

# SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL

## AGENDA

For the meeting of the Sandbach Town Council to be held at 7.00pm  
on Thursday 11 February 2021 in Zoom Room: 824 9669 3594

Please ensure that all apologies are made directly to the Meeting Clerk,  
Ann Banks, no later than 6pm on the day of the meeting.

***Video feeds for Members of the public will be hidden, unless participating during public speaking, to aid with the organisation and running of the meeting. Please use the function available within zoom to raise your hand if you wish to speak during Public Speaking. Members of the Public will still be able to join the meeting as normal and view and listen to the Councillors.***

Prayer to be read by Cllr K Flavell

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**3. MAYORS COMMENTS**

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**PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

The Town Mayor will adjourn the meeting to allow questions from members of the public. After the questions the Town Mayor will reconvene the Town Council Meeting.

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**4. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

Action: *To determine whether any items should be considered with the exclusion of the public and press, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.*

**5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14 JANUARY 2021 [ATTACHED].**

*All Minutes for Agenda items 6 – 8 can be viewed via Sandbach Town Council website: <https://sandbach.gov.uk/public-meetings-2020-2021/>*

**6. TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & CONSULTATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 11 AND 25 JANUARY 2021 (DRAFT).**

7. **TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ASSETS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON 26 JANUARY 2021 (DRAFT).**
8. **TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE EVENTS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 27 JANUARY 2021 (DRAFT).**
9. **MATTERS ARISING**
- 9.1 **Council (14.1.21)**
- 9.1.1 **Loan Repayment (PW502858)**  
Lead: RFO  
[Attached: final figure settlement]  
Action: *consider options to settle or reduce the balance outstanding.*
- 9.1.2 **Shop Unit Lease Review**  
Lead: RFO  
[Attached: Paper]  
Action: *to note the absence of a lease review in 2020 and defer any review until post-Covid19, when businesses are able to trade normally.*
- 9.2 **Finance, Policy and Governance**
- 9.2.1 **Local Athlete Sponsorship**  
[Attached: Letter from Victoria Brooks & F,P&G resolution]  
Lead: Chair of Finance, Policy & Governance  
Action: *That:*
- i. *Council resolves, as recommended by the F,P&G Committee, to use the general Power of Competence to sponsor Mia Brookes £1000. Payment to be allocated to budget line 110 4550.*
- ii. *Council confirms a process to review this sponsorship on an ongoing/annual basis.*
- 9.2.2 **Equality Policy**  
[Attached: Updated Policy to follow]  
Lead: Chair of Finance, Policy & Governance  
Action: *To approve the draft updates as recommended by the Finance, Policy and Governance Committee.*
- 9.2.3 **Cash Handling Policy**  
[Attached: Updated Policy to follow]  
Lead: Chair of Finance, Policy & Governance  
Action: *To approve the draft updates as recommended by the Finance, Policy and Governance Committee.*
- 9.2.4 **COVID Policy**  
[Attached: Updated Policy to follow]  
Lead: Chair of Finance, Policy & Governance  
Action: *To approve the draft updates as recommended by the Finance, Policy and Governance Committee.*
- 9.2.5 **Members Project Plan**  
[Attached: Plan to follow]  
Lead: Chair of Finance, Policy & Governance  
Action: *To approve the Plan as recommended by the Finance, Policy and Governance Committee.*

### **9.3 Assets and Services Committee**

Lead: Chair of Assets and Services

#### **9.3.1 Christmas Lights 2021**

Council is recommended to make available the Christmas Lights Budget of £26,500 for the 2021 Christmas Light installation, which will be delivered by the Town Clerk's office in consultation with the Chair of A&S.

n.b. This budget includes all aspect of Christmas Lights, including essential infrastructure and the switch on event.

#### **9.3.2 Christmas Market 2021**

Council is recommended to make available £10,000 for the purpose of delivering the 2021 Christmas Market, which will be made up as follows:

Budget	£5,000
Rental inc.	£4,000c
Gen Res	£1,000c (this amount is calculated on assumed rental income being £4,000).

Delivery of the Christmas Market is delegated to the Town Clerk's office in consultation with the Chair of A&S.

#### **9.3.3 Living Aids**

[Attached: Email dated 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020]

Action: Council to consider whether rent should be waived for periods when the business is unable to trade due to Covid-19 restrictions.

#### **9.3.4 Hanging Baskets 2021**

[Attached: Report]

Action: To:

- i. Receive an update on the current status for 2021.
- ii. Make available an additional £2,000 for the purpose of delivering the 2021 floral provision and making safe the infrastructure.
- iii. 2021 provision to be delegated to the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair of A&S.

## **10. FINANCE MATTERS**

Lead: Chair of Finance, Policy & Governance

### **10.1 Annual Grants**

[Attached: Schedule of Grants]

Action: To:

- i. Note the award of annual grants in accordance with budget provision 2021/22 as delegated to the Finance Officer.
- ii. Approve the payment of annual sponsorship to Foden's Band in accordance with budget provision 2021/22 - £7,500.

### **10.2 Invoices**

[Attached: copy invoices]

#### **10.2.1 E Smith**

Action: To approve the payment of £1,458.30 as the final balance for works to the Town Hall Office. To be allocated to Budget Line Committed Reserves 346. This balance has been held on retention for 12 months.

**10.2.2 David Trowler Associates**

Action: To:

- i. Approve the payment of £200 + VAT as the balance outstanding against design work undertaken for Town Hall Office Refurb. Payment to be allocated to Committed Reserves 346.
- ii. Approve the payment of £500 + VAT for additional design work undertaken on the new office accommodation project, to be funded via budget line Committed Reserves 347.

**10.2.3 New Hall Property Ltd T/A Signature Floors**

Action: To approve the payment of £3268.60 + VAT.

Payment to be delegated to the Finance Officer and allocated to budget line 180 4670 (Approved Purchases)

**10.3 Income related to COVID (Discretionary payment)**

[Attached: Report]

Lead: The Clerk

Action: To approve off-setting the grant to Covid-19 costs and allocate surplus funds to the nominal code 6091 in the relevant cost centre.

**10.4 Irrecoverable VAT**

[Attached: Report]

Lead: The Clerk

Action: To note the current overspend on budget line 180 635 (Irrecoverable VAT)

**11. SANDBACH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

[Verbal Report]

Lead: The Mayor

Action: To:

- i. *Receive the update on the progress of the NDP refresh.*
- ii. *Record a list of Councillor Volunteers to help the NDP WG produce a list of Historical and Architectural buildings, complete with images, in Sandbach.*

**12. ANNUAL MEETING 2021**

**12.1 Nominations for Mayor 2021/22**

Nominations will need to be considered by Council when it next meets on 8 April.

**12.2 Nominations for Deputy Mayor 2021/22**

Nominations will need to be considered by Council when it next meets on 8 April.

**12.3 Calendar of Meetings 2021/22**

[Attached: Draft Calendar of Meetings 2021-2022]

Lead: Meeting Clerk

Action: *To make any comments about the draft calendar prior to approval at the Town Council AGM.*

**13. MEMBERS ITEMS**

There are none.

**14. CORRESPONDENCE**

**14.1 Sandbach Partnership**

Correspondence received on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 concerning a New Sandbach Partnership Chairman.

**14.2 Cheshire East Council**

Correspondence received on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 concerning New Homes Bonus.

**15. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Town Council Meeting will be on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7.00pm on Zoom. The room code will be shared on the agenda for the meeting.

***Please note that this meeting will be recorded and the audio recording made available to the public within 5 working days of the meeting.***

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**Minutes of the Sandbach Town Council Meeting held on Thursday, 14 January 2021 at 7.00pm, via Zoom.**

**PRESENT**

Councillors: G Price Jones  
K Flavell  
G Merry  
I Williams  
L Crane  
S Crane  
S Corcoran  
J Beddows  
K Seymour  
P Eaton  
R Hovey  
A Smith  
R Hoffmann  
M Lea  
M Muldoon  
D Hegarty  
S Kirkham

Also present were the Finance Officer, Events Officer, Town Ranger, Operational Support Officer and 10 members of the public and press.

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**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs: S Broad, D Jack.

Absent without apologies: Cllr S Ashcombe Hurt

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Beddows

Declared an interest in agenda items 10.1 and 10.2.

Cllr Corcoran

Declared that he is the leader of Cheshire East Council and following items related to CEC: 10.3, 10.4 Skate Park, 13 Budget/Precept, 17 ANSA.

Cllr advised that this declaration was made in the interest of openness and transparency and not considered a prejudicial interest,

Cllr L Crane

Advised that she is a Cabinet Member of CEC.

Cllr Flavell

Advised that she is a Cabinet Member of CEC.

### 3. MAYORS COMMENTS

The Mayor was pleased to see many in attendance for the meeting and confirmed that he had judged the annual shop window display competition in December and presented the award to the winner: The Flower Shop.

### PUBLIC QUESTIONS

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The Mayor adjourned the meeting to allow questions from members of the public and clarified allotted time for the address of questions and statements.

#### Speaker 1

Queried parity of recently safeguarding Council Staff though not effecting a duty of care to Members of the public without adverse response from individuals; Members of the public should feel they can raise issues with Town or Borough Councillors and participate in local politics and should be protected from abuse and stigma when voicing a point of view, or when contacting a Councillor, on local issues of any topic. How is this being tackled within the Town Council and wider community?

The speaker further referenced creation of Dementia Friendly shopping within the Town and welcomed the proposed Wellbeing day.

#### Speaker 2

Seconded the views of the first speaker and queried the status of Council's Equality Policy review.

Following questions the Town Mayor reconvened the Town Council Meeting.

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### 4. ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

**Resolved:** That items 7, 11 and 19 should be considered with the exclusion of the public and press, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to Personnel nature.

### 5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15 OCTOBER AND 22 OCTOBER 2020 .

**Resolved:** That the minutes be approved as true records of the meetings held 15 October and 22 October 2020.

### 6. TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & CONSULTATION COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 2 AND 23 NOVEMBER AND 9 DECEMBER 2020 (DRAFT).

**Resolved:** That the minutes be noted.

### 7. TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE HELD ON 5 NOVEMBER 2020 (CONFIDENTIAL: DRAFT). CONFIDENTIAL

**Resolved:** That the draft minutes be noted.



8. **TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE, POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 NOVEMBER 2020 (DRAFT).**

**Resolved:** That the minutes be noted.

9. **TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ASSETS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON 3 NOVEMBER 2020 (DRAFT).**

**Resolved:** That the minutes be noted.

10. **MATTERS ARISING**

10.1 **Assets and Services**

*Cllr Beddows did not vote or participate in discussion of this item.*

The Meeting Clerk confirmed that, due to significant community impact of Covid, that A&S had resolved to defer reviewing rents for 2020/21 and commence the next review of Town Hall and Market rents/fees at its next meeting in April.

It was further confirmed, on behalf of the Town Clerk, that the Shop Unit rents have not been reviewed and will be an item for discussion at the next Council meeting.

**Resolved:** That Council notes Assets and Services Committee resolution and agrees the 2020 Market and Town Hall rent review deferment to commence April 2021.

10.2 **Finance, Policy & Governance – Write off**

*Cllr Beddows did not vote or participate in discussion of this item.*

Chair of Finance advised Members that investigations had been performed and were detailed within the agenda report, though the money remained missing. To prevent similar issue occurring the Finance Committee had subsequently reviewed and amended the Cash Handling Policy and the revised version would be presented to their next Committee Meeting.

The Finance Officer/Acting RFO verified final figure as £483.00.

**Resolved:** That Council approve the write off of the £483.00 against the Market (Indoor and Outdoor) budget line.

10.3 **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group – Amendment of Wording**

The Working Group chair referenced the circulated Sandbach NDP Phase 2 text amendment for policy HC4 and stated that JLE3 Policy wording was to be expanded, with support of CCA, in due course.

**Resolved:** That the amending wording, as provided, is approved.

10.4 **Skate Park Working Group**

In the absence of the Working Group Lead, an update was received on the Skate Park project, including details of previous consultation responses and site reviews undertaken. In order to provide necessary details regarding costs and challenges of this project, a proposal for a

feasibility study was made, at cost estimated to be approximately £3,600.

Several concerns were raised regarding outdated consultation, existing use of the proposed site area and requirement for input response from Friends of Sandbach Park and those residents impacted by the proposed location. It was confirmed that any ownership and ongoing maintenance of the skate park would require negotiation with Cheshire East, as the landowner.

**Resolved:** That Sandbach Town Council commissions a feasibility study to install a skatepark within Sandbach Town Park, to be funded from the Skate Park committed reserves.

### **10.5 Personnel Committee – Working From Home**

Members were advised that this agenda item was presented following recommendation of the Personnel Committee (5 November 2020) and that at no time had staff requested an allowance for working from home. Those Staff in attendance for this agenda item have previously confirmed, for reasons verified at the Personnel Meeting, they would not be claiming or seeking any such allowance.

**Resolved:** That a working from home allowance of £6 per week is to be made for any staff member wishing to claim that amount.

## **11. STANDING ORDER 27 DECISIONS**

### **CONFIDENTIAL**

**Resolved:** The Standing Order 27 Emergency Decisions detailed within the circulated report, relating to Markets, Occupational Health and Staff Email are noted and supported.

## **12. LOAN REPAYMENT**

Following earlier Committee discussions, Members were asked to review the loan repayment options provided and advised that the decision will subsequently impact the draft budget due to be reviewed and ratified.

**Resolved:** That:-

- i) The repayment of loan reference PW502858 is approved.
- ii) The overspend on budget line 400-4629 is approved and noted.
- iii) Council delegates the process to commence the payment to the Responsible Financial officer, with the final figure being provided for Council.

## **13. 2021-2022 BUDGET**

The Chair of Finance detailed the process followed in drafting the budget, which includes two publicly held discussion sessions, to which all Members were invited, circulation of resulting draft document by email to all Members for comment and a further copy provided with the agenda papers for review.

The current budget requires precept of £689,544 and demonstrates a decrease of -1.04% per property.

Thanks were expressed to the Finance Officer/Acting RFO for her hard work in preparing and adjusting the budget documents throughout the process.

During debate regarding the draft budget and recent suggestion for Skate Park funding inclusion, it was confirmed that at all previous discussions Members had sought not to increase the precept and to maintain a balanced budget during the difficult times faced by everyone.

An amendment was proposed and seconded to add £25,000 to into Committed Reserves for a Skatepark. A Member request to withdraw the amendment, due to CEC interest in the land, was raised however, following further discussion, the amendment went to a named vote.

For: Cllrs, Corcoran, Smith, Hegarty, Eaton, Price Jones and Flavell

Against: Cllrs, Muldoon, Merry, Hovey, Seymour, Lea, Kirkham, Williams

Abstention: Cllrs, Hoffmann, Beddows, L Crane, S Crane

The amendment was lost.

**Resolved: That:-**

- i) The draft budget and precept of £689,544 are approved for 2021-2022.
- ii) The Committed Reserve year end movement is approved.
- iii) Submission of the precept request to CEC is delegated to the Acting/Town Clerk, to meet the submission deadline.
- iv) The regular payments listed below, in excess of £1500, are approved and payments are to be delegated to Officers.

Nominal Code	Item	Further Information	Total Budget
4000/6022/6023	Salaries		£358,550
4001/6021	Employer NI		
4002/6022	Pension Contributions		
4100	Mayors Allowance	Paid with monthly salary run	£2,000
4120	Insurance	Annual insurance £6,000	£10,000
4152	HR and H&S	Annual invoice	£4,000
7000	Loan	Paid by direct debit (Budget will update dependant on Loan Repayment decision)	£29,606
Cost Centre 110	Grants and Discretionary Payments	Town Crier Honorarium £750 Churchyard Maintenance £1580 Allotments £1000 RBL £250	£3,580
4515	Concert Series	Three Year grant award FCM18.11.15.7. Final payment	£2,500
6010	Bar Purchases	Total budget used to cover numerous orders.	£15,000
6100	Utilities	Any invoices over £1,500	£15,000

#### 14. AGAR END OF YEAR EXTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT

**Resolved:** The Audit report is received.

#### 15. VIRTUAL VOLUNTEER NETWORK – SANDBACH

The Meeting Clerk briefly described the project to date and highlighted the community value of maintaining a volunteer scheme for Sandbach, which has helped so many during the recent pandemic and would provide a benefit for

future methods in supporting those in need.

Thanks were expressed to all involved with the creation and ongoing administration of the Sandbach Volunteer Co-ordination scheme.

**Resolved:** That Sandbach Town Council happy to continue as a Volunteer Co-ordination Point (VCP), to commit to the principles set out in the attached VCP Document and for the STC Co-ordinator to apply for a one-off grant on behalf of STC to support the scheme, in line with the VCP development principles.

## 16. QUALITY AWARD

Following report to previous meeting which confirmed, with regret, that Sandbach would need to delay its application for Quality Council award renewal for various reasons, the Operational Support Officer was pleased to confirm that Sandbach was now able to meet criteria and sought Member approval to swiftly progress the application.

**Resolved:** That:-

- i. Sandbach Town Council confirms that it either publishes all documents online or is in possession of documents which are not required for online publication.
- ii. Council delegates application submission to the Operational Support Officer, to be carried out as soon as possible.

## 17. HANGING BASKETS INVOICE

It was requested that an evaluation of effectiveness of the current hanging basket process is reviewed by the Assets and Services meeting, with ensuing report provided to a future Council meeting.

**Resolved:** That the payment of £4260.40 to pay invoice 531025912, raised for the 2020 hanging baskets scheme is approved and payment to be delegated to the Finance Officer. Payment to be made from budget line 110-4503.

## 18. TOWN HALL LIFT IMPROVEMENTS

Having reviewed the recommendations for works to the Town Hall lift and accompanying notes from the Facilities Supervisor, Members agreed the payment of specified lighting item and that query be raised of the contractor to establish compliance need for the remaining works.

**Resolved:** That:-

- i. Payment of the Car Lighting Upgrade at £1123.00 + VAT, is approved, with payment of the final invoice delegated to the Finance Officer and allocated to Cost Centre 180 6080 (Town Hall Maintenance)
- ii. Associated budget line overspend be noted.

## 19. STAFFING MATTERS

### CONFIDENTIAL

**Resolved:** That:-

- i. Provision of three further external support sessions are approved to be taken by the named staff member, if needed.

- ii. The Personnel Working Group is asked to schedule its final meeting and close the group.

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## **20. MEMBERS ITEM PROCEDURE**

Referring to the draft document and circulated report, the Mayor stated that, if agreed by Members, the item would be passed to Finance, Policy and Governance to follow due process for policy review and discussion.

**Resolved:** the draft procedure and form be referred to the Finance, Police and Governance Committee.

## **21. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **21.1 Cheshire Living Aids**

Email received 5.11.2020 regarding shop unit rent.

**Resolved:** the letter be referred to Assets and Services Committee.

## **22. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Town Council Meeting will be on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7.00pm on Zoom. The room code will be shared on the agenda for the meeting.

Meeting closed 9.28pm

Cllr G Price Jones (Town Mayor)

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## PWLB Loan Repayment

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### Purpose of Report

To agree repayment of part or all of PWLB loan number PW502858.

### Background

At its meeting on 14 January, Council resolved:

**Resolved:** That:-

- i) The repayment of loan reference PW502858 is approved.
- ii) The overspend on budget line 400-4629 is approved and noted.
- iii) Council delegates the process to commence the payment to the Responsible Financial officer, with the final figure being provided for Council.

On resolution, the Finance Officer sought settlement figures from the PWLB, unfortunately there was an error on the final figures presented, as there is an additional premium to add to the amount outstanding, which is far more than highlighted in the January report.

The revised details are below:

<b>Total Principal to be repaid</b>	<b>£63,080.67</b>
<b>Total Accrued Interest to be repaid</b>	<b>£919.97</b>
<b>Premium/(Discount)</b>	<b>£25,775.97</b>
<b>Total to be repaid</b>	<b>£89,776.61</b>

### Options

1. Make a partial repayment of the loan, to the amount of £63,081, as originally planned and reduce the loan amount due and repayments going forward.  
The consequence of this approach would be that the loan repayment budget line for 2021-22 would be overspent due to the repayments being higher than thought when the initial item was presented, this would be reported each quarter.
2. Commit the approved £63,081, which was also discussed during budget setting, and build up the reserves fund to pay off at a later date.  
The consequence would be to increase committed reserves and deliver an overspend against the budget line (as 1 above).
3. Pay the full amount using the budget line and general reserves.  
The consequence would be a reduction in carry forward general reserves.

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**Town Hall Complex – Shop Lease Review**

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**Purpose of Report**

To agree to defer the five yearly lease review to 2022.

**Background**

At its meeting on 14 January, Council resolved:

*That Council notes Assets and Services Committee resolution and agrees the 2020 Market and Town Hall rent review deferment to commence April 2021.*

At the same time members were informed that the rent review under the four shop leases had not been undertaken due to the Town Clerk absence and that a report would follow.

In accordance with the lease arrangements the following rent reviews were due:

Unit A	Fourth rent review due 2020
Unit C	Fourth rent review due 2020
Unit D	Fourth rent review due 2020
Unit B (term)	Third rent review due 2020, new lease required.

Due to restrictions imposed by Covid regulations and later the Town Clerk's long term absence, a formal review has not been undertaken. However, the difficulties experienced by the shop traders have been recognised by Council, with a 25% reduction to rent being put in place.

**Recommendation**

In accordance with the resolution for Market Traders and based on information awaited from the Town Council's legal advisor, the Town Clerk seeks to defer lease review for all four shop units until 2022 and asks that the current 25% discount remains until such time as Government restrictions are relaxed to allow normal trading.

Ann Banks  
3 February 2020

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**SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**SPONSORSHIP LETTER**

9.2.1

Reference FPG 14.11.2020

Resolutions:

**10. SPONSORSHIP [FINANCE]**

At the August 2020 F.P.G meeting, the committee requested a check to see if the Council can pay sponsorship to a local Team GB Athlete after an application form was received for a grant, it was noted that the Local Athlete had not currently applied for sponsorship. The A.RFO referred to the report that stated that: CHALC confirmed that sponsorship is no different to the normal grant scheme and can be paid to an individual if we have resolved to use General Power of Competence, which we do hold. It was noted that this is not something the Council will offer out for applications, but any sponsorship will be for exceptional individuals and will be based on a year by year application, there is no criteria written up and a the A.RFO was request to find a template for criteria. An amount of £1000 per annum was suggested.

**RESOLVED:** That the A.RFO write to the Local Athlete asking them to formally write in and apply for sponsorship, which will be presented to Full Council for approval.

Below is a request from the athlete and family:

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To apply for an Annual Sponsorship, as discussed at the finance meeting, Nov 2020.

■■■■■ is a 13 year old girl from Elworth, Sandbach who attended Elworth Hall Primary school and is currently in Yr9 of Sandbach High School.

■■■■■ has been a well known name within British snowboarding from just 7 years old. After sharing a passion for snowboarding holidays with parents from only 18 months old at 7 years old, & just for a fun, ■■■■■ competed in her first snowboarding slope style competition at Chill factore in Manchester, where ■■■■■ is now an ambassador. ■■■■■ surprised everyone by winning her U12's age category. The following year ■■■■■ then went on to win the overall woman's age category at just 8yrs old. ■■■■■ loved to compete at all of the competitions held across the UK, travelling in the family campervan. The family even started to travel abroad in their van to European Junior competitions. At 10 years old ■■■■■ decided she would love to enter her first World Rookie comp, this was held in Switzerland. ■■■■■ was the youngest to enter and up against 'teenagers' that lived in the mountains, although a little nervous to step outside the UK scene, it was also a good exercise to really see how ■■■■■ compared to the mountain born up and coming athletes & what work she needed to do to get to that level outside of the UK-there was zero pressure because she was a 10 year old British kid, but amazingly ■■■■■ made the podium in the U15s category & automatically made it through to the World rookie finals held in Austria the following spring, in the mean time ■■■■■ competed at another WRT tour stop in the January out in Italy but this time won.

One nice story was that on the visible competition entry list, other nations new that ■■■■■ was from Great Britain, but ■■■■■ place of birth should actually have read Saalbach-an Austrian ski resort, that Sandbach could possibly be a miss print, but obviously this wasn't the case.

9.2.1

As well as the WRT competitions in the 17/18 season ■ also entered a few more European competitions, again winning two more and building up Junior World ranking points. At the WRT finals and now competing against Worldwide tour stop winners; Europeans, Americans, Australians, Japanese etc etc, it was only in ■ wildest dreams to have even made it here, but then to come home with a podium 3rd place at the overall finals and also be ranked no1 in the World from all competition points added together at only just 11yrs old from mountain-less Sandbach was incredible. The following year 2018/19 ■ did much the same with similar results & against the same top athletes, one athlete that this yr went on to win a Gold medal at the youth Olympics (16yrs old) only a week after ■ beat this girl at a comp in Italy, but Mia was still 3 yrs too young to represent Great Britain at the Youth Olympics in Lausanne & there wasn't another young British female that met the criteria to be selected.

This year started out to be equally as successful, again winning the Italian WRT stop, but this year both U15 & points scoring higher than U18's category (the girl that went on to win the Youth Olympics) and just afterwards learning and landing two difficult tricks that are normally performed at a much higher level like the normal Winter Olympics, but the pandemic put a stop to everything. Having to leave the families motor home in Italy not realising it would be stuck there until August! but ■ trained hard at home throughout lock down, she even challenged herself to cycle 1000 road miles on her bicycle-which she did in fact doubled it and did more than 2000miles from March until September, these included cycling from Sandbach to Llandudno, Sandbach to Llangollen, Sandbach to the cat and fiddle and much more, even up the horse shoe pass to the Ponderosa Cafe. This year ■ was selected to team GBs 'A' team World Class Programme, Britains youngest ever athlete, ■ is now on a 5 yr programme to represent Great Britain at the 2026 Winter Olympics in Italy. Only ■ and current 2X Olympian Katie Ormerod are GBs selected female athletes and now travel and train together on the GB programme. ■ is again just a few weeks too young to compete in Beijing 2022 but is already training and competing on the same qualifying circuit with the team to gain this essential experience in advance. As you can imagine this does not come cheap!! as an example the past few seasons have cost in the region on £15K per year competing on a junior level and only within Europe. Next yr, pandemic allowing ■ will be automatically asked to train and compete in America in May and New Zealand in August, which then leads straight into the usual Autumn of European Glacier training, then on to winter. This is a full time career for ■ now at this level and juggling everything including a parent needing to chaperone ■ due to being U18 is a massive ask not only financially but on the family as well, but ■ clearly loves sport, including Skateboarding, cycling, hockey and cross country and is showing great potential already within global snowboarding, its only fair after how hard ■ works too off the snow that she has this help and support to continue performing on, especially as a young inspiring female from Sandbach representing Great Britain in an extreme snowsport, proving that with hard work you can really achieve anything. You can find lots of information about ■ if you search up ■ ■, there's magazine articles, interviews and competition results, you can also find and follow ■ on social media ■. Last year for an example, ■ was filmed all day by ITV in school, with her Physio and then at Chill factor demonstrating, she has been on the radio a number of times and in the Chronical and evening sentinel. Her biggest dream if she makes and then after the Olympics is to one day be invited on Strictly come dancing :)

9.2.1

The yearly £1000 grant over the next few years would certainly make a huge difference and certainly help take away the financial strain, it could help buy [REDACTED] flights to America or Australia or help pay for the majority of yearly competition fees, it really really would help.

Thank you for taking time to learn more about [REDACTED]. If you would like anymore information at all, then please do ask.  
[REDACTED] and family.

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# 9.3.3

By Email 5.11.2020

Hi Katy

Thank you for taking the time to raise our concerns about our rent to the Council. It appears that in some situations we are treated as part of the Market and in some situations not!

Our business is unique in Sandbach, and offers an important service to elderly and disabled people. Our business also attracts customers from a much wider area into the town , and in turn spend money at other local shops.

Because of the nature of our business and the vulnerability of our customers, it is essential that we now stick to the Covid restrictions again.

Once again we find ourselves having to find rent for a month in which we cannot trade. Home delivery is not a sensible option for us because customers need to try the shoes and slippers for fit. We cannot enter their homes to fit the shoes and give advice.

Lots of people walk past our business and don't understand the vital service we provide, because they themselves are not yet in need! We are well known by local podiatrists and orthopaedic surgeons, and take many referrals.

We are not a business making massive profits unlike some of the big corporate names in the town. However, we have always ticked over making a modest income ,being rewarded with the gratitude from customers and their families . The rent for the closed period will still have to be found and paid.

We have consistently paid rent for 14 years, and feel that a small discount is not unreasonable.

We have always enjoyed what we do, but this lack of regard from Council has now made us question our desire to continue trading.

I would like to raise the inequality of the rent waiver again to Council at the next opportunity.

I should be grateful if you could keep me informed about the date of the next meeting .

Thank you for your help Katy.

Stay safe



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## **Floral Provision 2021**

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### **Purpose of Report**

To notify Council of arrangements for the 2021 provision and to seek approval for additional spend.

### **Background**

Since taking on the responsibility for floral provision within the Town, Sandbach Town Council has historically used ANSA for the installation and maintenance of plants. They have delivered c100 baskets and planted troughs and planters, they have provided infrastructure maintenance as needed and have ensured that plants are maintained during the display period. The cost has seen a gradual increase in line with inflation. There have been no complaints about their service.

2020 was an unusual year, due to the Covid position and the need for social distancing, ANSA reported that they were unable to deliver the scheme. Arrangements were made for it to be delivered in house, despite best efforts this was not successful.

Over recent years, several business owners have asked for baskets to be installed in areas not covered. Some have been delivered, with the business owners being recharged the cost of installation, in other areas we have moved baskets to give a more uniform presentation. A full audit and review is required, to bring the Town's floral provision together and to ensure that all relevant areas get the required show.

### **Current Position**

There is £8,000 in the 2021 budget for Hanging Baskets.

Under the Scheme of Delegation, the A&S Committee has agreed that the 2021 floral provision will be delivered by ANSA and that options for 2022 will be considered.

The Clerk has instructed ANSA to make arrangements for the 2021 display, however has been informed that the total cost will be £8,275.02, £275.02 more than the budget. Through liaison with ANSA officers, they are willing to order the required seedlings, however STC will need to approve the additional £275.02 as overspend against the budget line.

During committee discussion and following involvement of members in the 2020 installation, a number of concerns were raised about the safety of the basket brackets. The Clerk has raised these concerns with ANSA and they will be checked as the 2021 baskets are put in place, however there may be a need to replace some. In anticipation of additional expenditure, Council is asked to make available up to £10,000, which will include £275.02 overspend on plants (as above) and provide a surplus for any essential maintenance/replacement of infrastructure.

# 9.3.4

## **2022**

The Town Ranger is currently developing a street furniture map and audit. The Clerk has highlighted the need to ensure that mapping of baskets and planters is undertaken during 2021, so that a complete review of need can be undertaken for 2022. Additionally, local nurseries will be contacted to establish if they would be able to deliver the baskets for 2022, with an external body being sourced for Summer maintenance. A report will be presented to the A&S Committee in due course for consideration.

### **Recommendations: that**

- i. The Council notes arrangements for 2021.
- ii. The Council makes available up to £10,000 for the 2021 scheme, to cover costs as detailed. This will show as a £2,000 overspend against budget line 4503 110 Hanging Baskets.
- iii. The installation is organised by the Town Clerk's office, in consultation with the Chair of A&S as necessary.
- iv. That remedial infrastructure works are organised by the Town Clerk's office.
- v. The Council notes 2022 considerations.

Town Clerk  
4 February 2021

**SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL GRANTS AND DISCRETIONARY PAYMENTS COST CENTRE 110**

**ANNUAL GRANTS AND PAYMENTS FOR 2021-2022**

10.1

Full list of Annual Grants and Discretionary payments for Council information.

Approval requested for payment of Foden's Sponsorship for 2021-2022, which will be paid from budget line 110-4550 and from the now approved 2021-22 budget.

	<b>Code</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Auto/ Council/ Notes</b>
<b>Town Crier Honorarium</b>	4551	£750	Auto: TCM14012021
<b>Foden's Sponsorship</b>	4550	£7,500	Council
<b>Churchyard Maintenance</b>	4560	£1,580	Auto: TCM14012021
£1,580 distributed as below:			
Ettiley Heath		£240	
St Johns		£240	
St Marys		£480	
St Peters		£240	
Christ Church		£380	
<b>Marriott House Bowling Club</b>	4599	£100	Auto: TCM14012021
<b>Allotments (FCM150910)</b>	4660	£1000	Auto: TCM14012021
<b>RBL- Sandbach Branch (FCM161201.7)</b>	4611	£250	Auto: TCM14012021
<b>Sandbach Partnership</b>	4601	£10,000	Council via request
<b>Transport Festival</b>	4500	£12,000	Council via request
<b>Hanging Baskets</b>	4503	£8,000	Council via invoice
<b>CCTV</b>	4640	£5,750	Council via invoice
<b>Christmas Lights</b>	4508	£26,500	Committee/Council
<b>Community Grants</b>	4530	£30,000	Committee
<b>Concert Series[21-22 final year]</b>	4515	£2,500	Approved 3-year grant.
<b>Woodland &amp; Wildlife[21-22 final year]</b>	4573	£1,000	Approved 3-year grant

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# E. Smith & Son

Hyde Park House, Cartwright St, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 4EH  
Commercial & Industrial Building Contractors (Est. 1929)

t:0161 367 1210 e:enquiries@esmithandson.co.uk w: www.esmithandson.co.uk

Partners: DP Woodward, GL Woodward, M Woodward

VAT Reg No: 146 6904 48

# 10.2.1

## Sales Invoice.

Sandbach Town Council  fao: Ann Banks: clerk@sandbach.gov.uk	Invoice No.	889/20
	Invoice / Tax Date.	31 December 2020
	Order No.	
	ESS Project Ref.	3522

<b>Re: Sandbach Market Hall</b>	
Valuation 4 (Release Of Retention): Gross Amount	£ 48,610.08
Less: Retention	£ -
	£ 48,610.08
Less: Previously certified	£ 47,394.83
	£ 1,215.25
Net.	£ 1,215.25
VAT @ 20%.	£ 243.05
Total.	£ 1,458.30



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# Invoice



**David Trowler Associates**  
Chartered Building Surveyors

100, 101, Wallasey Village  
Wallasey, Wirral, CH45 3LQ  
T: 0151 630 1227  
E: mail@davidtrowler.co.uk

<b>Invoice No.</b>	2950
<b>Invoice Date</b>	29 January 2021
<b>Job No.</b>	2309/04
<b>TO :</b>	Sandbach Town Council Sandbach Literary Institution Hightown Sandbach Cheshire CW11 1AE
<b>Client Ref</b>	
<b>Client Contact</b>	Ann Banks, Town Clerk

VAT No : 693 6018 16  
 Terms: 14 days  
 For BACS Payments please use the following:  
**Bank** HSBC  
**Account Name** David Trowler Associates  
**Sort Code** 40-10-22  
**Account No.** 81710125

## SANDBACH MARKET - OFFICE ALTERATIONS

Building Surveying Services	NET	VAT
Attendance at Meetings.		
Site survey and preparation of Schedule of Works and working drawings for alterations to form extended office.		
Preparation of Pre-Construction Information.		
Principal Designer duties.		
Structural Engineers fees.		
Preparation and submission of Building Regulation application.		
Inviting tenders from Contractors.		
Contract Administration.		
Fixed Fee, as agreed	£ 4,500.00	
Amount Now Due	£ 4,500.00	
Less Amount Previously Paid (20/12/19)	£ 4,300.00	£ 200.00
		£ 40.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	£ 200.00	£ 40.00
<b>INVOICE TOTAL</b>		<b>£ 240.00</b>

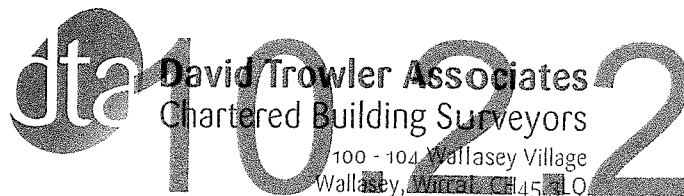
**Due Payment Date : 12 February 2021**

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# Invoice



**David Trowler Associates**  
Chartered Building Surveyors

100 - 104 Wallasey Village  
Wallasey, Wirral, CH45 3LQ  
T: 0151 630 1227  
E: mail@davidtrowler.co.uk

<b>Invoice No.</b>	2951
<b>Invoice Date</b>	29 January 2021
<b>Job No.</b>	2418/01
<b>TO :</b>	Sandbach Town Council Sandbach Literary Institution Hightown Sandbach Cheshire CW11 1AE
<b>Client Ref</b>	
<b>Client Contact</b>	Ann Banks, Town Clerk

VAT No : 693 6018 16  
 Terms: 14 days  
 For BACS Payments please use the following:  
**Bank** HSBC  
**Account Name** David Trowler Associates  
**Sort Code** 40-10-22  
**Account No.** 81710125

## MARKET OFFICES - PHASE 2

Building Surveying Services		NET	VAT
Site survey.			
Preparation of outline proposals and costs for alterations to provide additional office accommodation.			
Review of proposals.			
Time Scale Charges	Hours		
Principal Building Surveyor	4 at £60.00/ hour	£ 240.00	£ 48.00
Building Surveyor	1 at £50.00/ hour	£ 50.00	£ 10.00
Assistant Building Surveyor	7 at £30.00/ hour	£ 210.00	£ 42.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£ 500.00</b>	<b>£ 100.00</b>
<b>INVOICE TOTAL</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>600.00</b>

**Due Payment Date : 12 February 2021**

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**New Hall Property Ltd T/A  
Signature Floors**

Hot Lane Burslem  
Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire, ST6 2BN  
United Kingdom

Telephone: 01782 839311  
Email [accounts@signaturefloorsstoke.co.uk](mailto:accounts@signaturefloorsstoke.co.uk)

10.2.3

**Invoice To:**

Bob Nightingale  
Sandbach Town Hall  
High Street  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1AX

**Deliver To:**

Bob Nightingale  
Sandbach Town Hall  
High Street  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1AX

**SALES INVOICE**

**Invoice Date** 03/02/2021      **Due Date** 03/03/2021      **Customer Code** SANDBACH      **Invoice Number** SI-1461

Description	Qty/Hrs	Price/Rate	VAT %	Net Amt
Landing & Stairs - To take up & remove existing carpet. Supply & lay CFS Scala Solutions - Midnight 790P	1.00	3,268.60	20.00	3,268.60

VAT Rate	Net	VAT	Net Amount	3,268.60
Standard 20.00% (20.00%)	£3,268.60	£653.72	VAT Amount	653.72
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£3,922.32</b>

**Notes:**

PAYMENT BY RETURN WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATED  
OUR BANK DETAILS ARE AS FOLLOWS:-  
SORT CODE:- 77-48-17  
ACCOUNT NO:- 66812768  
OR  
TELEPHONE 01782 839311 TO PAY BY CREDIT/DEBIT CARD  
OR  
PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO:  
NEW HALL PROPERTY LTD

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# SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL

Thursday 11 February 2021

# 10.3

## Discretionary Grant Scheme

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### Purpose of Report

To determine where income generated via the Coronavirus Local Discretionary Grant Scheme should be allocated.

### Background and Position

Sandbach Town Council successfully applied for grant funding via the Coronavirus Local Discretionary Scheme administered by Cheshire East Council. Details of the award are:

*Coronavirus Local Discretionary Grant Scheme*

*The Local Discretionary Grant Scheme has been launched by the Government as an additional fund to the Small Business Grant Fund and the Retail, Leisure and Hospitality Grant Fund.*

*The local discretionary grant is aimed at businesses who –*

- are not eligible for other funds such as the Small Business Grant and the Retail, Leisure and Hospitality fund*
- have relatively high fixed ongoing property costs*
- have suffered a significant fall in income due to the COVID-19 crisis*

*Amount awarded            £25,000*

This income has been allocated against 'other' Council Income; this report is to see if there is an appetite to offset this grant against costs incurred relating to Covid-19 or to leave in income lines.

Unexpected Covid costs incurred to date are, with budget lines:

Admin	101-6091	£ 1,856.38
Town Hall	180-6091	£ 2,714.91
Indoor Market	191-6091	£ 1,396.20
Outdoor Market	190-6091	<u>£ 4,332.11</u>
TOTAL		£10,299.60

The total grant of £25,000 will incur VAT if a profit is shown, which would reduce the total grant to £20,833.25

**Recommendation:** That Council approve off-setting the grant to Covid-19 costs and allocate surplus funds to the nominal code 6091 in the relevant cost centre.

SVS, Finance Officer

3.2.21

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**IRRECOVERABLE VAT**

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**Purpose of the Report**

To highlight an overspend against irrecoverable VAT for the Town Hall.

**Background and Position**

The irrecoverable VAT calculation is dependent on sales and purchases each quarter, it would be difficult year on year to correctly set an exact budget for this. A budget line for this expense was introduced in 2017, previously there was no budget set for this VAT and the irrecoverable cost came of general reserves, this overspend will also come out of general reserves. The final outcome for 2020-21 will be presented at year end.

This report is to update the Council that the Irrecoverable VAT budget line for the Town Hall Cost Centre is overspent, the below table show the information covering all relevant cost centres. In quarter 3 there were low sales combined with a large VAT amount of £2884 for invoice for the urgent roof repairs that were completed.

The balances of each cost centre are below:

Cost Centre	Budget	Spent	Balance of funds
Town Hall	£6,250	£7,958	-£1,708
Outdoor Market	£3,125	£ 645	£ 2,480
Indoor Market	£3,125	£2,647	£ 148
<b>Total</b>	<b>£12,500</b>	<b>£11,070</b>	<b>£ 1,430</b>

**Recommendation**

That Council note the current overspend on budget line 180-6350 (Irrecoverable VAT)

SVS, Finance Officer  
3 February 2021

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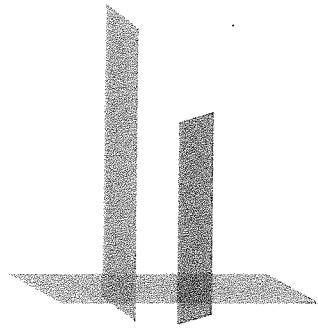
# 12.3

Proposed Meetings 2021/22  
Sandbach Town Council and Committees

DATE	START	MEETING	NOTES
Thursday, 6th May 2021	7pm	Pre-AGM	Already in 20-21 Diary
Monday 10th May 2021	7pm	Planning	Already in 20-21 Diary
Thursday 20th May 2021	7pm	Sandbach Town Council (AGM)	Already in 20-21 Diary
Monday 7th June 2021	7pm	Planning	
Tuesday 22nd June 2021	7pm	Personnel	
Monday 28th June 2021	7pm	Planning	
Thursday 1st July 2021	7pm	Community & Environment	
Thursday 15th July 2021	7pm	Sandbach Town Council	First Business Meeting
Monday 19th July 2021	7pm	Planning	
Tuesday 27th July 2021	7pm	Assets & Services	
Thursday 5th August 2021	7pm	Finance & Governance	
Monday 9th August 2021	7pm	Planning	
Monday 31st August 2021	7pm	Planning	Tuesday Meeting
Thursday 16th September 2021	7pm	Community & Environment	
Monday 20th September 2021	7pm	Planning	
Thursday 23rd September 2021	7pm	Sandbach Town Council	
Monday 11th October 2021	7pm	Planning	
Tuesday 12th October 2021	7pm	Pre-Budget	
Thursday 21st October 2021	7pm	Sandbach Town Council	
Monday 1st November 2021	7pm	Planning	
Tuesday 2nd November 2021	7pm	Assets & Services	
Tuesday 9th November 2021	7pm	Pre-Budget	
Thursday 18th November 2021	7pm	Finance & Governance	
Monday 22nd November 2021	7pm	Planning	
Thursday 25th November 2021	7pm	Community & Environment	
Thursday 9th December 2021	7pm	Sandbach Town Council	
Monday 13th December 2021	7pm	Planning	
Tuesday 11th January 2022	7pm	Planning	Tuesday Meeting
Monday 24th January 2022	7pm	Planning	
Tuesday 25th January 2022	7pm	Assets & Services	
Thursday 3rd February 2022	7pm	Finance & Governance	
Thursday 10th February 2022	7pm	Sandbach Town Council	
Monday 14th February 2022	7pm	Planning	
Thursday 3rd March 2022	7pm	Community & Environment	
Monday 7th March 2022	7pm	Planning	
Wednesday 16th March 2022	7pm	Personnel	
Thursday 24th March 2022	7pm	Annual Town Meeting	
Monday 28th March 2022	7pm	Planning	
Thursday 7th April 2022	7pm	Sandbach Town Council	
Tuesday 19th April 2022	7pm	Planning	Tuesday Meeting
Tuesday 26th April 2022	7pm	Assets & Services	
Thursday 28th April 2022	7pm	Finance & Governance	
Thursday, 5th May 2022	7pm	Pre-AGM	
Monday 9th May 2022	7pm	Planning	
Thursday 19th May 2022	7pm	Sandbach Town Council (AGM)	

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Sandbach Partnership

A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

14.1  
Dot Flint  
Chair, Sandbach Partnership  
Sandbach Enterprise Centre  
Wesley Avenue  
Sandbach  
Cheshire  
CW11 1DG

1<sup>st</sup> February 2021

Dear STC Members,

**Re: Sandbach Partnership New Chairman – Keeley Todd**

I wrote to you in October to advise you that I would be resigning as the Chairman of Sandbach Partnership at the next Annual General Meeting and the Partnership were in the process of inviting nominations for the position.

We received one nomination from Keeley Todd, unfortunately, due to the Covid Pandemic and the implications of lockdown restrictions we have had to postpone the AGM planned for 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021.

At the Management Team meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> January, Keeley Todd as the only nominee was invited to take the position of Chairman of Sandbach Partnership for an interim period of 12 months. Keeley accepted the position and the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 was agreed as the hand over date.

It is hoped that within 12 months, an AGM can be held and a nomination process for the position can be conducted.

The existing Management Team (listed below) have all agreed to retain their position to support Keeley for this interim period.

Volunteer - Sue Wood - Vice Chairman - Sandbach Dementia Friends  
Volunteer - Mike Benson - Friends of Sandbach Park  
Volunteer - Craig Bayley - Grassroots Disability  
STC Rep - Cllr David Jacks  
CEC Rep - Cllr Laura Crane

I have informed Keeley of the position regarding the annual grant funding the Partnership receive and the Service Level Agreement the Partnership have with Sandbach Town Council.

As the Town Council requested, Keeley will be contacting the Council within one month of taking the position, to discuss the SL and request the grant funding, Cllr David Jacks has agreed to support Keeley in this matter.

I wish the Partnership and the new Chairman every success in the future and hope that Sandbach Town Council and Sandbach Partnership can develop a positive working relationship for the benefit of Sandbach the surrounding areas and its wonderful volunteer network.

Yours Sincerely

Dot Flint  
Sandbach Partnership Chairman

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Working for a **brighter future** together

**Executive Office**  
Westfields  
c/o Municipal Buildings  
Earle Street  
Crewe  
CW1 2BJ

Tel: 01270 686640  
[Frank.Jordan@Cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:Frank.Jordan@Cheshireeast.gov.uk)

DATE: 1 February 2021

OUR REF: NT/FJ

Dear Chair

### **New Homes Bonus Conclusion**

On 22 February 2018 the Council set aside a fund of £1m (2018 to 2019) as part of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy, to allow local people to engage with how services are delivered within their communities. This resource was more commonly referred to as the New Homes Bonus (NHB) Community Scheme

New Homes Bonus was allocated to Cheshire East Council to reflect the net increase in properties since 2010. The bonus is a government policy and was intended to be a permanent feature of the Local Authority Finance Settlement.

The scheme provided an opportunity for local third sector organisations to apply for funds based on the needs of the community to improve outcomes.

In 2020 a total of 222 applications were received for the NHB fund which accumulated to a total of £7,464,406 funding requests. Recommendations were made for 43 of those applications to be approved which accumulated to £1,024,246.

A review of the scheme has been undertaken and there are many lessons we have learned. The impact of the projects has provided some very positive outcomes that has benefited the communities and its infrastructures. There have been some wonderful success stories highlighting the positive outcomes that local communities have been able to achieve and support the residents of Cheshire East.

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy highlighted the possibility of a second scheme running in 2021/22. However due to unprecedented events experienced by all, and significant changes in priorities and affordability of services, a decision has been undertaken not to continue with the second phase of the NHB scheme.

This will be disappointing to many but there are other opportunities such as the community grants scheme or community asset transfers, discussed at the recent Place Engagement Sessions with Town & Parish Councils, that can support local initiatives.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Frank Jordan.

**Frank Jordan**  
**Executive Director – Place and Deputy Chief Executive**