



**Minutes of the Sarratt Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10th March 2020 in
The Village Hall, The Green, Sarratt**

Present: Councillor S Dobson (Chair)
Councillor D Turner
Councillor P Thorpe
Councillor C Bloom
Councillor J Gell
Councillor D Rees
Councillor J Rugg
Councillor A Soothill
Councillor S Diggins

In attendance: District Councillor Butler
4 members of the public

Start time 7.30pm

40/20 APOLOGIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Apologies were received, recorded and accepted from Mrs C Owen Clerk to The Council absent due to illness.

41/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None made.

42/20 MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Soothill and seconded by Councillor Gell and Resolved that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 11th February 2020 be signed as a true record.

Matters arising:

20/20 - Locality budget options/ideas for funding as outlined by Cllr Williams at the last meeting are wide and varied and any suggestions or proposals should be provided to the Clerk.

25/20 – The revision of the SPC Environment Policy awaits the revisions likely to arise once in receipt of the TRDC new policy and plans. In addition, the policy will also consider the requirements for addressing Environment. Sustainability and Liveability within the Village and community.

22/20 – Insulation for the door from the Clerks Office has been investigated and appears to be a costly exercise. It was agreed the very noisy activity that gave rise to the concerns was a one off, but the situation would be kept under review and raised again should further similar problems arise.

43/20 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES WHO ATTENDED MEETINGS ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL.

Councillor Rees attended the KGV Trustees meeting on 2 March and confirmed he had obtained the overdue cheque for the insurance renewal payments.

The last ROSPA report last year on the play equipment highlighted work required and whilst some materials have been sourced and local voluntary labour will be used to initiate repairs (once the weather improves) the larger climbing frame logs spares need to be sourced from the original manufacturer at a cost of £1641 plus VAT. A request for the Council to purchase the items as part of the field maintenance budget was not accepted particularly as this posed potential unacceptable VAT implications. Cllr Rees agree to feed this back to the KGV Trustees who will need to fund the purchase of spares from their own resources.

The damage created by the tree from a neighbour's garden falling into the gated storage compound during a recent storm was subject to a claim made and accepted by the householder's insurance policy company with no cost to KGV.

Councillor Rees attended the Days Charity Trustees meeting and reported they are actively seeking another trustee. They have been subjected to the required 5-year inspection and await the final report, but verbal feedback indicates that the four middle properties appeared to be in good order while some minor issues may arise for the two end properties.

Councillor Soothill and Turner attended the recent Joint Parish meeting and whilst the event had been useful nothing of great note for Sarratt PC emerged.

44/20 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE CLERK'S REPORT

No written report was made due to the Clerk's absence on sick leave.

It was noted that Cllr Turner was standing down for personal reasons at the end of this meeting. The Chair thanked him for long and dedicated service and in particular that his expertise and advice on legal aspects has been extremely beneficial to the Council and the Community.

The Annual Parish meeting is scheduled for April 27th.

It was agreed that the publication of the future dates of meetings for the calendar year will be an agenda item for consideration at the April meeting of the council.

45/20 LOCAL AREA FORUM – Wednesday 18th March, 7:30pm

Details were provided of the Local Area Forum to be held in Sarratt Village Hall – chaired by Cllr Williams of TRDC. Cllr Dobson and Cllr Soothill will attend on behalf of Sarratt PC. It was unfortunate that details were not available in time for inclusion in the last edition of Spotlight and it was agreed that Cllr Dobson will arrange for a suitable poster to be made and displayed in the Village Shop inviting residents to attend.

46/20 BIGGERSTAFFS GARAGE CENTENARY

Biggerstaffs garage has been operating and providing a range of valuable services to the village and residents for 100 years.

It was agreed that this should be recorded and commemorated by the provision of a plaque on the cottage where the business started all those years ago.

Discussions ranged around a blue plaque to indicate a building where a person of note had lived or a green plaque indicating a building where a business, activity or event worthy of recognition had been operating.

Cllr Turner is awaiting a reply from the Transport Museum to see if they have any suggestions or ideas for suitable words that should/could be used. Councillors were invited to comment on the plaque wording already suggested by Cllr Turner by email after the meeting.

Further discussions revolved around the timing of an event for unveiling the plaque. Initially the Village Day was suggested but it was proposed that a separate presentation to be held at the garage might be more appropriate. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting (note - agenda item).

47/20 VE DAY PLANNING UPDATE

Councillor Diggins outlined the current status of the VE Day Draft Plan as shown on the attached document in appendix A (attached).

Contact was made with two members of the local branch of the Royal British Legion who attended this meeting as members of the public and Cllr Diggins will arrange to meet them to discuss plans and details for their organisation's involvement on the day. There is a need for the Clerk to double check the dates agreed with the May Fair organisers to ensure the Green will be clear and the flagpole re-erected in time for VE Day events.

Cllr Rugg mentioned that Belsize residents had started to discuss a potential local event on their Green, similar to events held there in the past for Jubilee Celebrations etc. He will make enquiries and feedback to Cllr Diggins.

Confirmation was provided that some seed funding had been arranged in the Council Budget.

48/20 VILLAGE DAY – Saturday 27th June

Sarratt PC have been invited to have a stall at this event. It was suggested that members consider what the stall should contain and bring any ideas to the April PC meeting (note - agenda item).

It was suggested the Clerk should obtain from the organisers a full list of all attending organisations and obtain confirmation that they each have the necessary insurance arrangements in place for the day. The Neighbourhood Plan team may have a stall.

ENVIRONMENT

49/20 LEAD COUNCILLORS REPORT

No formal report had been received and a verbal update was provided.

There is now a degree of urgency for the supply of the replacement Duck House. It was confirmed the Explorers were intending to make this and hopefully it would be completed soon and in time for the nesting season. It was suggested if they need more information re the design and fixing point details for the floating base etc then these can be made available from Cllr Bloom.

50/20 TREES UPDATE

Cllr Bloom accompanied a local tree surgeon to assess and cost the work required on the 13 trees identified as a potential safety risk to users of the highways and footpaths. An indicative cost of £750 was given and a request was made for a written quotation to

be provided promptly so that an official order can be raised by the Council for the work to be undertaken.

There are two trees that are close to the overhead powerlines in Dawes Common.

It is understood the Clerk has been in contact with the Electricity Supply Authority about the need for them to undertake this work but to date they have not responded, and it was agreed Cllr Bloom will chase in the absence of the Clerk.

51/20 GREENS/FOOTPATH

The damaged Boomerang pole has been replaced.

52/20 SUSTAINABLE SARRATT

A suggestion has been made for a Community Orchard to be potentially located at one end of the Allotments. Lots of ideas emerged including providing produce for sale in the Community Shop and the potential to suggest commemorative trees, rather than benches, also the potential for this to be an ongoing commemorate site for VE Day. No final decision was taken at this meeting.

A suggestion from the recently formed informal Sustainable Sarratt Group who currently meet monthly is the provision of signs requesting motorists waiting to collect children or others To **Switch Off the Engine** with appropriate locations being the wall of the Village Hall, the wall of the Community Village Shop and the entrance to the School. The group surfaced the need to work more closely with TRDC on providing more recycling facilities and that the Parish Council had a role to play.

Cllr Rugg suggested this was already being considered as is outlined in 42/20 Matters arising (above).

Discussions then ranged around the possibility of Bio Digester Systems and in particular for Equine waste. Cllr Bloom will investigate current micro systems with a suggested local consultant in this field, a Mr Khan of Potten End Hemel Hempstead

POLICY & RESOURCES

53/20 LEAD COUNCILLORS REPORT

No report was available.

54/20 YOUTH GOUP

Nothing further to report regarding a new leader.

55/20 WEBSITE

Nothing to report due to the absence of the Clerk.

56/20 APPROVAL OF CHEQUES

No cheque payments schedule was available for approval.

57/20 WARDEN

There has so far been one potentially interested candidate and Cllr Bloom, in the absence of the Clerk will follow up the lead.

HIGHWAYS

58/20 LEAD COUNCILLORS REPORT

It was suggested that the Council should consider that Councillor Diggins will become the lead Councillor for Highways at a time to be agreed and that Cllr Gell will become the Deputy for Highways. This, as a formal proposal, will be included as an agenda item for the April meeting of the Council.

The recent storms and unprecedented torrential rain created a significant flooding problem. Water has run off the land and downhill along the lanes from Flaunden and Chipperfield to create flooded paths and roads around the lower level of Belsize Green and Plough Lane (Under the Heavens) and extending all the way along to Red Lion Lane, with flooding of some adjacent lands.

There is an urgent need to unblock the drains and soakaways at Belsize and representations have been made to Herts Highways contractors to undertake this work soon.

The Reduce Speed sign at the bad bend near the Cock Inn has been erected but is so far into the hedge that it cannot be seen by approaching traffic. This will be raised with the highway's authority.

Work on Redhall Lane remains outstanding but the resurfacing has been completed on Solesbridge lane albeit nearly all outside our parish boundary.

Some disruption was caused by the Openreach works on and around Commonwood but this appears to have been completed.

Reports of further damage to both the road and the Green by the Old Wheatsheaf (disused pub). This require investigating along with who owns this section of road – public or private? It was agreed this should be discussed with the Clerk on her return.

PLANNING

A report on certain changes at TRDC has been circulated to members.

59/20 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REPORT/UPDATE

The group have tested with the consultant they employ, that the plan is in accordance with National Policy re Green Belt etc and the view is the plan is in all probability legitimate.

The TRDC Local Plan has yet to be formally published and this will be surfaced at the forthcoming Local Area Forum (45/20 above).

It is understood that Herts County Council have completed their model on future transport planning. This may need to be reassessed should the TRDC Local Plan recommend the establishment of new settlements. Updating the transport planning model could introduce a further delay of ca. 6 months.

60/20 TO COMMENT ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Corner House Redhall Lane, Chandlers Cross. WD3 4LX – 20/0106/FUL

No objection

Fir Trees Dawes lane Sarratt WD3 6BG – 20/0214/FUL

No objection providing this conforms to national guidelines and are restricted for ancillary use only and not to be sold as a separate dwelling.

Trevellas The Green Sarratt WD3 6AY – 20/0220/FUL

No objection.

Overdale Dunny Lane Belsize WD4 9DE – 20/0262/FUL

No objection.

3-4 The Old Cottages Deadmans Ash Lane Sarratt WD3 6AN – 20/0262/FUL

No objection

Penmans Green The Common Chipperfield WD4 9BX – 20/0256/FUL

No objection

West View Bucks Hill Sarratt WD4 9AU – 20/0167/CLPD

Noted

Green End Cottage Church Lane Sarratt WD3 6HH – 20/0396/CLPD

Noted

The Mulberry Bush Farm Dawes Lane Sarratt WD3 6BQ – 20/0402/PDA

The Parish Council strongly object to this application on the basis that the site is in an AONB, is totally unsuited to the increase in traffic for a commercial business. We wish to point out to TRDC that the site map enclosed in the application erroneously shows a site entrance in Dawes Lane.

The access in Dawes Lane has permitted access over Dawes Common for agricultural use only and Sarratt Parish Council will NOT permit access for any other purpose. Therefore, the only access for this proposed change of use is via Moor Lane that as a narrow single track road is unsuited for the resultant increase in traffic.

61/20 TO NOTE PLANNING DECISIONS

Tinker Barn Kings Langley – Approved.

Mobile Home Park Chandlers Cross – Refused.

62/20 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

None

63/20 COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

None

64/20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ITEMS REQUESTED TO BE PUT ON NEXT AGENDA

The date of the next meeting will be 21st April 2020, to be held in the back room, the Village Hall, The Green, Sarratt.

Items for action or for the next agenda are included above.

See: 44/20. 45/20. 46/20. 47/20. 48/20. 49/20. 50/20. 57/20. 58/20.

It was proposed by Councillor Bloom and Seconded by Councillor Diggins and RESOLVED to pass a resolution that the Press and Public be excluded due to the confidential nature of the business under Section 1 Sub Section (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meeting) Act 1960 from any items on the Agenda which are deemed to relate to exempt information

The meeting ended at 10.20.

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Appendix A to the Sarratt Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10th March 2020

The current outline plan for **Sarratt Village VE Day** presented by Cllr S Diggins is as follows:

Week beginning 4 May:

Schools' events.

W/C 8 May PM (Bank Holiday)

2.45 - Service of Commemoration - Sarratt Green War Memorial.

2.55 - Last Post, 2 Minute Silence, Reveille

3.00 - The Nation's Toast - on the Green but in all pubs

3.15 - 4.30 - Village Tea Party - (Location tbc?)

6.55 - Cry for Peace

7.00 - 7.15 Bell-ringing

Sat 9 May

Tbc - NB Russians celebrate VE Day on this day

Sun 10 May

1030 - Benefice Commemoration Service - St.Paul's Church, Chipperfield.

The above follows the national scheme, so we in Sarratt will be celebrating alongside our fellow countrymen.

The main Sarratt events will take place on, or around, the Green but we are keen to encourage local, perhaps sponsored, walks (see below), starting at the pubs in the village, particularly perhaps on Sat 9 May.

Additional Information.

Charity.

There is a charitable element attached to this and we are encouraged to donate to the Soldiers, Sailors and Air Force Association (SSAFA): a really worthwhile service charity, that works mainly with service families, both serving and retired, and is, perhaps, not as well-known as it ought to be. Can you consider how you might support them: collection boxes; donation with drinks; a 'charity dish'; etc?

Legacy.

Central to the timing of this event is the thought that, realistically, this may be the last major commemoration when veterans will be alive – you have to be a minimum of 93 to actually have fought in 1945. It is such an extraordinary story that it needs more than a day so we are also thinking how we might mark this for the future, especially for our children. There are some thoughts circulating - a tree, or trees, are an obvious idea but there may be others. I mention this as: a. others may have ideas; b. it might be that we divide some of the monies raised to support the legacy.

Paradigm Brewery.

I'm also in touch with Paradigm, over the possibility of a commemorative ale, which some pubs might consider stocking.

VJ Day

I'm very conscious that the war did not finish on 8 May and many personnel fought-on until the Japanese surrender on 15 Aug. At this stage, I'm not aware of any planned commemorative events; I will therefore be proposing to the Council, that we regard the period of 8 May to 15 Aug as a 'Victory Period', and it may be that we hold events, at a different time, to mark the whole of the end of WW2, not just, however significant it was, VE-Day.

Councillor Simon Diggins