

**ROTHERFIELD GREYS  
MINUTES OF THE  
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2019  
IN GREYS VILLAGE HALL, GREYS GREEN**

**Parish Councillors present:**

Susan Hems (chairman), Nick Digby (vice-chairman), Richard Ovey and John Hill.

For part of the meeting: Oxfordshire County Councillor David Bartholomew and South Oxfordshire District Councillor David Nimmo-Smith

Also present: Jane Pryce – Clerk and no members of the public.

**Key/Information**

**GAG = Greys Alert Grapevine email alert system**

**CIL = Community Infrastructure Levy paid by developers to mitigate the impact of new houses.**

**RFO = Responsible Financial Officer.**

**The parish website is [www.rotherfieldgreys.org.uk](http://www.rotherfieldgreys.org.uk)**

**001/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Michael Pearey emailed his apologies.

**002/19 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL & PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:**

None

**003/19 RESOLUTION TO ADOPT MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (19/11/2018):**

The minutes contained an addition and the following paragraph was added:

“The planning application P18/S3552/FUL) Broadplat House for Change of Use of verge, was discussed at the end of the meeting and all councillors present agreed to OBJECT with comments: Highway authority confirms that the verge is not required for road widening. Any services under the land, serving surrounding properties, are reserved to existing users. Confirmation that ownership of the land is not claimed by any surrounding neighbours.”

Also the clerks’ wages was noted for Aug/Sept when it should have shown for Oct/Nov.

This was corrected and the minutes were then declared a true and accurate record and duly signed and dated by Susan Hems.

**004/19 OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT:**

**GENERAL OCC REPORT**

The report was emailed to the councillors before the meeting and will be attached to the minutes and available on the website.

**SPECIFIC REPORT FOR ROTHERFIELD GREYS**

**DOG LANE RESURFACING & SIGNAGE**

I am awaiting the following from officers:

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1. Report on outcome of officer visit during the first week of December.
2. Copy of letter to residents about future repairs and liability in respect of public mishaps relating to unknown specification.
3. Decision on sign funding.

Signing was discussed as Dog Lane was now being used more and for various unsavoury purposes where the police had to be called. New signs with wording 'restricted byway' would be suggested.

**DIVERSION OF PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO 1 (PART) THE ROSARY, SHEPHERDS GREEN.**

I have been invited to comment on this application and seek the views of the PC.

Although the reason for the new amendment to the diversion was questioned, the reason did not seem to justify another amendment. The Campaign to Protect Rural England had requested this and stated it allowed existing paths to join up. Although it was evident the footpath had been diverted many years ago and would have been needed to be aligned correctly (through The Rosary's garden), the new route was not seen as an issue.

**P18/S3552/FUL - 'BROADPLAT HOUSE', BROADPLAT**

I am advised that this planning application has been withdrawn.

**LINE MARKING WORKS (DRAGON'S TEETH AND ROUNDELS)**

I have confirmed to the officer that I would contribute £500 towards this from my Councillor Priority Fund.

David Bartholomew was thanked for this.

It was confirmed that the above line marking had been done but the refresh of the thick white lines to the edges of the road had not. John Hill mentioned that the moving back for the 'chevron' sign at Broadplat junction which is seen as impending sightlines, as not been done.

**CAVERSHAM QUARRY**

The internal road for backfill leading from the A4155 to the weighbridge has been constructed, as has the weighbridge itself. Construction of the junction on the A4155 to the internal road has stalled due to disagreements over specification between OCC and Tarmac. It is now likely backfilling will not commence until February. It is anticipated backfilling will involve approximately 50 HGVs per day visiting the site. It is likely half will come through Henley/B481 and half through Reading. Test drilling for a potential new site adjacent to Shiplake College is currently taking place (this is in response to the OCC call for potential future sites some ten years ahead)

Questions were asked about the backfill and it will be inert as in a floodplain.

Backfill trucks delivering to the Dog Golf Course, Church Lane was asked about – David Bartholomew passed this question over to the District Councillor David Nimmo-Smith.

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How much longer will trucks will be travelling to the site with fill material for the contouring of the course? David Nimmo-Smith will find out.

**THIRD READING BRIDGE**

As previously reported, the enthusiasm of Berkshire councils for this project is undimmed. I attended the Reading Area Transport Forum on 27th November and the bridge was an agenda item. I can confirm that independent of Oxfordshire councils, Berkshire has now commissioned further work to support the ‘business case’. The work is being conducted on a pro bono basis by consultants hoping to move the project forward. Reading asked SODC to ‘safeguard’ the proposed site of the bridge in the SODC local plan, but this has been refused on the basis of lack of detail and certainty the project will proceed. OCC supports the refusal.

**TOWN AND PARISH LIAISON EVENT THURSDAY 17TH JANUARY 2019**

As part of the Thriving Communities vision, OCC wants to move away from the traditional top-down service design and delivery and talk to people to help shape plans and hear local voices. To support this, there will be a town and parish liaison event on Thursday 17th January 2019 at Sonning Common Village Hall starting at 2pm and ending at 5pm. The event will start with a short presentation followed by round table discussions. I am concerned to note that nobody from RG PC has registered to attend the event. Please register for the event at [townparishevents@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:townparishevents@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Susan Hems confirmed she would register for this event.

**005/19 SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:**

David Nimmo-Smith confirmed that the Third Reading Bridge was not in the Local Plan for safe guarding the land on the South Oxfordshire side, as mentioned above.

The **SODC Local Plan** is signed off with proposals and now in consultation from 7<sup>th</sup> January – mid February. There will be a public exhibition with officers to take questions at Henley Town Hall Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> 10-2pm and it was encouraged that people see the proposals. The plan will be then reviewed with any feedback and the intention is that the plan will be adopted by the end of year.

Greys Meadow application to remove condition 7 (driveway) will be going to planning committee on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>. David Nimmo-Smith kindly offered to pass the parish council response to the committee, if the responses emailed to him soon. He was thanked for this.

SODC are going through their Budget cycle and would be put forward for a likely increase of £5 per band D house roughly 4%.

**006/19 CLERK’S REPORT**

The clerk attended the Neighbour Planning meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> December at Henley Town Hall. The next NP meeting is on the 21<sup>st</sup> January where the subject of a request for a CIL payment for pavements (£65,000) in the village will be discussed as an agenda item. Also see below – agenda item 010/19.

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**007/19 PARISH ROADS**

White lining has been carried out and all junctions giveways but thick white lines along the edges of road not done yet. The road bend sign has not been moved back at Broadplat junction as was impending sight lines.

As a possible expense in the budget, a quote or ideas for improvements to Rocky Lane junction is being awaited. Please see below, under agenda item 012/19.

For Dog Lane it was suggested a 'Country Watch' sign.

**008/19 MISCELLANEOUS:**

**a) Correspondence**

None

**b) Footpath Report**

Since my last report of November 2018 I have walked public rights of way in Lambridge Wood. Light clearance work has been carried out by the Path Maintenance Volunteers and many of the arrows on the trees have been refreshed. The paths are drier than normal for the time of year because of the prolonged dry spell.

Nearby Footpath 27 at Grange Farm has been improved. The representative of the new landowner has met with the Area Secretary of the Chiltern Society Rights of Way Group and has clearly marked the line of the footpath through arable land. Unfortunately the damaged green metal finger post at the road end has still not been replaced by the OCC team.

Jane Warren

Chiltern Society Parish Path Representative

[janerwarren@gmail.com](mailto:janerwarren@gmail.com) dated: 10.1.2019

**TIME SET ASIDE FOR QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**009/19 PLANNING/ENFORCEMENT**

**Greys Meadow** application P18/S2235/FUL is going to Planning Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> January at Crowmarsh Gifford 6pm. Please see also the SODC report above. The parish council response was that this was not necessary to have a hard surface as only for private use and the meadow was pasture and should remain so. And will set a precedence.

The diversion of **Footpath 1** from The Rosary is now been amended to go diagonally across the field. This was discussed (as above) and the amendment was agreed.

Henley Housing Trust re. **School Cottages** – the Trust could not attend but a drawing of the proposal (not yet submitted to planning) was emailed that afternoon. This was discussed. The front elevation (facing the cricket pitch) was seen as not in keeping with surrounding buildings

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and the door at the side was not obvious and there was no porch. These comments would be passed to them.

**a) Applications to be considered**

[P18/S4125/FUL & P18/S4126/LB](#)

New Farm Road from Gravel Hill to Broadplat House, Badgemore RG9 4NX  
Conversion of existing curtilage listed Cookery School and adjacent stable to new residential Annex.

RGPC response required by 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**b) Planning responses**

[P18/S3727/HH](#)

Old Post Office, Shepherds Green, Rotherfield Greys RG9 4QL

Single storey extension to dwelling

RGPC response NO OBJECTIONS

SODC Target Decision Date: 22nd January 2019

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[P18/S2253/FUL & P18/S3709/AG](#)

Greys Meadow – the first application is removal of condition 7 as to driveway to new barn/artist studio across National Trust land. The second is a statement of need for an apple store building.

RGPC – Objections with comment: Condition 7 should not be removed. Control of access must be retained as access should be for pastoral reasons only

Gone to planning committee – see above.

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[P18/S2191/HH](#)

Lambridge Wood Farm, Bix RG9 4RZ

Roof conversion and extension to the Old Stables. Rear extension to existing garage to provide additional storage.

RGPC - NO OBJECTIONS

SODC Target Decision Date: 20th September 2018

**c) Planning decisions**

Planning Application Withdrawal - [P18/S3552/FUL](#) – Broadplat House verge.

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[P17/S4409/O](#)

Highlands Farm, Highlands Lane, Rotherfield Greys RG9 4PR

Outline planning application with all matters reserved for the construction of up-to 5 detached dwellings

RGPC 'SHOULD BE REFUSED' comment - overdevelopment of the site

Gone to appeal due to non-determination by SODC.

Appeal/planning granted.

**010/19 Henley Town Council Neighbourhood Planning meeting 21<sup>st</sup> January.**

SODC advised that written support for the CIL bid of £65,000 for pavement in the village be made in writing and only the clerk and the chairman attend the meeting.

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As the clerk had attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018 meeting and stated the details and answered questions, the coming meeting will need be more about public need/support for this.

Support letters from the residents have also been included as part of the meeting. The Henley Standard will be there.

**011/19 FINANCE**

**a) Donations/Subs:**

None

**b) Accounts to pay:**

**Jane Pryce**

Clerk's salary (Dec/Jan)	£294.66
Office Rent	£ 41.68
<b>Total for cheque</b>	<b>£ 336.34</b>

**c) Payments received**

December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018 £4.12 interest.

Bank Balance **£ 11,816.72**

**012/19 BUDGET 2019/20 AND PRECEPT**

The budget was discussed and agreed and the Precept request form was signed. The Precept for 2019/20 was decided on at £8,014 down from 2018/19 precept of £8,060. This was recommended by the SODC.

It was decided to maintain 2018/19 S137 charity donations so the Royal British Legion £100 and £50 to the phone restoration committee was continued. This was agreed. This is still within the limit of £2,020. Total S137 payments (including subscriptions) suggested at £2,011.89. A full list was read out and attached to the minutes and on the website.

Suggestions and a quote was requested from OCC Highways for Rocky Lane junction which has a dangerous sharp bend and a camber and a problem with draining water. As this was not yet received a figure of £3,000 was set aside.

The budget 2019/20 was agreed.

**013/19 Matters arising for information only**

The **USB** stick for a backup of the parish council documents was unable to be done as the USB had failed on the clerk's end. A new USB will be purchased and updated and then swapped with Nick Digby.

The clerk informed the council that it was an election year and posters 'Publication of Notice of Election & Nominations Open' will be out on GAG and noticeboard by 26<sup>th</sup> March. There were some amendments to be made to the Registration of Interests' for two councillors but all councillors will have to complete them again anyway by 4<sup>th</sup> June.

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A contingency fund of £2,500 for election costs (if a contested election) have been included in the budget.

Richard Ovey stated his intent to retire and two candidates would be consulted.

John Hill requested that a log of accidents at the War Memorial junction be minuted and Mr. Green (who maintains the area) be informed.

**War Memorial Accident log No. 1**

December 28<sup>th</sup> 2018 - On investigation a low model type car hit the lower part of a cherry tree on opposite side of the road and spun round rearwards and hit the posts on the verge on the Memorial side. The posts have been replaced/repared on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019.

Note: eighth lot of vehicle damage this year (2018).

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.05 PM

Next meeting is the annual parish meeting followed by the parish council meeting 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.30pm