

SARRATT PARISH COUNCIL
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Hertfordshire. WD3 6AS



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Minutes of the Sarratt Parish Council Meeting held on 8th March 2022

In attendance: Cllrs: Sarah Dobson
John Rugg
John Gell
Simon Diggins
Lee Farman
Flo Garvey
Michael Lowry
Angela Coakley

Also in attendance: Lena Mortimer, Acting Clerk to the Council
Former Councillor Soothill (to speak on the Neighbourhood Plan)
9 members of the public

335/22 APOLOGIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Caroline Owen, the Parish Clerk, who remains absent due to illness.
- Cllr Reed gave his apologies due to illness.

336/22 CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR

Iain Christie who moved to Sarratt in March 2020 stood for co-option onto Council. Iain spoke for a few moments on his background and reasons for wishing to be a Councillor. The Council unanimously agreed to co-opt Iain onto SPC. Iain signed the Declaration of Acceptance to the position of Councillor. The Councillors introduced themselves to Cllr Christie.

337/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

338/22 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Representatives of residents who front onto the Green at the Old Wheatsheaf cottages, came to express their views, following a letter from Clerk of SPC requesting them not to park on the Green as this is destroying the verges. SPC had suggested that wood logs or posts could be placed along the edges of the Green to preserve it. One of the residents' spoke on behalf of residents who were not in favour of this suggestion. Cllr Dobson noted that since the notice has been given to residents by SPC, there had been no

parking on the Green. The residents said visitors to the village are the ones parking on the Green. Following a discussion, it was agreed that 'No Parking' signs would be put up on the Green opposite the Wheatsheaf Cottages and the situation would be monitored. If necessary small wooden posts, rather than logs would be considered if parking on the Green continued.

All residents agreed that the large refuse collection trucks and vehicles using this area of the Green to turn round are the main culprits of damage to the verges, so much so the roadway had been widened, and what could be done about it. Cllr Rugg stated there is a gas main and an electricity cable under this area preventing bollards being sunk into the earth. Cllr Diggins explained the complex situation around the division of responsibilities around road maintenance, which could be expensive and suggested the new line of the road should be taken rather than a historic one. SPC own the roadway and residents have an easement over the road.

A comment was made that one of the 'No Parking' signs opposite the Boot by the bus stop was broken. Council agreed to replace this.

339/22 MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

350/22: Amend end of second bullet point to read 'information provided to Cllr Farman by Mr Stephen Giles-Medhurst'

Otherwise the minutes of 8 February 2022 were agreed as a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.

Proposed: Cllr Rugg; Seconded Cllr Gell

340/22 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES WHO HAVE ATTENDED MEETINGS ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL

- Cllr John Gell attended a recent Village Hall Meeting during which the topic of recycling for the Hirers of the Hall was discussed. This applies from 7 February 2022. Users of the facility should, in future, recycle small amounts of waste. Three new labelled bins have been provided for this purpose in the kitchen, by the cooker. Clean, recyclable items (glass, tins, plastic) can be placed into the bins, not into the general bins. Hirers with large quantities of recyclable waste should take this away with them and not put it in the industrial bin on site. Contaminated packaging (e.g. with food) should continue to be disposed of in the general waste bins. Cllr Dobson noted that although notices from the Village Hall Committee has advised there was a paper/cardboard recycling bin available, no such bin was in place, and asked Cllr Gell to raise this with the Committee. Disabled parking front of the Village Hall car park. Cllr Gell has been advised by the Village Hall Committee this will be addressed under the new plans / extension for the front of the Village Hall. Cllr Gell noted these plans would see the new front of the Hall extend over SPC land. Cllr Dobson advised she had already spoken to Roger Dudley, Chair of the Village Hall Committee, about the proposed plans, but had not heard further from him on this matter.
- Cllrs Garvey and Rugg attended the KGV Management Committee meeting on 7 March 2022. Cllr Garvey proposed the installation of electric charging points and bike racks. There was support for both proposals and SCCF has offered to provide funding for the bike racks. Where exactly to locate them now needs to be considered. This was a much more positive reaction than Cllr Garvey received from the Village Hall Committee on EV charging points, who felt the need for this was some way off.

It is understood the change of use to the KGV pavilion to enable the sale of alcohol on match days and for a limited number of events (8) during the course of the year has been approved by TRDC. Though this decision is yet to appear on TRDC website. KGV will now need to apply for the actual licence for the sale of alcohol. KGV are also looking to apply for a further 'change of use', although it has not been made clear to Cllr Rugg exactly what this new change of use is.

The exterior condition of the building is deteriorating quite badly. It is understood the cost of replacing the doors and windows is around £11,000. Some help is also required from members for decorating and odd jobs. Unfortunately, the Lottery Grant bid to fund these repairs was refused. Due to COVID many grants are now being awarded primarily to deprived areas. KGV is very grateful for the continuing grants from SPC for field maintenance.

There has also been talk of the need to move the football pitch, now there is no longer a cricket pitch in place, to reduce the flooding onto the pitch from the pavilion. WiFi will be installed. Both of which will come at additional costs. The retaining edges of the Tennis courts are deteriorating. With the help of KGV funds and an SPC grant, £40,000 was spent on a new surface for the courts in 2017, so maintaining this is essential.

It is understood the after-school club that has been using the pavilion will close at the end of the current academic year, which is an important income stream for KGV.

Although there may be a youth club interested in hiring the facilities during the holidays. A café owner has asked if he could set up a coffee shop at KGV but he would need significant investment in the kitchen facilities before this could happen.

The Indoor bowls club is having a post-COVID revival with 17 people attending the session last week, although this will shortly shut down for the summer as a number of members play (outdoors) Crown Bowls.

Cllr Diggins suggested whether KGV might consider local crowd-funding to raise the money for the much needed repairs.

- Cllr Dobson attended the Chorleywood & Sarratt Local Area Forum. Attendees included the Chairs of the two Parish Councils, District Councillor Reed, several other District Councillors and Leads for the Residents' Associations in the area.

The Police report for Chorleywood North and Sarratt advised the statistics for the areas of most concern at the moment. These were:

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| – Vehicles Thefts | 2020=31; 2021=46 |
| – Burglaries | 2020=39; 2021=22 |

Drugs are not considered a big issue in the area, and anti-social behaviour is also not a major problem currently. Parking in the 'D' opposite St. Clement Danes was raised by the Police Officers who advised the problem was not the Sixth Formers who all consistently parked on the left hand-side, rather the problem is being caused by parents parking on the right hand side, and the verges, so blocking the road at pick-up time, so much so emergency vehicles were unable to get through a couple of weeks ago. Penalties cannot be enforced by the Police because the yellow lines have been worn away as the road surface has deteriorated over the years. County Cllr Williams has therefore allocated some of his Locality Budget for the repairs. Once done yellow lines will be applied and the Police will enforce parking penalties. It was reported the school has been very cooperative, although as a parent of a child at St. Clement Danes, Cllr Dobson has never received any communication from the school about the parking situation at pick-up. County Cllr Williams also advised steps were being taken to address HGVs using North Hill. Cllr Diggins commented that this issue will take time to sort. Advisory notices are in existence, but a Traffic Order to stop trucks using North Hill, other than when making a delivery in the village, can take up to 18 months.

Chorleywood Parish Council are planning an event for the Queen's Jubilee, which looks to be very similar to what Sarratt is planning – a low key event for residents.

Chorleywood Common lost 15-20 trees during the recent storms.

The Local Area Forum received an update on the progress of the TRDC new Local Plan. The publication date has been pushed back to 2025, two years after District Councils are required by the government to complete their new Local Plans. TRDC have also voted to re-open Reg 18 so allowing sites previously considered but then dropped in the last Reg 18 to be re-submitted, and allow completely new sites to be put forward, to enable them to meet their target of ca, 12,500 new homes by 2036. Grave concern was expressed by the Chairs of both Parish Councils, the Residents Association representatives, and District Councillor Reed, who noted that for whatever reason, TRDC was not prepared to challenge the centrally allocated housing, and now out of date target, which they were permitted to do, in order to minimise building on Green Belt, and by pushing back the TRDC Local Plan to 2025, two years after it should have been published leaves a 2 year window for developers to submit plans for large developments that could then potentially be decided upon by the National Planning Inspectorate rather the TRDC as the Local Planning Authority. The Chair of the Local Area Forum was urged to go back to his fellow Councillors who had voted for the extension, to revisit their decision and vote to submit a plan for a smaller number of houses on already identified plots by 2023.

341/22 CLERK/RFO REPORT

The Clerk provided her report in conjunction with the review of the Action Log and other Agenda Items.

342/22 ACTION LOG

- Progress on the Action Log was discussed with Councillors.
- Airspace concern re: Model Farm has been referred to Environmental Health at TRDC after an unhelpful contact with the CAA.
- Catapult Services have been identified as a company that can annually service our defibrillators. It was agreed SPC would 'sign-up' for the Bronze level of service which would see an annual check on both defibrillators.
- No parking signs for the Green – they have all been used, so new ones need to be ordered.
- The memorial bench with plaque for Mr Wigg has been ordered.
- The May fair dates are – pull onto the Green on the 3rd May – Fair on the 6/7/8th May and depart on the 9th May 2022.

PLANNING

343/22 LEAD COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Farman advised Matthew Roberts (Enforcement Officer) and Scott Volker (Planning Officer) from TRDC had recently visited the Mulberry Bush given a number of concerns raised over recent developments and activity there, including an 'outdoor school'. Internal TRDC discussions are now taking place on what next steps they are likely to take. Cllr Dobson advised she had contacted County Councillor Williams regarding the pre-planning application the Burlington Property Group stated they had made to Herts Highways during the online public consultation events they held at the beginning of February and was waiting to hear back from him. County Councillor Williams is our County Councillor but also the Lead Councillor for Highways at HCC. Cllr Diggins has drafted letters to the Scout Association and the NHS regarding their involvement in the

development which will be sent out by the Parish Clerk. SPC will publish these letters on its website, and direct parishioners to them in Spotlight.

344/22 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Former Councillor Ant Soothill reported that the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group had considered a number of changes to its draft planning policies following the public consultation at the end of last year. They will now be scheduling a meeting with TRDC with a view to getting their approval to our revised draft plan. Further statutory consultations will therefore be required so it is likely that the Neighbourhood Plan will now not be able to schedule a referendum for adoption of the plan until later in the year.

345/22 TO COMMENT ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- **2 Park Cottages New Road WD3 6HD - 22/0281/FUL**
Demolition of existing outbuilding, erection of a single storey rear extension, alterations to fenestration including replacement flank windows and double doors to front elevation and raised terrace
SPC: No objection – While this site is in an AONB, the modest rear extension is using part of the existing developed land so has minimal effect on biodiversity of the site. This application also brings welcome investment to the property including a move to a more environmentally friendly heating source. We would request that the applicant and planners consider the effect of the pitch of the extension roof on the light access to the neighbouring property.
- **Crestyl Dimmocks Lane Sarratt Hertfordshire WD3 6AR - 22/0289/FUL**
Demolition of existing roof and construction of new roof to facilitate roof level accommodation including increase in ridge height, dormer windows and rooflights, construction of front porch, alterations to external materials and alterations to fenestration
SPC: No objection – SPC support this application as an option that fits better with the surrounding dwellings when compared with the previously approved permitted development application
- **Little Paddock Little Windmill Hill Chipperfield WD4 9DG - 22/0271/FUL**
Construction of raised patio and installation of new window/doors
SPC: No Objection. SPC encourage the applicant to offset any loss of biodiversity due to this application by additional planting on the site
- **27 Church Lane Sarratt WD3 6HN - 22/0197/FUL**
Extension to existing driveway and landscape alterations
SPC: No Objection
- **27 Church Lane Sarratt WD3 6HN - 22/0189/CLPD**
Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Single storey rear extension
SPC: No Objection – SPC request that the applicant significantly exceeds the current building requirements for insulation so that this extension can help the building reduce its impact on the environment
- **Pennyfields The Green Sarratt WD3 6AT - 22/0108/FUL**
Single storey rear extension

SPC: Strongly object on the basis that this site has not undertaken previous requirements and this application would constitute over development in the green belt and the conservation area.

- **12 Deadman's Ash Lane Sarratt WD3 6AL - 21/2720/FUL**
Removal of rear conservatory, construction of single storey front, side and rear extensions.
SPC: Object on the basis that this application is in addition to previous permitted developments and this application constitutes overdevelopment on Green Belt land.
- **Sarratt House The Green Sarratt WD3 6BL - 22/0062/FUL**
Listed Building Consent: Refurbishment of windows, repairs to guttering, repairs to railings, replacement windows, single storey rear extension and removal of chimney breast
SPC: No Objection – although this is a modest extension to this listed building, SPC welcome the investment to sensitively improve this building. Information on the look and materials of the extension is sparse in the submitted documents so we request that efforts are made to ensure this is in keeping with this listed building.
- **Sarratt House The Green Sarratt WD3 6BL - 22/0063/LBC**
Listed Building Consent: Refurbishment of windows, repairs to guttering, repairs to railings, replacement windows, single storey rear extension and removal of chimney breast
SPC: Object – SPC welcome the investment to renovate this historic building. However from the available submitted information it is not apparently possible to assess how closely the replacement windows will match the existing look and design
- **Ramillies The Green Sarratt Hertfordshire WD3 6AY - 22/0359/CLPD**
Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Construction of a detached ancillary building
SPC: Noted. SPC request that as the Ramillies property is in the Conservation area, any restrictions on development are checked as well as reinforcing access and other restrictions to ensure this building remains ancillary to the main property.
- **The Mulberry Bush Farm Dawes Lane Sarratt WD3 6BQ - 22/0117/RSP**
Part Retrospective: External alterations to former agricultural buildings following the change of use to flexible commercial use (Class C1 hotel / holiday accommodation) including the insertion of rooflights, windows and doors, alterations to openings, addition of external balustrade and re-cladding of the exterior walls
SPC: Very strongly object, on the basis that this application shows commercial use floor space to be a total of 528m² which exceeds previous approved permission and change of use planning rules.

346/22 TO NOTE PLANNING DECISIONS

- **Prior Approval: Single storey rear extension (depth 5 meters, maximum height 3.67 meters, maximum eaves height 2.77 meters)**
Hollymead Bucks Hill Kings Langley Hertfordshire WD4 9AT
Ref. No: 21/2946/PDE | Received: Thu 30 Dec 2021 | Validated: Thu 30 Dec 2021 |
Status: Decided
TRDC: Approved

- Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Insertion of dormer window
Heather Cottage Penmans Hill Chipperfield WD4 9DJ
Ref. No: 21/2915/CLPD | Received: Thu 23 Dec 2021 | Validated: Thu 23 Dec 2021 |
Status: Decided
TRDC: Refused
- Certificate of Lawfulness Proposed Development: Erection of outbuilding
27 Church Lane Sarratt WD3 6HN
Ref. No: 21/2913/CLPD | Received: Thu 23 Dec 2021 | Validated: Tue 04 Jan 2022 |
Status: Decided
TRDC: Approved
- Listed Building Consent: Installation of proposed secondary windows
The White Cottage The Green Sarratt WD3 6BL
Ref. No: 21/2903/LBC | Received: Wed 22 Dec 2021 | Validated: Wed 22 Dec 2021 |
Status: Decided
SPC: No Objection TRDC: Approved
- Certificate of lawfulness proposed development: Erection of a detached outbuilding
Nasus Dunny Lane Belsize Kings Langley Hertfordshire WD4 9DE
Ref. No: 21/2845/CLPD | Received: Wed 15 Dec 2021 | Validated: Wed 15 Dec 2021
| Status: Decided
TRDC: Approved
- Loft Conversion including hip to gable roof alterations, front and rear dormers,
rooflights, chimney and porch with roof canop
Nasus Dunny Lane Belsize Kings Langley Hertfordshire WD4 9D
Ref. No: 21/2846/FUL | Received: Wed 15 Dec 2021 | Validated: Thu 16 Dec 2021 |
Status: Decided
SPC: No objection TRDC: Approved
- Certificate of Lawfulness for Proposed Development: Single storey rear extension
Nasus Dunny Lane Belsize Kings Langley Hertfordshire WD4 9DE
Ref. No: 21/2844/CLPD | Received: Wed 15 Dec 2021 | Validated: Wed 15 Dec 2021
| Status: Decided
TRDC: Approved
- Certificate of Lawfulness for Existing Use: Use of part existing stable building as
independent dwelling house (Class C3)
The Goslings Bottom Lane Sarratt WD3 6DL
Ref. No: 21/2479/CLED | Received: Tue 26 Oct 2021 | Validated: Tue 26 Oct 2021 |
Status: Decided
TRDC: Refused

ENVIRONMENT

347/22 COUNCILLORS REPORT

Commonwood on the south side of Bottom Lane.

TRDC continue to fail to respond to our formal requests for their Tree Officers to inspect and assess this small, detached area of the Registered Common to determine if it could benefit from a blanket Tree Protection Order following recent illegal felling of trees. This was an effective mechanism employed a few years ago in Penman's Green when the Parish faced a similar situation. The initial response from TRDC to report any illegal felling to the Police Authorities was rejected by the Parish Council. The mature Ash trees subject to a complaint from a neighbouring landowner were as recommended by the

TRDC Tree Officers, inspected by a Tree Surgeon who reported he was unable to determine if a claimed advanced state of Ash Die Back is making the trees dangerous and require immediate felling. He suggested it would be better to wait until the trees were in leaf. This was unacceptable to the neighbouring landowner. SPC have now commissioned an inspection of the Ash Trees by a professional Arborist at a cost of £450 +VAT that will be undertaken on Thurs 17 March.

Dawes Common

Protective logs and posts have been erected on Dawes Lane to deter illegal parking on the edges of the woodlands. Thanks go to Nick Mortimer and Andrew Whitewood who managed the operation.

Rights of Way

A productive and useful 2-hour meeting was held with Julian Thornton the Herts CC Countryside and Rights of Way Officer. Key Points arising were:

1. County & District Rights of Way Improvement Plans (RoWIP) identify a potential for new routes for improving access from one location to another but are not agreed upgrades.
2. They could be considered as part of a 106-planning agreement in proposed developments.
3. Several Neighbourhood Plans incorporate the local identified RoWIPs proposals.
4. Sarratt was complimented on having some of the best maintained footpaths in the County.
5. It was accepted that funding was at times an issue following the loss of P3 grants and Julian reported special grants may be available for specific woodland and scrub clearance projects.
6. Options for safer and better linking of adjoining footpaths were explored and the potential to explore initiating permissive routes or section 25 creation agreements with landowners.
7. HCC will supply 6 more gate kits for SPC to hold in stock for further footpath upgrades.
8. Sarratt Bottom footpath elevated section repairs are required, and the footbridge was reported as being in the HCC capital budget for repair or renewal.
9. The upgrading of footpath 35 into a Cycle Route and possibly extending into footpath 34 is being discussed with the landowner who is reluctant at this stage to agree to the change.
10. Annoyance registered on the omission to invite SPC to participate in the 2021 TRDC Consultation process for Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP's).
11. It seems TRDC decided to concentrate on Urban Cycle Routes and not address the need for rural areas, unlike St Albans LCWIPs that seem to have included a rural cycle route network.
12. A contact will be provided to SPC to link into the HCC Lead Officer for Cycling Strategy.

Cllr Rugg advised TRDC Councillor Andrew Bedford had asserted that TRDC were being fare with their funding to Sarratt Parish – which is nil. Cllr John Rugg will be responding to him accordingly.

In responding to a query from Cllr Gell, it was advised the landowner has re-planted the hedge outside Fir Trees on Dawes Lane following the issuance of an Enforcement Order for its re-instatement.

348/22 WOODLAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

SPC continues to wait for the official response from the Forestry Commission following the submission of the final (post consultation) version of the proposals.

349/22 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

- Cllr Diggins is assisting Cllr Garvey regarding the planting of an Oak tree at the entrance to the village from the Croxley end.
- Cllr Garvey and the Mission Employable Team have coppiced some 20ft tall self-seeded trees on the allotments. This has improved the look and ecosystem of the area.
- The KGV Committee are very open to the idea of EV charging points. The Village Hall however, is completely resistant. It was noted the Village Hall Committee really doesn't understand the subject. They are also very closed to people coming into the village. Local Pubs will be approached by Cllr Garvey as alternative EV charging locations.
- Cllr Garvey received an email about the ploughing up of Downer Drive verges. It is not known whose land this verge is. SPC will write to TRDC to ascertain ownership and provide photographs.

350/22 ALLOTMENT LEASE CONDITIONS

The following proposal shared by Cllr Dobson with regard to how to mitigate against plots being left in a state of neglect was agreed by Council.

- a) A deposit scheme of £100 would be implemented immediately for any new tenants
- b) Plot holders whose plots have already been identified as in need of attention and have been written to in the last couple of months will have a £100 deposit added to their 22/23 invoice – this would cover the cost of bringing their plot back into order if they fail to do so themselves
- c) SPC will not levy a deposit charge on existing plot holders who have a track record of keeping their plot in good order, unless they move into category b).

It was also noted the allotment annual tenancy rate will be increasing from £10 to £20 for the 22/23 year. Allotment invoices will be sent to plot holders by the Clerk before the end of April.

351/22 UPDATE ON PHONE BOXES

- The required glass and fixings to repair the Buck's Hill phone box have been ordered from Unicorn Restorations and delivery is awaited so that the remediation works can begin. Once completed this box will be handed over to the CCRA and Cllr Dobson has written to the Chair of the CCRA with a letter of agreement to cover the new arrangements for the box's ongoing maintenance by the CCRA.
- Former Cllr Mortimer is enquiring with local builders about the removal of the phone box from Chandlers Cross to Sarratt School.

POLICY AND RESOURCES

352/22 LEAD COUNCILLORS REPORT

- Expenditure 98% of budget.

- Admin costs are increased due to payments for additional administrative support while the Clerk is on sick leave
- £500 loss was made on the Allotments.
- Overall, SPC is a net receiver of VAT - £15,000 on purchases. This helps to keep the Precept low.
- Contribution **balance** to retained funds currently £20,000 at the end of February 2022. This is likely to decrease to around £13,000 depending on March's expenditure.
- Bank reconciliation – going forwards this will be signed off by Cllr John Rugg
- Approval on invoices retrospectively was a point raised recently, by the Auditor. Council discussed the practicality of approving invoices before release of actual funds from the current bank account. It was agreed that retrospective approval was necessary in terms of administrative procedures and ensuring timely payment to local suppliers. Mitigating controls over prior approval are entry of invoices for payment by the clerk and subsequent review and approval by two councillors the Resources & Policy Lead and the Chair of the Council. Cllr Lowry has adjusted the Financial policy to reflect retrospective approval as agreed by Council and the earlier policy update recommendation by the internal auditor. (see below 354/22)
- Risk Register software (LCRS) – it was agreed the functionality of this software package is more than what is needed for Sarratt Parish Council and SPC will not be using it.
- An invoice for £2,500 to TRDC RoW, for the reimbursement of footpaths work and strimming has been paid.

353/22 APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

To approve the internet banking transactions to the sum of £6,221.23.
Proposed: John Gell; Seconded: John Rugg

354/22 UPDATED POLICIES FOR REVIEW AND ADOPTION

Councillors reviewed the following policies as part of its annual cycle of policy reviews:

- Amendments to the Finance Regulations
- Allotment Policy & Tenancy Agreement
- Code of Conduct
- Complaints Procedure
- Grievance Policy
- Unreasonably Persistent or Vexatious Complaints
- Grants

It was agreed to adopt the updated versions of these policies with effect from 8 March 2022, and these will now be sent to Mike Edmund for publication on the SPC website.

HIGHWAYS

355/22 LEAD COUNCILLORS REPORT

Roadworks and Diversions: Major roadworks and diversions planned in our area are published on the 'One.Network' website: <https://one.network> (or simply Google Hertfordshire Roadworks and select One Network). Please note that if Parishioners need to plan ahead, this website allows a user to view any planned works, 2 weeks, 3 or 12 months ahead; a simple 'sign-in' is required (email and password) but the system then

remembers your preferred view. For those without access to computers, then Parishioners can ask the SPC Office to provide the details required.

Road-Faults and Repairs: With spring storms upon us, Parishioners are requested to report damaged roads as soon as possible. SPC's mechanism for reporting is via the HCC fault reporting portal, here: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/highways-roads-and-pavements/report-a-problem/report-a-highway-fault/what-type-of-fault-are-you-reporting.aspx> This covers: road damage, potholes, fly-tipping, broken lights, flooding, in short, anything to do with roads. This portal is open for all to use and does work (ie Herts CC do respond). Alternatively, please contact the SPC Office and we will report it, but it will be slower.

Active Speed Sign on Sarratt Green. A resident kindly reported that one of the 'smiley' speed signs on Sarratt Green, from the Belsize direction was faulty: it showed speeds under 30 mph but not over, rather defeating the point of it. This was reported, via the Herts CC portal, and within the day, we received a reference number, which means it will be checked at least.

Cllr Diggins also reported on the following two issues:

- **Redhall Lane/Harrocks Wood flooding:** Cllr Diggins has been in a lively correspondence with the Woodland Trust, who still seem reluctant to accept their responsibilities. However, he has now got as far as the regional Estate Manager, based in Lincoln, and looks forward to reporting on progress. York House School has also agreed to put in a sump to alleviate the flooding problem.
- **Cycle Network.** As part of the Rights of Way (RoW) meeting with Mr Julian Thornton, the development of a cycle network was on the agenda. The discussion was very helpful and some useful pointers as to how to develop the idea advanced. Cllr Diggins will keep the Council and public informed.

356/22 FINGERPOSTS

Cllr Gell shared photos of the dilapidated fingerpost signs already replaced by himself, former Cllr Mortimer and Andrew Whitewood. The ones on the Green due to be replaced this year will be to be the same specification. Additionally, two brown heritage signs will be purchased detailing the directions to the 12 Century Church (Holy Cross). The fingerpost at the junction at Redhall Lane is also to be replaced. Andrew Whitewood will clear the hedgerow there and site it in a position where it will not be knocked down. SPC will use Sign of the Times again to manufacture these last 3 fingerpost replacements.

357/22 CORRESPONDENCE

A request from Cllr Dobson on behalf of Imogen Gilmour. Imogen has written to SPC as one of only 8 Scouts that have been selected from the Rickmansworth & Chorleywood District to represent the UK at the World Scout Jamboree being held in South Korea in August 2023. To attend she needs to raise £3-4,000. She would like to hold a fund-raising event on the Green opposite the Village Shop on the afternoon of Saturday 9th April from 2-4pm. This would involve half a dozen low-key activities aimed at primary school children and their parents. Some would be paid activities to raise funds (e.g. cake stall, games, face painting), others would be free activities e.g. rope bridge.

Councillors unanimously use of the Green for this event.

358/22 COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

- Cllr Garvey – could the Green be used on 23 April for another bike collection event – Agreed by Council.
- Cllr Coakley has been approached by Vanessa Teacup Rides to take part in the Queen’s Platinum Party event on the Green on June 5th. It was agreed by Council this would not be in keeping with the event the village had planned for the celebrations that day.
- Cllr Christie asked if there were courses for new Councillors? He was advised there is a half day course. The Clerk to compose an induction pack of policies and to contact HAPTC about dates for suitable courses.

359/22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING AND ITEMS REQUESTED TO BE PUT ON NEXT AGENDA

The date of the next meeting will be TUESDAY 12TH APRIL 2022