

SARRATT PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE SARRATT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE PARISH OFFICE ON TUESDAY 9TH APRIL 2024

PRESENT: Cllr Angela Coakley – Vice Chair
Cllr Michael Lowry – Policy and Resources – who joined the meeting at 20:00 pm
Cllr James Alder – Planning Deputy
Cllr Flo Garvey – Environment and Sustainability
Cllr Simon Diggins – Highways

In attendance: Mrs Lena Mortimer – Clerk to the Council
5 members of the public – including District Councillor Ciaran Reed

23/360 APOLOGIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive and accept apologies for absence and any announcement:
Apologies received in advance for the absences of Cllr Dobson and Cllr Farman.
Cllr Diggins had to leave the meeting at 20:30 pm.

23/361 DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None

23/362 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Carol Chorley MBE spoke about the opening of the King Charles III commemorative walk. She would like to encourage the Parish to mark the occasion with an official opening ceremony, high ranking guests, refreshments and the mass taking of the circular walk. She suggested that the stall holders who participated in the coronation day celebrations in the Village Hall, may like to take part.

The meeting agreed with Mrs Chorley, and commented that many of the things that she had suggested were part of their plans. Mrs Chorley commented that the Millenium Capsule, buried at KGV, should be more widely identified in the Village for recovery in future. Cllr Diggins suggested that this should be done through the County Archivist.

23/363 MINUTES OF THE LAST FULL COUNCIL MEETING 12TH MARCH 2024

These were agreed by the meeting.

ML JA

23/364 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES WHO HAVE ATTENDED MEETINGS ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr Alder attended a meeting with the Village Hall Committee, about the front extension revised plan, which is being submitted to TRDC. He thought the proposal was sensible and appropriate.

23/365 TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM LEAD COUNCILLOR ON KGV PLAYGROUND

The playground installation was completed at the end of March and the playground opened for use over the Easter weekend, with the exception of the roundabout which remained fenced off to allow the surface underneath it to set properly. This should have been removed the week after Easter. A Final Project Report, and photos need to be submitted to TRDC which will trigger the release of the CIL Grant to enable SPC to pay Caloo. 5% of the cost is held back until a final inspection takes place by Caloo in 6 months time. We will also arrange with TRDC a date for the 'formal' opening.

23/366 ANNUAL COMMUNITY MEETING ON 30TH APRIL 2024

This will be dealt with under Clerk's Activities 23/368

23/367 LOCKING THE KGV PLAYING FIELDS AT NIGHT

Cllr Garvey has suggested that the playground facility should be lock at night to prevent anti-social behaviour.

As the Tennis Club use the courts at various times, a permanent lock-up time is not possible. Although the proposition is not impossible, the recruitment of a 'park-keeper' would have to be considered – perhaps from people who live adjacent to the playing fields. **It was resolved to investigate this matter further.**

23/368 CLERK'S ACTIVITIES**CLERKS ACTIVITIES MAR/APRIL 2024**

Sign of the Times	completed	Clerk/ AW	Last finger satisfactory and account now closed.
Chevron Lights on Alms Houses Wall	Erecting a visible signal without more official road signage	clerk	No decision taken
Information boards at the Pump and pond	Michael Edmund is supplying the designs at cost	Clerk M.Edmund	Continues with consultation on text with Brenda Harold and Dawn Pitts No decision taken
20 is Plenty New email to HHWays	Extensive email to Cllr Ben Crabbe-posting, speed, signage etc.,	Clerk	Email to HHWs no reply received Cllr Diggins suggested that he and the Clerk should visit HHWs in person
Annual Parish Community Meeting	Cllrs suggested the following organisations	Clerk	Suggestions for invitations for reports and participation apart from grant recipients: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sarratt Care: Residents Association: Historic Society: WI: Community Shop: School
Memorial bench in KGV			Plaque ordered
Other benches in KGV		clerk	The Clerk will arrange a meeting with former Cllr Thorp to consider placement of other benches
Reaction to KGV playground		clerk	The Clerk and for Cllr Thorp will include a note in Spotlight (May) explaining the snagging-list remaining to be completed on the playground.
Allotments		Clerk/Cllr Garvey	Allotment 24 is to be taken by Sarratt School
Sycamore on the Green at Springfield	Inspected by LM and FG. Will ask the advice of Julie Rees Tree Inspector	clerk	Response from Julie Rees. SPC to consider the work to be done and when. Awaiting tree coming into leaf
Meeting with Parish Warden			Date to be settled.

Police Alyssa Kite		clerk	Alyssa has relocated and is replaced by Sergeant Anna Cornish
Planning:	The Woodyard	clerk	Mr Clappinson has written a letter to TRDC before the 12 th April deadline
Footpath wardens		clerk	I have texted the group to encourage updates as the weather is better.
Opt-In Mailing List	Cllr Alder and Mike Edmund	clerk	Any update? This will be resolved at the next meeting
Historic finds on The Green	Cllr Alder, ME and the Historic Society	clerk	Presentation to be given on the 30 th April
Tree Policy	Suggested by Cllr Garvey	Clerk and FG	Work is required – clerk is looking for specimen policies. ongoing
Strimming Invoice ROW	Invoiced Herts ROW for Strimming	clerk	Herts have acquiesced to my request for an increase in the support amount to £3000 Meeting with Julian Thornton 19 th April.

PLANNING

23/369 TO RECEIVE THE LEAD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

There is no report this month.

23/370 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- [Part Retrospective: Erection of single storey side and rear infill extension, and enlargement of front porch, installation of AC Unit.](#)
13 Deadmans Ash Lane Sarratt Rickmansworth Hertfordshire WD3 6AL Ref. No: 24/0295/RSP
SPC: We have no objection to the proposed additions as long as they have no impact on the neighbours. We do have significant concern that these additions were implemented without prior proper permission, which did not allow for proper consideration before completing the works.
- [Change of use of land to equestrian and erection of stables and associated hardstanding](#)
1 Micklefield Green Cottages Sarratt Road Rickmansworth Hertfordshire WD3 6AH Ref. No: 24/0459/FUL
SPC: No Objection. If officers are minded to approve we would request that conditions be added that restrict any future change to residential use and this development remains ancillary to the main dwelling.
- [Demolition of existing shed and partial demolition of existing annexe, and renovation of existing annexe; construction of a single storey rear extension to main dwelling, with chimney, erection of front porch, associated rooflights, and changes to the fenestration, with external materials including timber cladding and stone walls](#)
The Spinney Dawes Lane Sarratt Rickmansworth Hertfordshire WD3 6BQ Ref. No: 24/0454/FUL
SPC: Objection on the basis that this application will provide a more than 40% increase in size and is over development within the Greenbelt.
[Prior approval: Enlargement of the dwellinghouse by the construction of one additional storey \(2.6m height\) and raising of ridge to result in an overall height of 7.8m \(Class AA\)](#)
Briar Bank Dimmocks Lane Sarratt Rickmansworth Hertfordshire WD3 6AP Ref. No: 24/0365/PDT
SPC: Objection on the basis that this application will provide a more than 40% increase in size and is over development within the Greenbelt. We are also concerned that this development will reduce the limited stock of bungalows in the parish.
- [Prior Notification: Erection of barn for hay storage.](#)
Newhall Farm Sarratt Kings Langley WD4 9AH Ref. No: 24/0363/PDNA
SPC: Noted.
- [Demolition of existing garage and construction of a new detached garage with an attached store and extension to residential curtilage.](#)
Hunterswood Lodge Penmans Green Sarratt Kings Langley Hertfordshire WD4 9AY Ref. No: 24/0347/FUL
SPC: No Objection.

- [Conversion of existing garage into ancillary annexe, with accommodation in the roofspace served by front dormer windows and rear rooflights.](#)

St Georges Cottage Bottom Lane Sarratt Kings Langley Hertfordshire WD4 9AJ Ref. No: 24/0328/FUL

SPC: Objection on the basis that this application creates a new dwelling in the Greenbelt. If officers are minded to approve we would request that conditions be added to ensure this building remains ancillary to the main dwelling and permitted development rights removed from this site.

23/371 PLANNING DECISIONS

- [Demolition of existing sheds and erection of carport and garage building with EV charging point.](#)
Winchwood Windmill Hill Chipperfield Kings Langley Hertfordshire WD4 9DA Ref. No: 24/0098/FUL

SPC: No objection. We note that this application represents an increase in built space, but the addition of facilities for greener transport and the statement that no trees will be removed or harmed by these works, are key considerations in the overall impact.

TRDC: Approved

- [Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of single storey side and rear extension; alterations to existing dormers including removal of front dormer and replacement with two dormers and front rooflight; removal of existing greenhouse and rear extension to existing outbuilding, extension of rear patio; alterations to front landscaping works including provision of stepped access, front driveway and parking.](#)

Treelings Dunny Lane Belsize Kings Langley Hertfordshire WD4 9DQ Ref. No: 24/0084/FUL

- SPC: No objection. We are concerned that this application would result in the reduction of 3 bedroom dwellings in the Parrish, but also recognise the investment being put into improving this dwelling. We request that any potential light impact on the neighbour is properly investigated.

TRDC: Approved

- [Erection of pitched roof to existing garage with rear solar panels.](#)

Orchard Yard The Orchard The Green Sarratt Rickmansworth Hertfordshire WD3 6AT Ref. No: 24/0092/FUL

SPC: No objection. We support the addition of solar panels. We note the incremental nature of applications on this site and the fact that this garage has only recently been constructed. We request if the officers are minded to approve that conditions are applied to ensure this structure remains as a garage outbuilding use only and cannot become an additional habitable space.

TRDC: Withdrawn

- [Demolition of existing structures and construction of five detached dwellings with associated parking, bin and cycle storage, landscaping and access improvements.](#)

Land At Rear Of 47 Church Lane Sarratt Hertfordshire Ref. No: 23/1794/FUL

SPC: We support the use of this brownfield site as a location for new dwellings. We welcome the low height of the proposed dwellings and the predominantly single story design. We note that Sarratt housing needs shows there is not a requirement for additional 4 bedroom dwellings. Any harm from additional dwellings in Green Belt should be offset by this site being used for smaller, affordable dwellings that meet local housing needs.

TRDC: Refused (inappropriate development in the Green Belt)

23/372 PLANNING ENFORCEMENTS

There were none forthcoming from TRDC

23/373 PLANNING APPEALS

There is no update on the Burlington Planning Appeal.

POLICY AND RESOURCES

23/374 Cllr Lowry attending a meeting at The Village Hall with the Committee and discussed the revised extension plans. Cllr Lowry took the opportunity to encourage the Hall Committee to employ energy saving materials.

23/375i Susan Cook the interim auditor, made a thorough examination of the accounts and recommended a slight alteration in SPCs methods of recording information under various headings but concluded that:

“There are no matters arising that require a formal comment or recommendation.”

SPC now awaits a meeting on the 25th April with a representative from Rialtas to help complete the year end.

23/375ii FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT REVIEW

We have been prompted to renew our risk assessments on financial matters each year. We continue to require that any works likely to cost over £500 should be put out to tender for three quotations; this giving SPC more control over contracts.

23/375iii NON-FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT REVIEW

Council reviewed the non-risk register for this year, in particular discussed any increased risk associated with the Parish Warden's work activities. It was concluded that they had stayed the same as last year and therefore no updates were required and existing areas had been sufficiently assessed in this year's non-financial risk register.

23/376 BANK TANSACTIONS FOR MARCH

In future, the auditor has advised that two councillors must sign all bank reconciliations and statements as evidence that the Council has seen and agreed the expenditure and receipts.

Balance brought forward from last month £69,135.79.

General expenditure was £5282.75 – higher than last month but to be expected at the start of spring.

Combines salaries were £1,532.10.

SPC is very happy that the grant received from Herts Rights of Ways, has been increased to £3,000.

The final balance was £65,320.94; £112 was earned in interest and there remains £10,000 in the long term investment account.

The auditor suggested that the Santander account could be closed and the money contained in it moved to a Nationwide interest earning account. This may provide more funds for future tree-work expenditure.

FG/JA

23/377 SPC SCHEDULE OF POLICY REVIEW/ADOPTION

ENVIRONMENT
SARRATT GREEN
MEMORIAL BENCHES AND TREES
SIGNS AND POSTERS
FILMING ON PARISH LAND

The policies were reviewed and adopted.

FG/AC

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

23/378 TO RECEIVE THE LEAD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Andrew Taylor from the Forestry Commission has been immensely helpful to SPC and, as a result, we should receive an increased grant of £1,500 from them. He will also assist us in obtaining rural payments from DEFRA. Cllr Garvey wanted to thank Andrew Taylor for his ongoing support.

The KCIII Coronation Walk is almost completed. Cllr Garvey and Andrew Whitewood are posting and waymarking the route, and the booklet to accompany the walk is almost completed. Cllr Garvey wanted to thank Mike Edmund for his tireless efforts.

The Allotment Garden in Church Lane, continues to present a challenge and there are 6 vacancies at the moment. Plot 40 which was not in good order, was worked by volunteers and will, hopefully, be taken up by someone from Kings Langley. Sarratt C of E School is no longer taking a plot, as they cannot find curriculum time to work it.

It was suggested that advertising the plot vacancies in Spotlight in May.

HIGHWAYS

23/379 TO RECEIVED THE LEAD COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The wettest February and March on record has proved exceptionally damaging to road surfaces. Our local roads are not recovering, and Bottom Lane appears to have failed completely as a highway. It is becoming obvious that maintenance of damaged roads is not achieving the desired outcome and that new road building techniques must be employed in the future. A present – no cyclists can be encouraged to take to our local roads with confidence in their own safety.

Environmental scientists at CEMEX (quarry site) have detected a sewerage outflow adjacent to the M25; the route of the main sewer from Sarratt. Thames Water attended to suck up the fluid effluent, however, the outflow has renewed itself. Although CEMEX have contacted Thames Water again, through lawyers, no action has yet been taken.

Herts Highways dismissed Cllr Diggins appeals for assistance with speed restrictions within the village, as HHWs believe that there is 'no support' for this within the village. He sought to refute this impression vigorously. SPC is in conversation with the local Police about this matter.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE

23/380 TO RECEIVE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Applications have been made for the development of 300 homes at Green Street Chorleywood. There are 30 days in which to object. The second application for 645 (reduced from 700) will follow. Schooling implications for Sarratt of the two housing applications in Chorleywood, are that many Sarratt Children will fail to gain places at St Clement Danes School in future.

There is a small amount of push-back against a house purchased to house by TRDC. Although, it has helped in the long term TRDC aim to place additional social housing on the garage plot in Downer Drive.

The next round of CIL applications is in June/July and this will be important for Tom Shurville with reference to the necessary works to the Pavilion at KGV.

There is no news of the Burlington Appeal, for 78 houses in Sarratt, as yet.

23/381 CORRESPONDENCE

23/382 COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

- There is an impasse at the moment about the Dug-outs to be purchased/built on KGV.
- May allotmenters benefit from a composting toilet? This may be provided from a legacy of £2,500.
- An anonymous donor is giving between £5,000 and £7,000 to create a toilet at the Community Garden Café.
- Can we use two-coloured waste disposal bags for litter picking so that pickers can sort litter for recycling while they pick.
- Cllr Alder and Mike Edmund are hoping to implement a direct mailing service throughout the Parish, and progress with this will be discussed at the next meeting.

The date of the next meeting is April 30th 19:30 pm

The meeting ended at 21:30 pm

