

SANDBACH TOWN COUNCIL

AGENDA

For the meeting of the Sandbach Town Council to be held on
Thursday, 4 September 2003
in the Council Chamber, Westfields.

7.15 p.m.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**
3. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 10 JULY 2003**
4. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAYS 17 JULY 2003 AND 28 AUGUST 2003**
5. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 24 JULY 2003**
6. **RAF CRANAGE**

Presentation by Mrs Charlotte Peters Rock.

7. **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL DELEGATES / SUB-COMMITTEES**

- 7.1 **TOWN & PARISH COUNCIL'S "AT HOME" 30 JULY 2003**

At the last meeting attended by the Chairman, Peter Cooper gave a presentation on the Government's proposals for Quality Town and Parish Councils and a discussion then ensued on how the Town and Parish Councils and the Borough Council could work together on developing a Charter and on supporting application/preparation for Quality Status.

It was decided to establish two working groups: -

- 1 To develop a Charter which all Councils could sign up to and to look at ways in which the Borough council could help local councils become Quality Councils.
- 2 To look at ways in which Town and Parish Councils could become involved in the scrutiny of a new unitary authority.

Peter Cooper has asked Congleton Town and Parish Councils to please forward the names of any volunteers for the above working groups so that they can get underway. The Chairman and Cllr Darnes have volunteered to represent the Council.

- 7.2 **QUALITY COUNCILS**

Cllr P J Darnes will report on the progress of the Quality Council sub-committee.

The main areas requiring attention are: -

- The Clerk must obtain the appropriate qualification.
- Time should be allocated at each meeting for public participation.
- Councillors should ensure their apologies are tendered.
- The Annual Report should be circulated more widely.

- A short periodic report should be published periodically, possibly using CBCs "Link".

The sub-committee was unhappy about formal surgeries and preferred informal contact with local residents.

7.3 OTHER REPORTS

8. THE BOUNDARY COMMITTEE

At the last Town Council Meeting it was agreed that the Council would agree its position on single tier local government and transmit its view to the Boundary Committee before the deadline of 8 September.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Mr R W Lewis – Junction of Hind Heath Lane and Crewe Road

He believes the junction to be hazardous and seeks the Council's support in the attached letter.

9.2 Village Retail Services Association

They seek to keep Village shops open. They have appointed a local representative.

9.3 DEFRA – Rural Services Standard 2003

Correspondence attached states that new Rural Service Standards for 2003 include:

All rural LEAs to have a full extended school service by 2006.

50% discount on local bus fares for over 60s.

A free piece of fruit every school day for every 4-6 year old.

A copy of the standard is available from the Clerk.

9.4 CBC - CCTV

Tony Potts' response to STC's comments.

9.5 Inspector Alan Holt – Cheshire Police

His progress report is attached.

9.6 Cheshire Association of Town and Parish Councils – Model Charter

Comments are requested on the attached second draft of the Model Charter for Local Councils before 12 September.

9.7 Cheshire Association of Town and Parish Councils - AGM

The Council is invited to nominate representatives to attend the AGM on Thursday 9 October at Nantwich Civic Hall. After the meeting is a workshop on Regional Government.

9.8 Network Rail – Footbridge off Foundry Lane

Response to the Council's complaint attached.

9.9 CCC – Review of Minor Highway Improvement List

Two Sandbach schemes at Hassall Road and Station Road are unlikely to be implemented and Council's view is sought. The Clerk has searched the last eight years' minutes without finding any reference to the proposed schemes.

9.10 CCC – Bus Information Strategy for Cheshire

The document is available from the Clerk and *deals with the communication of the appropriate information at the right time and in the right place to allow informed choices to be made by existing and potential users of bus services.*

9.11 CVS – Sandbach & District Volunteer Bureaux

They would like to talk with members of the Town Council when touring the Borough in a minibus on Tuesday 7 October. See the attached letter.

9.12 CCC – Rights of Way Improvement Plan

The Parish Council is invited to comment on and suggest improvements to the local rights of way network.

9.13 CCC – Supply of Maps of Public Rights of Way

There are strict conditions regarding their supply and CCC require the Council's formal agreement to accept them.

9.14 Local Government International Bureau

The Clerk has a copy of two new publications entitled "New Neighbours" and "New Opportunities."

9.15 CCC – Hampton's Bridge

A progress report has been received.

10. MEMBERS' ITEMS – MATTERS AFFECTING THE TOWN OF SANDBACH

10.1 330 – Cllr Keeling - Fodens Richardson Band

The Band, rated the best in the UK, are participating in the United States Open Brass Band Championships and seek funding.

10.2 331 - Cllr Moran - work-in-progress/pending items and projects

To give notice of a review of the Council's work-in-progress/pending items and projects.

11. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Town Council meeting is scheduled for 16 October 2003.