SANDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Parish Council Meeting** held at the **Howe Green Reformed Church** on **Monday 8th December 2025** commencing at 7.15 pm

PRESENT: Councillors: Martin Cross
Cedric Calmeyer
Darren Chaplin
Alan Kalbfell
Stephen Leedham

In attendance: Clerk, City Cllr Julia Jeapes. Five members of the public.

ACTION

011225 Apologies for absence – Cllr Gary Nicholls

021225 Declarations of interest (including pecuniary) – None declared

031225 The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday, 10th November 2025 were approved. Cllr Cross then signed the minutes at the meeting.

041225 Public participation session. Concern was expressed about the cutting down of trees and possible development of a plot of land off East Hanningfield Road. Note that no planning applications have been received yet.

051225 City Cllr's update. City Cllr Julia Jeapes informed the meeting about possible alterations, and associated development, of land around Jnct 19. The ECC councillor elections will take place May 2026, whilst the new mayoral elections have been postponed until May 2028. There will be a planning meeting 8th December where the traveller site will be discussed. Both she, and Cllr Cross, will attend to put their views forward. There are problems around parking at Sandon Brook Place as well as continuing issues with the Sunday car boot sale at the Park and Ride. — Cllr Cross

061225 Clerk's Report. Cllr's Calmeyer, Cross and Kalbfell are planning to meet with the Strutt & Parker representative 16th Dec..

071225 Finance

(a) The following payments were tabled and approved.

sub total employee costs	£1,176.01
Wallace Arboriculture & Groundcare	£585.00
Wave	£47.22
Howe Green R.C.	£600.00
Microsoft	£1.99

(b) The budget to Nov 2025 was presented.

(c) No transfer from the savings account was needed.

(d) The budget for 2026-27 was discussed. Precept to be increased by 4% with final decision at Jan's meeting.

081225 Planning:

25/05273/TPO Howe Spinney, East Hanningfield Road. G2 - 3 x Hornbeam 2 x Wild Service Tree - Reduce Group in height by approximately 3-4m. Prune lateral spread by approximately 2.5-3m to balance and shape. Remove deadwood >100mm diameter throughout the crowns. T5 - Oak - Reduce in height by approximately 3-4m. Prune lateral spread by approximately 2.5-3m to balance and shape. Remove deadwood >100mm diameter throughout the crown. Reason - Regular maintenance and safety for pedestrians and other road users. No observations.

25/01552/FUL Two Oaks, Ladywell Lane. Two-storey rear extension. First floor side extension. Single-storey side extension. New access and car lodge. No observations.

25/01570/FUL Land At Tall Oaks, Mayes Lane. Conversion of a rural outbuilding to form a single dwelling with new bike store. Associated access and works. Await Cllr Cross's comments — Cllr Cross

25/05720/CAT. Monks Field, Woodhill Road. T1 - Willow - Fell to leave a low level stump. No observations.

Warehouse Action Group (Jnct 17). – awaiting the Inspector's decision following the recent inquiry. This has now been delayed.

Pigeon Columba Park (Jnct 18) – Inquiry only lasted one day. All potential problems seem to have been resolved. Decision expected in the New Year.

No to Hammonds Farm. Next meeting 15th Dec. Discussions will centre around whether the Juct 18 process could be challenged.

091225 Current Issues.

(a) Maintenance – No issues.

(b) Conservation and sustainability – The Gablesfield pond clearance is scheduled for 10:00 11th Dec. All residents are welcome to give a hand.

(c) Allotments – Clerk to chase CCC about the P.C. taking ownership of the site. — Clerk

(d) Community Centre – Cllr Calmeyer reported that the funders are still chasing for funds.

(e) Sports Club – No issues

(f) Village Hall – No issues

(g) PCC – Cllr Calmeyer reported that a contractor has been appointed to make the necessary repairs to the tower.

(h) Social media and our new website – Clerk to send Cllr Kalbfell further info to enable him to install the gov.uk email address on his phone. Clerk to send a weekly summary of the planning applications to Cllr Leedham so that they can be posted on Facebook and thus on our website. — Clerk — Clerk

(i) CCC Parish Form 10:00 10th Dec – Clerk reminded cllrs that they could attend this Teams meeting

(j) CCC Local Plan – Meeting noted that residents have until 8th Jan to make their comments on the proposed new sites

(k) Local Government Review – Residents have until 11th Jan to make their comments. Clerk to send links for both to Cllt Leedham. He can then put on Facebook. — Clerk

(l) The Winter Topics – Cllrs have received some positive feedback about the recent edition.

(m) Confirmation of the P.C. 2026 meeting dates – These were agreed as follows: 12th Jan, 9th Feb, 9th Mar, 13th Apr, 11th May, 8th June, 13th July, 10th Aug, 14th Sept, 12th Oct, 9th Nov, 14th Dec. Decision needed as to whether we hold an Annual Assembly.

(n) Training course – Cllr's Calmeyer and Chaplin to join clerk on the GDPR training course. Note cost of £17 per person. Clerk to investigate planning course for Cllr Kalbfell — Clerk — Clerk

101225 Correspondence received and action required – .None

111225 Items for future agendas – None

121225 Items for future Topics – None

Meeting closed at 08:53 p.m.

The next monthly meeting will be held Monday 12th January 2026 at St Andrews Church Hall starting at 7.15pm.