

**ROTHERFIELD GREYS PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING
HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 18TH MAY 2015 AT 7.30 PM
IN GREYS VILLAGE HALL, GREYS GREEN**

PRESENT:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Peter Lloyd | PL |
| John Hill | JH |
| Richard Ovey | RO |
| Michael Pearey | RP |
| Susan Hems | SH |
| | |
| <i>For part of the meeting:</i> | |
| David Bartholomew (OCC councillor) | DB |
| David Nimmo-Smith (SODC councillor) | DNS |
| | |
| Jane Pryce – Clerk | JOP |
| | |

Members of the public:

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|---------------|
| Terry Dudeney |
|---------------|

810/15 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

The out-going Chairman, Terry Dudeney, resigned and Peter Lloyd was proposed as chair by Terry Dudeney and seconded by John Hill. Richard Ovey was proposed as vice-chair by Terry Dudeney and seconded by Peter Lloyd.

811/15 Apologies for absence

None

As David Bartholomew and David Nimmo-Smith were pressed for time, the agenda was moved forward for them.

REPORT TO ROTHERFIELD GREYS PARISH COUNCIL

MAY 2015 FROM CLLR DAVID BARTHOLOMEW

GENERAL OCC REPORT

GENERAL ELECTION IN OXFORDSHIRE

Subsequent to the general election, the Oxfordshire seats of Banbury, Henley, Oxford West & Abingdon, Wantage and Witney all remain Conservative while Oxford East was held by the Labour Party. The Conservative Manifesto outlines a number of policies that will have implications for services run by the County Council, and we will get details as soon as they are available.

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LOCAL ELECTIONS

A by-election also took place for the County Council in West Witney & Bampton and was won by James Mills for the Conservatives. The Conservative Independent Alliance retains control of the County Council.

OCC WINS £12.9M FOR HIGHWAY DRAINAGE & STREET-LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS

OCC has been successful in bidding for £12.9m of Government money to improve street lighting, road drainage and carriageway condition in the county. The Council is one of 31 across the country to receive grant funding from the Department for Transport's £275m Challenge Fund – which was set up for councils to bid for one-off major infrastructure schemes. As part of the bidding process the council had to guarantee £1.6m of funding from its own budgets – taking the total spending to £14.5m. Some of the money will be spent on reviewing and replacing Oxfordshire's older street-lighting between 2015 and 2018. Highway drainage will also be improved in various parts of the county – which will in turn make road surfaces more resilient to poor weather. Road edges will be strengthened where necessary. The Council will also use the money to install Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDs) systems that allow water to drain away from roads more quickly. The council will now further develop a programme of work in line with its recently reviewed Highways Asset Management Plan.

For more information: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/news/2015/mar/council-wins-%C2%A3129m-highway-drainage-and-street-lighting-improvements>

VAST MAJORITY GET FIRST-PREFERENCE SECONDARY SCHOOL

About 91% of Oxfordshire children due to start secondary school this year have been allocated a place at their first-preference school. The council's Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Families Melinda Tilley said: *The county council has consistently had a strong record of ensuring a high percentage of children can attend their first-preference secondary school. Despite an increase in the number of applications received for September 2015, it's once again good news for the vast majority of families.*

For more information: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/news/2015/mar/vast-majority-getfirst-preference-secondary-school>

MINERALS & WASTE PLAN

Current planning policy for minerals and waste is contained in the saved policies of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan dating from 1996. This is being replaced by a new Minerals and Waste Local Plan which was approved by the County Council on 24th March. The new plan proposes that extraction will rise from 0.715 million tonnes a year to 1.015 million tonnes a year, until 2031. It will now go before an examination in public before it can be adopted.

The Core Strategy documents of the new Minerals and Waste Local Plan can be found at: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/minerals-and-waste-core-strategy>

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HAVE YOUR SAY ON SOCIAL CARE

Users (and their carers) of social care services, for example, home support, day services and respite care are invited to come along and talk to the Director of Adult Social Care, John Jackson, and senior managers to raise issues and concerns. The event will be held on Saturday 20 June at the King's Centre, Oxford from 1.30-4.30pm.

More information at: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/hearsay>

CONSULTATION ON SIXTH FORM TRANSPORT

The County Council is consulting on its proposed annual transport policy statement covering young people of sixth form age. The policy statement details the transport provision and financial assistance with transport that the council believes are necessary for Oxfordshire residents of sixth form age who are receiving education or training.

A key priority of the Government is to close the gap in attainment between those from poorer and more affluent backgrounds, and to ensure every young person participates in and benefits from a place in 16-19 education and training. The Government provides funding to tackle disadvantage both through the Education Funding Agency's (EFA) funding formula and through the £180 million 16-19 Bursary Fund to help young people meet the costs of participating in education and training post-16. 2015/16 will be the fifth year of the 16-19 Bursary Fund.

The consultation and supporting documents can be found at:

<https://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult.ti/Post16Transport/consultationHome>

**SPECIFIC REPORT FOR ROTHERFIELD GREYS
TRAFFIC CALMING**

In response to a request from village resident James Morrish, I have arranged for the existing painted-over speed camera warning sign to be cleaned.

JOP and SH asked about a possible highways issue. Several large concrete balls have been placed on the verge outside The Old Rectory, Rotherfield Greys. DB confirmed this would be a highways issue and JOP to provide details to the highways agency.

Report from Cllr David Nimmo-Smith SODC District Councillor

DNS introduced himself to the new councillors and outlined his role as Oxfordshire County Council Cabinet for the Environment, South Oxfordshire District Councillor and Henley Town Councillor. The 10 parishes he will share with Charles Bailey.

Terry Dudeney asked about an enforcement issue with '3 Oaks' regarding an occupied caravan.

JOP read out an email from Ian Severn, the enforcement officer to give the current situation. Please see below:

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“I have conducted a site visit and spoke with the manager for the orchard. It would appear that a breach of planning control has occurred in relation to the caravans. We have advised the manager of the breach of planning control and are in the process of working with them to resolve the breach.”

Greys Green golf course had a planning application (P14/S0844/FUL) for the works now being undertaken. A planning inspector was requested to check the application was being adhered to.

812/15 Members declarations of personal and prejudicial interests/declaration of acceptance of office

There were no personal & prejudicial interests declared.

The new councillors completed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office, Register of Members' Interests and Members Allowance forms and gave them to the clerk.

813/15 Resolution to adopt Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes from the parish council meeting on the 9th March 2015, were declared true and accurate and signed by PL.

814/15 Please see above.

815/15 Please see above

816/15 Public footpath/bridleway report

Jane Warren (Chiltern Society Representative) provided the following report:

ROTHERFIELD GREYS FOOTPATHS, MAY 2015

All paths have been walked during the last month and are all passable.

However, there are issues with the correct line and waymarking of a group of paths (identified officially as Rotherfield Greys paths 25, 26, & 27) exiting Lambridge Wood south and east, which needs to be looked into. It is likely that the County Footpaths Officer will need to be involved to check the correct line of these paths but I will keep the Parish Clerk updated about any site visits planned.

817/15 Planning

a) Planning application to be considered.

Planning application P15/S1202/HH Satwell Close, Rotherfield Greys RG9 4QT was discussed and the parish council's decision was 'NO STRONG VIEWS'. A neighbour had emailed concerns over the size of the extensions, in view of privacy and light. This was taken into consideration.

b) Enforcement

JOP stated that she had not received a response to the request for information about the Lamb.

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PL discussed with the other councillors the possibility of a planning subcommittee. It was decided that the planning applications would be first checked through the weekly list including any on the boundaries by RO. If any were deemed problematic then it was agreed a meeting of the councillors would take place.

818/15 Finance

a) Donations/Subs: None

b) Accounts to pay:

Mr. A. Denslow – War memorial caretaking 1st payment 2015 £170.00

Clerk: Salary, office rent and expenses £462.53

Zurich for 2015/16 insurance £739.43

c) Mandate forms were signed and a new signatory of Michael Pearey was added.

d) Accounts 2014/15

Resolved that they be accepted and duly signed and dated by the Chairman and the Clerk.

Receipts = £8,139.59 Payments = £7,667.54 Cumulative funds = £12,550.97

e) Annual Return & Audit 2014/15.

The Annual Return section 1 and 2 were signed and dated by the Chairman and section 2 by the clerk.

819/15 Miscellaneous

a) War memorial: None

b) Correspondence: None

c) Telephone kiosk: JOP confirmed that the paint for the restoration had been purchased and painting would begin (depending on weather) in the next 2 weeks.

d) Insurance Renewal: The premium has increased from last year by £26 but the 3 year deal (5% reduction) was no longer available.

Matters for information only were for the risk assessment of the parish council assets. John Hill for the War Memorial and the bus shelter, Michael Pearey for the village hall notice board and Peter Lloyd the noticeboard and well at Shepherds Green.

John Hill informed the meeting that he had spare oak posts for the War Memorial. JOP to inform Mr. Denslow (war memorial caretaker).

Meeting ended 9.30pm

Next meeting 13th July 2015 at 7.30pm