

**ROTHERFIELD GREYS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL (ELECTORS) PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 15TH MAY 2017
IN GREYS VILLAGE HALL, GREYS GREEN**

PRESENT:

Susan Hems (Chairman)	SH
Michael Pearey (Vice-chairman)	MP
John Hill	JH
Richard Ovey	RO
<i>For part of the meeting:</i>	
David Bartholomew (OCC councillor)	DB
Jane Pryce – Clerk	JOP

Members of the public/parishioners present for part/all of the meeting	2
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**Please note that page numbers start at the beginning of the year
GAG = Greys Alert Grapevine email alert system**

027/17 ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

SH was proposed as chairman by MP and seconded by RO. MP was proposed as vice-chairman by RO and seconded by JH.

The forms to confirm this were signed by the members, witnessed and signed the Returning Officer (JOP). The clerk confirmed that OCC and BDO (external auditors) would be informed.

028/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

SODC councillor David Nimmo-Smith was on holiday

SODC councillor Charles Bailey and RGPC councillor Nick Digby did not attend.

029/17 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL & PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:

None

030/17 RESOLUTION TO ADOPT MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (13/03/2017):

The minutes as an accurate record and duly signed and dated by SH.

031/17 OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Due to pre-election 'Purdah' rules (now elapsed) and the election process itself, this report is very brief. Normal service will be resumed for my next report!

GENERAL OCC REPORT

ELECTION RESULTS

The County Council election results are as follows:

Conservative	31
Labour	14
Liberal Democrat	13
Other	5

As 32 seats are required for a majority, no administration has yet been formed and negotiations

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between parties are taking place.

In my own Division, I was honoured to enjoy an increase in share of the vote from 58% to 71%.

SPECIFIC REPORT FOR ROTHERFIELD GREYS

THIRD READING BRIDGE

As a General Election has been called, the Steering Group will not now meet until late June at the earliest, due to the general election.

CAVERSHAM QUARRY

Extraction will commence shortly and a public 'Information Day' is being held at Dunsden Green Farm Office this Saturday (20th May) between 10.00am and 4.00pm should the PC wish to send a representative.

SUBSIDENCE ON A4155 NEAR FLOWING SPRING

Part of the A4155 near The Flowing Spring has been coned-off and is subject to traffic lights and one-way traffic. A temporary 30mph speed limit has also been introduced. Investigations have revealed subsidence and the affected part of the road will be repaired with steel piles in the near future.

SH asked DB about Greys Piece Lane as it required a passing space as only a single track road. DB would enquire and forward any suggestions/solutions. A photo of the passing space (un-official) and a description of the problem was requested from SH.

032/17 SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL BUSINESS:

There was no report.

An annual SODC report can be found on the website.

033/17 Parish roads (including Broadplat)

JOP had a site meeting on 4th May with Mark Francis OCC. This was to confirm position and installation of the village gates and book the white lining.

Rotherfield Greys village – white lining. It was advised that the middle line of the road by left to fade and edges done. This gives the effect of a narrower road. A refresh of the white SLOW. The gates will line up with the speed signs. There is no room for a gate at the north end of the village on the west side. New speed signs with yellow backing will be included. The village sign could also have words, 'Slow Down - Children crossing' was suggested. JOP to obtain standard words for the councillors to decided. Repeaters to be checked.

Broadplat – white lining. This will include SLOW on the road before and after the first house in Broadplat. Needs clarification to where. Gates not advised. Junction needs work (potholes) before white lining (giveaway). The chevron sign to be moved back to improve sight line.

Rocky Lane junction – the drainage pipes are blocked and the junction is dangerous as filled with gravel. DB to be informed as no longer a SODC problem (as advised by Mark Francis) before white lining (give way). JOP has photos. Gates not possible but bigger and more visible signs of the bend advised. Larger chevron sign.

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Bolt's Cross – New village signs on gates and larger 30 sign.

The above proposed works were agreed and JOP to circulate to confirm and then pass to Mark Francis (OCC Highways) to quote.

Shepherds Green sign has been put in the wrong place, JOP to check and report. At the junction of Greys Green and Shepherds Green there is now a layby which is deemed dangerous. JOP to report.

034/17 Henley Municipal Charities

A parish representative tenure on the board of the Henley Municipal Charities runs out in July 2017. Louise Lloyd was suggested to be continued (Mrs. Lloyd has confirm she is willing to continue) and this was agreed by the members. JOP to inform Mrs. Lloyd and Henley Municipal Charities.

035/17 MISCELLANEOUS:

a) Correspondence

Five Waste and Recycling leaflets have been received and JOP handed out one to each councillor.

b) Public Footpath/Bridleway Report

Jane Warren, Rotherfield Greys Chiltern Society Representative, provided a footpath report for the meeting:

Work carried out by Chiltern Society volunteers

Because of cutbacks in Council budgets, work carried out by the Chiltern Society is becoming increasingly important in maintaining footpaths.

This Parish has benefitted from a number of work parties in recent weeks, with the main achievements as follows:-

Badgemore Golf Course

FP 25 New kissing gate installed where footpath joins Lambridge Lane.

Bridleway 26 Light clearance near entrance to Golf Course

Greys Court and other National Trust Land

FP 6 – brambles cleared near cricket pitch at Greys Green

FP 7 – rotten bridge removed

Bridleway 10 – Definitive line marked out by OCC officer in preparation for new waymark posts

FP 60 – this was formerly a permitted path but has recently been upgraded to a public right of way.

It links FP 1 from Greys Green cricket pitch to Bridleway 14 at Greys Green Golf Course, and is now properly signposted.

Pack & Prime Lane

Bridleway 19 – three fallen tree trunks removed, and light clearance along entire length completed.

The next work party scheduled for 10 May 2017 should include work in Rotherfield Greys.

New Outstanding issues.

Fallen Trees

A small tree trunk is obstructing FP 11 in Lambridge Woods near Broadplatt

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A large beech has fallen across FP's 8 & 9 at the entrance to the wood to the NE of Greys Court house (NT land)

A large tree has fallen across the permissive path linking FP 17 to Rocky Lane (NT land)

Defective stile

FP 21 (Cross Lane Farm) – stile at junction with Dog Lane too high

Path not marked through growing crop

FP 27 (Grange Farm)

Forthcoming issues

It is to be expected that some paths will get overgrown during the summer months. It is hoped that land owners will carry out clearance as necessary but if particular problems arise please advise myself or report to Oxfordshire County Council via the website. OCC/public rights of way / report a problem

Jane Warren

Chiltern Society Parish Path representative for Rotherfield Greys

0118 948 2300

janerwarren@gmail.com

c) Rotherfield Greys Website

The purchase of rotherfieldgreys.co.uk has happened as the owner (at last) has send an email. Also, included for free, was the domain rotherfieldgreys.uk. Cost £180. When purchase is complete, there is a transfer fee of £10 from NOMINET. Please see 038/17 for expenses.

d) Well at Shepherds Green

The 'Statement of Truth' (ST1) forms from Land Registry were handed to John Hill and Richard Ovey to check and sign. Susan Fulford-Dobson was attending the meeting as a member of the public so could sign her statement too. The forms can now be posted to Land Registry to obtain deeds for the well.

036/17 PLANNING APPLICATION RESPONSE(s):

a) Applications to be considered

	Registration Date/ Decision Target Date
P17/S0819/DA	
The Lamb Inn, Satwell RG9 4QZ	23 March 2017
Without Planning permission, the material change of use of the public house to residential use.	18 May 2017
RGPC response 'SHOULD BE REFUSED'	

b) Planning responses

	Registration Date/ Decision Target Date
P17/S1406/HH	
The Bothy, Badgemore Park Golf Club Road from Gravel Hill to Broadplat House Badgemore RG9 4NR	18 April 2017
Erection of first floor extension to south elevation, replacement conservatory to west elevation, new conservatory to east elevation	13 June 2017

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and guest suite extension to northern courtyard. (Identical scheme previously approved ref: P12/S1517/HH)

RGPC response 'NO STRONG VIEWS'

P16/S4190/HH

20 Dec 2016

Heathfield, Badgemore RG9 4NR

14 Feb 2017

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

RGPC response 'NO STRONG VIEWS' 9.1.17

This is still under consideration and still 14th Feb for a decision – looks like there maybe a CIL payment due.

P17/S0024/RM

Highlands Farm Highlands Lane Rotherfield Greys RG9 4PR

Reserved matters approval for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following P16/S0077/O 'Outline planning application (all matters reserved except for access) for the phased development of the demolition of existing buildings and construction of up to 170 dwellings along with up to 2,000 m² B1 employment space, a Community Hub, public open space, sustainable urban drainage, earthworks, structural planting, substations and associated infrastructure'

RGPC response 'SHOULD BE REFUSED'

Target decision date 18th May 2017

P17/S0938/FUL

8th March 2017

Pinfold, Greys Green RG9 4QG

3rd May 2017

Erection of new 4-bedroom dwelling with detached garage

(access rights and visibility splays shown on amended plans received 28th April 2017).

RGPC response 'SHOULD BE REFUSED'

SODC no decision yet.

c) Planning decisions

Registration Date/
Decision Target Date

P17/S0756/HH

24 February 2017

Shepherds Cottage Greys Green RG9 4QG

21st April 2017

Extension to existing dwelling. Replacement of existing garage

The application can be viewed at the meeting by the public

RGPC response 'SHOULD BE APPROVED' 13.3.17

SODC decision 'GRANTED'

P17/S0709/FUL

24 February 2017

The Walled Garden Badgemore Park Golf Club

21st April 2017

Badgemore RG9 4NR

Removal of existing buildings and erection of 5no dwelling houses

(2 x 2-bed dwellings, 1 x 3-bed dwelling and 2 x 5-bed dwellings) within existing walled garden; provision of private amenity space, car parking, bin and cycle storage

The application can be viewed at the meeting by the public

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RGPC deadline: 22.3.17

RGPC response 'NO STRONG VIEWS' 14.3.17

SODC decision 'GRANTED'

037/17 WAR MEMORIAL

There has been no contact with the recommended person (name and phone number unknown) and Mr. Lester's mobile phone number not working. Councillors agreed to enquire locally for a replacement to Mr. Denslow. SH agreed to ask Rae Ward (chairman of village hall committee) to see if the gardener who maintains the grass outside would be willing to take it on.

JOP did a tidy up and mowed the grass. One of trees is holding by its roots in a hole and needs soil. JH agreed to look at this.

038/17 FINANCE:

a) Donations/Subs:

CFO (Community First Oxfordshire annual subscription £35.00.

b) Accounts to pay:

Clerk's salary	£294.66
Office rent	£ 41.68
Expenses (website)	£192.00
Total	£528.34

Zurich insurance for the parish council £751.96.

c) Payments received

First payment of Precept £3,944.00

VAT refund £551.84

Bank Balance £18,554.31

d) Audit 2016/17

The parish council is audited once every financial year. This is a three part process. The first stage is to agree on the figures and processes are in place for the internal audit. The second stage is for an independent accountant to review the figures, paperwork and processes have been followed. The third stage is a government audit (external audit) which checks the figures and the report of the internal auditor.

The internal audit is in progress and the 'Annual Governance Statements' were read out and agreed and signed by SH (chairman) and JOP (Responsible Financial Officer). The 'Accounting Statements' figures were also agreed and signed as above.

The Risk Assessment and Bank Reconciliation were also signed by SH.

**A member of the public asked about grass cutting at Shepherds Green and was it necessary?
It was resolved to ask the National Trust about this as it was their land.**

039/17 Transport

There were many factors to be considered as a 'Good Neighbours scheme' or person willing to take bookings for this and other parishes to join to fund. As this was an on-going project, it was decided to discuss it at the next meeting.

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040/17 Matters arising for information only

The bi-annual Inspection log form was handed to SH to start the process. MP had just checked the benches and signed his section.

A member of the public reported the sound of a pump being used 5 days a week and was noisy, at the Dog Lane golf course. It was agreed for the clerk to speak to the clerk of Rotherfield Peppard parish council to arrange a site visit as the golf course spanned both parishes.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.10 PM

Next meeting - 10th July 2017