Signed.....Chair 26 October 2023

outcome of the Local Area Fund application, subject to no issues being raised from the item in Community Engagement above.

### **8/9/23 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk's written report was received, and he updated the Council on the defibrillator. The ambulance service had now asked for the Council to arrange installation and the Clerk was asking Chatwin's electrician to quote for the work.

The bins for which Local Area Funding had been agreed had yet to arrive.

It now seemed unlikely that the closure of the Expressway would end on schedule, but details were still awaited.

Following the discussions of the Plantgers group it was agreed to approach Hazlehurst about the possibility of erecting a greenhouse on site to help establish a multi-generational gardening group.

### **9/9/23 Borough Council Report including Highways issues**

Cllr Ryan had submitted a written report and added a number of other items as follows:- The restored bus service was now operated by Ashcroft Travel and it was important to encourage more usage of the service or it might be lost.

The planning application for Sandymoor South but Halton BC had said that all amendments would need council rather than officer approval.

Halton BC were prepared to work with the Academy on litter picking;

Halton BC had also agreed to ward walkabouts on Sandymoor with local councillors.

There was a fund available which Sandymoor might access for some of its projects.

### **10/9/23 Planning Applications**

There were no applications to discuss.

### **11/9/23 Accounts for payment**

The following accounts were approved for payment.

Staff	Salaries	1081.10	1081.10
HMRC	Employer Tax & NI Payments	150.44	150.44
Cheshire Pensions	Employer Pension Payment	358.80	358.80
A L Neil	Expenses	68.86	2.83
L A Irvine	Expenses	0.00	0.00
Microsoft	Office 365 Standard	20.60	4.12
Microsoft	Office 365 Basic	4.90	0.98
Handy Man & Van	Fitting Defibrillator Box	60.00	60.00
Smiths CD Ltd	Fitting Warning Signs	195.00	39.00
CLM Ltd	Jubilee Forest Maintenance Quarterly Invoice	1080.00	216.00
CLM Ltd	POS Maintenance Quarterly Invoice	2571.16	514.23
Helping Hand	Litter Picking Cart	148.00	29.60
			177.60

Signed.....Chair 26 October 2023

PKF Littlejohn LLP	External Audit	420.00	84.00	504.00
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>6158.86</b>	<b>890.76</b>	<b>7049.62</b>

### 12/9/23 Finance Report

The Council received the following report on its finances:

Previous Bank Balance (21/07/23):	£87,214.93
Total Bank Balance:	£139,565.35
Current Bank Balance (25/09/23):	£89,285.87
Savings Account (25/09/23):	£50,279.48
Expenditure (Aug & Sep):	£8,808.86
Income (Aug & Sep):	£10,879.800
POS Dowry <sup>1</sup> :	£722,404.01
Dividend Received for Quarter (31/07/23):	£8,417.29
Sink Fund <sup>2</sup> :	£39,694.39
Dividend Received for Quarter (31/07/23):	£462.51

### 13/9/23 Public Outdoor Artwork proposals

The Clerk had circulated a presentation produced him, the Chair and Vice-Chair on various proposals for outdoor facilities in Sandymoor. The presentation also identified potential sites for discuss with Halton BC if the Parish Council were in agreement with the suggestions.

It was agreed that the document form the basis of ongoing proposals.

### 14/9/23 Proposal for 'kickabout area' at Stalbridge Drive trial

An area of land between the Jubilee Forest and the play area had been identified as a potential location for an informal kickabout area. An indicative quote had been received of £1550 to supply and install steel posts.

It was agreed to delegate selection of a contractor to the Clerk who would liaise with the council before making a decision.

### 15/9/23 Leisure facilities update

Following concerns raised at the July meeting, the Chair and Clerk had met with the Academy's Principal and Finance Director to discuss availability of facilities and price. Some progress had been made and the Academy had undertaken to consider lower charges for some sports and the availability of walk-in bookings if staff were already on site. Discussions were ongoing.

**The meeting closed at 9 p.m.**

PKF Littlejohn LLP	External Audit	420.00	84.00	504.00
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>6158.86</b>	<b>890.76</b>	<b>7049.62</b>

### **12/9/23 Finance Report**

The Council received the following report on its finances:

Previous Bank Balance (21/07/23):	£87,214.93
Total Bank Balance:	£139,565.35
Current Bank Balance (25/09/23):	£89,285.87
Savings Account (25/09/23):	£50,279.48
Expenditure (Aug & Sep):	£8,808.86
Income (Aug & Sep):	£10,879.800
POS Dowry <sup>1</sup> :	£722,404.01
Dividend Received for Quarter (31/07/23):	£8,417.29
Sink Fund <sup>2</sup> :	£39,694.39
Dividend Received for Quarter (31/07/23):	£462.51

### **13/9/23 Public Outdoor Artwork proposals**

The Clerk had circulated a presentation produced him, the Chair and Vice-Chair on various proposals for outdoor facilities in Sandymoor. The presentation also identified potential sites for discuss with Halton BC if the Parish Council were in agreement with the suggestions.

It was agreed that the document form the basis of ongoing proposals.

### **14/9/23 Proposal for 'kickabout area' at Stalbridge Drive trial**

An area of land between the Jubilee Forest and the play area had been identified as a potential location for an informal kickabout area. An indicative quote had been received of £1550 to supply and install steel posts.

It was agreed to delegate selection of a contractor to the Clerk who would liaise with the council before making a decision.

### **15/9/23 Leisure facilities update**

Following concerns raised at the July meeting, the Chair and Clerk had met with the Academy's Principal and Finance Director to discuss availability of facilities and price. Some progress had been made and the Academy had undertaken to consider lower charges for some sports and the availability of walk-in bookings if staff were already on site. Discussions were ongoing.

**The meeting closed at 9 p.m.**

Signed.....Chair 26 October 2023

## **Clerk's Report September 2023**

### **Defibrillator**

The ambulance service funded defibrillator is now at Chatwin's and I am currently awaiting an update on its installation before applying for funding for a third at the Academy.

### **Expressway**

A meeting of the Borough Council and the contractors is scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> to update the council but I understand that there is likely to be a delay in completing the works.

### **Litter**

I had a number of complaints regarding litter especially in the village green area over the summer and Halton BC undertook to keep the situation under review.

I am still awaiting an update on the delivery of the new/additional bins funded by the Local Area fund.

### **Morris Homes/Actons Wood Lane**

I have had a long running exchange with a resident who lives close to the pond there regarding grounds maintenance and the state of the pond. The grounds maintenance is carried out by a private contractor and the pond is the responsibility of the Woodlands Trust who say the pond is in an acceptable condition and they have no plans to undertake any work at this time.

I have been in touch with Morris Homes, Homes England and Halton BC to establish the long-term proposals for the maintenance of the area. Halton are awaiting a response from Homes England.

### **Planters**

The volunteer group has been working well and Cllr Mahon and Mandy kindly organised a get together at their home last week. Mrs Mahon kindly provided the following notes:

Team agreed that a trip to the garden centre is to be arranged for early October which Arthur will arrange. Some of the planters are still flowering so it is being left to each team member whether to empty it straight away or wait a bit longer until flowers have finished.

Sarah is very interested in a community vegetable growing project that will benefit the people in less affluent areas. This would be quite a big project that would need a separate committee for planning it, where it would be, who would volunteer to run and organise it.

The team discussed having an area where we could grow plants from seed for the planters and the potential for getting the Ormiston school and the elderly from Hazelhurst involved. A space would be needed for a greenhouse, storage, water etc. This could possibly tie in with Sarah's idea. It was agreed that this would be discussed with the Parish Council.

### **S106 Funds and Leisure and Arts Facilities**

The Chair, Vice Chair and I have produced a presentation to discuss with Paul Wright at HBC prior to the meeting with Stephen Young. The presentation is enclosed for discussion at the meeting.

Arthur Neil

**Clerk**

**26<sup>th</sup> September 2023**