

Sandy Town Council

To: Cllrs P N Aldis, P Blaine, T Cole, A Gibson, A M Hill, W Jackson, T Knagg, G Leach, C Osborne, M Pettitt, M Scott, P Sharman, J Sparrow, 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, Bedfordshire on Monday 15 April 2019 commencing 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
9th April 2019

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

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*

3 Public Participation Session

To receive questions and representations from members of the public.

Sandy Town Council

4 Minutes of previous Town Council meetings

To consider the Minutes of the meeting of Sandy Town Council held at 7.30pm on Monday 4 March 2019.

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 Committee held on 11 March 2019 and 1 April 2019
- ii) Policy, Finance and Resources Committee held on 11 March 2019

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that the Town Council adopt the Removable Media Policy subject to the following amendments;

- Change the word 'Authority' to 'Council' in section 1.2
 - Correction of a spelling mistake in section 1.3
 - Inclusion of Council's anti-virus protection to protect against incoming data
 - Inclusion of password protected memory sticks and CD's
- iii) Community Services and Environment Committee held on 1 April 2019

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that the Council support the installation of a bus shelter on London Road and make an application to Central Bedfordshire Council in respect of such a shelter.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that the Royal Mail be permitted to purchase 10 Cards for use by Royal Mail employees working at the Sandy depot.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that the income generated from the cards be earmarked for expenditure on maintenance of the car park.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that Heads of Terms for community land at Beeston be approved by Council subject to the following amendments/clarifications;

Sandy Town Council

- The notice period be extended to 24 months.
- Rent be listed with a peppercorn amount.
- Clarification on the limit of no more than five years underlet without permission from Central Bedfordshire Council.
- Clarification be sought on what Central Bedfordshire Council define as someone who is 'not of financial standing acceptable to the landlord' and how this will be decided.

iv) Human Resources Committee held on 18 March 2019

6 Redevelopment of Quince Court

To hear from Grand Union Housing on their proposed redevelopment of Quince Court, Sandy.

7 CB/19/00736/FULL The Sidings, Land East of Sandy Railway Station, Stratford Road, Sandy, SG19 2AA

To consider a Full Planning Application for the residential development of 45 dwellings including parking, access, landscaping and all associated ancillary works.

APPENDIX I

8 Reports from Central Bedfordshire Councillors

To receive reports from Sandy's Central Bedfordshire Councillors. Members have already received Central Bedfordshire Council's briefing notes.

9 Action List

To receive any updates and note the action report.

APPENDIX II

10 Calendar of Events

To consider that the Council take a lead on creating a joined up calendar of events happening in Sandy to avoid clashes and increase publicity.

11 Central Bedfordshire Local Plan

To receive an update on Central Bedfordshire Council's Local Plan process.

APPENDIX III

12 St Swithun's Clock

To receive a report from the Clerk on repair work needed to the St Swithun's Church Clock.

APPENDIX IV

13 Consultations

To receive and consider communication from NALC on the proposed new Code of Audit Practice to come into force in 2020.

Appendix V

Sandy Town Council

14 Crime Statistics

- i) To receive and note recent CCTV incidents. Appendix VI
- ii) To receive and consider the most recent crime statistics for Sandy. Appendix VII

15 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

- i) To receive a report from Cllr Max Hill on the Sandy Twinning Association – Private Visit to Skarszewy. Appendix VIII
- ii) To receive a report from Cllr Amanda Gibson on the Youth Voice Manifesto Launch. Appendix IX

16 Mayor's engagements

To note a list of recent Mayor's civic engagements carried out in March and April 2019;

Sunday 10 March 2019 – Central Bedfordshire Council Civic Service

Monday 11 March 2019 – Lord Lieutenant's Honours Recipients Gathering and Presentation Ceremony

Thursday 14 March 2019 – High Sherriff's Citizenship Awards

Friday 22 March 2019 – Ampthill Charity Darts Match

Sunday 24 March 2019 – Dunstable Civic Service

17 News Release

18 Chairman's Items

19 Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Full Council will be the annual meeting of the newly elected council on 13 May 2019

Development Management

Central Bedfordshire Council
 Priory House, Monks Walk
 Chicksands, Shefford
 Bedfordshire SG17 5TQ
www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk



The Occupier / Owner
 Allotment Field
 Stratford Road
 Sandy
 SG19 2AA

Date 28 March 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

Application No: CB/19/00736/FULL
Location: The Sidings, Land East of Sandy Railway Station, Stratford Road, Sandy, SG19 2AA
Proposal: Residential development of 45 dwellings including parking, access, landscaping and all associated ancillary works.

Central Bedfordshire Council has received an application for planning permission in respect of the above. You can view the application details and documents on our website (within 3 working days from the date of this letter) by visiting <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/planning-register> and entering the application number **19/00736** into the search field.

When viewing the above application, you can submit your comments online by clicking 19/00736 (more details) and scrolling down to Public Representations - Submit a Public Comment Online.

Comments should be received no later than **18 April 2019**.

Alternatively, comments can be received in writing to the return address above quoting the application number 19/00736

If you do wish to comment on the application, please refer to the following webpage for full guidance on submitting comments
<http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/planning/view-comment/make-comment.aspx>

It is not possible to acknowledge receipt of, or respond to, your comments directly and it is our policy not to do so. You can, however, be assured that all valid comments are considered.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Davie

Andrew Davie
 Assistant Director - Development Infrastructure

Additional Information

You can choose not to provide your name and address when submitting comments, however, your comment will be logged as an anonymous representee and may hold less weight as we cannot identify where you are in relation to the proposed development and what impact this has on you. Under GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) we are required to inform you how your comment is logged. Please visit our comments webpage and our privacy statement.

Comments webpage <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/planning/view-comment/make-comment.aspx>

Privacy Statement <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/planning/privacy/statement.aspx>

Applications are normally determined within 8 weeks of receiving a valid application (13 weeks if it is classed as a major application). The progress of the case and all relevant documents including the decision notice can be viewed online at <http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/planning-register>

Ward Councillors can request that an application is referred to the Development Management Committee for determination. This request has to be made by 18 April 2019. Councillor contact details can be found on our website: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk.

Most simple or straightforward applications are delegated to the Head of Service to decide but, when the application is due to be determined by the Council's Development Management Committee, you will be invited to make your views known if you have commented on this application.

The procedure for public participation at the Development Management Committee meeting can be found at Part 4G, Annex 3 of the Council's Constitution (<http://centralbeds.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=900&MIId=5540&Ver=4&Info=1>) or please contact Governance Services committeemeetings@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk for advice on the Council's Constitution.

AGENDA ITEM 9

APPENDIX II

Town Council - Action list

Subject	Action to be taken		Response/ Agenda no.
	Minute	Action	
Meeting 9/11/15			
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.	Town Council has responded to the First stage of the consultation.
Meeting 21/5/18			
A1 – Local Issues	(19-18/19)	To push for decisions on the future of the A1 and action on safety and environmental issues.	<p>The Clerk wrote to A Burt MP following the Council's receipt of a letter from Chris Grayling MP. Further response anticipated. Matter chased.</p> <p>HE have stated that they are currently working with Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Constabularies to progress the desired average speed camera solution and intend to deliver this in the current financial year 2019-2020 subject to the completion of statutory procedures and confirmation of funding.</p>
Meeting 17/12/18			
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.	Letters issued to CBC, MP, School Commission and DfE asking that STC be involved in discussions on the future of the facility. Matter still rests with DfE. No updates at this time.

SANDY TOWN COUNCIL**DATE: 15 April 2019****AUTHOR: Town Clerk****SUBJECT: Examination of Central Bedfordshire Local Plan****1. Summary**

- 1.1 Information on the commencement of the examination of Central Bedfordshire Council's Local Plan is now available via the Central Bedfordshire Council website.
- 1.2 Hearing sessions will commence at 10am on Tuesday 21 May 2019 within the Council Chamber of Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, SG17 5TQ.

2. The Planning Inspectors

- 2.1 Planning Inspectors; Matthew Birkinshaw BA (Hons) Msc MRTPI and Helen Hockenhull BA (Hons) B.PI MRTPI have been appointed to undertake an independent examination into the soundness of the Central Bedfordshire Local Plan (the Plan).
- 2.2 The Inspectors' task is to consider the soundness of the submitted Plan, based on the criteria set out in paragraph 182 of the National Planning Policy Framework (the Framework). The relevant soundness criteria are whether the Plan is:
 - **positively prepared** (based on a strategy that seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development)
 - **justified** (the most appropriate strategy when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence)
 - **effective** (the plan should be deliverable over its period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities)
 - **consistent with national policy** (the Plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the Framework)
- 2.3 The Inspectors will take into account the representations submitted upon the Plan at pre-submission stage as far as they relate to soundness considerations. A number of informal debates will take place on the principal matters identified by the Inspectors. These are termed Hearing Sessions.

2.4 Following the closure of the Hearings, the Inspectors will prepare a report to the Council with precise recommendations. These recommendations may include modifications to the Plan, if such a request is made by the Council.

3. The Programme Officer

3.1 The Programme Officer, Ian Kemp, will act as the contact for any person who has an interest in the Examination and as a liaison between the Inspectors, Council and Representatives.

3.2 He is an independent Officer of the Examination and works on behalf of the Inspectors to organise and manage the administrative and procedural elements of the Examination process. All statements will also be submitted through him.

3.3 Any matters that anyone wishes to raise with the Inspectors should be submitted via the Programme Officer.

4. Schedule of Hearings

4.1 A draft schedule of hearings is available on Central Bedfordshire Council's website at;

<http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/planning/policy/local-plan/examination.aspx>

The following dates may be of interest to Members in respect to Sandy:

Date	Item of Interest	Notes
Day 9 Tuesday 18 June	A1 Corridor Sites	Sandy is not referenced under the Matters, Issues & Questions (MIQ's) that have been produced
Day 10 Wednesday 19 June	East West Corridor Sites	Sandy is not referencing under the MIQ document Uncertain as to whether East West Rail will be included
Day 14 Wednesday 17 July	Ensuring Town Centre Viability	

4.2 For Members' information, Administrator Anne Elliott-Flockhart has gone through the examination documents and highlighted those which have reference to Sandy.

Document	Notes
EXAM 3G – CBC Trajectory July & April 2018	

EXAM 3F – Employment Sites & Jobs Update	
EXAM 3D – CO3A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Final Report	
EXAM 3C – CO5A Water Cycle Study Stage 2	<p>6.2.3.17 Sandy Waste Water Treatment Works (WwTW) catchment serves the entire town of Sandy and the small village of Beeston. There is minimal development with 19 dwellings expected to be built within the catchment. The headroom assessment indicated permitted headroom capacity will not decrease any further from present day capacity. A “Green” RAG assessment is applied to this WwTW.</p>
EXAM 3H – Authority Monitoring Report 2016-17	
EXAM 5AA Annex 26a – Built Heritage Assessment	
EXAM 5G Annex 6 – CBC & Cambridgeshire CC SoCG	
EXAM 5X Annex 23 – Job numbers Update	
Exam 5H Annex 7 – CBC & SCDC SoCG	
EXAM 5BB Annex 27 – Site selection Matrix (small & Medium Sites)	
EXAM 5CC Annex 28b – Water Cycle Study Appendix A (tracked Changes)	
EXAM 5AA Annex 26 – Site Assessments Stage B (Small and Medium Sites)	
EXAM 7D South Cambs District Council – Memorandum of Understanding signed.	
EXAM 7R Highways England Statement of common ground.	
EXAM 7C Cambridge County – Memorandum of Understanding	
EXAM 7S Mitigation Study Jan 2019	Mentions traffic flow on the A1.
EXAM 1C – Reg 19 revised HRA final report and appendices.	

SANDY TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: 15 April 2019

AUTHOR: Town Clerk

SUBJECT: St Swithun's Clock

1. Summary

- 1.1 Sandy Town Council has historically paid for the servicing of the St Swithun's Church Clock on an annual basis.
- 1.2 The clock is now in need of repair work to its regulator, strike hammer and check spring. This is a result of the clock losing time and the hammers resting on the bells.
- 1.3 The Parish Church Committee (PCC) has looked into grants to support the cost of the works but has not been able to secure any grant funding. The PCC have asked whether the Council will be able to assist in the costs of the required works.
- 1.4 The matter has been brought to the Full Council for initial consideration due to the length of time between the Policy, Finance and Resources meetings as a result of elections.

2. Background Information

- 2.1 In 2009 the Town Council considered and approved an application from the PCC for a capital grant towards the cost of refurbishing the church clock, on the condition that several quotes were obtained for the work to be completed.
- 2.2 In 2010 the Council resolved to pay an interest free loan of £5,158.00 to the PCC to be repaid over a period of 5 years to assist with the purchase of the automatic winding system for the town clock.
- 2.3 The Council also agreed a grant of £1,720 towards the costs of purchasing and installing an automatic winding system for the church clock.
- 2.4 The Council has a statutory obligation to maintain the closed church yard of St Swithun's Church. This obligation does not include maintenance of the church clock. However, the clock has long been recognised as a town clock as it is the only one within the town centre. As such, the Town Council has paid for its annual servicing.

3. Cost of Required Works

- 3.1 The following costs have been obtained by the clockmaker which carries out the annual service of the clock;

Works Required	Quoted Cost
Strike Hammer and Check Spring	
Remove hammer and take to workshop, along with check spring.	£836.00
Clean hammer down, make weld repairs as necessary, make a new check spring.	
Re-fit hammer and spring.	

Works Required	Quoted Cost
Regulator	
Installation of a new regulator	£1,800.00
Alternative Option	
Remove faulty mechanical regulator and replace with manual.	£250.00
The removal of the regulator and a return to manual winding is not seen as a desirable option by the Church due to concerns over the health and safety of volunteers.	

4. Consideration

- 4.1 Members are asked to consider the required works and whether the Council can support the costs of the repair to the strike hammer and check spring and the installation of a new regulator.

🔄 Reply all | ▼ 🗑 Delete Junk | ▼ ...



New Code of Audit Practice consultation

LA LOUISE ASHMORE [REDACTED]   🔄 Reply all | ▼
Wed 03/04/2019 13:03
To: LOUISE ASHMORE [REDACTED]

Inbox

The Clerk – BATPC Member Councils

The National Audit Office has issued a consultation on the new Code of Audit Practice which is due to come into force by 1 April 2020. NALC will be responding.

Context & proposals

Additional powers and duties are considered in Chapter 5 of the Code. Chapter 6 of the Code relates specifically to smaller authorities (includes all size of local council), with which the appointed auditors must comply. NALC is minded to highlight:

1. The difficulty for smaller councils of the potentially high and disproportionate cost on a small authority when a concerted number of electors decide to raise a high number of minor/technical objections of a vexatious nature.
2. That there should be the inclusion of a principle relating to proportionality in respect of smaller authorities, especially where the authority has an annual budget / turnover below £25k and is potentially exempt (i.e. smaller and subject to the Smaller Authorities' Transparency Code); &
3. Agree retention of the current bullet under clause 5.4 that the auditor should consider "the costs of dealing with the matter, bearing in mind that these are borne by the taxpayer" where to a smaller council the costs of an audit investigation could cost more than the council's annual precept.

Consultation questions

NALC will be responding to the below consultation questions and needs to know the sector's views:

Question 17 Do you think the Code should include more with respect to when auditors might be expected to use their additional powers?

Question 18 Do you think the current approach set out in the Code to undertake work at smaller authorities under specified procedures will enable auditors to continue to respond to the challenges at smaller authorities?

Question 19 Do you think the current approach to considering economy, efficiency and effectiveness at smaller authorities is appropriate and proportionate to the size of the bodies being reviewed?

Reply all | ▾ Delete Junk | ▾ ...



Many thanks

Louise

Louise Ashmore
County Officer - Bedfordshire Association of Town & Parish Councils
Suite 11, Baystrait House
15 Station Road, Biggleswade, Beds SG18 8AL
Tel: 01767 312669

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SANDY TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: 15 April 2019

AUTHOR: Town Clerk

SUBJECT: CCTV Statistics

1. CCTV Incident Figures

- 1.1 The figures below come from client reports available on the Hertfordshire CCTV Partnership website and from an incident report provided to the Council. The figures are only for monitored incidents on CCTV equipment and do not include non-monitored events and therefore do not show an overall picture of crime or police activity.

Month	Monitored Incidents	Police Attended	Arrests Monitored
February 2018	2	1	-
March 2018	1	1	-
April 2018	5	3	-
May 2018	0	-	-
June 2018	1	-	-
July 2018	2	2	-
August 2018	2	2	-
September 2018	1	-	-
October 2018	2	2	1
November 2018	0	-	-
December 2018	2	1	-
January 2019	3	3	-
February 2019	5	3	-
March 2019	1		-

2. February 2019 Breakdown

Camera	Incident	Action
Market Square	Affray	Police dealt with on scene
Market Square	False 999 Call	Police informed - Unknown result.
Market Square	Drunken behaviour	Police dealt with on scene
Co-op/Post Office	Criminal Damage	Police Informed – Unknown result
Co-op/Post Office	Suspicious Activity	Police Dealt with at scene

3. March 2019 Breakdown

Camera	Incident	Action
Co-op/Post Office	Missing Persons	Attention Kept

SANDY TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: 15 April 2019

AUTHOR: Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Sandy Crime Statistics

1. Summary:

1.1 The following statistics are for Members’ information. The information is the latest received from Central Bedfordshire Council taken from the Police.UK website. The most recent statistics available are for January and February 2019.

The most recent information on October, November and December incidents which were previously reported as ‘under investigation’ or ‘awaiting a court outcome’ is also provided.

2. Update on October 2018 Crime Statistics

Offence Category	Offences	Status as at 26 February 2019		Status at 10 April 2019	
Burglary	11	2	Under investigation	2	Investigation complete, no suspect identified
Public Order Offence	7	4	Under Investigation	3	Unable to prosecute
				1	Awaiting Court Outcome
Shop Lifting	4	1	Awaiting Court Outcome	1	Offender sent to prison
Vehicle Crime	16	1	Under Investigation	1	Awaiting Court Outcome
Violence and Sexual Offence	22	7	Under Investigation	6	Unable to Prosecute
		3	Awaiting Court Outcome	4	Awaiting Court Outcome

3. Update on November 2018 Crime Statistics

Offence Category	Offences	Status at 26 February 2019	Status at 10 April 2019
Burglary	6	1 Under investigation	1 Under Investigation
Criminal Damage and Arson	8	2 Under investigation	1 Under Investigation
			1 Unable to Prosecute
Other Crime	3	2 Under investigation	1 Under Investigation
			1 Action taken by another organisation
Robbery	1	1 Under investigation	1 Under Investigation
Violence and Sexual Offence	15	12 Under investigation	6 Under Investigation
			6 Unable to Prosecute
		1 Awaiting court outcome	1 Offender given community service

4. Update on December 2018 Crime Statistics

Offence Category	Offences	Status at 26 February 2019	Status at 10 April 2019
Burglary	10	5 Under Investigation	1 Under Investigation
			1 Unable to Prosecute
			3 Investigation Complete
Possession of Weapons	1	1 Under Investigation	1 Unable to Prosecute
Public Order Offence	1	1 Under Investigation	1 Unable to Prosecute
Shoplifting	3	1 Under Investigation	1 Investigation Complete
Violence and Sexual Offence	17	10 Under Investigation	4 Under Investigation
			1 Local resolution
			1 Action by another organisation
			4 Unable to Prosecute

5. January 2019 Crime Statistics

Offence Category	Offences	Status as at 10 April 2019	
Anti-Social Behaviour	15		No information available
Bicycle Theft	2	2	Investigation Complete, no suspect identified
Burglary	3	2	Investigation Complete, no suspect identified
		1	Awaiting Court Outcome
Criminal Damage and Arson	8	1	Under Investigation
		7	Investigation Complete, no suspect identified
Drugs	3	2	Under Investigation
		1	Awaiting Court Outcome
Other Crime	2	1	Under Investigation
		1	Unable to Prosecute Suspect
Other Theft	1	1	Under Investigation
Public Order	7	1	Under Investigation
		3	Unable to Prosecute Suspect
		3	Investigation Complete
Robbery	2	1	Under Investigation
		1	Investigation Complete, no suspect identified
Shoplifting	4	1	Under Investigation
		2	Awaiting Court Outcome
		1	Investigation Complete, no suspect identified
Vehicle Crime	8	7	Investigation Complete, no suspect identified
		1	Awaiting Court Outcome
Violent and Sexual Offences	27	12	Under Investigation
		3	Investigation Complete, no suspect identified
		8	Unable to Prosecute Suspect
		1	Action by Another Organisation
		2	Local Resolution
		1	Awaiting Court Outcome

6. February 2019 Crime Statistics

Offence Category	Offences	Status as at 10 April 2019	
Anti-Social Behaviour	18		No information available
Bicycle Theft	2	1	Investigation Complete, no suspect identified
		1	Crime linked to Sandy Station – Transport Police hold information
Burglary	4	4	Under Investigation
Criminal Damage and Arson	8	3	Under Investigation
		3	Investigation Complete, no suspect identified
		1	Unable to Prosecute
		1	Crime linked to Sandy Station – Transport Police hold information
Other Theft	7	7	Investigation Complete, no suspect identified
Public Order	3	2	Under Investigation
		1	Crime linked to Sandy Station – Transport Police hold information
Shoplifting	2	1	Under Investigation
		1	Investigation Complete, no suspect identified
Vehicle Crime	10	10	Investigation Complete, no suspect identified
Violent and Sexual Offences	17	11	Under Investigation
		1	Investigation Complete, no suspect identified
		2	Unable to Prosecute Suspect
		3	Local Resolution

SANDY TOWN COUNCIL

DATE: 15 April 2019
AUTHOR: Cllr M Hill
SUBJECT: Private Visit to Skarszewy

1. Summary

As expected, I had a really frenetic three day visit to Skarszewy from 5th to 8th March but did manage to see everyone I had intended to meet. The programme of events went as follows:

2. Programme

- Tuesday 5th March: Arrival was at midday, followed by PM meeting at the cultural centre to talk about the summer school. This was followed by an evening meeting with anglers to discuss the September visit.
- Wednesday 6th March: Morning visits were to the Owiza Mythological Museum and the 8th century Slovakian Encampment, followed by a trip to the amazing new fitness centre which has cost the Council £2.5million, and then on to the upgraded town sewage works! Two hours of discussion then took place with the Mayor and the Chairman of the Council to talk about activities for 2019/20. The evening was spent fairly quietly.
- Thursday 7th March: The day was spent in the town of Pelplin talking with officials about the possibility of starting an English summer school there in 2020. The aim and hope is to involve Year 13 students from Sandy Secondary School. Pelplin is 20 miles from Skarszewy and has just signed a Charter of Co-operation with their neighbours for cultural, social, sporting, and economic activities etc. Pelplin has around 10,000 inhabitants but is famous because it has Poland's second-largest cathedral.
- Friday 8th March: Assisted at ceremony to commemorate the centenary of the death of a Polish author followed by a working lunch with the mayor, before setting off for the airport and then home.

3. Events

- Mayor Jacek Pauli has confirmed invitations to this year's Sobotki in June and attendance at this year's Remembrance weekend in Sandy.
- The fishing visit here in September is already planned.
- 2020 marks 700 years of Skarszewy's history and 25 years of co-operation with Sandy. Various ideas are being mooted as to how to celebrate these events.

4. Points of Note

- The new fitness centre is jaw-dropping even by Polish standards, and the Mayor wants to add a pool in due course. Money has been raised from various grants and sponsorship and the key partnership with local schools has been fundamental!
- EU money has been obtained to open a bank branch in the Town Hall and both Skarszewy and Pelplin still have all their banks - eight in all!
- Polish towns all have a museum within their libraries.
- There is a new, small retail park under construction including a Lidl!
- The main road from Gdansk to Starogard and Skarszewy is undergoing extensive widening with funding from EU monies.
- There is low unemployment in Skarszewy, but firms are coming and going.
- The outdoor market is dying having only three stalls left.

SANDY TOWN COUNCIL**DATE: 15 April 2019****AUTHOR: Cllr A Gibson****SUBJECT: Youth Voice Manifesto Launch****1. Summary**

On 12th March 2019, Councillor A Gibson attended the Youth Voice Manifesto Launch. The event was well attended with representatives from CBC (Central Bedfordshire Council) and many dignitaries from town councils present. The evening began with a presentation by the Youth Parliament who introduced themselves and explained their aims, how they operate and the campaigns they are currently focused on.

2. Key Campaigns

The key campaigns currently being focused on are:

- Mental health
- LGBTQ and support
- Knife crime

3. Youth Central

Youth Central is a group of young people trying their utmost to change their local area for the better – for the youth and the community as a whole. The group are mainly from Houghton Regis, but there are plans to launch a similar group in Sandy. This group plan to take on the campaigns and mirror the achievements seen in Houghton Regis - engaging young people to reduce littering, improve the relationship with the police, challenge stereotypes and influence school curriculums to provide skills for life.

4. Children and Young People's Board

This is the voice for issues raised at a local level by young people, acting as a link between CBC and young people in the community. The aim is to be a voice for young people to increase engagement and get opinions on key issues and to increase the reach of the work. The Board's current focus areas are:

- Mental health
- Crime and violence (this was the key issue raised by Sandy & Biggleswade representatives)
- Sexual harassment

5. Meeting closure

Each group's achievements to date were presented within the booklet provided on the evening. The group also requested commitment from the attendees to get involved and support their work. This could be done by helping to spread the word, provide funding to tackle issues, and providing consultation time and advice.

The meeting was closed by the High Sherriff of Bedfordshire who addressed the participants, praising them for their efforts and encouraging them to use their voices to continue to raise the concerns of young people in Bedfordshire.

6. Suggestions to Sandy Town Council (STC)

- That STC engage with the Youth Parliament members from Sandy Secondary School, encourage and support their aims and ambitions to improve the lives of young people within the Sandy community, and invite them to present to the Council on a regular basis.
- Create a link from the council website to the social media sites of the Youth Parliament to help spread the word:
<https://www.cbyouthvoice.co.uk/>
- Hold a youth meeting in Sandy as an annual event aligned with the Annual Town Meeting.



[Home | Central Bedfordshire Youth Voice](#)

www.cbyouthvoice.co.uk

Central Bedfordshire Youth Voice is a collection of Youth groups designed to get the voice of Young People heard by decision makers. All of the Youth Voice groups are run for Young People and by Young People who volunteer their time to make a difference in their communities.
