



SANDBACH  
TOWN COUNCIL

## **COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Agenda for the meeting to be held on **Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023**  
at **7.00pm** in **Sandbach Town Hall**.

Committee Members: Cllrs G Price Jones (Chair), A Nevitt (Vice Chair), A Smith,  
D Hegarty, J Beddows, L Crane, N Adams, N Cook,  
R Hoffmann and S Broad.

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for absence made directly to the Meeting Clerk **by 5pm**  
on the day of the meeting.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any  
disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

---

### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

The meeting Chair will adjourn the meeting to allow questions  
relating to items on this Agenda from members of the public.  
Following questions, the Chair will reconvene the meeting.

---

### **3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

[Attached: Draft minutes]

Action: *To approve minutes of the meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022.*

### **4. POLICING UPDATE**

Lead: Chair

Action: *To receive an update from Sergeant Hodson.*

### **5. CEC ENFORCEMENT**

Lead: Meeting Clerk

Action: *To receive a verbal update following meeting with the CEC  
Enforcement Team Manager.*

### **6. SANDBACH BINS**

Lead: Meeting Clerk

Action: *To receive a verbal update as requested from the previous  
meeting.*

**7. SANDBACH CONNECTED COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

[Attached: Sandbach Connected Community Partnership Meeting Notes 23  
January 2023]

Lead: Cllr Cook

Action: *To note the update from the Partnership.*

**8. PARK AND OPEN SPACE WORKING GROUP**

Lead: Chair

Action: *To agree the membership and the broad term of reference for the group.*

**9. SKATEPARK WORKING GROUP**

Lead: Cllr Hoffman

Action: *To receive an update from the working group.*

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

None received.

**11. DATE/TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed subject to the requirements of purdah and the new Council timetable.



SANDBACH  
TOWN COUNCIL

3

8

## **COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Minutes for the meeting held on **Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022**  
at **7.00pm** in **Sandbach Town Hall**.

Committee Members: Cllrs G Price Jones (Chair), A Nevitt (Vice Chair), A Smith, D Hegarty, J Beddows, L Crane, N Adams, N Cook, R Hoffmann and S Broad.

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs N Adams, J Beddows, S Broad, L Crane, A Nevitt.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests were made.

---

### **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

Members of the public present did not want to raise any questions so no adjournment was necessary.

---

### **3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

[Attached to Agenda: Minutes]

**Resolved:** *Minutes of the meeting held 17<sup>th</sup> August 2022 were approved as an accurate record.*

### **4. CEC ENFORCEMENT**

[Community Enforcement Representatives in attendance for this agenda item] CEC officers gave a useful overview of services provided (dog fouling / dog control / PSBOs) and the scope to 'top up' the CEC provision through Town Council funding. Members welcomed the connection with CEC and were supportive of exploring options.

**Resolved:** *Delegated authority given to the Chief Officer to liaise with CEC officers and produce costed options for additional enforcement provision for Full Council consideration.*

### **5. COST OF LIVING CRISIS/CONNECTED COMMUNITIES UPDATE**

[Attached to Agenda: Cllr Cook's Members Item report to Council 21.9.22 and notes of Connected Communities meeting.]

Cllr Cook provided an update of the work being undertaken through the Connected Communities Group regarding the allocation of £7,500, to support

Chair Signature:

Date:

the Cost of Living Crisis, as resolved by Council. It was highlighted that this provision will be targeted at boosting the current support network rather than to individuals. Noted that this Committee will have a regular item to report back from Connected Communities meeting and seek to support progress to achieve outcomes.

**Resolved:** *The update on progress from STC's Connected Community Representative Cllr Cook was received.*

#### 6. **STC VEHICLE**

The Chief Officer explained that the Council had been approached by the Ladies Circle for the provision of a vehicle for the town's Santa's Sleigh event. It was clarified that this was covered by the Council's current insurance provision, subject to the necessary conditions being met.

**Resolved:** *Expenditure of £445 for supply and fit of tow bar on STC's Peugeot Van to facilitate Council's support of Community Father Christmas residential visits, and to assist in the event of Market Van breakdown, (cost centre 195-6230 (Ranger Equipment) was approved.*

#### 7. **SANDBACH BINS**

[Attached to Agenda:Cllr Poole's Report to Council 21.9.22]

Committee welcomed the proposal but felt that this could be dealt with through the Chief Officer and / or local members liaising directly with ANSA. It was also felt that a view across all wards based on community need & engagement should be taken.

**Resolved:** *That the Chief Officer's office liaise with ANSA, and local Councillors, and report back to this Committee with an update.*

#### 8. **COMMUNITY GARDEN**

[Attached to Agenda:Cllr Poole's Members Item Report to Council 21.9.22]

The Committee welcomed the proposal and felt that a Park and Open Spaces Working Group would be a useful way forward. It was agreed that this should take a strategic view across all wards and identify potential priorities for Council approval in due course. It was noted that other related initiatives should also be progressed alongside this group with connections made as necessary. Eg. the Orchard Working Group and the wildflower project.

**Resolved:** *the Chief Officer to facilitate the setting up of a Park and Open Spaces Working Group.*

#### 9. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None received.

#### 10. **DATE/TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Community & Environment Committee meeting will take place on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7pm in Sandbach Town Hall.

Chair Signature:

Date:

## Sandbach Connected Communities Partnership Meeting Notes Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1pm

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Nicola Kapusniak	Sandbach Partnership	Cllr Avis Curwen	Betchton Parish Council
Cllr Richard Hovey	Sandbach Town Council	Arnie Laing	Coop Pioneer
Tania Becket	Pathways CIC	Ian Parsons	Churches Together / Pantry / Foodbank
Cllr Nicola Cook	Sandbach Town Council	Rowena Gomersall	Library Manager
Lucie Ferneyhough	Cheshire East Council	PC Roger Need	Cheshire Police
Cllr Sam Corcoran	Cheshire East Council	Rev Bee Boyde	St Mary's Church
APOLOGIES			
Cllr Ann Nevitt	Sandbach Volunteer Representative	Aoife Middlemass	CVS
Cllr Laura Crane	Cheshire East Council	Cllr Nick Adams	Sandbach Town Council
Ruth Williams	Smile Group	Cllr Gill Merry	Sandbach Volunteer Representative
Cllr Mike Benson	Cheshire East Council	Hannah Caufield	Cheshire Fire
Usman Ashiq	Plus Dane Housing		

1. Welcome and Introductions	Actions
LF welcomed everyone to the meeting, and everyone had an opportunity to introduce themselves.	
2. Notes and Matters arising	
All matters arising will be covered in the meeting notes under Cost of living.	

### 3. Cost of Living Crisis

**Sandbach Hub** – The second Sandbach Hub is taking place on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January at the Market Hall. There are approximately 15 organisations attending including the police, Social Prescriber, Springboard, the Pantry, Health and Wellbeing Bus etc. The previous Hub took place in the library and we didn't get the footfall we had hoped so we are trying the Market Hall.

However, LF said that she has not organised any future dates because we want to see how it goes and if it is successful. If it isn't as successful as we hope, then we will look at alternatives. For example, in Middlewich, we have attached the Middlewich Hub to the Town Council's Warm Hub. The Warm Hub runs weekly but the other part to it with the organisations runs once a month. This will hopefully increase the number of people attending and also it will enable us to promote the organisations that will be attending in advance. Also, if there is a particular organisation that people would like to speak to, we will ask them to attend.

NC suggested attaching the Sandbach Hub to something like the Parent and Toddler group at St Peter's in Elworth which is really well attended. It could be an opportunity to have a more themed event for children, young people and families.

LF said that she has also had a conversation with IP at the Pantry about asking some organisations to attend to offer help and advice and is something we hope to do.

The group were in agreement that this would be a good way to run the Hub but we would wait to see what happens at the Market Hall on Wednesday before making any decisions.

**Cooking on a Budget Project** – LF gave an update on what is happening with the project. The issue we have is that we have been asked by Everybody Health and Leisure to sign a loan agreement for the use of their equipment. Unfortunately, there is not really an organisation that is in the position to do this. However, LF spoke to Donna Williamson about this a couple of weeks ago and Donna suggested that to save costs, Everybody may be able to put the volunteers on their volunteer programme. This would also mean that it would effectively be Everybody Health and Leisure's project and the insurance, policies and procedures etc. would be covered by them. However, we would have to make sure that the volunteers have all of the necessary qualifications and experience, which should not be a problem.

**ACTION** – LF to contact DW and ask if she has looked into whether or not the volunteers could be taken on Everybody's volunteer programme.

<p>LF explained that she had contacted a number of supermarkets and asked if they are able to donate some food or funding towards it but unfortunately has not had any luck. LF has tried Waitrose in Sandbach and Morrisons in Middlewich. However, Arnie Laing (Coop Pioneer) has asked if the Coop maybe able to support the project but has not had a response yet.</p>	<p>7 LF</p>
<p>At the previous meeting, the £7,500 which has been made available from Sandbach Town Council to support people with the cost of living was discussed and it was suggested that the funding could go to the Pantry. IP put in a funding proposal to the Town Council for this funding last week. LF asked if some of the £7,500 could be used to run the Cooking on a budget project.</p>	
<p>LF said that she has done some basic costs and based on 6 sessions, with a person cooking a meal for 4, with a total cost of about £5, and 6 – 8 people per session, the total cost for the food will be approximately £240.</p>	
<p>We also discussed giving out a bag of useful ingredients, which LF has costed out at about £10 but this could easily be changed to suit the budget. If we said about 30 different people took part in the sessions, bearing in mind some will do more than one, the cost will be £300. Therefore, the total cost for food will be approximately £550 but there is an opportunity to decrease the cost if required.</p>	
<p><b>ACTION – LF</b> to contact Hannah Caulfield (Fire Service) to find out if the funding is still a possibility.</p>	
<p><b>ACTION – LF</b> to send NC the project plan she has written.</p>	
<p>LF asked the Town Council and IP (The Pantry) if they would consider using some of the £7,500 for this project. This was agreed in principle. <b>ACTION – NC</b> to check with the Ceri Lloyd and <b>IP</b> to check with the Pantry that they are happy to do this.</p>	<p>LF</p>
<p>We previously discussed giving out a slow cooker to those that attend but thought that it would be too costly. However, BB suggested that people might be happy to purchase one and donate it. The group thought that this could be a possibility. <b>ACTION ALL</b> – Please can you speak to your colleagues, friends, family etc. and ask if this is something they might consider doing.</p>	<p>LF NC / IP</p>
<p>At the previous meeting, NC suggested the Pantry look into partnering with local shops, like the butchers where vouchers can be given out and used at specific shops. IP explained that the Pantry team have been looking into this and are considering contacting local businesses and asking if they will accept vouchers from the pantry. Initially the cost would be covered by the Pantry but they will see if businesses would contribute once it is up and running.</p>	<p>ALL</p>

<p><b>Volunteer Project</b> – Sandbach Town Council have held a couple of meetings to discuss setting up a volunteer project, with the last one being in Autumn last year. LF is very keen that a volunteer project is set up as it will be very beneficial for the residents. There are a number of priorities for the area which this could link into, including befriending, volunteer drivers, food shopping etc., which were tasks carried out previously by the Sandbach Volunteer Coordination Point, as part of the People Helping People project during Covid.</p> <p>NK said that this is something that the Sandbach Partnership might be interested in doing but would require some more information.</p> <p><b>ACTION – LF</b> to contact Katy Pepper (Sandbach Town Council) to arrange a meeting to discuss this. <b>ACTION – LF</b> to send information about Alsager Community Support as they are already a very established group that already offer these services.</p> <p>LF also explained that that there will be some Health and Wellbeing funding available from the 24<sup>th</sup> January and there may be a possibility of applying to this funding to help set it up. There are two information sessions for people who want to find out more about the funding. The first session is on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2pm and the second on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January, 11am. To book a place, please email <a href="mailto:communitygrants2@cheshireeast.gov.uk">communitygrants2@cheshireeast.gov.uk</a>.</p> <p>There will be two more funding streams coming out soon for the Cost of Living and Rural Transport but LF does not have any information about these yet.</p>	<p>LF</p> <p>LF</p>
<p><b>4. Partner Updates</b></p> <p>LF gave an update on behalf of Usman Ashiq (Plus Dane Housing) regarding the support available to Plus Dane customers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wellbeing First project - psychological Wellbeing Support Workers provide friendly and informative 1-2-1 support to customers who have a range of mild to moderate mental health support needs such as stress, worry and low mood etc. Please see attached poster.</li> <li>• Employment &amp; Training - all aspects of pre-employment support available to customers including aspirational support for those who aren't quite ready for work but want to improve their social and personal development, including life skills and planning for the future, and access to nationally recognised qualifications through 1-2-1 mentoring. Further support includes careers advice, job search, interview practice and access to employers.</li> </ul>	



- Emergency support – help for customers who are experiencing hardship in relation to food and fuel, on a case by case basis and support provided around supermarket vouchers and energy vouchers for customers on both pre-payment and smart meters.
- Pocket Power – our partners Pocket power help our customers to switch to cheaper deals and apply for discounts, support is provided over the phone to help customers who are financially struggling. Savings include Water, Energy, Broadband, Phone, Car Insurance, HelptoSave and Bank savings and on average customers can save up to £340.

To make a referral simply forward the customers details to the team and will do the rest - engagement&partnerships@plusdane.co.uk

Nicola Kapusniak (Sandbach Partnership) – Nicola is the Vice Chair of the Sandbach Partnership which has very recently started running again. Some of the projects they are considering doing are:

Repair Café – Helen Dorney has visited Moorside to find out more about what they do and they will also be attending the repair café in Congleton on Saturday.

First IT – this is for young people to build and develop their STEM skills. The Partnership are considering running an after-school club. The young people would build robots and take part in competitions. The Partnership would like to work with hard to reach young people, like those that attend the Lodge.

**ACTION – LF** to send NK contacts for the High Schools.

LF

The Partnership do require someone to run these sessions and they are thinking of maybe someone from the U3A. **ACTION – AL** to send contact details for the U3A to NK.

AL

RH said there is a gentleman called Mark Hague who runs a business called ‘Gizmo Bot’s’ who maybe worth contacting.

SC explained that the Budget is currently out for consultation and asked for people to have a look at it. SC explained that two thirds of the budget is for social care and so many of the budget cuts fall on other services. SC has asked that people read the document and make suggestions of how CEC maybe able to run services differently, for example which days might be better to have services open than others etc. Please click on the link for more information [Budget Engagement \(cheshireeast.gov.uk\)](http://cheshireeast.gov.uk).

**5. Date of next meeting**

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 1.00pm at Sandbach Library

