

Appendix C

Environment and Green Spaces

An introduction - Some comments from the Household Survey of Sandon residents:

1. 'Sandon has a rich biodiversity that needs to be protected' comment from the household questionnaire, (HQ).
Most respondents thought a peaceful environment very important (140/161) and most thought countryside views either important or very important (153/160).
2. 'We believe we should retain the atmosphere, environment, and feeling of a village. Expansion can only destroy those characteristics We want to preserve the nature and wildlife of the area'
3. 'We want to keep low traffic levels and retain open farmland'
4. 'Sandon is a village and a lovely place to live, mainly because of the views and the fact that it is not built up.'
5. 'Further protection of green spaces and views would be a top priority.'
6. 'Wildlife is very important, and their habitats are being destroyed by housing'
7. 'A distinct barrier must remain to prevent Sandon being linked to Great Baddow.'

Descriptions of distinctive areas of Sandon Parish

1. Quarry site is shown on Map 14, (as well as Ladywell Lane wood and Cross wood.)
The site opened as an aggregate quarry in the 1950's and closed in 1990's. There are 2 voids now being filled. The area is shown on Map Local Wildlife Sites (LoWS) are cited and recorded by Essex Wildlife Trust Biological Records Centre:
The LoWS CH104 is designated for its brownfield habitats, also known as open mosaics on previously developed land. Citation states:
'Brownfield sites such as this can be extremely important sites for a wide variety of invertebrates, including solitary bees and wasps, spiders, grasshoppers and bush crickets. This site is one of the best examples of the vegetation types and associated fauna that can develop on such land.'
It is the only site in mid Essex to contain the nationally rare digger wasp. The site contains low populations of great crested newts and reptiles (grass snakes, slow worms, toads, frogs and common lizards)

The North void is being filled and will provide a wildlife area and recreation area when completed. The South void will be farmland once filled.

2. The conservation area, North of Sandon is well protected and provides a small buffer.

3. Sandon Brook

Runs through the parish between the A130 and Howe Green, past the quarry site, runs from Butts Green, under the A12 to Sandon Village and on to join the River Chelmer. It is important for wildlife and birds throughout its length and at some points provides a floodplain to protect housing. The rural area is enjoyed and provides means of well-being for residents and is used by visiting ramblers for walks, visiting cyclists for recreation and races, horse riders, Duke of Edinburgh adventures.

4. Farmland

Sandon, Howe Green and Butts Green are surrounded by fertile, mature farmland, supporting bees, butterflies, hares, rabbits, rodents and birds. Buzzards nest in the Butts Green area and in Howe Green where there is plenty of food. Kestrels, Honey Buzzards, Red Kites and Sparrow Hawks and various owls are also seen, as well as robins, tits, finches and blackbirds, greater spotted woodpeckers and green woodpeckers

5. Horses

The area houses many privately owned and livery stables. These attract summer visiting birds such as swifts and swallows which feed on the inevitable supply of insects and flies.

6. Woodland

The Sandon Bridleway, next to Field End, has a young woodland growing on a field previously used for grazing sheep. It is home to muntjac, badgers, foxes, weasels and many birds, shown on Map 15. Bluebell wood is also shown on Map 15.

There are also many wooded corridors consisting of hedges and verges giving animals, birds and insects safe passage across the parish and further.

7. Green Spaces

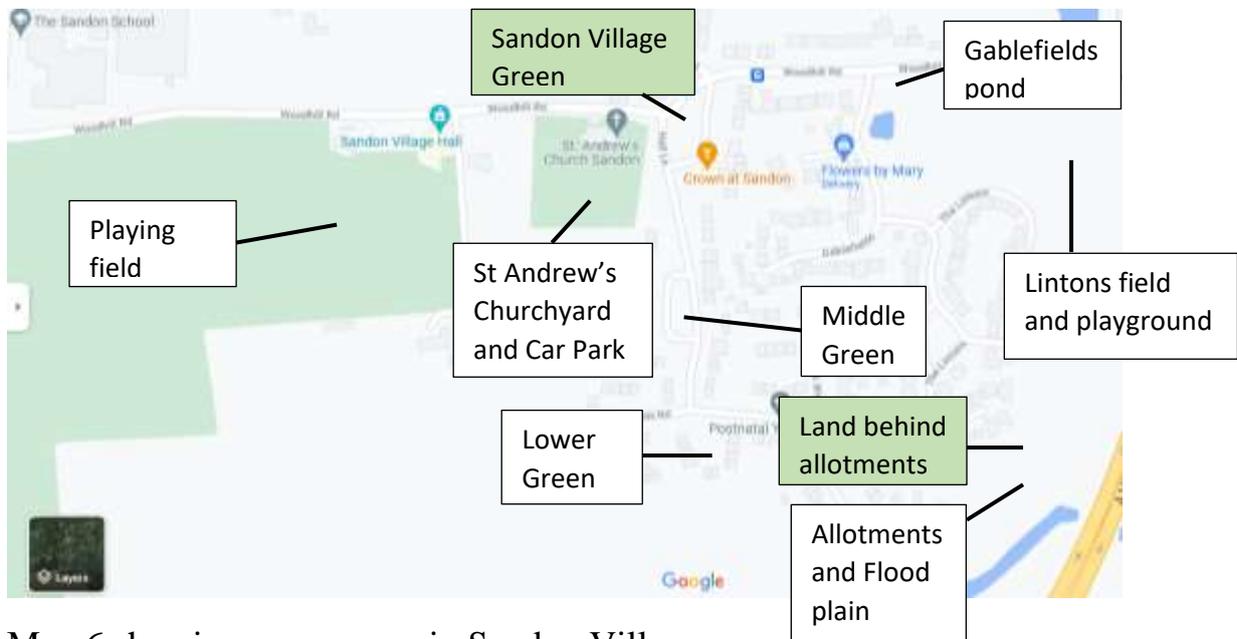
Designated green areas: Sandon Village Green; land at the Lintons behind the allotments; Butts Green; Corner Green; are shown on maps 6, 7 below.

Middle Green, Lower Green, the playing field, the allotments on Hall Lane, Gablefields Pond area, Lintons field and playground are shown on Map 6 and Grassed areas at Howe Green and Alexander Mews field on Map 13. These are all areas we would want to protect as green spaces.

They offer opportunities for recreation, well-being and exercising in the fresh air. Community engagement with residents gathered only a few responses indicating a love of Bluebell Wood and the Gablefields pond.

8. Allotments

Offer opportunity for working outside in the fresh air and increased well-being. See map 6



Map 6 showing green areas in Sandon Village.



Map 7 showing Butts Green and Corner Green



Map 13 showing green areas at Howe Green



Map 14 showing wooded areas in central Sandon. Quarry in centre.



Map 15 showing wooded areas in south Sandon. Bluebell wood right, Bridleway wood on left.

SANDON PARISH COUNCIL – LIST OF LAND ASSETS
 DATE: 9th Sept 2019



Location	Date acquired	Cost	Title no.	Notes
Corner Green (land at Butts Green Road and East Harningfield Road)	08/07/1977	£1	EX918154	Officially registered 11 th June 2015
Land at Hall Lane, Sandon	2015	£1	EX920430	Officially registered 11 th June 2015
Land at The Lintons, Sandon	07/02/2018	£100	EX181115	Land behind allotments. HM Land Reg ref M0CEC080
Green at Butts Green	2016	£1		Adjacent to Butts Green Hall

Table 10 showing Sandon Parish Council Land Asset list 2019
 Corner Green and Butts Green shown on Maps 7 and 16
 Land at Hall Lane shown on Map 17
 Land at the Lintons shown on Map 6.



Map 16 showing Butts Green, Corner Green and other hedges and grass verges.



Map 17 showing detail of Sandon Parish land assets at Hall Lane: The Village Green and two small grass verge areas.