

**ROTHERFIELD GREYS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 9th JANUARY 2017
IN GREYS VILLAGE HALL, GREYS GREEN**

PRESENT:

Michael Pearey (chairman) in the chair	MP
Richard Ovey	RO
John Hill	JH
Nick Digby	ND
Susan Hems	SH
<i>For part of the meeting:</i>	
David Bartholomew (OCC councillor)	DB
David Nimmo-Smith (SODC councillor)	DNS
Charles Bailey (SODC councillor)	CB
Jane Pryce – Clerk	JOP

Members of the public/parishioners – 2

001/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

002/17 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL & PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

None

**003/17 RESOLUTION TO ADOPT MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING –
14th NOVEMEBR 2016**

The minutes contained an error for the date of the last minutes to be signed. This was corrected and then the minutes were declared an accurate record and duly signed and dated by MP.

004/17 OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

By Cllr. David Bartholomew

GENERAL OCC REPORT

This report is attached to the minutes

**SPECIFIC REPORT FOR ROTHERFIELD GREYS
SPEED CAMERA SIGNS**

The clerk contacted me to advise that the signs that I had got replaced last year had faded. I arranged for the Senior Traffic Technician to visit the site. He has stated that the signs have in fact been vandalised with spray paint (as happened previously) and has arranged for them to be replaced.

JOINT MEETING OF PARISHES IN MY DIVISION

The joint meeting between the Chairman and Planning leads of the nine parishes in my Division planned for Friday 13th January at 2.30pm has been postponed in order to await the outcomes of John Howell MP's planning conference on 20th January and because of further delays on the Third Reading Bridge traffic modelling study (findings were due the end of November, then the end of December and now the end of January).

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The clerk confirmed she would email councillors the details of the planning conference on the 20th January. JOP asked about the traffic/speed monitoring equipment and when it would be installed at Rotherfield Greys village and after Highlands Farm drive (nearer to Henley). DB to chase.

005/17 SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

By Cllr. David Nimmo-Smith

GENERAL SODC REPORT

The following subjects were outlined with the full report attached.

The SODC **budget** was in progress and is likely to require an increase.

Christmas trees (of a sensible size) would be collected if left next to the brown recycling bin.

Citizens Advice Bureau will receive a 4 year grant from SODC.

An Oxfordshire grant £800,000 to **tackle homelessness**.

COMET buses are getting used. JOP confirmed that she was looking into providing a regular service but it would need parishes to join together for funding. At present, COMET buses can be booked as one-offs by groups. More details can be found on the southoxon.gov.uk website. This will be further explored at the next meeting.

Report from Cllr. Charles Bailey

GO ACTIVE GOLD programme of exercise and activities for over 60s, next year will include Rotherfield Greys parish.

Planning information, pre-advice will be published with the planning application from this month.

Food Standards Agency inspections had provided data which showed the SODC and Vale of White Horse were the only Oxfordshire authorities to achieve 93% of compliance.

LOCAL UPDATE – CB asked about footpath **FP330/4** and was the collapsed fence still a problem? MP confirmed it has been propped up.

The Lamb public house – there was no further information about planning applications.

Mrs. G. Ovey promised details for the elderly group meetings and JOP will GAG email alert this information. Also mentioned the bad road condition from Sonning Common to Nettlebed B481. (DB's email address would be provided)

JOP promised to pass an earlier traffic modelling report survey done for the Highlands Farm development to MP.

MP asked about the CIL payments for pavements in the village. DNS explained that 25% will go to Harpsden and the other 75% to SODC for various road improvements and for infrastructure due the increased number of residents (eg. children requiring school places). If traffic mitigation was needed, there would be funding available.

DNS could not confirm construction traffic will not be going through Rotherfield Greys.

MP asked if conditions could be imposed on construction traffic ie. during certain hours. DNS said that when full planning applications come in, that will be the time to request conditions.

JOP asked if the delay from getting full planning permission in April to starting building end December was due to changes required on Gillots Lane? The changes proposed for Gillots Lane will not be done until after the development has been completed and sold.

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Mr. Paul Green – he stated that an alleged conflict of interest should be mentioned with the planning application response. The clerk pointed out that information was recorded but not for public viewing unless required/requested by planning committee officials. If a councillor would have a conflict, they are not included in the process. This information was recorded in a public meeting where a planning application response deadline has fallen within the timeframe. Both planning applications Mr. Green were concerned about had been granted by SODC. The parish council's response was that they should be refused.

006/17 PARISH ROADS

On 5th January MP, SH and ND with the clerk, surveyed sites for village gates at Rotherfield Greys village, Bolts Cross and Rocky Lane. Rocky Lane is outside the budget at present and will be looked at in the future. A half gate (1 of a pair) maybe possible for warning signs of camber on/and sharp corner.

Rotherfield Greys village gate, coming from Henley, was suggested at the village sign on both sides, width being 5ft. Coming from the War memorial end of the village, the site suggested was just before the first house (Maltsters Cottages) but smaller at 4ft. Again on both sides. It was noted that the hedge would grow and obscure but it was suggested a volunteer was needed to keep the growth away. JOP was concerned about the existing village sign being used on the village gate as this maybe too large and low and cause sightline problems. The type of signs will be discussed again.

At Bolts Cross end, it was thought that the location should be where the village sign is and growth should be kept in check to avoid obscuring the gates on both sides. There was room on the north side for a 5ft width gate but 4ft on the south side due to the hedge.

For Broadplat it was suggest to JH that the installation of gate and signs was supported by the parish and materials paid for.

JOP to check with OCC highways signage about village name signs. JOP also confirmed that viewing of recycled plastic gates would be arranged.

ND mentioned a volunteer driven speed check that was being done in Rotherfield Peppard. JOP confirmed this was so but the parish was failing to get volunteers. But if this could happen then the council would support it. This will be discussed further at a later meeting.

007/17 PRECEPT 2017/18

There are four new charity donations suggested. They are South Central Ambulance Service £100, Chiltern Care Centre £100, Sue Ryder £100 and Wyfold Group Riding for the Disabled £100. The members agreed to these for this meeting and 2017/18.

It was decided to no longer support the Nettlebed & District Commons.

The Chiltern Society subscription to remain but an addition £100 added as a donation was agreed.

An increase of 5% to Mr. Denslow payment for maintenance of the War Memorial was agreed. But as Mr. Denslow had just decided to retire, this increase would be passed to the next person.

An increase in the clerks' wages of £1.50 per hour was agreed.

An increase of £1,000 was agreed to the precept request.

Capital expenditure for 2 days of white lining in the agreed areas and 3 pairs of village gates and 2 stiles was agreed.

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008/17 MISCELLANEOUS:

a) Correspondence

Precept amount request for 2017/18 letter from SODC.

OALC training events for 2017. The courses list below would be looked at again by councillors.

January 18th End of Year processes

February 15th Meeting Internal Audit Requirements

March 15nd Roles and Responsibilities for new councillors and clerks

April 19th Finance

May 17th Social Media

June 27th The Clerks Year

July 19th Chairmanship

September 20th Roles and Responsibilities for new councillors and clerks

October 18th Charity Law

November 15th VAT for clerks

TBA - Planning

Social Media was suggested but no decision on who would attend.

b) Footpath report by Chiltern Society rep Jane Warren

The fallen down fencing adjacent to FP 1 between Shepherds Green and Greys Green has been propped up so there is no encroachment onto footpath.

The rickety footpath stile at Lower Hernes Farm is not really dangerous anymore because the wobbly tread has been removed. It is on the list for temporary repair by Chiltern Society (as it is off- line we are not able to replace it in its current location).

Cricket pitch to Rocky Lane (FP 5) has very dense brambles either side - once the growing season resumes there is likely to be severe encroachment.

MP would help with the cutting back of the brambles.

JH mentioned an electric box was also been overgrown by ivy.

TIME SET ASIDE FOR QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mrs. G. Ovey was seeking support and volunteers for the commemoration of the end of the First World War on November 11th 2018. The lighting of the beacon will also be part of this. A relative with WWI involvement is being sought. SH and ND agreed to organise the food with The Maltsters Arms public house. Funding for fireworks was also agreed (£200).

009/17 PLANNING APPLICATION RESPONSE(s):

a) Applications to be considered

P16/S4190/HH

Heathfield Badgemore RG9 4NR

Single storey extension to rear of existing detached garage to provide ancillary family/guest accommodation.

RGPC response 'NO STRONG VIEWS' 9.1.17

20 Dec 2016

14 Feb 2017

b) Planning responses

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Registration Date/
Decision Target Date

P16/S3656/HH 22 Nov 2016
Cross Lanes Farm, Rotherfield Greys RG9 4QA 17 Jan 2017
Construction of a storage shed, incorporating a small workshop area
RGPC response SHOULD BE REFUSED 19.12.16

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P16/S3721/HH 17 Nov 2016
Cherry Trees, Satwell Close, Rotherfield Greys RG9 4QT 12 Jan 2017
Demolition of single storey extension and double garage Construction of 2 storey extension to house and associated alterations. Construction of replacement garage
RGPC response 'NO STRONG VIEWS' 4.12.16

.....
P16/S3672/FUL 4 Nov 2016
The Strip, Shepherds Green RG9 4QW 28 Feb 2017
Construction of detached private house
Response deadline 9th December 2016
RGPC response 'SHOULD BE APPROVED' 14.11.16

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P16/S2721/FUL 18 Aug 2016
Greys Meadow, Rotherfield Greys RG9 4QJ 13 Oct 2016
Proposed removal of existing timber building and separate store and erection of a replacement purpose-built art studio and store for private use.
RGPC response: SHOULD BE REFUSED 15 Sept 2016
The clerk spoke the planning officer and this application is going to planning committee on 17.1.17

c) Planning decisions

P16/S3817/HH 16 Nov 2016
Silgrove House, Dog Lane, Rotherfield Greys RG9 4PY 11 Jan 2017
Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of new rear extension with associated works.
RGPC response 'SHOULD BE APPROVED' 4.12.16
SODC decision GRANTED

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P16/S3431/FUL 19 Oct 2016
White Cottage, Crosslanes, Rotherfield Greys RG9 4PZ 20 Dec 2016
Demolition of existing 3-bedroom bungalow and erection of replacement part two-storey part-single storey 2-bedroom dwelling and change of use of part of woodland to ancillary domestic garden.
RGPC response SHOULD BE REFUSED 4.12.16
SODC decision 'GRANTED' 20.12.16

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P16/S2825/FUL 23 Aug 2016
Pinfold, Greys Green, Rotherfield Greys RG9 4QG 20 Dec 2016
Erection of new 3-bedroom dwelling with detached garage.

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RGPC response: 'SHOULD BE REFUSED' 9.9.16

Amendment no. 1 – RGPC response 'NO STRONG VIEWS' 10.1.2.16

SODC decision 'GRANTED' 20.12.16

010/17 WAR MEMORIAL:

Mr. A. Denslow after near 20 years of excellent maintenance of the War Memorial has retired. The parish council gave thanks and a letter to this effect has been posted to him. His replacement will need to be found shortly. It was decided that something would be purchased to inscribe as a gift. There will be a notice in the British Legion newsletter.

011/17 FINANCE:

(a) Donations/Subs:

Donations to:

South Central Ambulance Service	£100
Chiltern Care Centre	£100
Sue Ryder	£100
Wyfold Group Riding for the Disabled	£100

(b) Accounts to pay:

Clerk's salary	£268.66
Office rent	£ 41.68
OALC course	£ 42.00

Cheque Total	£352.34
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Mr. A. Denslow for war memorial maintenance £63.33

c) Payments received

None

Bank Balance = £15,894.71

012/17 Website & GAG (Greys Alert Grapevine) email update

The website manual has been completed. JOP suggested as part of the risk assessment/disaster recovery there should be a backup kept off site. The purchase of 2 USB sticks was agreed upon. One would be kept with ND and the second to be used for any updates. The USB sticks would be then be swapped when this happens.

The GAG email alert is now numbering 50 email addresses on the distribution list out of 155 houses. There has been a problem using the distribution list for December and is ongoing. A manual on how to create GAG will be written and added to the USB stick procedure.

The website www.rotherfieldgreys.co.uk is for sale - £150. Members agreed.

Three options: Do nothing, buy and bury the website or get businesses to buy it and advertise via www.rotherfieldgreys.org.uk or get re-directed to .co.uk. It was agreed to have automatic re-direction to www.rotherfieldgreys.org.uk

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013/17 Matters arising for information only

The selling of well at Shepherds Green: The ownership and, hence deeds were proving difficult to track down. JOP has asked a friend, who is a planning expert, to look at the minuted letter from Sir Francis Stapleton in July 1895 donating the well to the parish council.

Speed awareness stickers for rubbish bins have been purchased (joint purchase with BAPC still to be confirmed). These will be distributed with maximum impact in mind. There are two versions to create more attention. Total cost for 200 was £152.15 (no VAT) or £76 if joint funded..

The 'Beating the Bounds' walk for the parish in spring. Date was set for end of April. GAG alert and Henley Standard and website notification. Blessing to be booked. Two versions will be mapped – 1 5 miles and another 8 miles.

The spring village clean up is set for possibly 12.3.17 (waiting confirmation from Jo Duncan) – equipment has been ordered for BAPC (42 sets) for 5.3.17 and will be kept a week for RGPC to hand over.

The restoration/adoption or reconnection of the telephone box Rotherfield Greys village (outside St. Nicholas Church) has still to be decided.

A January meeting in 2018 was agreed. RO suggested the 3rd Monday in the month.

A new BT cabinet had been installed opposite the War Memorial and JOP confirmed it is switched on. A GAG email on 'how to' take advantage of any improved Broadband speed be issued. ND reported a vast improvement.

The traffic/speed monitoring equipment has been ordered through Nigel Clarke via Keith Stenning (OCC)

Thanks were given to Keith Stenning for attending for last parish council meeting and his advice on parish road improvements.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.20 PM

Next parish council meeting is the 13th March 2017 at 7.30pm