

**ROTHERFIELD PEPPARD PARISH COUNCIL: MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Council members attended The Full Meeting of Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council held at The Sports Pavilion, Stoke Row Road, Rotherfield Peppard on Monday 11th September at 7.30pm.**

Attendees:	Cllr Crouch (SC), Cllr Rancombe (TR), Cllr Rowland (SR), Cllr Wood (JW), Cllr Treacher (VT), Cllr Ross (VR), Cllr Berry (FB), Cllr Bartholomew and Cllr Nimmo-Smith. Clerk (JA). No Press
	<p><b>Open forum:</b> Mr Llewellyn (Okavango) spoke after writing to the Council in July, to advise of a long standing flooding issue at his property.</p> <p>Cllr Wood had subsequently responded to the correspondence suggesting adding onto fix my street but Mr Llewellyn was frustrated in the lack of action from fix my street. After a discussion he agreed to once again add it and send the reference number to the Clerk/ Chair who would escalate it to Cllr Bartholomew to try and resolve the issue in a timely fashion.</p> <p>There had been a proposal of works in 2014 to install a supplementary drainage system, but this work was never carried out and the Senior Engineer (Drainage) for OCC at the time is not responding to telephone calls/emails however it is possible he is no longer in that position.</p>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies:</b> Joe Berger
<b>2.</b>	<b>Declarations:</b> None
<b>3.</b>	<b>Minutes:</b> The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> July were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting. <i>Proposed SC, Seconded SR. In favour 5 with 1 abstention</i>
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Matters relating to Oxfordshire County Council: (15mins)</b> County Councillor Bartholomew updated the councillors on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Household recycling centres. Cllr Bartholomew had been keen to keep the centres open and this has resulted in a nominal charge to be introduced from October 1<sup>st</sup> 2017. Clerk to send out scanned correspondence on the village email.</li> <li>(b) Chiltern Edge - Cllr Bartholomew reminded councillors at the last meeting he was expecting favourable news. Since then the cabinet have concluded they will not issue a closure notice and they would like an independent body (i.e. Ofsted) to visit in October to see hopefully significant progress. There is confidence in the Head, and she is delivering on promises. There has been positive progress on the academy stance and Maiden Earley are considering.</li> <li>(c) Cllr Bartholomew is still not proposing to meet in reference to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading Bridge, this is because the steering group meeting has still not been called. The strategic outline business case shows no positive for Oxfordshire. The cost is estimated to be £110m and there is no relief road included in that cost nor the desire from Reading to have a relief road due to cost and potential public enquiries which would further delay the project. The next action on this is for the steering group meeting to happen but as yet there is no fixed date.</li> <li>(d) Cllr Crouch and Cllr Bartholomew updated the councillors that for BBFO (Better broadband for Oxfordshire) things were moving ahead and the cabinets had been agreed and wayleaves signed. This will benefit the parish council by £786 (Cheque to follow). The December date is still achievable.</li> <li>(e) There has been a complaint to Cllr Bartholomew about overnight parking by HGVs at the Dog. The HGVs are legally entitled to park however if the parish council wanted to change this, it would be in the region of £2k, and potentially run the risk of them parking in another location in the village.</li> <li>(f) There has also been a complaint about the quality of the footpath linking the school to the playing fields, and Cllr Bartholomew directed the complainant to speak to the school.</li> </ul>

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<b><u>5.</u></b>	<p><b><u>Fix my street update:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Outstanding:</u></b></p> <p>Ref. new 805164 original 778668 – Non Secure Manhole cover on Peppard Hill. Cllr Bartholomew is escalating this.</p> <p>Ref. 794923/794922 – Overgrown vegetation Stoke Row Road – Wyfold lane exit</p>
	<p>Ref. 778130 – Overgrown vegetation Stoke Row Road – Dove Lane exit Clerk to update to see this is not resolved.</p> <p>Ref. 805160 and 805106. – Impassable Pavement - Peppard Hill Cllr Bartholomew is escalating this.</p> <p>Ref. No ref no. – Rubbish left post the village clean up, Eleanor Bunn (waste team) has been unable to find this on her visit but it is still there. Clerk to check if this is still an issue or been resolved.</p> <p>Cllr Berry asked about whether there was a highways impact on some Bamboo saplings which are growing through the pavement outside Mulberry House. Cllr Bartholomew advised the parish council to write a letter to the house owner initially. Cllr Berry to advise if Clerk needs to draft a letter or whether she is visiting the house owner.</p> <p>Cllr Bartholomew advised that sign cleaning was considered a low priority item and therefore had suffered cut backs however with particular dirty or unreadable ones then the Parish Council are entitled to add them to Fix my street. All Councillors to advise clerk of location to report on fix my street.</p>
<b><u>6.</u></b>	<p><b><u>Matter relating to South Oxfordshire District Council: (15mins)</u></b></p> <p>District Cllr Councillor Nimmo Smith updated that for Thames Farm the district council have been advised they can appeal based on evidence.</p> <p>Unfortunately at the end of the month when the full council meet the location and numbers of houses will be prescribed. SODC have been allocated 30,000 new homes however the district as a whole have 55,000. This originated from the government for the South East wanting significant growth outside of London, but close and Oxford and Cambridge have been ringfenced for this with a new highway and trainline linking the 2 cities. The local plans will be adopted by Autumn 2018, if the parish has one.</p>
<b><u>7.</u></b>	<p><b><u>B481 Pavement:</u></b></p> <p>As above Cllr Bartholomew will escalate the condition of the pathway. Clerk to respond to Mrs Rockell who has emailed the parish council.</p>
<b><u>8.</u></b>	<p><b><u>Pavilion and P.I.C. update:</u></b></p> <p>No further update from the Trustee meeting held on 11/9/17.</p> <p>It was agreed and reminded that for urgent repairs required that the Clerk can use a discretionary £250 and retrospectively put it on the following months expenditure sheet.</p> <p>Clerk to investigate whether the discretionary amount should be increased within the standing orders.</p> <p>There is damage to the flat roof and the timbers and there was a proposal to obtain 3 quotes to carry out essential work <i>Proposed SC, Seconded JW</i></p>

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<b>9.</b>	<p><b><u>Request for Grant from Peppard Lawn Tennis Club</u></b>  There was a discussion about giving the proposed funds of £250 to Peppard Tennis Club. There was an acceptance that if the parish council give other community projects and charities money, then the tennis club should also benefit. There was discussion around the budgeting and agreeing of precept and this request fell outside that window.  Cllr Crouch proposed a one-off payment of £250 in April to be included in the next precept amount, which fits in with the timescale of Spring works.  Clerk to advise Vic Fry <i>Proposed SC, Seconded JW, In Favour Unanimous</i></p>
<b>10.</b>	<p><b><u>Memorial Hall redecoration</u></b>  There was a debate about the request for £1500 from the Memorial Hall for redecoration.  Some Councillors were concerned that this amount had been requested outside of the precept window and therefore would need to come from Parish Council reserves, whereas other Councillors were vocal about the hard times the Memorial hall had fallen on with the asbestos roof discovery. Many Councillors agreed that it was a parish facility and that many parishioners would not mind spending the money as the value for money that the Memorial Hall for the decoration was seen as very economical.  Cllr Crouch proposed £1500 from the reserves  <i>Proposal SC, Seconded VT, 6in favour, 1 abstention.</i></p>
<b>11.</b>	<p><b><u>Carling Orchard arrangements</u></b>  Mr Willis' contract is due for renewal, several councillors were surprised with the amount of money being spent on such a small proportion of the parishioners however it was agreed that as the Parish Council own it, they must provide the upkeep on it. This could be in-line with the Oxfordshire County Council, with a parish top up which is in place for the remainder of the parish and therefore cut only twice a year.  It was proposed that TR is to speak to Mr Willis about the cost of cutting twice a year. TR to also speak to John Wildesmith about a management committee contributing more if the local residents would like additional cuts.  SR suggested Dave Cottrell if Brian Willis did not have the equipment or was unwilling to continue. SR and TR will discuss</p>
<b>12.</b>	<p><b><u>District Community grant:</u></b>  Clerk to investigate how to apply but it was agreed that we would ask for £400+Vat for the noticeboard for the school to replace the broken one. We are also requesting £500 for the Memorial Hall redecoration.  JW to send through the quote for the noticeboard on email to clerk.</p>
<b>13.</b>	<p><b><u>Expenditure:</u></b>  (a) Clerk updated the councillors on the new finance folder so those being signatories for the month could look at and view the receipts which will show accounting transparency.  (b) Clerk advised on September expenditure and this was agreed  <i>Proposed SC, Seconded FB</i>  (c) On-line signatories for September were confirmed as SC and TR  (d) Clerk updated councillors with the response from Unity Trust and gave out the relevant paperwork for all to be approved signatories.  (e) It was agreed Clerk could pay Mr M Weston weekly, if it was agreeable to Autela and also manageable on the banking requirements. Clerk to investigate.  Councillors informed Clerk they were still unhappy with the cleaning on a Monday morning for the Pilates class and Clerk to speak to MW and find a solution (possibly an alternative cleaner).</p>

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<b><u>14.</u></b>	<b><u>Chair Update</u></b> The new agenda point was received well and Cllr Crouch used it to advise that the signed wayleave for BT had resulted in a payment for £786 to be made to the council. Cllr Crouch also asked the clerk to update website with minutes that had been agreed previously.
<b><u>15.</u></b>	<b><u>Matters for future meetings:</u></b> Cllr Berry used the opportunity to discuss whether RPPC should consider a neighbourhood plan for planning. Clerk to put on the agenda for the next meeting
<b><u>16.</u></b>	<b><u>14. Correspondence:</u></b> None which had not been discussed under agenda points.

Meeting scheduled to finish at  
9:40pm.

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