SANDON TOPICS

Winter 2023 Newsletter from Sandon Parish Council

www.sandonparishcouncil.co.uk

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

November seems to be turning out as a wet month. This is a shame after the Indian summer that we have experienced. At least we can look forward to Christmas!
Residents have spoken to me about the increasing amount of dog excrement being left on pathways. If we have a dog then our responsibility is to clear up after them. There will be more regarding this later in this edition of the Topics.
The other concern that we have is the speeding on our rural roads. The 30 mph limit is not being kept to, and it is so difficult to know what we can do about this. Speedwatches are being performed, but these have no real bite, and the police seem to be very busy on other more important work.
On a lighter note, this Virgin balloon came in to land down The Sandon Bridleway on 16th October, and what a wonderful sight it was. There were at least twenty people on board and it was skilfully brought down on a grass covered area, whereas if they had gone over the next hedge it would have been a rather muddy field! The vehicle arrived and all was carefully packed up and removed. Glad I was in the right place at the right time.



At the time of writing, we have still not had the threatened Planning Application for the Warehouses on either side of the A12 between Sandon and Howe Green. Keep your eye out for notices on the Forums or Facebook as if, and when, it arrives, we need to respond to stand any chance to stop this application.
November 23rd is the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum day, which is your chance to show your support for the plan written for the benefit of Sandon by the community. The group have spent six years of hard work writing this for us, and we need you to come out and vote for it at the Sandon Village Hall, as well as at the United Reformed Church at Howe Green. Look out for the notifications for this, and the article, on page 2 of this Topics.
Wishing everyone a very happy Christmas!

LITTER PICKER REQUIRED

The Parish Council is still looking for a litter picker. This will be a paid role and should not be too taxing. We expect it will involve nine to ten hours each month with a high degree of flexibility as to when this is carried out. Please contact the Parish Clerk (see back of Topics) if you are interested in finding out more.

SANDON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REFERENDUM THURSDAY 23rd NOVEMBER



Calling all residents of Sandon!

The Sandon Neighbourhood Plan (NDP) has made good progress. It has been to consultation and to the Independent Examiner. The plan has been amended slightly following his comments. Please click on the following link to see the plan and associated documentation. https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-local-plan/consultations-on-planning-policy/sandon-neighbourhood-plan-consultation/

There is also a hard copy of the plan at the Parish Office (viewable Monday and Wednesday mornings) as well as daily at the CCC Customer Service Centre, Civic Centre, Duke St, Chelmsford.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to produce the plan, to read through it, and to offer their comments during consultations. It has all been worthwhile.

The Sandon Neighbourhood Plan is now ready for **REFERENDUM**.

- This will take place on **Thursday 23rd November.** There are TWO locations where you can vote, Sandon Village Hall and Howe Green United Reformed Church. The opening and closing times are from 07:00 to 22:00. You will need to bring the same type of photographic I.D. that you used for the recent May elections. The question you will be asked is "Do you want Chelmsford City Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Sandon to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?"

You answer will be a straight "Yes" or "No", so shouldn't be too taxing!

You can find further information about the referendum by clicking on the CCC weblink https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/voting-and-elections/upcoming-elections/

PLEASE take the opportunity to vote.

The approved plan will be used by Chelmsford City Council to help them make decisions about planning applications in Sandon in the future. Note that there are at least two very good reasons why we need this plan to be adopted:

1. It helps shape the type of developments that are coming our way. We cannot stop these, but we will have a say in how these new houses will look.
2. We get a higher percentage of CIL monies coming to the parish from the developers. More money means better facilities for our residents.

Everything that you wanted to know about NDP's* (*but were afraid to ask)

The idea behind NDP's is that they are able to SHAPE all types of future developments, as opposed to stopping them. The NDP includes a policy to guide new planned development and includes requirements for design and character, landscape, housing density and respect for the rural and historic context of the parish. Other policies cover affordable housing, the natural environment, active and healthy travel, community facilities, employment, and communication technology.

The idea behind the NDP's crystallised during the time of David Cameron and his "big society" initiative. He was aware that plans for developments often got stuck in appeals as residents inevitably objected. He thought that by creating NDP's, then residents would feel as though they had some say in the matter, and would be less likely to object. He never wanted NDP's to be that strong that they could stymie the central/regional government's need for more housing.

Having an adopted NDP gives planning control on any future developments, however large or small, and will help to meet the needs of local people in the future.

We Need You To Vote in the Referendum.
Thank you!
Sandon Neighbourhood Plan group.

DOG MESS



This is an ongoing problem and never seems to go away. The vast majority of our dog walkers are responsible owners, and always pick up after their pets. However, it is the tiny, inconsiderate minority, that don't, and this can make life unpleasant for their fellow residents.
Note that in Nov 2017, Chelmsford City Council introduced a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) prohibiting dog fouling in the whole of the Chelmsford City Council area. This ran for three years and was further renewed in 2020. As it is about to expire, then CCC are planning to extend this for a further three years to 2026. What this means in practice, is that "a person who is in charge of the dog at the time and fails to remove the faeces from the land forthwith, shall be guilty of an offence under section 67 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 Act. A person guilty of an offence under section 67 of this Act is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale (currently £1,000)."
Residents all over Sandon are regularly reporting members of the public not picking up from their pets. As you can see above, it does carry a fine! If you own a dog then you must expect to pick up after them. It is part of your responsibility. Thank you!
You may have noticed the "Green Dog Walkers" gazebo in the Sports Ground car park off Woodhill Road. This is being run by Community Protection Lead Officer as part of the Public Health and Protection Services run by CCC. They are encouraging residents to pick up after their dogs. If you pledge your allegiance, then you get either a pin badge or green armband. They are also giving out free poo bags. If you have missed them, or would like to find out more, then please click on this link:
Green Dog Walkers scheme (chelmsford.gov.uk)



GABLESFIELDS POND CLEANING (from David Farrar)

Volunteers for the Chelmsford City Parks and Conservation work force met recently in Gablefields to clean out and rejuvenate the pond there.




There were a total of twelve of us working from 10 a.m. to 12.30p.m. on a cloudy but warmish day. Old grass was raked out, reeds and brambles cut back and new wild flower plugs planted.



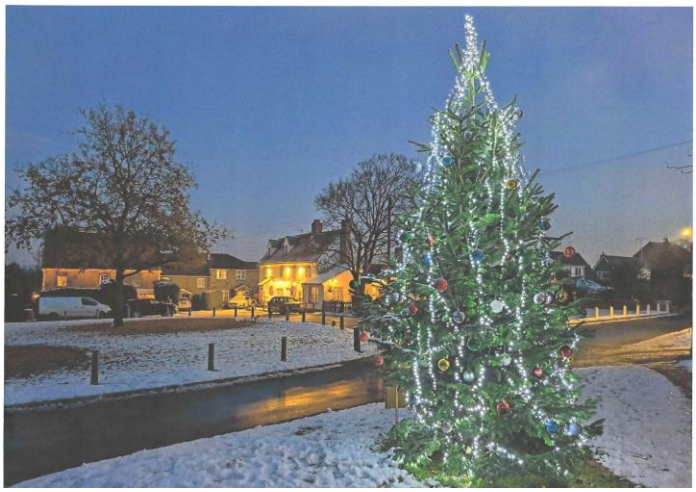

What I did not know was that the following day Lyn McLay-Kidd, Senior Parks Offices, Chelmsford City Council) and her helper came back in a council lorry to remove the pile of debris that we had gathered. They forked the whole lot into the lorry in rain! Well done ladies!!




Before the works to our pond began, the authorities undertook a full ecological and status survey in August. This included every pond owned by the CCC (81 all told!). CCC are still considering whether to replace the wooden safety barrier on the road side of the pond.

Thanks must go to all of the volunteers, and the two other Gablefields/Lintons residents, who gave of their time in helping out.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE AT ST ANDREWS (photo from 2022)



Look out for this year's Christmas tree outside St Andrews. Thanks will be going to the W.I. Committee for their help in dressing the tree. Further thanks must go to Charfleets Fencing for their financial contribution towards the purchase, and delivery costs, of the tree.

And while we are on the subject of Christmas trees….

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING



The Farleigh Hospice Christmas Tree Recycling event is back for 2024.

Simply register your real Christmas tree before 4pm on the 3 January and it will be collected for recycling on the 5, 6 or 7 January 2024. Donations for this service are gratefully received.

Now with eight years' experience, the Farleigh Hospice staff and volunteers are equipped with the expertise and tools to handle your Christmas tree collection efficiently and with care. Here are the benefits:

- The dedicated team will swing by to collect your tree from outside your home
- You won't have to wait in a long queue at the rubbish tip or book a time slot to visit
- You won't have a car boot full of pine needles
- Your tree won't go to waste. Instead, it will be chipped and used for biomass fuel or on pathways in local cemeteries and parks
- Most importantly, your donation will help Farleigh Hospice to continue providing care to those affected by life-limiting illness and bereavement

Last year, close to £40,000 was raised from the donations received. This support means everything to the hospice and it has had a lasting impact on the lives of those they care for, allowing the people of our local community to live well and die well. With your help, they hope to raise a similar amount again.

To register your tree, please visit www.farleighhospice.org/trees. For any questions please contact the Fundraising Team on treecollection@farleighhospice.org or 01245 457411.

ESSEX HIGHWAYS TRIALS NEW 'ROADMENDER' MATERIAL

A new method of filling in potholes and cracks in roads that promises to be greener and quicker is being trialled by Essex Highways in Colchester and Tendring.





Currently, potholes and cracks are repaired by cutting out the road surface surrounding the defect. Fresh, hot asphalt is poured into the defect and then compacted to fix it. This process might also include removing any previously applied material to make sure the repair is safe.

Roadmender Asphalt has developed a technique that no longer requires roads to be dug up, and the asphalt, which is made up of recycled materials including old lorry tyres, can be prepared on site as needed.

The new technique is, so far, reducing the amount of time Essex Highways crews are on each site by removing the need to excavate, improving productivity and potentially increasing the number of defects that can be fixed each day.

The material used to make a repair, known as Elastomac, has a high rubber content. Once any holes have been filled and compacted, it is poured over the surface as a molten liquid that forms a waterproof patch over the area as well as filling minor defects, preventing further failure. It cools within minutes, which reduces the amount of time a road is closed compared to a more traditional repair.

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Essex Highways crews are currently out across the county delivering repairs using a number of techniques. From whole road resurfacing to patching smaller areas, different methods are applied depending on the repair required and how the repair and the type of road it is on is prioritised.

If the Roadmender Asphalt trial is a success, it could be adopted by the service to repair more defects, more quickly, more safely and with less waste and new material - reducing carbon. Essex Highways crews will assess the test sites in spring and summer next year to understand how the material has held up over the winter period before deciding whether to adopt this new method and use across the county.



To ensure value for Essex residents in how the highways service delivers repairs and maintenance Essex Highways is trialling a number of new technologies, innovations and materials. While not all trials are adopted, those that promise longevity and a safer, greener and healthier approach to road maintenance, as well as value for money, will help Essex Highways deliver road repairs that last longer and serve a road network that is fit for the future.

Cllr Lee Scott, Cabinet Member for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport said: "Essex Highways has a long-established reputation for trialling and bringing innovation into service, making sure that it keeps up with developments in technology to help it continue to do more with less.Materials such as the Roadmender Asphalt are becoming more sophisticated and potentially offer advances in road surface durability which ultimately helps us save money from maintenance budgets.



"That they also help us reduce our carbon footprint while increasing the productivity of our teams can only be a thing as we continue to contribute to making Essex a safer, greener, healthier county for its residents. I welcome this latest trial and it will be interesting to see how this material holds up during the more extreme weather that Winter may well deliver."

Here is an interesting article from Essex Highways. They recognise that potholes are a big bug bear for the residents. Let's hope that this works and they can start to get on top of the problem in our parish. Note that any issues that you have with roads, be it the surface, poor signage, encroaching vegetation, blocked drains, etc, are the responsibility of Highways NOT the Parish Council. It can be very hard to directly contact anyone from the Highways Dept. The best way is to log a problem via their reporting link. You will get an interactive map where you can pin point exactly where the issue is. See the reporting link below:
https://www.essexhighways.org/tell-us

CORONATION BENCH ON BUTTS GREEN GREEN



You should have already noticed the grand bench installed on the green at Butts Green. As you can see, this commemorates the coronation of King Charles III. We have already had appreciative comments from walkers who can now take a break there. Please take you litter home with you though!

ST ANDREWS CHURCH SERVICES THIS CHRISTMAS 2023



Christmas Services 2023
at St. Andrew's Church
Sunday 10th December
4pm Christingle Service followed by the lighting of the
Christmas tree outside church.
Hot chocolate and mince pies to warm up.

Sunday 17th December
4pm Candlelit Festival of Carols and Readings We have the Sandon Voices from Sandon School taking part this year.
Come again and hear the story of the first Christmas and see the church in all its glory. Arrive early to obtain a seat.
Mulled wine and mince pies after service

Wednesday 20th December
7pm Beer and Carols in the Crown
Accompanied by the Thursday Light Classics Band

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve
4pm Crib Service
A service for all ages to gather round the manger and see the Christmas story unfold. Children please come dressed as one of the characters of the Christmas Story or as an animal. We also have some costumes in church.

11.30pm Candlelit Midnight Communion
This candlelit service is the perfect way to start your Christmas Day.
Carols by Candlelight
Monday 25th December Christmas Day
10am Christmas Morning service with Communion
Come and celebrate Jesus' birthday with us.
You are invited to bring a favourite present to show.

All are welcome!

IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS

TED MUNT – CLERK
Sandon Parish Council, Recreation Ground, Rectory Chase, Sandon, Chelmsford, CM2 7SQ.
Tel: 01245 477111 sandonparishclerk@gmail.com
Hours 09:30 – 12:30 Mon a.m. and Wed a.m.

Parish Councillors	Areas of responsibility/representation
DEE HYATT **Peartree Lodge, 2 The Old Orchard, Howe Green CM2 7TX** **Tel: 01245 763744** cllrhyattsandonpc@gmail.com	**CHAIRMAN** **Planning** **Neighbourhood Development Plan** **Speed Watch**
MARTIN CROSS **Magrathea,East Hanningfield Road,Howe Green CM2 7TQ** **Tel: 01245 478910** cllrcrosssandonpc@gmail.com	**VICE CHAIR** **Finance**
CEDRIC CALMEYER **25 Hall Lane, Sandon, CM2 7RJ** **Tel: 01245 478900** cllrcalmeyersandonpc@gmail.com	**Maintenance and Allotments** **Community Hall** **Parochial Church Council (PCC) Rep (temp)**
ALAN KALBFELL **4, The Tythings, Howe Green CM2 7TU** **Tel: 07802 762620** | cllrkalbfellsandonpc@gmail.com	**Sandon Sports Club Committee Rep** **Personnel** **Community Hall**
DARREN CHAPLIN **Tel:** cllrchaplinsandonpc@gmail.com	**Sandon Sports Club Rep** **Personnel**
GARY NICHOLLS **Tel: 07712 535313** cllrnichollssandonpc@gmail.com	**Community Hall**
JAMES COLBECK **51 Hall Lane, Sandon, CM2 7RJ** **Tel: 07949849674** cllrcolbecksandonpc@gmail.com	

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR

IAN GRUNDY Tel: 01277 840737 Ian.GRUNDY@chelmsford.gov.uk

CITY COUNCILLORS (LITTLE BADDOW, DANBURY & SANDON)

JULIA JEAPES (the CCC councillor looking after Sandon and Howe Green)
Tel 07752 533341 julia.jeapes@chelmsford.gov.uk
JACOB ARMSTRONG
Tel 01245 605880 jacob@chelmsford.gov.uk
STEPH SCOTT
Tel: 07775 870638 stephanie.scott@chelmsford.gov.uk

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Chelmsford City Council	**01245**	**606606**
Police	**01245**	**491491 or ring 101**
Broomfield Hospital	**01245**	**443673**
Citizens Advice Bureau	**01245**	**205605 For U.C. 0800 1448444**
Neighbourhood Watch	**01245**	**471589**

LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

St Andrew's Church - Priest in Charge	**Revd Terry Brown**	**01245**	**698988**
Church Wardens	**Mr R. Cecil**	**01245**	**224747**
	Mr A. Horne	**01245**	**475279**
PCC Secretary	**Mrs J. Cecil**	**01245**	**224747**
PCC Treasurer	**Mr N. Bobeldijk**	**01245**	**471756**
Bell Ringers	**Dr M. Worboys**	**01245**	**224612**
Women's Institute	**Mrs D. Gray**	**01245**	**223609**
Howe Green URC	**Rev Paul Stein**	**07810**	**396410**
Howe Green URC Elder	**Mrs P Knott**	**01245**	**471691**
Village Hall Management Committee	**Ms J. Fisher**	**01245**	**475976**
Village Hall Bookings https://www.sandonvillagehall.co.uk			
Cubs	**Mr Steve Eatley**	**07957**	**802898**
Scouts	**Ms J. Blake**	**07956**	**580404**
Sandon Tiny Tots/Mother and Toddler Group	**Mrs A Read**	**01245**	**474858 or 07720 718372**
Danbury and Villages Rotary	**Mr M Penry (sec)**	mikepenry@btinternet.com	
Chelmsford Rambling Club	**Ms M Say**	**01245**	**381262**
Sandon Parish Magazine Editor	**Mr R. Cecil**	**01245**	**224747**
Sports Club secretary.baddowspartakfc@gmail.com	**Mr R Pegrum**	**07903**	**824276**

Are your details correctly listed? If not, please contact the Parish Council Clerk on 01245 477111

All Parish Council information is available on our website including minutes of meetings at www.sandonparishcouncil.co.uk. The Council meets at 7.15 pm on the 2nd Monday of each month. We alternate between St Andrew Church Hall and the Howe Green Reformed Church. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

WE EXTEND A VERY WARM WELCOME TO ALL NEW RESIDENTS