

SARRATT PARISH COUNCIL
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**Minutes of the Sarratt Parish Council Extra Ordinary meeting held in
Sarratt Village Hall on Wednesday 23rd June 2021**

Present: Councillor Sarah Dobson

Councillor John Rugg
Councillor Peter Thorp
Councillor John Gell
Councillor Nick Mortimer
Councillor Simon Diggins
Councillor Lee Farman
Councillor Flo Garvey
Councillor Michael Lowry

In attendance: District Councillor Ciaran Reed
1 member of public - former Councillor Anthony Soothill – by
invitation

Start time 7.30pm

156.APOLOGIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

No apologies. No announcements.

157.DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

158. AGAR

It was **Proposed** by Cllr Mortimer and **Seconded** by Cllr Gell that the AGAR for the financial year 2020- 2021 was approved and signed by Chair and Clerk.

Cllr Rugg thanked Cllr Sarah Dobson and Cllr Thorp for all work performed in Clerks absence.

159. TRDC LOCAL PLAN

It was decided that the following draft response will be submitted to TRDC as part of the consultation process. This draft response will also be used as a basis for communication to our Parishioners.

SPC supports TRDC's draft new Local Plan on the basis it:

- Protects the rural nature of the Parish, including the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and ancient woodland sites within Sarratt Parish;
- Retains the rural aspect of the core villages and hamlets in the Parish;
- Preserves a large proportion of the Green Belt within the Three Rivers District; and
- Keeps 'open access' to footpaths, woodlands, meadows and the River Chess that are available and valued by residents throughout the Three Rivers District who come to Sarratt to enjoy the outdoor space and amenities, such as the country pubs, which have proved so important for people's mental health during the pandemic and in the future.

With respect to the Policies included in the draft Plan we would also like to register our strong support of the following:

- Policy Option 12 on Renewable Energy – New developments must produce 20% less CO₂ emissions than directed in the 2013 regs. SPC is committed to creating a more sustainable environment and therefore welcomes this new and tangible measure, but would also prefer the target is raised to align with TRDC goal for the District to achieve net-zero by 2045; and the County wide target set by Herts CC of net-zero by 2050
- Policy Option 20 on AONBs – The introduction of a presumption against development in AONBs.

Finally, we also note that we currently have a Rural Exception Site within the Parish that we assume will remain as such and that we anticipate will be developed to provide limited affordable housing to meet the local demand in the Parish.

Proposed by Cllr Diggins and **Seconded** by Cllr Garvey.

160. NEXT MEETING

It was decided that due to the current Covid restrictions and guidelines the next meeting will be held in the main Village Hall on Wednesday 14th July 2021.

161. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

None.

162. COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

It was agreed that any feedback about TRDC's draft new local plan from Parishioners, including any comments made regarding SPC's response to the

Local Plan will be discussed at next full council meeting. Clerk to put as an Agenda item. It was agreed that Cllr Garvey would speak informally to Alan Milsom regarding the letter circulated from Brenda Harold on the new Local Plan.

Cllr Garvey reported that the Holy Cross church had received an aggressive email regarding the grass cutting within the churchyard. Cllr Dobson clarified that it was not aggressive and was requesting information on the grant money SPC provide for maintenance. Clerk will put Holy Cross Churchyard as an Agenda item for next FCM.

District Councillor Reed reported there will be a drop-in Covid vaccine centre at Vicarage Road Football Stadium this Sunday. Cllr Dobson reported that the posters advertising this have already been circulated to the SPC website, Spotlight and the Village shop.

Cllr reported that there is still flooding on Dawes Lane. This has been reported and since November should have been rectified. District Cllr Reed stated that they do require photos now as evidence.

Meeting concluded : 21:10