



Sandiacre Parish Council's Newsletter — Spring 2026

All Welcome at Friendship Hub

The Sandiacre Friendship Hub is the front for Kings Road Area Neighbourhood Watch. We feel people are safer when they meet together, know each other and find out about their community. We serve the whole of Sandiacre. We have been running for six years.

We meet 4 mornings a week, Monday and Tuesday at St. Giles Hall on Church Drive NG10 5EE and Friday and Saturday at Butt Street Methodist Hall NG10 5RB, all 9.30-12.

We have a Community Cafe, Free Food Stall and engage in many activities, including:

- Digital Inclusion, including the NHS app
- Exercises for stability and fall prevention
- Crafting, including Knit and Natter
- Autism Support and talking for mental health support
- We have entertainers, speakers and lunches.

All are welcome. Just turn up, you will love it. If you want to help that would be great but it is not expected.

Tony Ford, coordinator
Facebook: Sandiacre Friendship Hub.

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Cllr Wayne Major (Chairman)	07590 453459
Cllr Steve Bilble (Vice-Chairman)	07973 283810
Cllr Tony Sanghera	07967 095271
Cllr Iain Draper-Morgan	07915 170757
Cllr Tony Ford	07732 562996
Cllr Aaron Gibson	07305 649350
Cllr Pamela Hallam	07736 709992
Cllr Garry Hickton	07595 226223
Cllr Gerri Hickton	07999 502947
Cllr Steve Jarratt	07850 518963
Cllr John Lowrie	0115 949 1867
Cllr Ryan Pound	07885 411574
Cllr Mark Alfrey (Co-opted)	07720 620107
Cllr Richard Jenkins (Co-opted)	07736 434824

EREWASH
PHOENIX CHOIR

Why not come and join us?

We meet on Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.15pm at Sandiacre Methodist Church, Butt Street, Sandiacre, NG10 5JG.

For more info, contact Pauline on 07914 083911 or phoenixchoir@outlook.com
www.erewashphoenixchoir.co.uk

Erewash Phoenix Choir is not affiliated to Sandiacre Methodist Church.

HAVE YOUR SAY — COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Sandiacre Parish Council would like to hear from you about ways we can improve our local community. Please take a few minutes to send us your comments, either via email to clerk@sandiacreparishcouncil.org.uk or by returning this questionnaire to the Parish Council Office, 19b Doncaster Avenue, Sandiacre, Derbyshire, NG10 5FJ.

1. In one or two sentences, please tell us what you enjoy about Sandiacre?

2. And what would you like to see improved?

3. How would you like to see Doncaster Avenue RG improved?

Chairman's Report

Welcome to the new style Parish Council newsletter, which will be published 3 times per year in the Spring, Summer and Autumn and will help to support local groups and organisations to promote their news and upcoming events.

Everyone is welcome to provide articles throughout the year to highlight all the good work being undertaken within the community. Councillors are very mindful of the brilliant work being carried out by volunteers to benefit others. On behalf of the Parish Council, I extend my sincere thanks to them individually for all the valuable support they offer Sandiacre.

Parish Council – Members

Last year we were very sorry to lose two loyal and dedicated Councillors when Cllr Robert Stewart and his wife, Cllr Mrs Katharine Stewart, passed away unexpectedly in a short space of time of each other. They had both been at the forefront of community involvement over many years and organised numerous events. They were committed to giving back to their community and making a difference. We are most grateful for all their involvement, including their continued interest in the work of the Parish Council, right to the end.

Following a short period of time, the Council was fortunate to receive interest from 4 candidates wishing to be considered for co-option to fill the 2 casual vacancies, and we subsequently welcomed Cllr Mark Alfrey and Cllr Richard Jenkins to the Parish Council. We hope they enjoy the role and find it worthwhile and rewarding to make decisions that directly benefit local people.

Grant funding - Springfield Park

I am delighted to say the Parish Council was successful in being awarded funding of £64,000 from FCC: Landfill Communities Foundation, which included a contribution of £9,836 from the Parish Council to create a circular footpath on Springfield Park. This has provided all-year-round access and we have received ongoing compliments to say the park is now more user-friendly and well cared for. It is clear to see that

people of all ages are enjoying the new facilities and the park is proving more popular than ever before.

In addition, the Parish Council was successful in receiving outside grant funding of £23,075 through the Heartwood Community Forest project for planting 54 new trees and tree guards on Springfield Park. The Parish Council has accessed 46% of the grant at this time and the remainder will ensure the trees survive and are maintained over the next 3 years. The grant is available through DCC and helps to support the planting of large open spaces to encourage and improve habitat and biodiversity.

We do hope you visit Springfield Park with your family and take a look at the new layout and enhanced community facilities.

Grant funding – EBC

Myself, Cllr Steve Bilbie and Cllr Tony Sanghera (EBC Borough Councillors) have recently campaigned for EBC to allocate grant funding to parishes within Erewash to support improvement work to parks and open spaces, especially as surplus funds could be absorbed through Local Government Re-organisation (LGR) from April 2028.

A decision on funding through the Village Investment Fund is shortly awaited, but Sandiacre could benefit from a grant of £22,500, which could be used to replace old and worn-out waste/dog bins on Springfield Park and Doncaster Avenue RG and introduce new seating on Doncaster Avenue RG with attractive metal benches. This would ensure the park facilities are modernised and benefit park users for many years to come.

Additionally, confirmation of funding is awaited from EBC for a Special Project Grant and Sandiacre Parish Council has already expressed interest in applying to support refurbishment work to Doncaster Avenue RG, such as with new play area safety surfaces and much needed improvements to the BMX track.

If these projects are successful, they will bring significant investment into areas maintained by the Parish Council and ensure modern facilities are provided for residents, with parks remaining at the heart of the community for recreational purposes.



We welcome your views on how you would like to see improvements taking place on these 2 parks and we have provided a short consultation survey at the end of the newsletter.

Community Investment

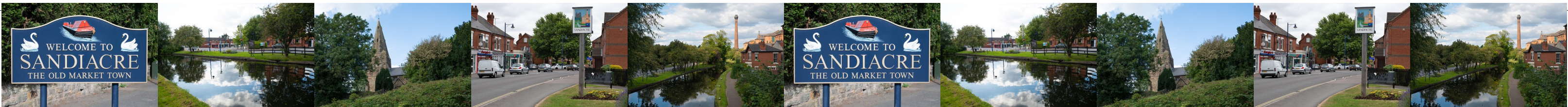
Last year, we were sad to hear that Sandiacre Male Voice Choir had discontinued after many years of being involved with concerts and leading carols at Christmas time. However, as a lasting reminder of their connection to Sandiacre, they kindly gave the Parish Council a donation of £2,600 for a planter with hanging baskets to be sited at the corner of Derby Road and Faircroft Avenue. This will look colourful and complement 10 other hanging baskets that are to be displayed in the village centre, giving a summer and winter display.

Besides new Parish Council notice boards at Padmore Moorings and Austins Drive, the Parish Council also set funds aside to replace the existing wooden village sign with a metal one depicting landmarks in the area. The original sign was expertly made by a late resident to give a sense of pride to the village, but over time, it had deteriorated and needed replacement. The new metal sign should be in place shortly and will revitalise the area.

Parish Council - Summer Play Scheme

The Parish Council continues to offer funding to support a 4-week summer play scheme at Cloudside Academy. This proves extremely popular with local families and further details are available in the newsletter, so please remember to reserve your child's place for 2026.

pto



HGV Movement / M1 J25A

One of the biggest concerns raised by residents is the significant amount of HGV traffic moving through Sandiacre from the M1/A52 and the hazards and wide-ranging negative impact this has on people's lives and the local area.

In order to address this important issue, Parish Councillors and myself (as a County and Borough Councillor) continue to campaign on your behalf to see the introduction of a new M1/J25A. This seems the most practical and sensible solution to reduce traffic movement, especially as the nearby New Stanton Park site is under construction and expanding. Please be assured we continue to address this issue on your behalf and it remains a top priority for local Councillors.

Thank You!

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to everyone who contributes to improving the lives of Sandiacre people, making it a great place to live and work.

I would also like to thank Michelle Bloor, our Clerk, Finance Officer and Cemetery Manager for her longstanding and invaluable work for the community. After 18 years' service, she has a wealth of experience and continues to support the community and successfully obtains grant funding to benefit local people.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to Councillors for working as volunteers and giving up their time to serve their community. They work as a team for the benefit of others.

As we look ahead to the coming year, we continue to prioritise positive change for our community and continue to seek additional investment, while working on the success of past achievements in order to raise and maintain high standards for local people.

Cllr Wayne Major

Parish Council Chairman
Sandiacre County Councillor
EBC South Ward Councillor & Leader of the Opposition



AM Sports Summer Club 2026

Families in Sandiacre have something to look forward to this summer as AM Sports will again be running a holiday club for local children to attend, in partnership with Sandiacre Parish Council. To keep children active, engaged, and having fun throughout the school holidays.

Running across the summer break, the AM Sports Summer Club offers a safe and energetic environment where children can take part in a wide range of activities, there is something for all.

The club will be led by experienced and enthusiastic coaches who are passionate about creating a positive and inclusive atmosphere. AM Sports is known for its focus on confidence-building, teamwork, and enjoyment, ensuring that every child feels welcome and supported.

Parents can expect flexible booking options, making it easy to fit around summer plans. The sessions are designed not only to keep children active but also to give parents peace of mind knowing their children are in a safe, structured setting during the holidays.

A spokesperson for AM Sports said, *"We're really excited to bring our Summer Club to Sandiacre again. We have delivered this club for over 10 years now and our goal is to give*

children a memorable summer filled with fun, friendships, and activity. We know how important it is for kids to stay active, especially during the holidays, and we're proud to offer something the whole community can benefit from."

Spaces are expected to fill quickly, so early booking is encouraged once they go live. For more information please contact us directly through info@amsports.co.uk or our social media pages.

Make this summer one to remember with AM Sports and Sandiacre Parish Council.



Explore Sandiacre's Lock Cottages

Step into canal history at Sandiacre Lock Cottages, open on the third Sunday of each month and Bank Holidays, 10:30am–3:30pm. Entry is free and a warm welcome for all.



Built in 1779 and lovingly restored by the Erewash Canal Association, the cottages once housed canal workers who maintained the locks and towpaths. Today, they offer a peaceful setting to explore the area's rich canal heritage.

Each open day is different, with live music, traditional craft demonstrations and visiting shire horses. There's plenty for younger visitors too, including Lego building, crafts and themed treasure hunts.

At Christmas, the cottages are beautifully decorated and Father Christmas makes a special visit — a highlight for local families. Refreshments are always available, including homemade cakes, and on colder days you can relax by the roaring coal fire.

Located beside the canal towpath, it's an ideal spot for a walk or bike ride, with wildlife and history all around. Dogs are welcome, with water and treats provided. We also host visits from schools, Brownies, Scouts, WIs and walking groups by arrangement.

For updates, follow the ECP&DA Facebook page or visit the website. A friendly welcome awaits. Contact: Glyn Stenson – 07809 251441 glynstenson@hotmail.com

Find out more about Sandiacre's Past

Sandiacre History Group, founded in 2000, holds five evening meetings per year, usually on the third Thursday, in March, April, June, September and October at Sandiacre Methodist Church Hall on Butt Street. Refreshments are available from 7pm with the talk or presentation on a subject of historical interest commencing at 7.30pm.

The Programme of Talks for the remainder of 2026 is as follows:-

- **Thursday 18 June 2026:** The Swinging Sixties with Paul and Janet Barrass. An evening of pure nostalgia!
- **Thursday 17 September 2026:** Annual General Meeting at 7pm, followed by a talk - details yet to be confirmed
- **Thursday, 15 October 2026:** Goose Fair on Film Part 1. Film of the Goose Fair when it was on the Market Square, presented by Bob Massey.

A Members' Social Evening with entertainment, followed by seasonal refreshments will be held at Sandiacre Cricket Club, Longmoor - Lane on a Thursday evening in December commencing at 7pm.



The new membership year starts on 1st September and costs £10 per person or £15 for two people at the same address. There is a meeting charge of £1 for members and £2.50 for visitors, who are most welcome.

If you would like more information or would like to become a member, please contact the Chairman on 0115 939 8057 or email sandiacrehistory@hotmail.co.uk

Come and see what's on offer at Sandiacre Library

Located in the centre of Sandiacre, next to Doncaster Avenue Recreation Ground, Sandiacre Library offers a warm welcome to everyone. With a large free car park, easy disabled access and Safe Place status, it's an accessible and friendly community hub.

We provide free laptop use with support available, as well as printing (15p per A4 black and white) and photocopying services.

A range of free groups and activities take place each week:

- **Monday (2–3.30pm):** Therapeutic Colouring Group with refreshments and friendly conversation
- **Tuesday (10.30–11am):** Rhyme Time with Julie for under 5s (siblings welcome in school holidays)
- **Tuesday (12.45–3pm):** Bridge Club for beginners and experienced players
- **Thursday (12–3pm+):** Railway Appreciation Society

- **Thursday (from 12.45pm):** Knit and Natter – a relaxed, sociable group for knitters, crocheters and beginners
- **Friday term-time (10.30–11am):** Rhyme Time with Susanna

New members are always welcome.

On the second Tuesday of each month (9.30am–12pm), Live Life Better Derbyshire runs a free Wellbeing Walk-In, offering blood pressure checks and advice on topics such as stopping smoking, weight management and staying active.

We also host IT sessions for U3A members, including iPad and Ancestry groups—please ask for details.

If you're interested in local history, explore our maps dating back to 1880 and our collection of historic photographs of Sandiacre. Alongside all this, we offer free access to a wide range of books and resources.

For more information, visit us, call 01629 533359 or email Sandiacre.library@derbyshire.gov.uk. We look forward to welcoming you.



Library Opening Hours:

Monday: 9:30am–1pm & 2pm–5pm
Tuesday: 9:30am–1pm & 2pm–6pm
Wednesday: Closed
Thursday: 9:30am–1pm & 2pm–5pm
Friday: 9:30am–1pm
Saturday: 9:30am–12.30pm
Sunday: Closed

Welcome to Hayworth Road Park

We would like to attract more community interest. We need volunteers to:

- suggest and help with events for the park in 2026
- become a Friend of the Park and receive our news by an occasional email – it's free at the moment
- join work parties to improve wild flower areas and woodland
- join the committee as a member, chair or secretary
- help us recruit more Friends of Hayworth Road Park

Please contact David with ideas or to help: fohrp@outlook.com, 0115 877 9669 or on our HRP Facebook page. Or contact Celia at celia.powers@ntlworld.com

NSPCC Volunteers Needed!

The NSPCC is seeking volunteers to support its Speak Out. Stay Safe. programme and other services.

Volunteer Information Meetings are available to learn more, meet the team and ask questions.

Opportunities include schools work, Childline (home or centre-based) and community fundraising. Find out more and apply at: www.nspcc.org.uk/volunteer

For details, contact Rachel Willis on 07767 391783 or rachel.willis@nspcc.org.uk

Sandiacre Community Network

I'm Clare Ejiofor, Community Activator for the Sandiacre Community Network, based at Erewash Voluntary Action. I support local groups by helping them access funding, develop projects and connect with opportunities. I also coordinate communication across the network and monitor funded projects to ensure positive community impact.

Funded by Public Health, the network supports people of all ages and organisations across Sandiacre. New members are always welcome.

To get involved, contact me on 07849 115938 or clare3@erewashcvcs.org.uk

St. Giles' Church

Located on Church Drive, St. Giles' is Sandiacre's oldest building and the only one with Grade I listed status. The tower houses six recently restored bells, and new ringers (aged 11+) are welcome.

Services take place every Sunday at 10am and most Thursdays, with special services for major festivals and Remembrance Sunday. Baptisms, weddings and funerals can be arranged.

Contact: Rev. Olaf Trelenberg (0115 939 7163 olaft@aol.com) or John Hickingbotham (0115 939 8057)

Sandiacre & Risley Garden Holders' Association

With roots in historic horticultural societies and the 'Dig for Victory' campaign, the Association continues to support local growers today.

Residents of Sandiacre and Risley can join for £2 per year, gaining access to discounted compost, seeds and supplies. The Association also manages allotments off Stanton Road (opposite Cloudside School), with plots available via a waiting list.

For more information or availability, call (0115) 939 8057 or email SRGHA-1957@outlook.com