



Minutes of the Sarratt Parish Annual Statutory Council meeting held remotely
on Tuesday 13 October 2020

Present: Councillor Dobson
Councillor Thorp
Councillor J Gell
Councillor D Rees
Councillor J Rugg
Councillor A Soothill
Councillor N Mortimer
Councillor S Diggins

In attendance: District Councillor Marilyn Butler
1 member of the public

Start time 7.30pm

196/20 APOLOGIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Bloom and Caroline Owen, Parish Clerk

197/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

198/20 MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting on 8 September 2020 were approved by Cllr Mortimer and seconded by Cllr Gell.

199/20 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

Cllr Rugg was appointed as Vice Chair, proposed by Cllr Soothill and seconded by Cllr Mortimer.

200/20 APPOINTMENT OF LEAD FOR ENVIRONMENT

Cllr Mortimer was appointed Lead for Environment.

201/20 APPOINTMENT OF LEAD FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Cllr Bloom was appointed Lead for Sustainability.

202/20 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES WHO HAVE ATTENDED MEETINGS ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr Rugg attended a KGV committee meeting, the KGV committee unanimously accepted the proposal for installation of new playground equipment made possible by a donation to SPC by a local family.

Cllr Rugg also attended a resident's meeting about the Belsize mast. A solution has been agreed for a smaller mast to be installed in a cabinet as opposed to the initial proposal of a 21 ft tall mast with an aerial on top. The contractors are sending revised design details to SPC with an installation planned possibly in the next two months.

Cllr Soothill attended the Sarratt & Chorleywood Local Area Forum (separate note provided). The headline was TRDC putting their climate change strategy out to consultation. Their goal is to become net zero from their own emissions by 2030. 40% of Three Rivers CO₂ comes from the M25.

Cllr Mortimer attended the meeting organised by the Sustainable Sarratt group on pollution of the River Chess held in the Village Hall on 25 September, where an interesting presentation was made charting the route of sewage from consumer to disposal/treatment. He commented Thames Water were not just dumping raw sewage into the Chess whenever they choose, rather it is overflow from tanks when they are full, particularly due to heavy rainfall. However, some is still finding its way into the river. Thames Water is investing £3m in a new tank to be installed in the next two years. Cllr Mortimer suggested, if arranged, we take up the offer of a trip to the Chesham sewage plant to see how it works.

203/20 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE CLERK'S REPORT

No Clerk's report due to absence.

Cllr Thorp explained the likelihood of the Clerk being absent for a number of weeks. During this period Cllrs Dobson and Thorp will ensure post, phone messages and emails are dealt with from the SPC office. Other tasks will be delegated to the function that they affect.

All councillors and the attending members of the public wished Caroline a speedy recovery and sent their best wishes.

204/20 ACTION PLANNER

The monthly financial tracker has been delayed until the return of the Clerk.

Cllr Diggins confirmed he hadn't progressed the Chandlers Cross defibrillator due to personal circumstances and will do so as soon as possible.

Cllr Diggins has contacted a solicitor to try and establish the legal position for the access road at The Wheatsheaf.

ENVIRONMENT

205/20 LEAD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Parish Warden - Allocated tasks completed. Rubbish/minor fly tipping around Commonwood cleared. Responded to a call from Chiltern Rights of Way re: fallen branches over the footpath near Valley Farm and cleared accordingly. Washed down and cleaned benches on Green and in KGV. Bus stops to be jet washed then painted in the Spring.

Andrew Whitewood - formal email sent thanking for excellent work on The Green and around pond last week.

Joe Brownsell - have discussed Boxing Day and there will no request for Classic Car show this year.

Litter Picking - 9 went out last Thursday in pouring rain, 4 bags collected.

Rural Watch - dealt with large fly tipping in Old House Lane. However, the whole concept of sorting Fly Tipping to be progressed with Phil Williams as a result of comments made to pickers.

206/20 TREES

The issue of the oak tree on The Green continues. Written update provided by Cllr Rugg and a site visit is being organised with TRDC and the arborist to agree a definitive solution.

207/20 GREENS/FOOTPATHS

No additional comments.

POLICY & RESOURCES

208/20 LEAD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

No written report.

209/20 APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

To approve the internet banking transactions to the sum of £2567.80. Proposed by Cllr Mortimer and seconded by Cllr Soothill.

GRANTS

Grants received from a number of organisations; the deadline has been extended to allow a notice to be put into the next Spotlight edition. Mother and Toddlers group and Sarratt Ducklings to be approached to ensure they are aware of the closing date.

Cllr Soothill asked if any 20/21 grant instalments were outstanding, Cllr Thorp replied not to his knowledge.

FILMING

Permission has been granted for Lion TV to film a horse and cart on the Green, 28 October am. The fee is £500.

SPC WEBSITE

The new SPC website is structurally fit for purpose and awaiting content loading. Mike Edmund has done an excellent job developing the site largely on his own and his support is appreciated.

210/20 BUDGET

Cllr Thorp asked all budget requests to be submitted to him by 31 October so a draft budget can be presented at the next meeting.

HIGHWAYS

211/20 LEAD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Written report provided.

There was further comment from Cllr Rees about The Wheatsheaf road repair issue. Cllr Diggins advised he is waiting for legal advice.

212/20 QUIET LANES

Cllr Diggins said a site meeting was being planned to establish the viability and cost of a potential scheme.

PLANNING

213/20 LEAD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Soothill advised the TRDC Preferred Options consultation document may be issued in early November. A date for an extraordinary Council meeting to discuss the document if published has been agreed for Tuesday 17 November.

Cllr Soothill reminded Council we have already had extensive discussions to agree our strategic approach to the consultation, so ongoing work for Council will be how we apply and communicate this strategy.

214/20 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Written report provided.

Public consultation days have been postponed due to the expected imminent publication of TRDC's Preferred Options Consultation and will be re-arranged at a later date.

215/20 TO COMMENT ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Council had no objections to the following planning applications:

- Olleberrie Farm, Olleberrie Lane, Belsize - Demolition of existing garden room and construction of single storey garden room.
- Norcott House, Commonwood - Construction of detached garage.
- Hillside, Poles Hill - Installation of new vehicular crossover and extension to driveway to create carriage driveway. But SPC noted the HCC Highways restrictions on two entrances to a single residential property, and requested that if approved by TRDC, that the materials used for the driveway surface should not be materials that may spill over into the main road e.g. pebbles or gravel

Council objected to the following applications:

- Holly Hedges Farm, Olleberrie Lane, Belsize - Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of a replacement two storey dwelling including alterations to land levels - Objection due to over development.
- 3 Dell Cottages, The Green, Sarratt - Erection of a detached outbuilding - Objection on the basis of the inappropriate scale of the proposed outbuilding in the context of a small locally listed cottage in a Conservation Area.

The permitted development application by Crestyl Barn, Watercress Farm, Moor Lane, Sarratt for a change of use from Agricultural Building to a flexible use to provide hotel (Class C1) holiday accommodation was noted.

216/20 TO NOTE PLANNING DECISIONS

Planning decisions were noted, the following were specifically highlighted to Council:

- Sarum, Templepan Lane – permitted by TRDC. SPC had objected due to the increase in footprint proposed.
- Ramilies, Sarratt Green – SPC objected and TRDC has refused planning permission.
- High Rising, Sarratt Green – Refused by TRDC due to roof design and height. SPC had no objection.
- Crestyl, Dimmock's Lane – Refused by TRDC due to disproportionate additions to the roof level. SPC had no objection.
- Hollies, Deadman's Ash Lane – SPC objected to the Certificate of Lawful Development application. TRDC has approved.

217/20 ENFORCEMENTS

No updates this month

218/20 UPDATE ON DONATION BY A LOCAL RESIDENT TO SPC

The play area at KGV has been agreed, and the donation cheque has been banked. The purchase order and deposit payment will now be sent to the manufacturer. Lead time to installation is 6-8 weeks.

Discussion took place about how the project would be delivered to the family and what their wishes would be. Cllr Dobson thought a double page article in Spotlight would be a fitting tribute with the opportunity for the family to share their memories of their daughter.

219/20 CORRESPONDENCE

All provided in the meeting papers.

Dog Fouling outside Holly Cottage, Dimmocks Lane

CLlr Mortimer to check if he has a sign that could be erected. It was noted the verge is County Council land and it is their responsibility to cut it.

CLlr Dobson to reply.

Wooden posts/logs at Commonwood

As a matter of customer service CLlr Mortimer said he would organise the logs to be cut into smaller chunks so the residents could rearrange them. There was no budget to purchase new 'purpose built' items.

CLlr Dobson to reply.

Pollution of the River Chess

We will send the article that Alan Milsom has written for Spotlight to Chorleywood Parish Council

CLlr Dobson to reply.

Mulberry Bush Letter

Council agreed it is being consistent in its position. The gate will remain locked closed.

CLlr Soothill agreed to draft a reply for CLlr Dobson to send.

Email regarding fingerpost road signs in Belsize

Agreed that in the light of the expensive quotes received for replacing the fingerposts, CLlr Mortimer and the Parish Warden would look for a local carpenter to make a new sign for Belsize or alternatively make good and repaint the existing sign.

CLlr Dobson to reply to resident.

220/20 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Gordon Harold asked why no action had been taken about the laying of tarmac roads at the Mulberry Bush Farm. District Councillor Butler replied she had asked the same question of TRDC Planning and was still waiting for a reply.

Marilyn Butler asked about the impending removal of the working telephone in the Belsize phone box. CLlr Dobson advised SPC had replied objecting in writing to the removal of said equipment in September. TRDC have now made a draft decision to give approval to BT to remove the payphone equipment but not the telephone box itself.

CLlr Dobson to write again with SPC's objections before the consultation deadline of 3 November.

221/20 COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

None

222/20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ITEMS REQUESTED TO BE PUT ON NEXT AGENDA

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 10th November 2020, to be held via Zoom.

Meeting closed at 22:00