

# Sandy Town Council

**To: Cllrs P N Aldis, P Blaine, A Gibson, J Hewitt, A M Hill, W Jackson, T Knagg, R Lock, C Osborne, S Paterson, 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 online on Monday 12 April 2021 at 7.30pm for the purpose of transacting the items of business below.**



Chris Robson  
Town Clerk  
10 Cambridge Road  
Sandy  
SG19 1JE  
01767 681491  
7<sup>th</sup> April 2021

## **Notes:**

- (1) Due to the current Covid-19 Coronavirus situation, the Town Council will meet virtually via Zoom (<https://zoom.us/>) as permitted in The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 (“the 2020 Regulations”).
- (2) Meeting ID: 822 8283 6160  
  
Press and public are cordially invited to attend. Those wishing to join the meeting should contact the clerk on [clerk@sandytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@sandytowncouncil.gov.uk) in advance for the meeting password.
- (3) Members of the public wishing to address the Council during the public participation part of the formal meeting must make the Clerk aware of their intention before the meeting starts.

## **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.)*

# Sandy Town Council

*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*

## **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 previous Town Council meetings**

To receive the Minutes of the meeting of Sandy Town Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 1st March 2021 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) Community, Services and Environment Committee held on 8 March 2021

**RESOLVED to Recommend** that the Council make a pledge to be part of WildEast's land commitment.

- ii) Development Scrutiny Committee held on 8 March 2021 & 29 March 2021
- iii) Human Resources Committee held on 22 March 2021
- iv) Policy, Finances and Resources Committee held on 29 March 2021

## **6 Reports from Central Bedfordshire Councillors**

To receive reports from Sandy's Central Bedfordshire Councillors.

## **7 Decision Making after 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

The regulations that currently allow local authorities to hold meetings remotely until 6 May 2021 will not, at present, be extended by the Government. To consider a report detailing options to enable effective, legal decision making until such times as face-to-face meetings can safely resume.

Appendix I

# Sandy Town Council

- 8 Church Wall Repair**  
To receive and consider quotes on repairs to the St Swithuns church yard wall. Appendix II
- 9 Sandy Cricket Club – Artificial Wicket**  
To receive a report on the Cricket Club’s grant application for a new artificial wicket at Sunderland Road. Appendix III
- 10 Action List**  
To receive and note an action list on Full Council items. Appendix IV
- 11 Neighbourhood Development Plan**  
To receive and consider a report from the Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group. Appendix V
- 12 Street Audit**  
To receive and note a written update from Cllr Pettitt on the street audit carried out by Councillors. To follow
- 13 Leisure Services**  
To note that Town Councillors are invited to a meeting be held with Central Bedfordshire Council Leisure Services on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021.
- 14 Correspondence**  
To receive correspondence from Mid Bedfordshire Citizen’s Advice. Appendix VII
- 15 Consultations**
- i) To receive and consider a Statutory Notice from Central Bedfordshire Council on proposed changes to the speed limit along Station Road, Sandy Appendix VIII
  - ii) To receive and consider a Statutory Notice from Central Bedfordshire Council on a proposed raised table at Station Road, Sandy Appendix IX
  - iii) To receive and consider a Public Notice from Central Bedfordshire Council on the introduction of disabled badge holders only parking at Churchill Way, Sandy. Appendix X
  - iv) To receive communication from Central Bedfordshire Council on the East West Rail consultation. Information on the consultation can be found at;  
<https://eastwestrail.co.uk/consultation> Appendix XI

# Sandy Town Council

## **16 Reports from Councillors on Outside Bodies**

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

- i) To receive and note a report from Councillor Max Hill on the SSLA. Appendix XII
- ii) To receive and note a report from Councillor Max Hill on the Sandy Twinning Association. Appendix XIII
- iii) To receive a verbal report from Councillor Max Hill on the Greensand Country Plan

## **17 News Release**

## **18 Chairman's Items**

## **19 Date of Next Full Council Meeting: 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**Sandy Town Council**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> April 2021</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Decision Making After 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Chris Robson, Town Clerk</b>

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To receive a report from the Town Clerk on the regulations that currently allow local authorities to hold meetings remotely until 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and the implications

**Recommendation**

2. That the Council agree an option to manage meetings from 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**Background**

3. The regulations that currently allow local authorities to hold meetings remotely until 6 May 2021 will not be extended by the Government, and so face-to-face meetings will need to resume from 7 May.
4. The legislation has already been extended in Wales, so Parish and Town Councils there can continue to meet and make decisions virtually.
5. The Association of Democratic Services Officers (ADSO), Lawyers in Local Government (LLG) and Hertfordshire County Council have lodged a legal challenge in the High Court that seeks a continuation of local authority remote meetings beyond the 6 May 2021. The date for this challenge to be heard in the courts is not known, and the outcome not guaranteed and so the Council needs to consider how it wishes to move forward.
6. There is also still much uncertainty around how legislation or COVID-19 risks and restrictions may change over the coming weeks and months.
7. NALC's position remains that all local councils should continue to meet remotely while the regulations are in force. The guidance in **Annex 1** has been written to help local councils prepare for remote council meetings being unlawful from 7 May 2021.

**Proposals/Information**

8. The Council has several options it could consider taking;

**Option 1 - Continue to meet virtually**

9. Although, technically not permitted, this route is being suggested by some other Councils, including large authorities. Although the risk of legal challenge is low, decisions could be challenged in the courts as ultra-vires.
10. The 1960 Admission to Meetings Act and the Local Government Act 1972 are understandably silent on the matter of online meetings. In the most recent correspondence from Government, they have advised that public attendance at Council meetings should continue to happen online for the time being where possible. In other words, online openness to the public is neither prohibited nor enabled by the 1960 or 1972 Acts.

11. There is existing case law that says that "a valid meeting normally consist of people who can both see and hear each other" (Byng v London Life Association (1989) 1 All ER 560) and back in March 2012 the government acknowledged this in their advice to charities about attendance at meetings. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/charities-and-meetings-cc48/charities-and-meetings#the-definition-and-forms-of-a-meeting>

### **Option 2 - Temporary Scheme of Delegation to the Clerk**

12. Delegating authority to make decisions to the Clerk, backed up by the meetings schedule running as usual. This would mean that Committee and Full Council meetings could go ahead virtually and instead of making decisions, would recommend decisions on agenda items to the Town Clerk, who would then enact those recommendations under the temporary delegation (draft Scheme of Delegation in Annex 2.) The scheme would remain in place until Councillors decided that a return to face-to-face meetings was safe, or that the delegation should cease for any other reason.
13. An Annual Meeting of Council (which legally must be held in May) would need to be held on 04/05/06 May and include two items which cannot be delegated to the Clerk – the election of Chair and the election of Vice-Chair. Other business usually conducted at the Annual Meeting, such as committee membership, election of Committee Chairmen and Council representatives on outside bodies could also be transacted.
14. The only other item that cannot be delegated to the Clerk is the signing off of the Annual Governance and Audit statements. This needs to be done by 30 June and we will need to think of a route for this depending on Covid regulations at the time. A meeting of Full Council to sign off the AGAR is scheduled for 28 June 2021. It may be possible to hold a face-to-face meeting at that time, alternatively a single item meeting with a pre-agreed quorate in attendance, or a meeting in a larger venue or outdoors where social distancing can be adhered to.
15. A Temporary Scheme of Delegation is included in **Annex 2** of this report.

### **Option 3 - Hold face-to-face meetings**

16. This would be in line with the advice from NALC, as detailed in Annex 1.
17. The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Steps) (England) Regulations 2021 includes an exception (exception 3) that a gathering is allowed where it is necessary for certain purposes which include "for work purposes or the provision of voluntary or charitable services." Members/officers attending a meeting would fall under this. Additionally, in the letter dated 25 March 2021 from Luke Hall MP, recommendations are given on how to hold safe Council meetings, which infers that it would be legal to hold them.
18. However, provision should be made to enable the public to view the meeting on Facebook and currently the Council does not have the technology in place to allow this to happen to a high enough quality.
19. The holding of face-to-face meetings could pose a reputational risk to the Council if public perception is that these should not be held until restrictions are lifted. The Council will also need to take into account any concerns of those attending over returning to face-to-face meetings whilst restrictions are still in place. Particularly those who are unvaccinated, have been shielding, or have other health concerns.
20. The Council Chamber would not be able to accommodate all Councillors and required officers while observing the government's guidance to social distancing and face-to-face meetings. It may be possible to try and book a larger venue to accommodate a face-to-face meeting. However, the venue must be

big enough to accommodate any public who may attend as well as Councillors and staff. Alternatively, some parish Councils are considering use of outdoor meetings.

**Financial Implications**

21. There are no financial implications at this time. However, if the Council were to wish to pursue a route of holding face-to-face meetings, there would need to be an investment in technology to ensure that the public could still view the meetings remotely.

**Legal Powers**

22. The following powers apply;

- The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) Regulations 2020.
- Local Government Act 1972, sch 12

**Risk Management**

23. After the 6 May 2021 decisions made at virtually held meetings may be open to challenge as ultra-vires. The Council should ensure that its Annual Meeting of Council is not subject to a potential challenge and as such holding the meeting virtually on 04/05/06 May would be advisable.

## Annex 1 – NALC advice

To help local councils prepare for this possibility some advice and suggestions are below:

- Consider what council business can be conducted before May so that the council can dedicate time to those issues in remote meetings. The more discussion and decisions you can conduct in remote meetings means the council can aim to hold fewer and shorter face to face meetings after May.
- This may require more meeting time than is currently planned, so the council should look at the meeting schedule in the run-up to May and see if more time or more meetings are required. Where possible, consider holding the annual council meeting and the parish meeting while the current Regulations permit for them to be held remotely.
- Consider when the council does need to meet face to face, and whether meetings can be delayed to later in the year when the potential COVID-19 risk may be further reduced.
- The council might consider holding a remote meeting as late as possible in April so that councillors who are unable to attend face-to-face meetings will have as much time as possible before disqualification by virtue of s.85 of the Local Government Act 1972 becomes an issue.
- It may help the council's business continuity to delegate certain decisions to the Clerk, which would be especially important if the council were unable to hold meetings due to COVID-19 risks. In reviewing/adopting a scheme of delegation the council should ensure there is clarity around which decisions are delegated and which are not, for how long the scheme of delegation is in place, and when the scheme of the delegation will end or be reviewed.

From May 2021, as face-to-face council meetings resume there will still be the risk to attendees of COVID-19 exposure. Councils should conduct a risk assessment in advance of a face to face meeting which should give consideration to what the council can do to reduce risk to councillors, staff and public including:

- Providing hand sanitiser to those entering the meeting room and making sure hand sanitiser is readily available in the room itself
- Staggering arrival and exit times for staff, councillors and members of the public
- Putting a one way system in place (additional security staff will be needed)
- Placing seating at least 2-metres apart
- Ensuring everyone wears face masks
- Holding paperless meetings
- The sharing of papers should be discouraged and people should be asked to take the papers etc with them at the end of the meeting to minimise how many people handle them
- Arranging seating so people are not facing each other directly
- Choosing a venue with good ventilation, including opening windows and doors where possible
- Choosing a large enough venue to allow distancing – this may mean choosing a different venue to what the council used before e.g. Pavilion or school.
- The council (or venue owner/operator) will need to identify the venue's maximum capacity in their risk assessment, taking into account the need for social distancing. Consider how the council will ensure this capacity is not exceeded and how it will manage the situation if more people wish to attend than capacity allows. For example, could meetings be live-streamed or could members of the public submit questions via email?
- If the venue has an NHS QR code to support test and trace then all attendees should register using that app, for those without access to the app they should



register attendance in line with the venue's test and trace procedure. NB all venues in hospitality, the tourism and leisure industry, close contact services, community centres and village halls must have a **test and trace procedure**

- Venues must conform with the government guidance for **multi-purpose community facilities** and for **council buildings**. If the venue is run by the council then the council must take responsibility for this, otherwise, the council can ask the venue to provide confirmation that they do conform to this guidance
- The council must understand and ensure it is acting in compliance with the latest government **safer workplaces guidance**

#### Managing staff:

- It would be advisable to inform the clerk and any other staff whose role involves supporting or attending council meetings, as soon as possible that the council will need to prepare to return to face to face meetings. This will allow them to make the necessary preparations as described above, and also to allow time to engage with staff to alleviate any concerns they may have related to attending physical meetings again.
- Councils should consult with staff about returning to work as part of their preparations for face to face meetings.
- The council must make the workplace (including council meetings) as safe as possible for staff, this includes undertaking a risk assessment, taking reasonable steps to reduce risks identified in the risk assessment, and ensure it is acting in compliance with the latest Government **safer workplaces guidance**
- ACAS have produced useful **guidance for employers and employees** related to COVID-19, including advice on how to support staff to **return to the workplace** and how to manage situations where staff may be worried or not wish to return.

Government advice is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-council-buildings>

## Annex 2 – Temporary Scheme of Delegation

### Temporary Scheme of Delegation

1. Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides:
  - That a Council may delegate its powers (except those incapable of delegation) to a committee or an officer.
  - A Committee may delegate its powers to an officer.
2. Any delegation to a Committee or the Proper Officer shall be exercised in compliance with the Council's Standing Orders, any other policies or conditions imposed by the Council and within the law.
3. The Proper Officer may nominate another named Officer to carry out any powers and duties, which have been, delegated to that Officer.
5. In an emergency the Proper Officer is empowered to carry out any function of the Council
6. Where officers are contemplating any action under delegated powers, which is likely to have a significant impact in a particular area, they should also consult the Members, and must ensure that they obtain appropriate legal, financial and other specialist advice before action is taken.

#### Delegation to The Proper Officer

7. As a temporary measure, to allow for effective decision making whilst Covid-19 restrictions and considerations are in place, the Proper Officer may be empowered to take any and all decisions recommend to them by the relevant Committee or Full Council
8. This empowerment does not affect the delegations already in place via Standing Orders or Financial regulations.
9. The Proper Officer may not take additional decisions that would normally be taken by a Committee or Full Council unless that Committee or Full Council has met in a meeting suitably convened under the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972, and made available to the public to view (where not covered by confidentiality) and expressly agreed for that decision to be enacted via this temporary delegation.

#### Full Council matters

9. The following items are reserved for Full Council decision only and cannot be delegated to an Officer.
  - To appoint the Chairman and Vice-Chairman in May each year
  - To sign off the Governance Statement by 30 June each year
  - To set the Precept
  - To appoint the Head of Paid Service (Town Clerk)
  - To borrow money
  - To consider any matter required by law to be considered by Council

**Policy, Finance and Resources Committee**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> April 2021</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Church Wall</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Chris Robson, Town Clerk</b>

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To receive and consider a report on repairs to a boundary wall between St Swithun's church yard and a residential property.

**Recommendation**

2. That the Council consider quotes received which will be provided by the Clerk at the meeting and agree for repair work to be undertaken by a preferred contractor.

**Background**

3. It was reported to the Policy, Finance and Resources Committee that repair work is required a boundary wall with the St Swithun's Church Yard. The Clerk informed the committee that although contractors had viewed the site, quotes had not been received at the time of the committee meeting. It was agreed that the matter go to Full Council if quotes were received in time.
4. Sandy Town Council is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the St Swithun's churchyard. This is because the churchyard is a 'closed' churchyard. Under the relevant legislation the Council must "maintain the churchyard in decent order...keep the walls and the fences in good repair, and effective for their purpose." The legislation states that there is an obligation to keep all fences and walls in good repair, "even at great expense"
5. Two sections of a boundary wall with a residential property, towards the back of the churchyard, have fallen and require repair. The wall is part of the churchyard. Builders have viewed the wall and advised that the two sections can be repaired and made safe without the need to replace or take down other parts of the wall. Other sections will require work in the future, but can be done in stages over the coming years.

**Proposals/Information**

6. At the point of issuing this report only one quote had been received. This quote, along with any others received will be reported to the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021.
7. The work required to be undertaken is the repair of 10sqm of sandstone wall, using existing stones and additional materials as required.

**Financial Implications**

8. The costs of the repair work are likely to exceed the £1,000 property maintenance revenue budget set aside for the cemetery and churchyard. Costs can be applied to the revenue budget code and the overspend monitored during the year as part of the overall cost centre expenditure. Alternatively, the Council could approve the repair works from the rolling capital fund.

**Other Implications**

N/A

**Policy Implications**

9. There are no implications for agreed policies. However, the council has a responsibility to maintain the asset and ensure it is safe.

**Legal Powers**

10. Local Government Act 1972, s.215

**Author: C Robson**

**clerk@sandytowncouncil.gov.uk**

**Sandy Town Council**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> April 2021</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Sandy Cricket Club – New Artificial Wicket</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Chris Robson, Town Clerk</b>

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To note information from the Town Clerk on a grant funding application being made by Sandy Cricket Club to purchase and install a new artificial wicket at Sunderland Road.

**Recommendation**

2. To support the Sandy Cricket Club's investment in the cricket facility and issue a written letter of support to accompany the club's grant application.

**Background**

3. Sandy Cricket Club are based at the Sunderland Road recreation ground and have a lease with the Council in regard to the cricket pitch and outfield. Changes to the facilities/s should be brought to the Council and permission sought. The new artificial pitch is a replacement of the existing.
4. Sandy Cricket Club wish to install a new artificial wicket as part of the Sunderland Road cricket wicket and the club's ongoing investment in cricket in Sandy. The club are moving forward with an application for funding to cover the purchase & installation of the proposed new artificial wicket.

**Proposals/Information**

5. The artificial wicket was laid 20 years ago and now realistically needs replacing. The club have had discussions with a supplier and investigated funding streams that may be available.
6. As noted in point 4, the installation of a new artificial wicket would benefit the club, Sandy's cricket players and young county players who use the pitch as part of the club's engagement with County Cricket.

**Financial Implications**

7. There are no financial implications for the Council.

**Legal Powers**

8. Sandy Town Council is eligible and holds the General Power of Competence, for which is a power of first resort (Localism Act 2011, s.1)

**Risk Management**

9. Any work undertaken would be managed by the cricket club and their chosen supplier/contractor in line with risk assessments and works agreed between the parties.

**AGENDA ITEM 10**

**APPENDIX IV**

**Town Council - Action list**

Subject	Action to be taken		Response/ Agenda no.
	Minute	Action	
<b>Meeting 9/11/15</b>			
East West Rail Link	(89-15/16)	Town Council strongly support the East West rail link coming through Sandy and to lobby the relevant authorities.	Consultation on potential routes has been launched. Consultation on agenda for discussion.
<b>Meeting 21/5/18</b>			
A1 – Local Issues	(19-18/19)	To push for decisions on the future of the A1 and action on safety and environmental issues.	5/3/21 - Letter issued to local MP's office on issues around New Road junction and potential action which could be taken. Request that MP supports and lobbies for action.
<b>Meeting 17/12/18</b>			
Sandye Place Academy	(142-18/19)	That the Town Council place on record its opposition to any future residential development on the site and all other aspects the site could be used for as highlighted in the Council's Community Plan and that CBC Ward Councillors support the Council's position.	The Council previously met with Mr Keaveney and continued to engage with CBC to put forward residents' concerns and Sandy's needs as part of a CBC Option Appraisal. Lack of formal response to STC's options report raised in a letter to CBC's Director of Children's Services and in meetings with Richard Fuller MP and Cllr Richard Wenham, Leader of CBC. Council has pushed for updates from CBC and a meeting to discuss.
<b>Meeting 14/12/20</b>			
Councillor Street Audit	(77-20/21)	Members to carry out an audit of streets and report back concerns or areas in need of attention to Cllr Pettitt, who will compile a report.	Members submitted audit feedback to Cllr Pettitt. Update report including in Agenda Item 12.

**Sandy Town Council**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> April 2021</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Cllr Amanda Gibson, Steering Group Chair</b>

**Purpose of the Report**

1. This is the third Neighbourhood Steering Group report for STC. The purpose is to provide Members with an update on progress that is being made and the key actions at each Council meeting as agreed in the Terms of Reference. Since the last full meeting of Council, the Steering Group has held one meeting and a series of working group meetings to progress actions agreed at the meeting.

**Recommendation**

2. That the Council note the information within the report.

**Background/ Detailed Information**

3. The Steering Group is making progress and has started to put together a time-line and detailed action plan. At present we expect the process will take 2 to 3 years with the final year being formal consultation and approval of the plan before a referendum.
4. Short term the focus is on raising awareness with residents and all stakeholders that we are starting a process that will lead to a formal consultation.
5. We have established a social media presence both on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, with 3 administrators. We may do some targeted advertising which is relatively inexpensive and can be used to prove that we've consulted widely.
6. A logo has been created to build recognition in the community. This will be used on all correspondence once finalised.
7. A short video is in progress that will also be used to raise awareness. Press releases will also be made to local papers, bulletin and villager magazines
8. The Post Office will allow us to use space above the counter to advertise and we are talking to landlords to see if we can use vacant premises for a display in the town.
9. Our first engagement with the public will be on 31 May at the Spring Craft Market. The NP Steering Group will use the community stand to promote our group and start to get feedback on what's important for our residents. Display boards will explain what a Neighbourhood Plan is, have maps of Sandy and data about population etc.
10. Topics for consideration to be included in the Plan
  - Use of Land
  - Infrastructure & Transportation
  - Environmental Improvement
  - Town Centre (including SPA)
  - Employment & Training
  - Leisure & Culture
  - Crime & Safety
11. Next meeting is 15<sup>th</sup> April 2021



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[www.midbedscab.org.uk](http://www.midbedscab.org.uk)

Mr Chris Robson  
Town Clerk  
Sandy Town Council  
3 April 2021

Dear Mr Robson  
Grant request for Home Visiting and Benefit Specialist Project 'Outreach'

This letter is to ask whether the Council would consider awarding grant towards funding the above project which costs £18,000 per annum to run.

You may recall that the project has been in place over 20 years and is designed to meet the needs of the very vulnerable members of the community who need our help and are unable to get to our offices. These are mainly the elderly and those suffering from physical or mental disabilities. The service has always provided home visits plus specialist benefit casework advice particularly where there are complex application forms to be completed and appeals to be made. The service is manned 15 hours per week by an experienced Outreach Worker plus a volunteer who focuses on the completion of complex disability benefit application forms. Outreach does not form part of our core funding grant and so we have a rolling programme to raise the funding needed for the project.

The COVID situation for the last 12 months has severely affected the whole of our advice activities as the lockdowns have meant that we cannot see clients at our offices and no home visits can be made by Outreach. However within a few days of the initial lockdown we were able to set up the service using telephone advice with all staff and volunteers working from home.

In the last 11 months the overall service has helped 1,561 clients through telephone advice; 113 of these were from Sandy. The Outreach team have employed a number of ingenious work-rounds and have managed to assist 191 clients during the same period; 8 were from Sandy. We hope to start home visits again when lockdown eases.

We should be very grateful for any grant amount that you are able to donate. We are happy to complete a formal grant application form.

Yours sincerely

Christina King  
Chief Officer

Citizens Advice Mid Bedfordshire is an operating name of Mid Bedfordshire Citizens Advice Bureau. Charity registration number 1109976. Company limited by guarantee. Registered number 5351800 England. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority FRN: 617668. Registered office: Century House, Biggleswade.



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## East West Rail (EWR) Consultation

Partnerships Community & Engagement Team <Partnerships.CommunityEngagementTeam@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk>

• Partnerships Community & Engagement Team  
<Partnerships.CommunityEngagementTeam@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk>

Dear Chair and Clerk,

The East West Rail Company, which was established by the government to deliver the East West Rail link between Oxford and Cambridge, has launched its non-statutory public consultation on their proposals for the new railway between Bletchley and Cambridge, via Bedford.

You can view the consultation here <https://eastwestrail.co.uk/consultation>

We welcome this significant investment in transport infrastructure, particularly if it supports the delivery of a wider network of sustainable transport links that will benefit our existing and expanding communities. This investment will also be important for the development of our existing local economy and make us an attractive area for new businesses which will also benefit our residents. We are concerned about the impact some of the options being considered would have on the communities on the Marston Vale line. Whilst we understand there is a balance to be struck between connecting thriving communities for the future and making some compromises, we want the best for our communities. This is a once in a generation investment in infrastructure and there is a real opportunity to explore truly ambitious solutions to maximise the benefits to our residents and businesses and minimise the impact as far as possible.

The East West Rail Company's consultation is open until 9 June 2021 so we will consider the proposals fully and listen to the community before responding to the consultation. We would encourage you to share the proposals with your communities as far and as wide as possible. The East West Rail Company will continue to carry out briefings with ward and parish councillors, as well as residents and community groups, along the proposed route.

Regards

Andrew

**Andrew Davie**

Assistant Director - Development Infrastructure  
Place and Communities Directorate

**Central Bedfordshire Council** Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, Bedfordshire, SG17 5TQ

| Email: Partnerships Community & Engagement

Team [Partnerships.CommunityEngagementTeam@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Partnerships.CommunityEngagementTeam@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)



# PUBLIC NOTICE

## **CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PROPOSES TO INTRODUCE AND EXTEND A 20MPH SPEED LIMIT IN AND AROUND STATION ROAD, SANDY**

Reason for proposal: The speed limit is intended to reduce the speed of traffic entering and leaving the built-up area and is being promoted in combination with other speed reducing measures, i.e. Raised Tables.

Effect of the Order:

### **To extend the 20mph Speed Limit on the following lengths of road in Sandy:-**

1. Station Road, from just south its junction with High Street/B1042 and extending in a southerly direction for approximately 350 metres, up to a point just north of the entrance to Tesco car park.

### **To introduce a 20mph Speed Limit on the following lengths of road in Sandy:-**

1. Woolfield, full length.
2. Brandreth Place, full length.
3. Spencer Road, full length.
4. Willow Rise, full length.
5. Roman View, full length.

Further Details may be viewed online at [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices).

Comments should be sent in writing to the Traffic Management team at the address below or e-mail [highways.consultation@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highways.consultation@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) by 23 April 2021 and **must quote unique reference number A00096**.

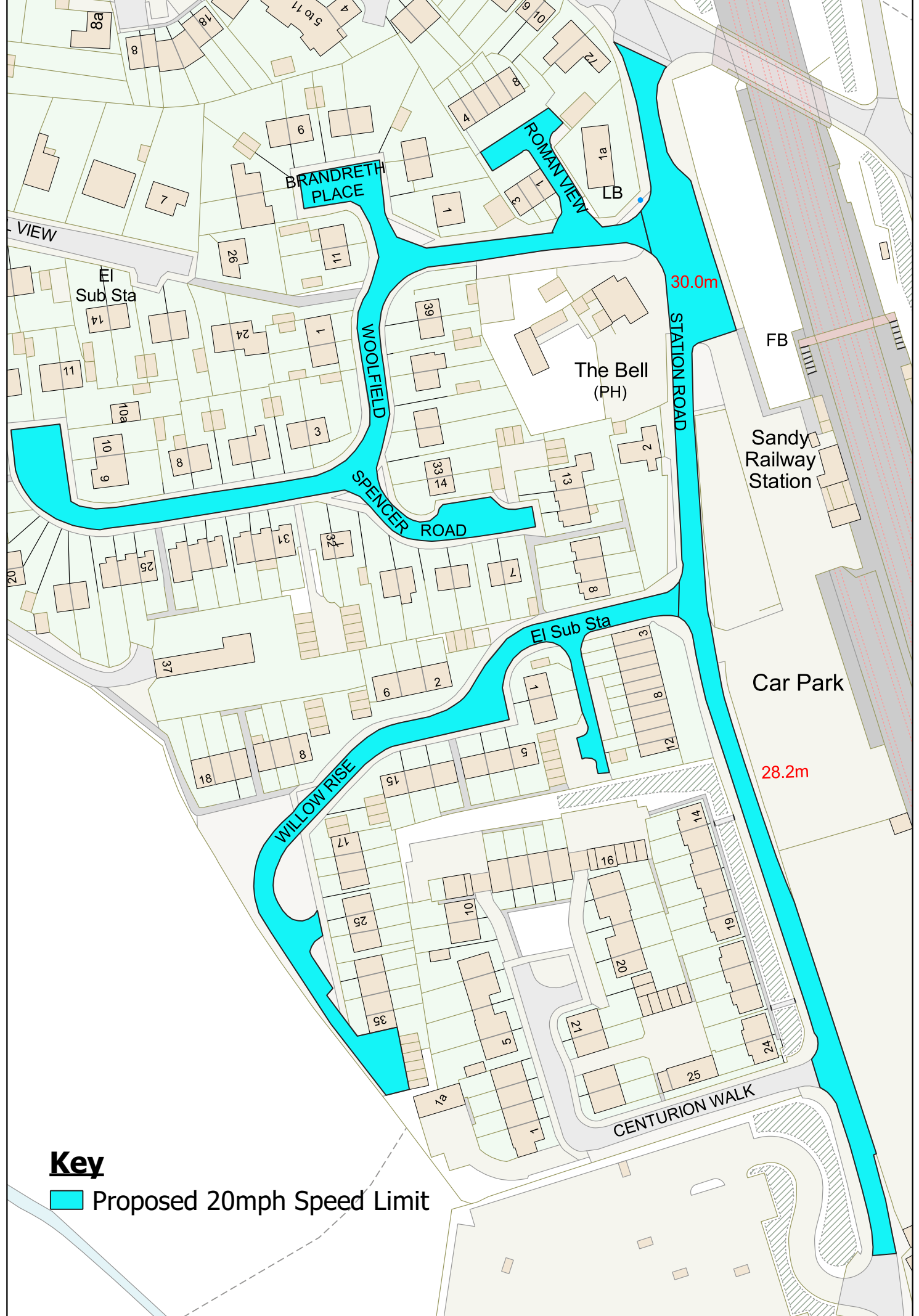
Please note that any comments received will be redacted of personal information and uploaded onto the Central Bedfordshire Council website as part of a report on the scheme a few days before the proposal is discussed at the relevant Traffic Management Meeting, where it will remain in the public domain. If you do not wish for your comments to be part of the report please state this explicitly within your response.

Order Title If made will be "Central Bedfordshire Council (Station Road, Sandy) (20mph Speed Limit) Order 202\*\*"

Central Bedfordshire Council  
Priory House  
Services  
Chicksands  
Shefford SG17 5TQ

Jill Dickinson  
Assistant Director of Community

02 April 2021



**Key**

 Proposed 20mph Speed Limit

# PUBLIC NOTICE



## **CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PROPOSES TO INSTALL TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES STATION ROAD, SANDY**

Notice is hereby given that Central Bedfordshire Council, in exercise of its powers under Section 90 A-I of the Highways Act 1980 and all other enabling powers, propose to construct a Raised Table. This proposal is part of a scheme to reduce traffic speeds and create a safer environment for all road users.

**A Raised Table at a nominal height of 75mm and approximately 8 metres long, including ramps, extending across the full width of the road is proposed to be sited at the following location in Sandy:-**

1. Station Road, at a point approximately 20 metres north of its junction with Woolfield.

Further Details may be viewed online at [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices).

Comments should be sent in writing to the Traffic Management team at the address below or e-mail [highways.consultation@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highways.consultation@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) by 23 April 2021 and **must quote unique reference number A00096B**.

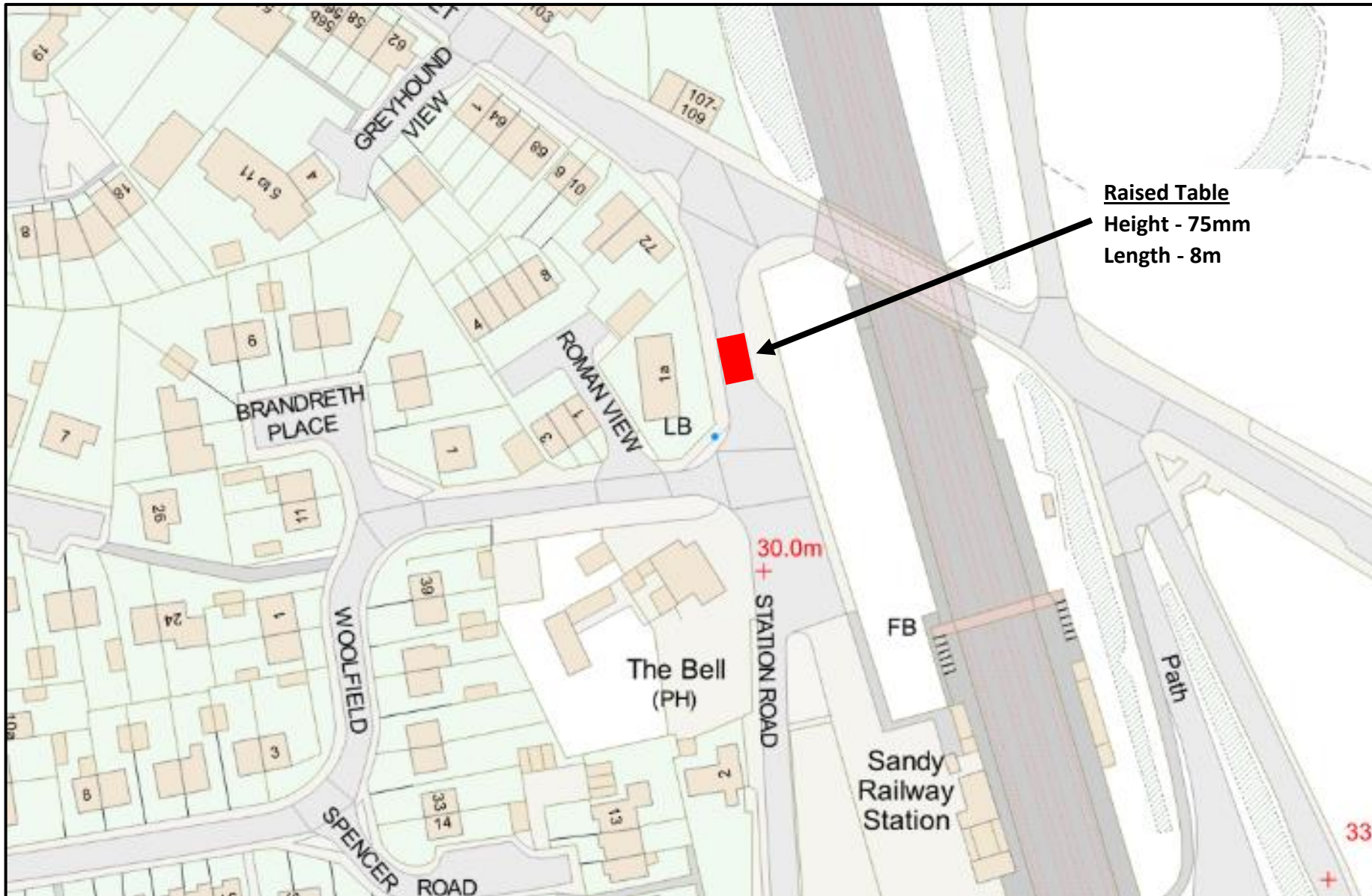
Please note that any comments received may be redacted of personal information and uploaded onto the Central Bedfordshire Council website as part of a report on the scheme a few days before the proposal is discussed at the relevant Traffic Management Meeting, where it will remain in the public domain. If you do not wish for your comments to be part of the report please state this explicitly within your response.

Central Bedfordshire Council  
Priory House  
Chicksands  
Shefford SG17 5TQ

Jill Dickinson  
Assistant Director of Community Services

02 April 2021

## Proposed Location of Raised Table



# PUBLIC NOTICE



## **CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL PROPOSES TO INTRODUCE DISABLED PARKING SPACES AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN NORTH CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE**

Reason for proposal: The disabled parking spaces would provide a dedicated place for blue badge holders to park.

Effect of the Order:

### **To introduce Parking for Disabled badge holders only on the following areas: -**

1. Banks Close, Marston Moretaine, south-west side, from a point opposite the common boundary of nos. 20 and 22 Banks Close south-eastwards, covering an area of approximately 5 metres in length and 2.7 metres in width at a 90° angle.
2. Churchill Way, Sandy, south-west side, from a point in line with south-eastern flank wall of no. 19 Churchill Way north-westwards, covering an area of approximately 6.6 metres in length and 2 metres in width.
3. Groveside, Henlow, west side, from a point 2.5 metres north of the common boundary of nos. 20 and 22 Groveside southwards, covering an area of approximately 6.6 metres in length and 2.2 metres in width.
4. High Street, Sutton, south side, from a point in line with the eastern boundary of no. 22 westwards, covering an area of approximately 6.6 metres in length and 2.7 metres in width.
5. St Peters Avenue, Arlesey, south-west side, from a point 1.5 metres north-west of the south-eastern boundary wall of no. 20 St Peters Avenue north-westwards, covering an area of approximately 6.2 metres in length and 3.1 metres in width.

Further Details may be viewed online at [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/publicstatutorynotices).

Comments should be sent in writing to the Traffic Management team at the address below or e-mail [highways.consultation@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:highways.consultation@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) by 16 April 2021. Any objections must state the grounds on which they are made and **must quote unique reference number A00095**.

Please note that any comments received will be redacted of personal information and uploaded onto the Central Bedfordshire Council website as part of a report on the scheme a few days before the proposal is discussed at the relevant Traffic Management Meeting, where it will remain in the public domain. If you do not wish for your comments to be part of the report please state this explicitly within your response.

Order Title: If made will be "Central Bedfordshire Council (Bedfordshire County Council (District of Mid Bedfordshire) (Civil Enforcement Area and Special Enforcement Area) (Waiting Restrictions and Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2008) (Variation No.\*) Order 2021"

Central Bedfordshire Council  
Priory House  
Chicksands  
Shefford SG17 5TQ

Jill Dickinson  
Assistant Director of Community Services

26 March 2021



**Sandy Town Council**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> April 2021</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Sandy Sports &amp; Leisure Association (SSLA)</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Cllr Hill</b>

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide the latest updated report from the Secretary of SSLA produced in late March 2021.

**Summary & Key Bullet Points**

2. Summary & key bullet points:

- Due to the ongoing restrictions caused by the pandemic there has been no community activity on the pitch but the Secondary School has made good curriculum use of the facility.
- The AGM of the SSLA will be held virtually by Zoom on Thursday April 8<sup>th</sup> and a brief verbal report of the meeting will be given at this meeting of Town Council.
- The joint main purpose of Thursday's meeting will be to meet and hear from Matt Young of TGMS. The tender process has taken place from late February and up to the deadline date of 30 March by which date bids had to have been received from the 4 companies invited to tender. The Secretary (MP) met with a representative of each of the companies on the pitch during the period and thanks go to Phillip Rose of SLL and the staff at SSS for co-operating to help facilitate these socially distanced meetings. Matt Young's Tender Evaluation Report (TER) was received on 31 March and MP spoke that afternoon and again the next day to clarify one or two issues. SSLA members will hear personally from Mr Young on Thursday along with his recommendations and all members will have the opportunity of asking him questions and raising issues arising from the TER. It will then be decision time regarding which of the companies to appoint to carry out the refurbishment. Again, members of Town Council will be verbally updated at this meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> April.
- The saga that has become our planning application continues. Any further update will be given verbally on 12 April.
- Regarding renewal of the Lease etc. covering the car park and access road and following email exchanges and the helpful intervention of a Ward Member and email was received from CBC on 24 March stating, "the Council is committed to providing a lease for the required 25 years length, on suitable terms to meet the funding condition. The detail will follow and will by necessity need to incorporate a level of flexibility around the foreseeable outcomes for the site, such as the potential expansion of the car park, and other current proposals". The email went on to express the hope that this would offer a "level of comfort" and that Heads of Terms were in hand.

- The required Charity Commission Annual Return for 2019 / 2020 was completed and submitted online on 6 March 2021 compiled from income and expenditure information provided to MP by the Treasurer. The CC acknowledged receipt of the Annual Return later the same day.
- Sport England have been kept fully apprised of developments with regard to the refurbishment project.

**Author: Cllr Max Hill**

**Sandy Town Council**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> April 2021</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Sandy Twinning Association</b>
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Cllr Hill</b>

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To provide an update on Sandy Twinning Association.

**Sandy's Twinning Links**

2. Summary:

Easter greetings were received from members of the Jumelage committee in Malaunay as well as from the Town Hall and Cultural Centre in Skarszewy.

However, both communities are having a really hard time at present. Covid infection rates in both our link towns continue to be worryingly high. In Skarszewy there is a partial lockdown and Poland is in a worse situation now than it has been at any time during the pandemic, 'though at least vaccinations are being accelerated and there is a centre in the town itself for dispensing the jab.

In France, new lockdown measures are now in place with the Rouen area, including Malaunay, currently experiencing a very high level of new infections. Members of the Jumelage have been infected including the treasurer Patrick, who is receiving oxygen treatment in hospital. The AstraZeneca vaccine continues to cause controversy and the general roll-out of vaccines is being severely criticised for its slowness and lack of coherence. Unlike Poland, there is also a high level of vaccine scepticism in France.

**Author: Cllr Max Hill**