

Sandy Town Council

To: Cllrs N Aldis, S Baker, B Blackley, A Effiong, J Hewitt (Chair), R Lacey, A Lock, R Lock, C Osborne, M Pettitt, M Scott, P Sharman, S Sutton, and N Thompson.

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Sandy Town Council to be held in the Council Chamber at 10 Cambridge Road, Sandy on Monday 7th August 2023 at 7.30pm for the purpose of transacting the items of business below.



Nicola Sewell
Town Clerk
10 Cambridge Road
Sandy
SG19 1JE
01767 681491
2nd August 2023

A G E N D A

1 Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 Declarations of interest and requests for dispensations

Under the Localism Act 2011 members of Council are not required to make oral declarations of interest at meetings but may not participate in discussion or voting on any items of business in which they have a Declarable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) and under Sandy Town Council's Standing Orders must leave the room for the duration of all discussion on such items. (All members' register of interests are available on the Sandy Town Council website or on application to the Clerk.)

*This item is included on the agenda to enable members to declare new DPIs and also **those who wish to do so** may draw attention to their stated DPIs and also any non-declarable personal interests which they have declared under Sandy Town Council's adopted Code of Conduct and which may be relevant to items on the agenda.*

- i) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests*
- ii) Non Pecuniary Interests*
- iii) Dispensations*

Sandy Town Council

3 Public Participation Session

To receive questions and representations from members of the public. Members must raise their hand to indicate they wish to speak and the Chairman will advise them when it is time to do so.

4 Minutes of Extra Ordinary Town Council meeting

To consider the Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting of Sandy Town Council held at 6.45pm on Monday 17th July 2023 and to approve them as a correct record of proceedings.

5 Minutes of Committees and recommendations therein

To receive and note the minutes of the meetings of the following committees and sub-committees and (if applicable) to approve recommendations therein which do not arise elsewhere.

- i) Development Scrutiny Committees held on 26th June 2023.
- ii) Policy, Finance and Resource Committee held on 24th July 2023.
RESOLVED to recommend:
 - to agree to a payment of £4,100 as a matter of urgency for the resurfacing of the worst affected pathways at Sunderland Road and for funds to come from rolling capital funds. For £15,000 be set aside in the next budget setting cycle to cover further repairs at Sunderland Road and Fallowfield recreations grounds.
- iii) Community Services and Environment Committee on 17th July 2023.
RESOLVED to recommend:
 - That the Full Council cease further negotiations on establishing a lease regarding the Beeston Green Allotment Site (village development) with CBC and that the Town Council seek additional sites for the allotment land (see item 17).
 - To agree a payment of £1,312.00 for repairs to a fence and consider quotes for the removal of trees on the boundary between Scout Hut and ATC Building (see item 14).
 - To commission a condition survey of the walls at St Swithun's Parish Church Churchyard (see item 10)
 - That the Council agrees to go into partnership with CBC, namely the Sustainable Transport Team, to provide EV charging points in the Sandy Town Council carpark choosing option 1 and the Council agrees to remove the barriers at the point of installation to facilitate the installation and use of the

Sandy Town Council

EV charging points. The above decisions will require the Council to cease issuing carpark passes and the Council consider the impact the removal of the barriers would have as post-covid the number of commuters has reduced with working from home becoming more common. Also, CBC would issue TMOs.

- Following approval of the above the Town Council signs the letter of acceptance to CBC and BP Pulse.
- That Sandy Town Council endorses the Green Infrastructure Plan, which has been informed by current residents of the parish through the Neighbourhood Plan process and BRCC, for this and future generations. In endorsing this Plan, the Town Council confirms its support for the concept of GI planning and the methodology used to produce the Plan. In addition, the Town Council will seek to be an active partner in the delivery of this plan, leading and assisting the implementation of those actions which fall into the remit and plans of the Council. The Town Council will annually review the Plan, reporting to the community activity undertaken and planned both by the Council and others, towards implementing the plan.

iv) Human Resources on 10th July 2023

RESOLVED to recommend:

- To agree the renewal fee with the enhanced option at a total cost of £2,300.00, which had not been provisioned for in the budget line for 2023/24. The extra fees would need to come from Capital or be vired from another budget line.
- to move the staff member to Scale Point 9 and back date pay to 1st April 2022.
- to move the staff member up to scale point 20 and back date pay to 1st April 2022.
- to move the staff member up to scale point 20 and back date pay to 1st April 2022.

6 Clerk's Report

To receive a report from the Clerk regarding works and priorities for the Administrative Team.

Appendix I

7 Reports from Central Bedfordshire

To receive reports from Ward Councillors.

8 Uncontested Election Charges

To note receipt of charges from CBC of £415.53 for uncontested election in Sandy for 2023.

Appendix II

Sandy Town Council

9 Condition Survey for St Swithuns Churchyard wall

To receive a request from the Deputy Clerk for the Town Council to commission a condition survey of the Churchyard Wall at St Swithun's Church to understand the need for essential repairs. To come

10 Microsoft Licence Renewal

To receive costs for Microsoft 365 licence renewal (August 2023 to July 2024) at the following quote from our current IT provider.

Quote for next 12 months 365 Licenses August 2023 – July 2024
7 x Business Standard @ £10.30 per month = £72.10
1 x Business Standard @ £3.30 per month = £3.30
Total £75.40

This sees a rise in costs from Microsoft of 90p per month for the 7 x Business Standard and 30p per month for the 1 x Business Standard from August 2022 to July 2023.

To also note backdated fees for 5 months are due for the licence fees between March 2023 and July 2023, for which no invoice was previously received.

Backdated 365 licenses March -July
7 X Business Standard @ £9.40 per month for 5 months = £329.00
1 X Business Standard @ £3.00 per month for 5 months = £15.00
Total £344.00

11 Salt/Gritter Equipment Purchase

To consider a report from the Deputy Clerk on the proposed purchase of equipment to facilitate salting in agreed areas of the Town Centre.

Appendix III

12 Planning Applications

To consider the following application submitted for comment by Central Bedfordshire Council.

CB/20/02569/FULL Land at Girtford Bridge House, London Road, Sandy, SG19 1NA	Redevelopment of the site to provide 2 drive-thru's (Use Class A3/A5), 3 restaurant units (Use Class A3) and 1 restaurant/gym unit (Use Class A3/D2), following demolition of the existing buildings. http://plantech.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/PLANTECH/DWebPages/acolnetcgi.gov?ACTION=UNWRAP&RIPNAME=Root.PgeResultDetail&TheSystemkey=619240
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Sandy Town Council

13 Removal of Trees on Boundary Fence line between Scout Hut and ATC Building

To receive a report from the Deputy Clerk regarding the costs for the partial re-siting of the fence at the boundary of the Scout Hut and ATC Building in Berwick.

Appendix IV

14 Neighbourhood Plan

To receive a verbal update from the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

15 Christmas Lights Timing

To consider which hours the Town Council would prefer the Christmas lights display to burn and the last day for light up.

In 2022 the lights were lit between 4pm and 10.30pm and only stayed on until 4th January 2023. In previous years the lights have been lit between 3.30pm and midnight and stayed on until 6th January. Last year's change saw a saving of 115.5 hours of power over the period. The cost savings were negligible as all lights are LEDs.

16 Legal Fees – Beeston Allotment Agreement for Lease

To receive an email from Woodfines Solicitors outlining details of a draft lease to be agreed with CBC over land offered for allotment use in Beeston and enable progression of the Town Council's plan to offer allotment land to residents. To agree legal fees of £1,000-£1,500 for the drawing up of that lease.

Appendix V

17 Accountancy fees for Budget Setting

To consider accounting support from DCK for the budget setting process at a cost of £570.00 for a day in the office and £80.00 per hour for any additional hours needed.

18 Minutes of SSLA AGM

As Trustee of the Sandy Sports and Leisure Association (SSLA) to receive and note the Minutes of the SSLA AGM held on 15th June 2023 along with the Everyone Active Management Report.

Appendix VI

19 Action Plan

To review and agree Full Council Action Plan for 2023/24.

Appendix VII

20 Reports from Councillors on Outside Bodies

To receive the following reports from Council representatives on outside bodies;

- Cllr N Aldis – East West Rail Consultation
- Cllr N Aldis – Talk of the Town

Appendix VIII
Appendix IX

Sandy Town Council

- Cllr M Pettitt – Sandy Twinning Association

Appendix X

21 Report from Beeston Working Group

To receive the following report from the Beeston Working Group and consider granting permission for a resident to dig trenches across Beeston Green to facilitate the laying of new pipes for their development.

The Beeston Working Group met with the resident of 18 The Green, Beeston and surveyed the area of the Green that might be affected by his planning permission for two houses. The trees would need minimal attention so no real issues were to be expected. The concrete pipe across the stream was looked at and the suggestion was made to reinforce the roadway ' just in case '. We then walked about 50 metres south where we were informed that Anglia Water would be laying a new pipe across the Green for the resident which would be connected to the main in the Green. The group has returned to view the works which have now started and can report that the resident has, as agreed, reinforced their length of the roadway, although this is slightly wider so there will have to be a small amount of reinstatement on either side of their driveway once the works are complete. The Working Group request confirmation on whether landowner rights need to be given for the digging of trenches in this area.

22 Correspondence

To note correspondence received by the Town Council since the last meeting of Full Council and any actions arising from such items. All correspondence circulated to Members separately. *For information only:*

- A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet - July newsletter rcvd 31.07.2023
- BATPC AGM 2023 - Venue and County Committee Elections rcvd 29.07.2023
- World Drowning Prevention Day 2023 rcvd 27.07.2023
- CPRE Bedfordshire summer newsletter rcvd 27.07.2023
- NALC NEWSLETTER rcvd 26.07.2023
- NALC CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S BULLETIN rcvd 20.07.2023
- Crime Stats - Interim - July 2023 rcvd 18.07.2023
- EWR proposed route announcement - Tempsford Parish Council rcvd 18.07.2023
- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Bedfordshire Newsletter - June 2023 Edition rcvd 18.07.2023
- SG19 ROAD GROUP - Shaping the Future of England's Strategic Roads rcvd 11.07.2023
- Notice of future ERTA Bedfordshire Forum rcvd 10.07.2023

Sandy Town Council

- Police and Crime Commissioners Annual Parish Council Meeting rcvd 27.06.2023
- ERTA reaches out for a Public Transport vision for Bedfordshire rcvd 22.06.2023
- Only 35 days to help us reach our fundraising goal for youth work rcvd 31.07.2023.

23 Mayoral Engagements

Mayors Engagements for STC Agenda for Meeting on 7TH August 2023

4th July - The Mayor attended and awarded prizes at the Bedfordshire Games for Teenagers and Adults with learning difficulties.

7th July – The Mayor hosted a group of Yr 6 children from Mapletree School, in the Chamber, as part of their geography field trip to the Town Centre

7th July - The Mayor and Clerk attended the East West Rail open event held at Tempsford Memorial Hall.

15th July - The Mayor attended the St Swithun’s Church Summer Fete

19th July - The Mayor attended the Bedford University, Putteridge Bury, for the Installation Ceremony for the University Chancellor – Sarfraz Manzor

23 July - the Mayor attended the High Sheriff’s Summer Garden Party held at Bedford School.

25th July - the Mayor attended the World Drowning Prevention Day event hosted by Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service at the Mill Pond and presented a bravery certificate to Kyan Chessum.

29th July - the Mayor attended the annual ‘Meet the Cows’ event on the Riddy, led by the grazier Mr Kiddy.

1st Aug - the Mayor met with the owners of a new business locating in Sandy - Multi-Care Community Services, 6 Belfry Court.

2nd Aug - the Mayor will be attending the Charity Quiz night hosted by the Mayor of Biggleswade together with a team from Sandy Town Council.

Sandy Town Council

5th Aug - The Mayor will be attending the Charity Afternoon Tea and garden tour hosted by the Mayor of Houghton Regis.

24 Press Releases

Meet the Cows

25 Chairmans Items

26 Date of Next Meeting

18th September 2023

Clerk's Report

The following data has been collated in order to demonstrate the work that the admin office has undertaken since the last report on 26th June, the team's focus, and priorities.

General enquiries

The following data shows the amount and type of queries that the admin team has dealt with over this period, to give you a perspective on what draws on our time.

Since 26th June 2023 the administrative team dealt with:

84 telephone enquiries

201 email enquiries

11 telephone answerphone messages

8 enquiries through the website

54 enquiries from visitors to the office.

This averages as **358** enquiries a month or **18** separate enquiries a day.

These figures do not include separate email enquiries that team members received direct to their individual mailboxes.

From 26th June 2023 to 31st July 2023 the Town Clerk independently received **1,017** emails to the Clerk's inbox (across 25 working days) 30% of these were made up of newsletters, partnership comms and general sales and offers. The remaining 70% all related to Sandy Town Council business.

On average this works out at **28** emails a day regarding Council business through the Clerk's inbox alone.

Meeting administration

Since 26th June the Clerk and Deputy Clerk have created:

Agendas: **6**

Reports: **28**

Sets of Minutes: **6**

The Cemetery and Events working groups also met creating the following further administrative tasks:

Agendas: **3**

Minutes: **3**

Cemetery

1. We managed **8** interments and **3** Memorial applications.

Events

The Community & Engagement Officer and Mayor organised a visit to the Council Chamber for a group of 24 Year 6 students from Maple Tree Primary School. The students enjoyed a specially designed quiz set around the Roman Sandy exhibit and the Town Clerk spoke to them about her role and the role of councillors in the Town.

In collaboration with grazier Guy Kiddy, the Community Engagement Officer also organised and publicised the Town Council's second Meet the Cows event on the Riddy, which took place on Saturday 29th July.

In addition, work was undertaken to publicise and attend, alongside the Mayor, the World Drowning Prevention Day 2023 event, on 25th July, also held at the Riddy and organised by Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service.

The team is now working on the organisation of the following events, preparation for which starts now:

- SkateJam anniversary - September
- Autumn Market – October
- Remembrance Sunday Parade - November
- Christmas Lights Switch on - December

Community Engagement

1. We sent out **4** Press Releases
2. Posted **7** new stories on the Council website
3. Posted **20** times through social media
4. Created **8** posters to publicise Council events and activities.

Website

1. All new councillor details have now been added
2. Yearbook has been updated with new councillor and committee membership details.

General Administration

1. Processes are being updated and where necessary new ones are being drafted.

Projects

The team is focusing on the following key projects which are taking priority.

Cemetery Extension Project

1. A survey of council land around neighbours cesspit and soakaway has been undertaken.
2. A site meeting with the residents of Holly Lodge along with an independent surveyor has taken place to look at damage to the soakaway and the structure of the Town Council's boundary fence.

3. AOC has completed the monograph (archaeological report) which has been checked by Hannah at CBC this is now ready for CDS to submit to CBC Planning to fulfil planning conditions for the extension.
4. Solicitors have drafted a letter to residents regarding the transfer of land this is being currently being reviewed by the Clerk and Mayor.

Jenkins Pavilion Development

1. Working Group met to discuss amendments to SSLA lease and feedback has been passed on to the Solicitors.
2. Ongoing correspondence between STC/CBC and solicitors regarding lease and side agreement for construction and utilities.
3. Replying to daily queries from the project team.

Allotments Land at Beeston (Village Site)

1. Solicitors have penned a suggested pre-lease agreement between STC and CBC. Under consideration by Full Council.

Allotment Land

1. Engaging with third parties to try and identify suitable land for lease.

Community Emergency Safety Plan

1. The plan is being updated using the latest templates, all previous contacts have been checked and updated contact details have been included on the plan.

Staff

Interim appraisals have now taken place for five members of staff with two members of the outdoors team due and one member of the admin team due a six-month probationary meeting.

Laura has drafted a staff survey as part of a drive to improve health and wellbeing in the workplace. This work is being done in a bid to win a Healthy Workplace Standards Award for Sandy Town Council which is being run in collaboration with Milton Keynes, Central Bedfordshire, and Bedford Borough Councils.

Buildings and Maintenance

Work has started on clearing the reception area and making it ready to house two members of staff. This includes the installation of a rotational leaflet holder, which replaces the table.

The locks on both gates at 10 Cambridge Road needed to be replaced and work has now been carried out after some issues with the original locks and its fixings.

Central Bedfordshire Council

Priory House, Monks Walk,
Chicksands, Shefford, SG17 5TQ
Telephone No. 0300 300 8000
VAT No. GB946 8172 86



Page 1 of 1

Invoice

SANDY TOWN COUNCIL
C/O NICOLA SEWELL - CLERK
10 CAMBRIDGE ROAD
SANDY
BEDS
SG19 1JE

Information

Invoice No. : 1800165614
Customer No. : 1000298
Date : 28/07/2023
Reference : ELECTION 4 MAY

Payment Terms : Due 14 Days from Invoice Date

For Enquiries Contact:
Name : Ingrid Male
Service provided by : Democratic Services
Telephone No. : 0300 300 5214

Invoice Details				
Item	Description	NET Value (£)	VAT Amount(£)	Gross Value (£)
10	uncontested charges (Outside Scope)	415.34		415.34
	Total	415.34		415.34

Tick box if you require a receipt

PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Payment of this invoice may be made as follows:-

- 1 ONLINE BANKING:** If you are using **Online Banking** please use sort code 60-01-16 and account number 45062811, please quote your invoice or customer number as a reference.
- 2 DIRECT DEBIT:** If you wish to pay all future bills by **Direct Debit** please call **0300 300 8015** for a Direct Debit Mandate.
- 3 DEBIT/CREDIT CARD:** Payments may be made over the telephone on **0300 300 8030**, select option 5, Invoice and quote your invoice number.

Sandy Parish
 Election - 4 May 2023
 Uncontested Charges

SERVICE	AUTHORITY	ALLOWANCE PAYABLE	CHARGED
Beeston Ward			
Returning Officer (Uncontested Fee)(656@0.475p ÷ 2)	CBC Scale	15.58	15.58
Clerical Allowance	CBC Scale	126.00)	
Secure disposal of election documents	Nominal	45.00	50.00
Letters, telephone calls, nomination papers, stationery, postage	Nominal	10.00)	
		£196.58	£65.58
Fallowfield Ward			
Returning Officer (Uncontested Fee)(1469@0.475p ÷ 2)	CBC Scale	34.89	34.89
Clerical Allowance	CBC Scale	126.00)	
Secure disposal of election documents	Nominal	45.00	50.00
Letters, telephone calls, nomination papers, stationery, postage	Nominal	30.00)	
		£235.89	£84.89
Ivel Ward			
Returning Officer (Uncontested Fee)(2791@0.475p ÷ 2)	CBC Scale	70.56	70.56
Clerical Allowance	CBC Scale	189.00)	
Secure disposal of election documents	Nominal	45.00	50.00
Letters, telephone calls, nomination papers, stationery, postage	Nominal	50.00)	
		£354.56	£120.56

1800165614

Sandy Parish
Election - 4 May 2023
Uncontested Charges

SERVICE	AUTHORITY	ALLOWANCE PAYABLE	CHARGED
Pinnacle Ward			
Returning Officer (Uncontested Fee)(3971@0.475p ÷ 2)	CBC Scale	94.31	94.31
Clerical Allowance	CBC Scale	252.00)	
Secure disposal of election documents	Nominal	45.00	50.00
Letters, telephone calls, nomination papers, stationery, postage	Nominal	60.00)	
		£451.31	£144.31
		Chief Executive and Returning Officer	Marcel Coiffait

415.34

Sandy Town Council

Date: 7th August 2023

Title: Salt/Gritter for Sandy Town Council

Contact: Deputy Town Clerk

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider a report on the proposed purchase of a gritter applicator for salting the agreed areas of the Town Centre.

Recommendation

- 2.0 That the Council agrees to purchase either the Glasdon Turbo cast hand push applicator or the towable Wessex FS salt spreader.

Background

- 3.0 At the meeting of the CSE Committee on 13th February 2023 (Minute 73 – 2022/23 refers) it was agreed that any gritting would be confined to the Market Square, with gritting being undertaken during normal office hours with suitable equipment being sourced. The Council would follow the weather forecasts/advice issued by Central Bedfordshire Council. The salt would be provided free of charge by Central Bedfordshire Council. This supply would continue as needed during the winter.
- 3.1 A letter would be sent out to businesses in the late Summer/ early Autumn advising them of our plans.

Proposals

- 4.0 That the Council consider purchasing either of the following:

(a) Glasdon Turbocast 300 grit/salt spreader at a cost of £1,315.35 excluding VAT and the annual maintenance package of £130 with free delivery. Additional costs of £130. This is a hand push spreader that will take white salt, and, in our case, it will take brown 'highway' salt. This is very important that it can use the rock salt.

<https://uk.glasdon.com/winter-safety-equipment/manual-gritters-salt-spreaders/turbocast-300-tm-grit-salt-broadcast-spreader>

(b) Wessex FS – 270 – TP 270L Trailed ATV salt spreader. The electric Vehicle can pull this. The electric vehicle will not carry salt as we are concerned at the corrosiveness of the salt. The purchase price is £1,791.67 excluding VAT with free delivery (estimated 3-week delivery). The winter kit has accurate spreading of salt. The spread limiter can restrict the application width to approximately 1.5m. Unfortunately, it is not considered appropriate for the electric vehicle to tow the

spreader in the footways in the town centre. It would be appropriate for the carpark where the grounds team also spread salt.

The Grounds team have been consulted and favour the pedestrian spreader.

(c) That the winter maintenance policy be reviewed in Spring 2024 to include the effectiveness of the winter maintenance programme, the effects on the workforce and the gritting route.

Financial Implications

5.0 The purchase of a salt/gritter was not planned for in the budget 2022/23. It is required to meet the plans to grit areas of the town centre.

Policy Implications

6.0 The Council is improving its services to the town of Sandy. By providing winter maintenance to the town centre, it will assist businesses and visitors/residents.

Legal Powers

7.0 The actions undertaken are covered by the Localism Act 2011, s.1 the General Power of Competence, for which Sandy Town Council is eligible and is a power of first resort, allowing the Council to do anything an individual can do.

Full Council Meeting

Date:	7th August 2023
Title:	Removal of Trees on Boundary Fence line between Scout Hut and ATC Building
Contact:	Ian Reed, Deputy Town Clerk

Purpose of the Report

1. To receive and consider the costs for the partial re-siting of the fence on the boundary fence line between Scout Hut and ATC Building.

Recommendation

2. That the Council approves the quotation that provides the best quality product while considering value for money. The 2023/24 budget has only allowed a maximum £1,000 spend on recreation grounds so funding would need to come from Rolling Capital.

Background

3. The fence has been severely damaged by mature trees on the boundary line. Therefore before replacing the appropriate stretch of fencing it was proposed by the Community Services and Environment Committee at its meeting in 17th July 2023 to seek quotes for the felling of the two trees – they are self-seeded poplars.

Proposals/Information

4.0 The MOD is particularly concerned about the ongoing safety of the site and is very keen to see the fence repositioned and erected and are happy that the trees are being felled.

4.1 The following quotes were received:

Description	Company	Price
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fell two trees • Grind both stumps • Chip brash • Remove logs 	A	£ 1,240 exc VAT
Sectionally fell and grind out stumps to a maximum of 150 mm below ground level.	B	£960 exc VAT

Financial Implications

5.0 The 2023/24 budget cannot meet the costs of the tree works required. The funding of the works would have to come from capital or be vired from another budget line.

Legal Powers

6.0 The action undertaken is covered by the Localism Act 2011, s.1 the General Power of Competence, for which Sandy Town Council is eligible and is a power of first resort allowing the Council to do anything an individual can do.

Full Council

Date:	7th August 2023
Title:	Legal Fees – Beeston Allotment Agreement for Lease (village site)
Contact:	Nicola Sewell, Town Clerk

Purpose of the Report

1. To receive an email from Woodfines solicitors regarding the suggested Agreement for Lease between STC and CBC for land intended for allotment use in Sandy and to agree to pay for the legal costs to draw up that lease as deferred by PF&R Committee on 24th July 2023.

Recommendation

2. That the Council either agree the legal fees of £1,000 - £1,500 and instruct Woodfines Solicitors to take the Agreement for Lease forward with no further delay or follow the recommendation by CS&E to cease any further negotiations with CBC on the site.

Information/Proposal

3.0 On 12th July the Town Clerk received the following communication from the Council's solicitors Woodfines.

With a view to getting some certainty for STC in relation to allotment land so that this can be communicated and shared, we discussed the proposal of entering into an Agreement for Lease. This is a contractual document between STC and CBC which would state that CBC will give STC a Lease at a future date. The contract could then be condition upon, for example, the completion of the residential development which is set to take place in Autumn 2024. I understand that is CBC's priority. On that basis, we could allow flexibility on both sides within this contract. For example, covering the following points:

- *Allow STC to have certainty that CBC will provide a Lease for allotment land in the future.*
- *Allow CBC to have flexibility on a completion date (to be discussed and agreed).*
- *Specify a long-stop date after which STC, for example, or both parties could walk away.*
- *Allow CBC to offer an alternative site to STC if the Beeston land is not suitable.*
- *Allow STC to have access for carrying out surveys and investigations after entering into the contract and before the start of the Lease to assess if the land is suitable; and*
- *Allow flexibility with termination provisions with both parties.*

I will provide you with a simple form of an Agreement for Lease as an example, together with the areas on which we would need detailed instruction from you. This would cover matters such as the Lease start date, the trigger for the Lease start date, the long-stop date, who has what flexibility to terminate, what access requirements STC would have, and how it would work if the site were not suitable, and we want CBC to offer us an alternative.

I will set out the items on which I will need some detailed instruction from you so that you can pick this up directly with CBC to get some more detailed terms agreed and provide instructions to us. As an approximate estimate on fees, an Agreement for Lease is likely to be in the region of £1,000 - £1,500 + VAT depending upon the complexity and the number of terms that are negotiated between us. This should be a straightforward document which could proceed promptly.

AGENDA ITEM: 16

APPENDIX V

By way of a reminder in relation to the Lease, the matters that are outstanding are as follows:

- *CBC were to provide a final plan.*
- *The level of the indemnity insurance for public liability to be put in place by STC is to be confirmed by CBC; and*
- *Obligations in relations to the fencing of the site is to be confirmed together with the location of a gate for access.*

That summarises the latest position in relation to this matter for you to pick up going forwards and I will make sure that you have these items in advance of the 7th August so that you can liaise with CBC directly and then make some decisions.

3.1 On 17th July 2023 the CS&E Committee met, and the following minutes were noted:

Action List (20-2023/24)

Members received and noted the action list.

The Committee was concerned at the length of time the allotments and Community Orchard, Beeston had been an outstanding item for discussion since 2017. It was also noted the building works at the site had been delayed to September (it was considered this would face another major delay).

It was RESOLVED:

That the Full Council at its meeting on 7th August be recommended to cease negotiations on establishing a lease with CBC further and additional attempts be made by the Town Council to seek allotment land.

Sandy Sports & Leisure Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Sandy Sports & Leisure Association held at 7pm on Thursday 15 June 2023.

PRESENT

Cllr Joanna Hewitt (JH), Town Mayor & Chair, Martin Pettitt (MP), Secretary, Cllr Nigel Aldis (NA), Cllr Michael Scott (MS), Gary Foley (GF), Contracts Manager, Everyone Active, Phillip Rose (PR) Everyone Active Center Manager, Mike Tipper (MT), Tony Payne (AP), Brian Page (BP).

1. **APOLOGIES.** Apologies for absence received from Phil Wood (Treasurer), Peter Waller (Sandy Secondary School), Karen Hayward (Principal Head, SSS).
2. **MINUTES.** The Minutes of the AGM held on 16 June 2022 and of the meeting held on 28 February 2023 were both received and approved as a true record of the respective meetings.
3. **MATTERS ARISING.** None that would not arise under later items on this agenda.
4. **SECRETARYS REPORT.** MJP provided a short verbal report. It had been a quieter year following the refurbishment in 2021 / 2022. Initial problems around submission of the Annual Report to the Charity Commission stemming from the increased income and expenditure associated with the refurbishment and which temporarily lifted SSLA into a larger category charity had been overcome and things should revert to normal when the return for 2022 / 2023 becomes due and we return to the “small” charity category.

MJP reported on the difficulties he had experienced re-establishing contact with David Granger, the contractor who had been lined up to treat the wooden rebound boards towards the end of the refurbishment work. PR indicated that SLL or EA had recently employed Mr Granger. PR had up to date contact details for him and undertook to try and make contact with a view to putting him back in touch with MJP with the hope that the necessary work to the boards might be carried out by him this year.

5. **TREASURERS REPORT.** The Treasurer was unable to attend and sent apologies for absence shortly before the meeting was due to commence. In an email received the following day by MP PW provided a balance statement of our accounts from Barclays dated 30 March 2023, the close of our financial year. This is now attached showing £116,043.72 in the Business Current Account and £1,982.50 in the Business Savings Account. The books currently remain with

Excel Accountants but an end of year Financial Statement will be circulated to all members by MP upon receipt from Excel via. PW inviting the approval and endorsement of all voting members and ahead of submission to the Charity Commission later in the year as referred to in 4. above.

As was discussed at the previous meeting members then moved on to talk about a short to medium term investment of an amount of our reserves in order to earn interest. While we will continue to receive the annual Management Fee from EA to add to reserves and provide some easily accessible cash to meet any unforeseen capital outlays members felt that the opportunity to “use” an amount of present reserves to earn interest should not be overlooked. It was duly proposed by AP and seconded by BP and agreed in principle by voting members to invest £80k for 2 years. MT agreed to liaise with PW as soon as possible to identify a suitable safe product in which to make this investment and to proceed accordingly. All members will be kept fully updated on this item.

Since the meeting a mandate was received by MP from Barclays Bank triggered by PW deleting the former STC Clerk Mr Chris Robson as a bank signatory on the 2 x SSLA accounts and adding Mr Mike Tipper as replacement in addition to PW & MP with all cheques / transfers etc. requiring 2 out of 3 signatures. The mandate was duly signed and returned to Barclays and copied to PW & MT on 29 June 2023.

6. **MANAGEMENT REPORT.** Mr Gary Foley, Contracts Manager for Everyone Active, CBC's new Leisure Management Contractors was welcomed to his first meeting and was introduced to all present. Gary provided an overview of his company with an emphasis on the ethos of EA including the many and various initiatives which are in place to support and encourage sporting and physical activity within in the community. This often includes the involvement of high profile sportsmen and women across a whole range of sports in a mentoring role.

PR provided a Management Report a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

MP asked to be kept in touch with SIS's response vis-a-vis the pitch division net and winch issue.

There were no other questions and Phillip (and Gary) were thanked for the report.

7. **CHAIR OF TRUSTEES REPORT.** The Chair indicated she had no report to present.
8. **ELECTION OF VOTING MEMBERS FOR 2023/2024.** It was proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Scott that the 5 present voting members of the public be reappointed for a further 12 months all having indicated their

willingness to stand again. Accordingly, Philip Wood, Mike Tipper, Brian Page, Tony Payne and Martin Pettitt were duly reappointed leaving 1 vacancy.

9. **APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.**

- SECRETARY. Proposed by NA and seconded by BP that MP be re-elected. There were no other nominations
- TREASURER. Proposed by MP and seconded by AP that PW be re-elected. There were no other nominations.

10. **SANDY TOWN COUNCIL.** Trustee representatives for 2023/2024 appointed at STC Annual Meeting held on Monday 22 May 2023.

- Town Mayor, Cllr J Hewitt (Chair)
- Cllr N Aldis &
- Cllr M Scott.

11. **APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR / ACCOUNTANTS.** It was proposed and seconded that Excel be reappointed. There were no other nominations and Excel were duly reappointed.

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS.** None

13. **DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS.**

- The date of the next routine committee meeting was provisionally agreed for **Tuesday 21 November 2023 at 7pm** probably in the TC Council chamber but perhaps remotely. Decision to be made closer to the date dependent in the main on the likely amount of business.

- Meeting in February 2024 – Date etc. to be agreed at Novembers

Meeting

- 2024 AGM. To be decided

The Chair closed the meeting at 7.55pm.

Up-to-date account information

To get your current balances or find out about other accounts you have that aren't listed here, log on to online banking (if you're registered), or call us on 0345 605 2345 .

Your balances on 30 March 2023

Business Current Accounts

Community Account Statement	£116,043.72
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.....
 Sort Code 20-74-81 • Account No 80007668

Business Savings Accounts

Business Premium Account	£1,982.50
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.....
 Sort Code 20-74-81 • Account No 10996998

This is the end of your account summary.

Everyone Active management report

- Welcome Gary Foley (new central beds contract manager)
- Site Works – Pentaco are on site and have started the Jenkins pavilion refurbishment. This is due for completion spring/summer next year. Currently diverting all the utilities and have started work on the new tractor shed and extending the car park
- Been a busy few months with the take-over, moving from SLL to Everyone Active.

Pitch issues

Someone has wrapped the cable for the halfway line net around the winch again. (Phill has called SIS and is waiting for a quote for someone to come out and have a look and hopefully sort for us).

Youths were climbing the fence or running onto the pitch while it was only being used in one half. (Solution has been found and hopefully will put a stop to this going forwards)

Tractor

No issues reported by my team with regards to the tractor

Padlock code has been received from Pentaco for the fence that is currently around the tractor shed, so we can continue to do the sweeps each week

Financial

Martin, Phil, Heather and Phill sat down before the take over and came to an agreement in what SLL should pay the SSLA for the last few years, hopefully SLL have paid this.

Floodlights

All in good state of repairs currently.

Fencing

All in good state of repair currently



SANDY
Town Council

SANDY TOWN COUNCIL ACTION PLAN 2023/24

The following Action Plan summarises and prioritises the Council’s activities and projects that will continue to be worked on over the remainder of the 2023/24 financial year. The action plan is mainly project based and does not take into account the daily business of the Council, such as routine maintenance and administration, dealing with and carrying out actions resulting from public enquiries, completing training and statutory activities (e.g. internal audit).

Town Council Projects			
Project Title	Actions	Responsibility	Timescales
2023/24 Activities			
Cemetery Extension	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Agree cemetery final design with CDS and get costs for next stage of project. 2) Tender document for landscape contractors goes out 3) Landscaping to start 4) Update for burial regulations to incorporate extended area 5) Landscape work completed 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) CWG 2) Clerk/CWG 3) Clerk/CWG 4) CWG/Admin Team 5) Contractor/CWG W 	<p>July 2023/August 2023</p> <p>Sept 2023</p> <p>Oct/Nov 2023</p> <p>Dec 2023</p> <p>Oct 2024</p>
Jenkins Pavilion Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Construction Phase 2) Agree terms of lease 3) Agree management terms 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) CBC/Penatco/STC 2) STC/CBC/Solicitors 3) STC/CBC/Everyone Active 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
Sandye Place Academy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Ongoing liaison with parties who have decision making power over the future of the facility and joint work with CBC Ward Councillors 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) STC/Clerk/CBC 	<p>Ongoing</p>

	2) Continue to communicate STC’s vision via the Neighbourhood Plan of how Sandye Place could benefit the community and help build a sustainable and well-planned town.	2) STC/Clerk/NHP	Ongoing
Allotments Beeston Village site	1) Pursue lease with CBC regarding allotment land at Beeston (Village Site) 2) Undertake survey of land to understand it’s suitability for allotments 3) Engage National Allotment Society to create a map/plan of the site 4) Work starts on allotment development	1) Clerk/Solicitor/CBC 2) Deputy Clerk 3) STC/NAA/Clerk/BWG 4) Contractor/STC	7 th August 2023 Sept 2023 Oct/Nov 2023 TBD
Provision of Allotments	1) Engage with 3 rd parties to identify appropriate land for lease	1) Clerk/STC/CBC	Ongoing
Community Emergency Action Plan	1) Update the current plan and check all contacts are still relevant 2) Undertake emergency equipment audit 3) Translate plan into new CERT template 4) Have plan checked by BLEVEC members	1) Clerk/Admin 2) Outdoor Team Leader/ Deputy Clerk 3) Clerk/Admin 4) Clerk/BLEVEC	Complete August 2023 August 2023 Sept 2023
EastWest Rail & A1	1) Representatives to attend meetings of neighbouring parishes and with local MP to consider areas of joint concern and priority for STC.	1) STC Reps/Mayor	Ongoing
Sunderland Road Recreation Ground and Bedford Road Recreation Ground Pitch Improvements	1) Engage with Football Foundation regarding funding and surveys of the area 2) Apply for grant 3) Create project plan and schedule for works together with training in conjunction with contractor.	1) Deputy Clerk/Outdoor Team Leader 2) Deputy Clerk/Clerk 3) Deputy Clerk/Clerk/Outdoor team Leader/PitchPower.	Ongoing TBD TBD

Christmas Lights Event	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Determine Project Plan 2) Create event plan and timetable and undertake RA 3) Apply for road closures 4) Engage with stall holders 5) Book entertainment and stage (including Father Christmas) 6) Book First Aid Cover 7) Publicity 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Event Working Group 2) Clerk/Event WG 3) Admin 4) Admin/Event WG 5) Admin/Event WG 6) Admin 7) Admin/Event WG 	<p>July 2023</p> <p>July/Aug 2023</p> <p>Aug/Sept 2023</p> <p>June/Jul 2023</p> <p>July/Aug 2023</p> <p>July/Aug 2023</p> <p>Aug/Sept 2023</p>
Sandy Green Wheel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Agree dates for Green Wheel Walks 2) Mayors Green Wheel Walk 3) Attendance at Friends of Sandy Green Wheel Meetings 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Event WG 2) Event WG 3) STC Reps/Clerk/Deputy Clerk. 	<p>Sept 2023</p> <p>Spring 2024</p> <p>TBD</p>
Office Space Re-organisation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Agree new office layout for Admin Team making best use of available space. 2) Agree any costs with PF&R 3) Undertake move of furniture 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Clerk/Mayor/Admin Team 2) Clerk/PF&R 2) Clerk/Admin Team 	<p>July 2023</p> <p>July 2023</p> <p>Aug 2023</p>

Town Council	
2023/24 Activities	
On-Going Activities/Business as usual	
Council meetings	Agendas, attendance at and minutes of, reports, administration
Council Administration	Administration, printing, stationery orders, cleaning supplies, chamber bookings
Actions	Taking forward actions as agreed in meetings including procurement of equipment and undertaking surveys
Customer/Resident Queries	Administration and response to all queries that come into the Office via post, email, telephone, web enquiries and office walk-ins.
Public Engagement	Creating stories and posts for the website and social media, sending out press releases and proactively seeking opportunities

	to promote the council and its services. Seasonal Newsletter. Designing and undertaking public consultations.
Cemetery Management	Undertaking all aspects of cemetery management from liaising with families, undertakers and stone masons, to the administration of legal documentation and ensuring all burial and memorial records are completed to required standards. Ongoing maintenance of the cemetery area and chapel.
Council Website	Continued maintenance and update
Civic Matters	Honorary Freeman & the Mayor's Award
IT & Office Equipment	Administration and supply
Buildings Maintenance	Maintenance of Council owned estate including 10, Cambridge Road, Public Toilets, Car Park and Depot.
Utilities	Administration and Supply
Vehicles	Administration and Maintenance
Fishing Licences	Administration and Supply
Tourist Bookings	Administration
Human Resources	Payroll, administration of staff annual leave and sick leave, staff recruitment and training, appraisals, and personal development
Museum	Administration of visits to the museum and conducting tours as and when required
Events	Organising and running two seasonal markets, event planning and organisation for larger national events and any other STC Annual Events including Christmas Lights Event and Remembrance Sunday Parade. Other events organised as and when required
Open spaces	Maintenance and upkeep of all open spaces and recreation grounds owned by STC. Administration of land use requests such as fairs, community events, Sandy 10 etc

Town Council

Date:	7th August 2023
Title:	East West Rail Consultation
Contact Officer:	Cllr Nigel Aldis

Purpose of the Report

1. To update Members on the recent consultation event held by the East-West Rail Consortium at Tempsford Village Hall on Friday 7th July 2023.

Recommendation

2. To note the report and the progress made on the project.

Background

3.0 The East Rail Project is to complete a rail route between Oxford and Cambridge formerly known as the “Varsity Line.”

3.1 There are three sections to the route.

Oxford to Bletchley via Bicester Village which is largely re-instated as the route was never completely closed.

Bletchley to Bedford which remained operational as it served the brickfields and the household rubbish tips. (It is currently a bus service as the rail company is in liquidation.)

Bedford to Cambridge via New Tempsford, Camborne and Shepreth (This is a completely new route as the original line has been built on.)

3.2 Five alternative routes were originally proposed including one from the Wixams area south of Bedford across to Sandy.

3.3 An additional proposal was made to route the railway into Bedford station to increase the economic activity of the area. This means that the line will exit the station to the north and turn eastwards through a narrow corridor which involves demolishing 45 houses and building a fifty-metre-high viaduct. It will also need a 1 in 80 gradient to rise above the Paula Radcliffe Way.

3.4 The chosen route line passes through an area to the north of the A428 before swinging south to meet the East Coast mainline at a high-level junction. The line turns north to run in the same direction as the existing line before turning eastwards again and swinging south to pass through Camborne before joining the Hitchin to Cambridge line near Shepreth.

The Consultation

4.0 There were still many questions unanswered by the event.

4.1 No final plans are available for the precise route which the line will take so the chosen option is still a line on a map without details of cuttings, embankments, bridges etc.

4.2 No final decision has been taken on motive power so it might be overhead cables, battery, or hydrogen. Third rail is definitely not an option.

4.3 It was restated that there will only be two freight trains in each direction each day.

4.4 Bedford St Johns will be relocated and become a stopping point for the hospital. This is necessary because the existing route is on a very tight curve which is only suitable for slow moving trains.

4.5 The new station will be built in the hospital car park losing many parking spaces but providing an alternative mode of transport to reach the hospital.

4.6 New Tempsford on the East-West line will be a high-level station with step-free access to the East Coast mainline station below.

4.7 It was suggested that there should be spurs to enable train diversions when engineering work closed a line. This would be the responsibility of Network Rail to implement so it is hoped that some provision would be made for this later addition.

4.8 There is unfounded speculation that Sandy station would close or have a reduced service. This is outside of the scope of the East-West Rail Project, but it seems very unlikely for many reasons.

4.9 The next step is formal consultation in 2024 with the proposal then being determined by the Secretary of State for Transport later in the year.

Town Council

Date:	7th August 2023
Title:	Talk of the Town Community Transport
Contact	Cllr Nigel Aldis

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide members with an update on the Talk of the Town Community Transport Bus (ToTT).

Background

2. The Talk of the Town Community Bus is a town asset which can be used by community groups registered with ToTT. The bus capacity is 14 plus the driver. People in wheelchairs can be carried but seats have to be removed limiting the capacity.

2.1 Current users include Good Neighbours, Night Owls, Sandy Rugby Fans, Good Companions, Bushmead Primary, Park House & Allison House Care Homes.

2.2 The bus can be driven by a qualified driver who is a member of the community group, or a volunteer driver can be provided by ToTT. Drivers over 70 years of age have to be listed on the insurance schedule.

2.3 The charge is £1.20 a mile measured from the bus's home base in Bedford Road for the first 100 miles. It is 60 pence a mile for each subsequent mile.

2.4 Bookings are made with the ToTT administrator, Nigel Aldis (01767) 686758

2.5 Since Covid there has not been a return to the level of bookings previously seen. To break even bookings each week, need to total 200 miles; at present bookings average at 45 miles a week which is unsustainable with fixed costs.

2.6 A safety check has to be done every six weeks whether the bus has been used or not. Then the bus and the tail-gate lift have to be serviced plus vehicle insurance & public liability premium.

SANDY TOWN COUNCIL

Date: 7th August 2023

Title: Sandy Twinning Association

Contact: Cllr Martin Pettitt

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide an update on Sandy Twinning Association.

Summary & Key Bullet Points.

- The previous report was received and considered by members at the annual meeting of Town Council held on Monday 22 May 2023.
- A personal letter was subsequently received from Monsieur Guillaume Coutey, Mayor of Malaunay referring to the visit in April to Sandy which marked the delayed 40th Anniversary of the signing of the Charter. Copies of the letter, a translation of it and our reply are attached for the information of members.
- On Wednesday 14 June a meeting took place attended by members of the present organising group. After a review of the anniversary visit to Sandy and subsequent feedback there followed a long and wide-ranging discussion focussing on the future of the association and our links with both Malaunay and Skarszewy. All those present made known their personal views as well as what they felt was the future of the link, at least in its established format.
- There has been no recent contact with our friends in Skarszewy and hence the rest of this report is in relation to Malaunay only.
- As was to be expected no clear consensus emerged from the 14 June meeting save that it was neither necessary nor sensible to rush to make any decisions and instead to take time to consult further and to ensure that all views and opinions among the wider membership, and even beyond were given equal and fair consideration.
- What became most apparent from this first meeting is (a) the need to recruit / appoint new officers to the association to take it forward and (b) the equally pressing need for new members living in and around Sandy with an interest in visiting our twin town(s) and perhaps forming new long-term friendships.
- Among the present organising group several have indicated a wish to step back with age, mobility issues and yes, fatigue in the role being cited as reasons behind their decisions.
- All involved expressed a firm desire to want remain in contact with long established friends and acquaintances, predominantly in Malaunay but were unsure for how long they would be inclined to want or be fit enough to travel by coach or car for reunions and were realistic enough to accept that many of our French friends face the same dilemmas.
- In the meantime, it seems likely we will receive an invitation to make a visit to Malaunay next Spring and accordingly we will seek to obtain quotes from a minimum of 2 coach companies for a 4-day weekend trip using a medium size coach.
- There was no agreement at this stage that such a visit will happen but when the coach estimates are available a communication will be sent from the group to all

those with existing links to gauge interest but also to urge the need for volunteers and new members if the Association is to survive for a further 40 years!

Cllr M J Pettitt.



Monsieur Martin PEITT



Malaunay, le 17 mai 2023

Affaire suivie par MH BOUTINAUD

secretariatdumaire@malaunay.fr

N/REF : GC/LF/MHB

Objet : Jumelage

Monsieur le Maire,

Les échanges entre nos deux villes, soutenus par les membres du Comité de Jumelage, n'ont jamais cessé depuis 40 ans.

Récemment encore, vous avez eu l'occasion de vous retrouver pour célébrer ces années d'amitié qui n'ont jamais connu la moindre défaillance. Je n'ai malheureusement pas pu me joindre à vous mais je suis certain que l'occasion se représentera. Je sais combien ces moments de partage sont précieux et renforcent les liens déjà bien solides entre nos deux villes.

Vous avez eu la gentillesse d'offrir un présent à la Ville de Malaunay et je vous en suis reconnaissant. M. DEVILLERS, Président du Comité de Jumelage, viendra me remettre officiellement cette magnifique boîte à lettres que j'ai pu admirer en photo à la fin du mois de mai. Ce moment sera bien entendu immortalisé et une photo souvenir vous sera adressée.

Encore un grand merci à vous et à tous ceux qui œuvrent à Sandy pour l'amitié entre nos deux villes.

Je vous prie de croire, Monsieur le Maire, à l'assurance de mes sincères salutations.

Cordialement,

Guillaume COUTEY,

Maire de Malaunay
Conseiller Départemental



Bonjour Martin,

Here is the translation of Mr Cotey's letter:

(By the way, the gift of an English red letterbox was a brilliant idea! - both as an English symbol and as a communication symbol)

Exchanges between our two towns, supported by members of the twinning associations, have never ceased for 40 years.

Recently, all of you had the opportunity to see each other again to celebrate all these years of friendship which has never shown any weakening sign. I could not, regrettably, join you this time, but I am certain another occasion will come. I know how precious these times of sharing are, and how they strengthen the links between our two towns.

You very kindly offered a present to the town of Malaunay, and I am very grateful for it. Mr Devillers, president of the Twinning Association, will come and officially give me this magnificent letterbox, of which I saw pictures at the end of May. This moment will of course be permanently recorded, and a photo will be sent to you.

Again, huge thanks to you and to all those who work to keep this friendship alive between our towns.

Yours sincerely

Literally: 'Please believe in the assurance of my sincere greetings'
(the formal French language has a very long and convoluted way of saying goodbye in a letter...)

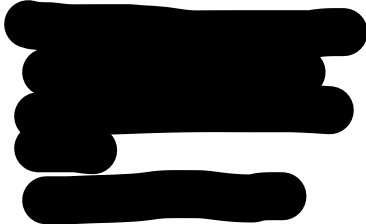
Bien amicalement
Francoise



SANDY
Town Council



Monsieur Guillaume Coutey



FRANCE

11th June 2023

Dear Mayor Coutey,

Thank you so much for your kind letter together the extremely supportive and welcome comments set out in it.

It was indeed a great pleasure in my dual role as Sandy Town Mayor and acting Chair of Sandy Twinning Association to be able to greet the party of our friends from Malaunay over the weekend of 28 April – 1 May.

It would seem to be the case that the 40th Anniversary Celebration Dinner was thoroughly enjoyed by all those who attended and at which there were many tributes and mutual expressions of sincerity around the friendships which have been formed and have endured, in some cases for several decades.

I should not allow this opportunity to pass without again thanking all those in Malaunay who worked so hard to make this visit happen; Mr Jean-Marie Devilliers and Mme Mireille Poulain in particular.

On behalf of Sandy Town Council but most especially of the Twinning Association it was a particular delight to have been a part of the organising group which in addition to planning the visit also decided upon the letterbox as a suitable gift to mark this very special occasion. We are so pleased that you feel it was in the circumstances an appropriate choice and we look forward to both seeing a photograph but also to seeing it in situ when next visiting Malaunay.



My 2 year term in office as Mayor came to an end on Monday 22 May when at the Annual Town Meeting Cllr Joanna Hewitt was elected to succeed me to the position of Town Mayor and naturally I have passed your letter to Cllr Hewitt along with a copy of this reply.

Yours Most Sincerely

Cllr Martin Pettitt
Sandy Town Mayor
2021-2023