

Sandy Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
Thursday 19th January 2023 at 7.30pm
Sandy Town Council Chamber, 10 Cambridge Road, Sandy

Minutes

Present: Nigel Aldis, Rob Baker, Richard Barlow, Sally Chapman, Anne Elliott-Flockhart, Arnie Gilpin, Joanna Hewitt (Chair), Anthony Lock, Ruth Lock, Chris Patterson and Anne Ramsay.

Apologies: Jennifer Ivanciu-Wilkinson and Lorraine Ivanciu-Wilkinson.

1. Approval of minutes from 17th November 2022

The minutes were approved.

As the Chair was unable to attend the Christmas Lights event, she asked for some feedback from those that were there. The day had been generally quiet and members had packed up a bit earlier than expected due to it getting dark. All items had been put on the back of the Council's van. It had been noted that Emma Foxley at the next stall had been undertaking a questionnaire and it would be good to get the results from her.

2. Sandy Town Centre Improvement Study (TTC)

Chris explained that he had forwarded the comments he had received on the proposal to TTC. They have taken some on board and would like to discuss others and have tweaked the proposal.

Whilst everyone agrees with the rationale behind the project – the need to enhance the town centre for the residents and businesses of Sandy, there was some discussion about the proposals put forward. Some felt that removing parking spaces will be detrimental unless we have somewhere else for people to park. It was noted that the council car park was never completely full during the parking survey. Others were concerned about the buses not being able to turn around in the Market Square. It was noted that only a few

buses need to turn around and these could do so at Tesco. Someone mentioned that it could affect the school buses that use it.

There is a need to get the Town Council on board with the proposal so it will be going to a council meeting on Monday. All members of the NP are welcome to attend.

The plan will then go to the public for their views.

3. AECOM

Chris has applied for the support packages from Locality to fund the SP Masterplan and technical support for a design guide.

a) SP Masterplan

Chris has had an initial meeting for this. They've asked for some supporting data, including minutes from the Leisure and Culture working group, and the results from the SP survey which **Chris** will forward to them. They have also asked for the data from the GIP consultation. **Anne R** will contact BRCC to access this.

AECOM will be coming to Sandy on 15th February for a walkaround. **Chris** will email final details when they are confirmed so that members can attend if they wish.

We need to see if we can get access to the site for then. It was noted that CBC have told the Carnival group that it is unlikely they will be able to use the site which means our request might not be successful either. Which then lead to a conversation about how to get CBC on board with this process. The **Chair** noted that she will speak to CBC Cllr Caroline Maudlin to see if she can help with this.

The group would like to work with CBC on this, but it was noted that a masterplan can be created without them.

It was noted that the site is still in the hands of the DfE. A member wondered if we should be trying to push them for a

decision. **Arnie** volunteered to contact the local MP to ask if he can help. A member also wondered if we should put a masterplan on hold until a decision has been made, but it was felt that it would be too late then to get a plan in place. It was also noted that SP is an important issue to the residents of Sandy, and we will need to say something about it in the NP to get the plan through the referendum.

We will need a design brief for the masterplan, the **Leisure group** will arrange a meeting to discuss this.

b) Design Code

A few members have been looking through CBC's Local Plan to see what it says about Design Codes. A member noted that there used to be a Lifetime House policy, which meant houses were accessible and could be adapted to suit the changes in a householder's circumstances, during their lifetime. This policy had been superseded which means we can't use the original policy. Sally advised asking AECOM to see if they could come up with a way to achieve this.

The Chair thanked Chris for his work in applying for the grants for these.

4. GIP

The plan is nearly complete. Anne R asked that **Anne EF** resend the context info that she had previously sent. BRCC are keen to meet so **Anne R** will arrange a meeting with them for herself, Anne EF and the Chair, which will probably be on a Friday.

At the last meeting the group were asked to condense the list of proposed green spaces. The list was reduced to fifteen which was a few more than BRCC ideally wanted. Anne R went back to BRCC to see if the extra spaces would increase the cost, but they confirmed it wouldn't.

Once the plan is complete it will need to go the Town Council for endorsement.

A member asked how long the green spaces assessments will take. **Anne R** will ask.

It was noted that land at the bomb pit had been fenced off by Lord Pym due to anti-social behaviour, which might affect some of the aspirations in the plan.

The Chair thanked Anne R for her work on this.

5. Sally Chapman

Sally went through the list of outstanding evidence. **Ruth** and **Anthony** confirmed they had completed the list of leisure and community facilities, which they will put in a word document including addresses and send to Sally.

Arnie confirmed that he had a list of businesses and would put these in a spreadsheet with names, addresses and what type of businesses they were. The list of shops in the town centre needs updating.

Richard and Chris had been working on the designated and non-designated list of heritage assets. CBC have a list of designated assets which needs to be checked but we will have to come up with our own list of non-designated assets. Sally noted that this can include important viewpoints such as the Pinnacle and the view to the Dovecote at SP from the footpath near the river bridge.

It was noted that there is a list of community groups on the Council's website, which was updated last autumn, but is not wholly complete as not all groups responded to the town council.

Sally noted that the group is making good progress.

6. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 23 February 2023 at 7.30pm at Sandy Town Council.