

**ROTHERFIELD GREYS PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT 7.30PM ON MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017  
IN GREYS VILLAGE HALL, GREYS GREEN**

**PRESENT:**

Susan Hems (Chairman)	SH
Michael Pearey (Vice-chairman)	MP
John Hill	JH
Nick Digby	ND
<b><i>For part of the meeting:</i></b>	
David Bartholomew (OCC councillor)	DB
David Nimmo-Smith (SODC councillor)	DNS
Jane Pryce – Clerk	JOP

Members of the public/parishioners present for part/all of the meeting	0
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**Please note that page numbers start at the beginning of the year**

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

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

**053/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Richard Ovey was unable to attend and telephoned his apologies.

**054/17 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL & PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS:**

None

**055/17 RESOLUTION TO ADOPT MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (10/07/2017):**

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

**056/17 OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT:**

**GENERAL OCC REPORT**

From Cllr. David Bartholomew

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**

**HIGHLANDS FARM CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC**

I have had extensive correspondence with a resident in relation to this matter and have raised enquiries with officers. It has been confirmed that there is no routing agreement for construction traffic as all options are inherently problematic. Reducing traffic through Rotherfield Greys, for example, would simply increase traffic on Greys Road and Gillotts Lane – routes that are equally unsuitable. I am investigating traffic calming options, but am unconvinced a cure-all fix can be found.

**ROCKY LANE GRAVEL**

The Area Steward has advised me this has been programmed for works, but no start date has been set due to budget constraints. I will continue to chase.

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**THIRD READING BRIDGE**

The Strategic Outline Business Case document has now been subject to a preliminary review by OCC officers, but has not yet been discussed by the Member Steering Group. Officers have raised technical queries in relation to the way the report has been produced. The next evaluation stage (Outline Business Case) would cost hundreds of thousands of pounds to produce and the final project cost is estimated at well in excess of £100m. I will report back with further news when it is available.

**WOODEN POSTS ON THE PUBLIC VERGE IN GREYS GREEN OUTSIDE GREYS END**

I have heard back from the Area Steward and he has advised me that OCC would be taking no action. This is consistent with a wider policy where non-dangerous or overly obtrusive verge markings are permitted on a discretionary basis throughout the county.

**057/17 SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT:**

**From Cllr. David Nimmo-Smith**

CIL payments were asked about and it was advised to start negotiations now. The clerk confirmed she would contact SODC Community Infrastructure Levy department.

Thames Farm appeal – this proposed planning application housing development approval has been challenged.

Within the next 20 years it was expected that South Oxfordshire should take another 32,000 houses but the present number of 75,000 houses means an uplift of 40%.

Waste recycling trucks have been replaced with new models and should hopefully be more reliable.

Letters should have received to encourage residents to be on the electoral roll.

Work to update and re-furbish the Henley leisure centre is continuing.

The new parking ticket machines at King's road had failed due to poor quality paper but was now operational.

The new charges for domestic DIY waste were discussed and worries about fly-tipping were expressed.

**058/17 PARISH ROADS**

Although awaiting confirmation, the likely cost of the village gates and signs are is £6,282.50 (VAT £1047.08)

The white lining that has been for the middle of road is being paid from OCC Highways budget so no cost to the Parish. The clerk thanked Mark Francis for this. This means just the SLOW in the village and solid line round village and 3 GIVE WAY junctions need to be done.

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The clerk explained why there had been a delay in the white lining and the installation of the village gates: This part due to summer holidays and junction repairs not yet carried out.

The village gates cheque payment was requested to be done as soon as the amount was confirmed and JOP would bring around the cheque.

A meeting was agreed to happen shortly at Rotherfield Greys village with a highways engineer to work out ways to mitigate the Highlands Farm development traffic. JOP confirmed she would arrange this. A pavement seemed to be the best option.

The traffic monitoring devices have been and gone – the reports are summarised below with the previous one for comparison.

**TRAFFIC MONITORING SURVEY  
WEEK 23/2/2017**

<u>Camera</u>	<u>Volume</u>	<u>Over Speed (31-36mph)</u>	<u>Notes</u>
1017016 Nth Maltsters - into village	11,585	314	33 over that (36-41mph)
1017016 Nth Maltsters - out of village	11,102	447	78 over that (36-41mph)
017017 Greys Rd E Highlands Lane to Greys	11,997	1,327	A lot of speeding towards village
017017 Greys Rd E Highlands Lane to Henley	12,243	958	Most trying to get to work on time (am)
0545* Greys Rd W Highlands Lane to Greys	8,535		Old existing machine - no speed
0545* Greys Rd W Highlands Lane to Henley	8,748		Old existing machine - no speed

These figures are for 24 hours over a 7 day period

\*week 2.1.17 only data available now

**TRAFFIC MONITORING SURVEY  
WEEK 22/7/2017**

<u>Camera</u>	<u>Volume</u>	<u>Over Speed (31-36mph)</u>	<u>Notes</u>
1017016 Nth Maltsters - into village	7,870	230	35 over that (36-41mph) 2 @ 41-46
1017016 Nth Maltsters - out of village	7,999	273	62 over that (36-41mph) 8 @ 41-46 1 @ 46-51
1017017 Greys Rd E Highlands Lane to Greys	8,480	320	151 @ 36-41 46 @ 41-46 2 @ 46-51 3 @ 51-56
1017017 Greys Rd E Highlands Lane to Henley	8,243	421	200 @ 36-41 115 @ 41-46

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40 @ 46-51 5 @51-61 1 @ 56-61

0545*	<b>Greys Rd W Highlands Lane to Greys</b>	11,469	Old existing machine - no speed
0545*	<b>Greys Rd W Highlands Lane to Henley</b>	11,493	Old existing machine - no speed

These figures are for 24 hours over a 7 day period

\* From 01/06/2017 to 01/07/2017

It was agreed that the monitoring devices been put in again in Spring.

The clerk was asked to investigate the cost of a police speed trap.

**059/17 MISCELLANEOUS:**

**a) Correspondence**

The Henley Housing Trust has some land next to School Cottages and wish to show the outline plans for 2 semi-detached cottage that wish to be built for low-cost rent. The councillors agreed to a meeting with them to discuss this.

The Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum request for a donation. The councillors agreed not to support at this time.

Oxfordshire Age UK 'Dignity in Care Awards' nomination request. The clerk has already put this information out on GAG.

Oxfordshire County Council Waste Management Team – changes to charging. The clerk has already put this information out on GAG.

Thanks were received from the Chiltern Society for the £100 donation.

**b) Public Footpath/Bridleway Report**

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

**JULY & AUGUST 2017**

I have walked nearly all the paths during the summer and can report that all are passable and reasonable well marked.

1. Work outstanding from last report

One outstanding item is the removal of a large fallen tree on the **permissive path** on National Trust land leading from the West end of RG17 to Rocky Lane. The route is still passable with care, enabling walkers to avoid the main road.

2. Tasks Completed

During July The Chiltern Society completed the following task on Greys Court Estate:-

At the junction of Footpaths **RG 8 and RG9**, the entrance to Famous Copse, a water pipe was damaged when the Chiltern Society Path Maintenance Team was replacing a damaged kissing gate post. This required the relocation of the kissing gate a few feet to the east. Thames Water then attended to repair the damaged pipe.

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The work party then removed the fallen tree that had been partially obstructing the kissing gate at the entrance to the wood

3. Future projects

The Chiltern Society has no further work planned for Rotherfield Greys but will endeavour to tackle any jobs needed as and when they arise.

Relationship with OCC Countryside Access Team

There has been a reduction in staff and changes to the way the team is organized that has limited the County's ability to maintain Rights of Way. This has resulted in:-

- a) Cut backs to its summer cutting programme.
- b) They are only being able to respond to complaints categorized as Priority 1 or 2 , ie where there are issues of public safety or where access has become completely blocked

To ensure our Parish paths are maintained and improved, it will become increasingly important for landowners, the Parish Council, and Chilterns Society to resolve matters between themselves whenever possible.

*Jane Warren*

*Chiltern Society Parish representative for Rotherfield Greys*

*Tel: 0118 948 2300 email: [janerwarren@gmail.com](mailto:janerwarren@gmail.com)*

**c) Rotherfield Greys Website (second website [www.rotherfieldgreys.co.uk](http://www.rotherfieldgreys.co.uk))**

It has been agreed to research other similar websites and maybe have advertising for local business, a history page and the environment and traffic were suggested. To avoid confusion between the two websites it was agreed to have local businesses on the [www.rotherfieldgreys.co.uk](http://www.rotherfieldgreys.co.uk) website. SH would give a copy of The Link which contains business adverts.

It was also agreed that the War Memorial would get its own button on the main website ([www.rotherfieldgreys.org.uk](http://www.rotherfieldgreys.org.uk)) with some history. Maybe words from last caretaker (Mr. Denslow). The names of the fallen from both wars would be put on as well down. Also the War Memorials Trust would like the names recorded on their website too.

**060/17 PLANNING APPLICATION RESPONSE(s):**

**a) Applications to be considered**

[P17/S2489/FUL Amendment No. 1](#)

The Barn, Greys Green RG9 4QH

Proposed demolition of remnants of existing barn and reconstruction to create a four bedroom dwelling. Erection of a car port. (as amended by revised site plan received 31st August 2017, setting the proposed dwelling further to the rear of plot)

**RGPC response deadline 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

Registration Date/  
Decision Target Date

7th July 2017

22nd September 2017

**b) Planning responses**

Registration Date/

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	Decision Target Date
<p><b>P17/S0819/DA</b> The Lamb Inn, Satwell RG9 4QZ Without Planning permission, the material change of use of the public house to residential use. <b>RGPC response ‘SHOULD BE REFUSED’</b> <b>Still no decision by SODC and still under consideration – also see below.</b></p>	<p>23 March 2017 18 May 2017</p>

<p>.....</p> <p><b>P16/S4190/HH</b> Heathfield, Badgemore RG9 4NR Single storey extension to rear of existing detached garage to provide ancillary family/guest accommodation. <b>RGPC response ‘NO STRONG VIEWS’ 9.1.17</b> <b>This is <u>still</u> under consideration and still 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017 for a decision</b></p>	<p>20 Dec 2016 14 Feb 2017</p>
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<p>.....</p> <p><b>P17/S2489/FUL</b> The Barn, Greys Green RG9 4QH Proposed demolition of remnants of existing barn and reconstruction to create a four bedroom dwelling. Erection of a car port. RGPC response/recommendation – NO STRONG VIEWS</p>	<p>7 July 2017 1 Sept 2017</p>
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<p>.....</p> <p><b>P17/S2730/FUL</b> Badgemore Park Golf Club Road From Gravel Hill to Broadplat House, Badgemore RG9 4NR The construction of a new pond on the 18th hole for golfing strategy and visual amenity RGPC response/recommendation – NO STRONG VIEWS</p>	<p>27th July 2017 21st September 2017</p>
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**c) Planning decisions**

	Registration Date/ Decision Target Date
<p><b>P17/S1748/HH</b> Robinsgrove Cottage, Satwell Close, Rotherfield Greys RG9 4QT Demolition of existing 2 bay garage and replace in same location with a traditional oak frame 2 bay garage and office. 1st Floor space incorporated with roof space (Tree Survey and Arboricultural Method Statement received 13 June 2017). <b>RGPC ‘NO STRONG VIEWS’ - comment - ‘A considerable increase in footprint of the building compared to existing garage, a possible concern’.</b> SODC - GRANTED</p>	<p>24 May 2017 19 July 2017</p>

<p>.....</p> <p><b>P17/S2199/FUL</b> Rocky Lane Farm, Rocky Lane, Rotherfield Greys RG9 4RE Construction of two timber stables on a concrete base RGPC response due 11<sup>th</sup> July 2017 SODC - GRANTED</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>14 June 2017 9 Aug 2017</p>
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P17/S2337/HH

6 July 2017

6 Church Close, Rotherfield Greys RG9 4PN

31 Aug 2017

Extensions to existing dwelling and replacement of existing roof into living space.

RGPC response/recommendation – NO STRONG VIEWS

SODC decision - GRANTED

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P17/S2460/HH

5 July 2017

Rosebank, Shepherds Green RG9 4QL

30 Aug 2017

Erection of conservatory

RGPC response/recommendation – SHOULD BE APPROVED

SODC decision - GRANTED

**The Lamb Inn at Satwell – P17/S0819/DA**

Notification of Enforcement Inquiry date: 17<sup>th</sup> October 10.00am at Henley Town Hall.

**Tree Preservation Order 17S25**

Canfield, 37 Lambridge Wood Road, Henley-on-Thames

**061/17 WAR MEMORIAL**

It was suggested that, as the 100 year anniversary of the first world war is next year, that the budget for next year (2018/19) should allow for repair of the pad stone (base) which has cracks. JH took a 2014 report from A.F. Jones to check and will let the clerk know of any other problems so quotes can be sought.

The clerk had made a decision about the little wooden crosses – they are to be removed after a year. It was suggested that maybe 3 months more appropriate. Mr. Green (caretaker) would be informed.

The clerk was also asked to contact the War Memorial Trust to get quotes from other masons.

SH was remembered to lay a wreath on Armistice Day.

**062/17 FINANCE:**

**a) Donations/Subs:**

Donation Henley & District CAB £150

**b) Accounts to pay:**

Clerk's salary	£294.66
Office rent	£ 41.68
Expenses:	
Website hosting	£ 35.86 (VAT £5.98)
Website domain name	£ 32.29 (VAT £5.38)
Website domain renewal	£ 19.18 (VAT £3.20)
Good Councillor's Guide booklet	£ 5.20 (VAT £0.20)
<b>Total</b>	<b>£428.87</b>

BDO External audit fee £36.00 (VAT £6.00)

Oxfordshire County Council – traffic monitoring devices and reports £240 (VAT £40).

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Notice of cost of 3 pairs of village gates £6,282.50 with signage and VAT – awaiting confirmation of this amount.

May the clerk have confirmation of the parish council's agreement to pay this shortly outside the parish meeting as need to be done before winter?

**c) Payments received**

Precept of £3,944.00 for bi-annual payment has been made.

Bank Balance £ 20,244.81

**063/17 Matters arising for information only**

The **external audit** is complete and passed with one error which had been corrected and re-submitted. The error was due to two benches being added to fixed assets figure which were found, mentioned in the minutes to have been bought in May 1995, to belong to the parish council and so their value was added under the current year. This was wrong and should have been added under the previous year. The fee for this error was £36. The clerk apologised for this.

Changes to some **planning applications** – which are classed as PDO (Permitted Development Order). JOP did not have a list of which applications would fall under this category. Two received – one a large single storey extension and another a change of use from offices to dwelling houses. These applications do not require the parish council's response. The plans are available to be viewed as requested at the clerk's residence.

The contract of sale of the Rotherfield Greys village **phone kiosk** has been received. It has been checked by JOP and is being read by Nichola Whittle as chairman of the Greys village phone kiosk committee. The sale price is £1.00.

The **SODC grant** for £1,000 from Cllr. David Nimmo-Smith has been submitted and approved.

The Rotherfield Greys **village fete** held at Greys Court, although it rained all day, was still well attended and was enjoyed by all. Takings, understandable, were down but still a good sum of £3,777. Thanks were given from Susan Hems to all the volunteers for their sterling efforts.

'The Good Councillors Guide' at £5.20. One has been purchased and to share.

A complaint about the state of the **well housing** at Rotherfield Greys village was received – mostly about the notices. JOP was told to use a claw hammer with card underneath.

Updated USB stick handed to ND. And previous one returned.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.20 PM

Next meeting – 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017