Minutes of Meeting held at The Sports Pavilion, Stoke Row Road, Rotherfield Peppard on Monday December 10th 2012 at 7:30 pm

Present:

Chairman: David Hammond (DH)

Councillors: Tony Cotton (TC) Terry Ryan (TR)

Nick Launders (NL) LeeAnne Flett (LF)
Clive Mills (CM) Hadley Cooper (HC)
Fiona Berry (FB) Valerie Ross (VR)

Clerk: Linda Collison (LC) SODC Paul Harrison (PH)

Press Phil Simms

Members of

Public:

Open Forum

A member of the public advised Council that an area across Stoke Row Road near to the entrance of Stevens Lane was prone to flooding. This is causing problems and if not addressed would be potentially hazardous when the water freezes. The member of public had raised the matter with OCC Highways and was asking RPPC for help with a speedy resolution.

LC was asked to raise the matter with OCC.

ACTION LC

1) Apologies:

Apologies were received prior to meeting from Parish Councillor Simon Crouch.

2) Member's declaration of Pecuniary Interests:

All members declared a fiduciary interest in agenda item 11: To agree 2013/14 Budget and Precept.

3) Dispensation for Agenda Item 11

It was PROPOSED by DH, SECONDED by NL and AGREED unanimously that the granting of dispensation in the matter of deciding the Precept for 2013/4 should be granted to The Clerk.

The Clerk advised that all members present had requested a dispensation in writing prior to the meeting, for the "budget and precept setting discussion and vote at the meeting on 10th December 2012 and (if necessary) in any subsequent meetings to discuss the 2013/14 budget and precept." The Clerk agreed to GRANT a dispensation to all members present according to Section 31(4) of the Localism Act 2011 because "without the dispensation the number of persons unable to participate in the transaction would be so great as to impede the transaction of the business" (S33a Localism Act 2011)

4) Minutes:

It was MOVED by CM, SECONDED by LF and RESOLVED unanimously that the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday November 12th 2012 be signed as a true record of the meeting.

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5) Police:

None.

6) Henley Triathlon

After a lengthy discussion it was unanimously AGREED to send the letter previously circulated to members (appendix 1), to Peter Ronald at Oxfordshire County Council, expressing RPPC's concern over the impact that the cycle route of the triathlon will have on Rotherfield Peppard residents and businesses if the roads through or near to the Parish were to be closed for most of the day. It was also agreed to deliver (or email) a copy of the letter, with additional details regarding the triathlon, to the 142 Households and all businesses directly affected by the Triathlon. ACTION LC.

It was also agreed that a copy of the letter should be posted on the web and onto the notice boards in the village. ACTION LC.

7) Oxfordshire County Council:

Public Rights of Way

LC advised that she would circulate an update regarding Public Rights of Way in the Parish. ACTION LC.

Proposal to reduce Speed Limit on B481/Greys Road at Bolts Cross.

Members welcomed the proposal to reduce the speed limit in this area to 40mph, however, it was AGREED that a 30 mile per hour limit through this area would be much better and would also give the police a reasonable distance for speed traps if required.

LC to ask whether it is possible to change the proposed new speed limit to 30 mile per hour. ACTION LC

8) South Oxfordshire County Council:

9) New Electoral arrangements (Ward Boundary changes)

PH reminded members that the deadline for responding to the Boundary Commission Proposal regarding the district ward boundary changes was 7th January 2013, and that :

- Rotherfield Peppard is currently in a 2 (District Councillor) member ward with Sonning Common.
- The SODC proposal for Rotherfield Peppard was a single member ward shared with Highmore, Bix & Assenden, Swyncombe and Nettlebed.
- The Boundary Commission proposal for Rotherfield Peppard is a 2 member ward comprising, Woodcote, Ipsden, Nuffield, Stoke Road, Checkendon, Rotherfield Greys, Stoke Row, Checkendon and Rotherfield Peppard.

Council AGREED that the Boundary Commission Proposal is not suitable for Rotherfield Peppard - 10 parishes are too many for a single ward and Woodcote and Rotherfield Peppard are disparate in character. Also as the Localism Act and Neighbourhood plan are driven at the Parish level, a single member ward is preferred.

Council AGREED that the SODC proposal was the preferred Ward for Rotherfield Peppard, especially as it contains all Common Land in the Nettlebed Estate. ACTION LC to respond to The Boundary Commission.

Free Parking In Henley on Thames.

PH advised that there would be free parking in Henley on Thames on all Saturdays leading up to Christmas. DH raised concern that this would result in a loss of revenue for Henley – the obvious loss in parking fees and that this will make it harder for shoppers to find places to park

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in the town.

SODC Town and Parish Forum

CM advised Council that the Town and Parish Forum on 21st November 2012 that he and LC had attended was excellent, very informative and very well organised with senior members of the Council attending.

10) Sonning Common Neighbourhood Plan:

On Wednesday 28th November 2012, a meeting had been held between members of RPPC (DH, CM and FB) and members of Sonning Common Parish Council (SCPC), at which, SCPC asked RPPC to co-operate with them on their Neighbourhood Development Plan and to agree a revised boundary for this which will include some parts of Rotherfield Peppard Parish. SCPC also suggested that a Memorandum of Understanding is signed by both Councils. After a lengthy discussion it was AGREED that RPPC would not accept the SCPC proposal at this time for the following reasons:

- RPPC sees no benefit in accepting the proposal as it stands.
- RPPC does not want to "split" the Parish so that only part of the Parish is in the Sonning Common Neighbourhood Plan; it should be the entire Parish or no part of it.
- The divide line appears arbitrary, need to agree with reasoning for the location of the revised boundary.
- RPPC would not be able to undertake its own Neighbourhood Plan for the entire parish
 if part was already included in another Neighbourhood Plan.
- There is uncertainty regarding future planning consultations by the Parish for houses that would be in the Parish of Rotherfield Peppard and also in the Sonning Common Neighbourhood Plan.
- Residents living in the proposed area should be consulted before this decision was made.

It was also agreed that members of RPPC should meet with Beryl Guiver (Principal Planning Policy Officer SODC) to discuss this decision made and any possible implications. ACTION LC to respond to SCPC and contact Beryl Guiver.

11) 2013/14 Budget and Precept

Carlings Orchard gate

LF confirmed that she was still trying to obtain quotes for the new proposed Carlings Orchard gate and hoped to have them before the next meeting. The cost should be included in the 2013/4 budget.

2013/4 Precept.

LC confirmed that:

- The deadline for submitting precept requests had been changed to Friday 25th January 2013 this is to allow Parishes to know how much, if any, of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme Fund they will receive.
- The tax base for 2013/4 for Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council had been reduced by 27 (3%) to 880.6.

It was PROPOSED by CM, SECONDED by VR and unanimously AGREED that RPPC would be minded to request a precept amount of £27,094 for 2013/4 as proposed in the November meeting. (To be ratified in January)

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The precept amount is an increase of £4,547 from 2012/3 which would allow for the following initiatives in the Parish (Appendix 2)

Improvement of Footpaths.

Activities resulting from the Parish Plan such as the **Play Area** and **Speeding Traffic** projects

The adoption of the **Red Phone Box** outside Peppard School

Further improvements in the **Pavilion** to encourage more usage and hiring.

Further development of **Carlings Orchard** into an area that can be enjoyed by more residents.

12) Finance and Staffing:

2012/13 Accounts year to date:

The 2012/13 year to date accounts were reviewed (ref Appendix 3)

Bank Reconciliation

It was AGREED that TC should perform the Bank Reconciliation as at 30th November 2012.

13) Approval of Spend and Cheques to be signed:

It was RESOLVED unanimously that the following cheques were approved for signing and that DH and NL were instructed to sign after the meeting.

Payee Description	Power	£	RPPC or Charity	Cheque
A Parisi Wages December	LGA 1972 112	Confidential	RPPC	2113
M Bowles Wages December	Na	Confidential	Charity	2114
Linda Collison Wages December	LGA 1972 112	Confidential	RPPC	2115
OCC Pension Fund Employee and Employer Contributions (Dec)	LGA 1972 112	£157.04	RPPC	2116
Linda Collison Expenses: Includes AVG renewal (approved last month)	LGA 1972 111	£121.26	RPPC & Charity	2117
J Herbert Re-imbursement for Fliers for Play Area project.	LGA 1972 137	£50.00	RPPC	2118
Matt Jenkins Payment for replacement bulbs and light check in pavilion	Na	£204.00	Charity	2119
H&B Wire Fabrications Ltd Radiator guards	Na	£216.00	Charity	2120
WorldStores 2 Tables for pavilion	Na	£224.00	Charity	2121
OCC Emptying of Dog Bins**	LGA 1972 111	£97.60	RPPC & Charity	2122

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14) Chairman's Report (DH):

DH informed members that NL had decided to step down as a Parish Councillor at the end of the month, adding that "Nick is our last link to the "old" Parish Council and we will miss his insights and experience. He goes with our best wishes."

It was agreed that NL would continue as a member of the Pavilion and Sports Field Management Committee and also working with LF at Carlings Orchard.

DH also thanks FB for Chairing the November meeting.

DH then gave a review of the RPPC achievements during 2012 (Appendix 4)

15) Play Area

TR advised that there was a small group still committed to the project (all men) and more members were needed. TR added that obtaining funding was also priority and without this the project could not proceed LF suggested putting a notice on the notice board opposite the school asking for volunteers to join the group..

16) Telephone Box:

It was proposed by TR and AGREED unanimously that Rotherfield Parish Council take over the responsibility of the British Telecom Public Phone Box, situated outside the Primary School and pays any costs that may be incurred in so doing. Also when it is appropriate the Council will be responsible for any electrical costs incurred from the lighting of the box and any further costs incurred through refurbishment. ACTION LC.

17) Correspondence:

CAB: Calls for Parish participation in a New Advice network in South Oxfordshire. ACTION: Add to next meeting.

Lendrums Amusements: Request to hold Fun fair on Top Common during 2-9th June 2013 ACTION: To notify NDCC and discuss at next meeting

18) Matters for next meeting: (Monday 14th January 2013)

2012/13 Precept; Play Area; Carlings Orchard Gate: Community Action Plan: Peppard War Memorial Hall (Action LC to obtain finances): CAB: 2013 Fun Fair: Donations Policy: Standing Orders (revised for declaration of Interest (LC/FB): Peppard News/RPPC joint web-site: KWVG. Apologies TR.

Meeting ended at 9:52 pm

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Appendix 1: Letter to Peter Ronald re Henley Triathlon

11th December 2012

Peter Ronald Principal Traffic Engineer Oxfordshire Country Council

Dear Mr Ronald

I am writing on behalf **Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council** in response to your consultation on three possible routes for the **Henley Triathlon** to be held on 8th September 2013. You have asked for responses by 22 December 2012.

The Council is concerned on behalf of residents, businesses and other activities which operate within the Parish.

The Parish Council welcomes the Triathlon in principle for the potential boost to the profile of Henley and its encouragement for athletic activity. However it has concerns over the impact on the local community – particularly over the length of time that roads are closed for the cycle part of the event.

All three of your proposed routes will cause inconvenience and disruption to residents of Rotherfield Peppard. Access to Henley, whilst theoretically possible for some via Sonning Common and Harpsden, would be severely limited as would routes to the north. Others have already commented on the problems of accessing such locations as Greys Court National Trust.

However, the third route that you propose has an even more significant impact of Rotherfield Peppard than the other two. The Council has calculated that **142 households** (21% of the village) will be totally "cut of" by the route (meaning access will only be possible using a motor cycle escort). These include:

Church Lane	(51 households)	Drays Lane	(7 households)
Grange Avenue	(13 households)	Springwood Lane	(16 households)
B481	(14 households)	Bolts Cross	(4 households)
Dog Lane	(2 households)	White Cottage	(1 household)
Gallowstree Road	(26 households)	Peppard Hill	(2 households)
Green Trees	(6 households)		

In addition a number of businesses and other premises will be cut off including:

Manor Farm Business Park (multiple businesses)
Greenshoots Horticultural Therapy Site
Ruchetta Restaurant
The Greyhound
Peppard War Memorial Hall
Peppard Bowls Club
All Saints Church
Last part of Vitality 2 Bus Route from Reading to Peppard

There is then a much larger number of households who will be severely restricted in their access. Households in the northern part of the Parish (around Kingwood Common) will only be able to get access using Wyfold Lane and Checkendon. Those in the southern part of the Parish will be cut off from the northern part of the Parish.

In total, a further **538 households** in the Parish are affected in this way.

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Again, there are a number of businesses and other premises which will be severely restricted meaning that activities will have to be curtailed. For example, the Red Lion on the top common will theoretically be accessible via Colliers Lane, but in practice, customers from the north, south and east will find it very difficult to get there. The same is true to a greater or lesser extent for all the following premises in the Parish:

Red Lion Restaurant Wyfold Riding for Disabled

Peppard Tennis Club Peppard Stores
Peppard Cricket Club Springwater Church

The Unicorn

As you can see, providing facilities for one sporting activity risks jeopardising many other sporting and charitable activities.

Lack of access to other premises outside the Parish will also have a significant impact on households within the Parish. Sonning Common Newsagent maintains a very good delivery service throughout a large part of this area of South Oxfordshire. Its ability to deliver newspapers on 8th September would be severely constrained – especially with the third route.

The Parish Council understands from comments made by Alan Rose of Just Racing UK to the Henley Standard that a fourth route is under consideration. Details of this route have not been published. Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council welcomes his commitment to maintain access to Greys Court and Nuffield Place – but would be very unhappy if this route includes the section through Rotherfield Peppard village.

The Parish Council recognises that Just Racing is a commercial operation which may not have the resources to adequately compensate businesses along its route for lost business. However, the Council does not accept that such losses should be excluded from the Economic Impact Statement circulated at the meeting with Parish Councillors and others held on 12th October 2012. The impact of the Triathlon on the many affected sporting and charitable activities is more difficult to quantify – as is the impact on individuals who are unable to attend Church, visit family and friends, go shopping – or even, in many cases, to go and watch the Triathlon.

The Parish Council hopes that common sense will prevail and that some means will be found to reduce the impact of the Triathlon on rural communities in South Oxfordshire either by re-routing the course or by reducing the time period for the road closures.

Regards

Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council.

Copies to: Alan Rose Managing Director Just Racing UK Ltd

John Howell MP House of Commons

Carol Viney Oxfordshire County Councillor
Paul Harrison South Oxfordshire District Councillor
Canon Graham Foulis Brown Rector of Rotherfield Peppard

Clerks of local Parish Councils

All affected residents All affected businesses

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Appendix 2

Summary Draft Forecasted Spend 2013/14

			2010/11					
RECEIPTS			2013/14 Budget/Forecast					
Precept	£	27,094.00						
RPPC Receipts	NatWest interest (deposit)	£	5.00					
Total Receipts :		£	27,099.00					
		-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
			2013/14					
SPEND	Bud	get/Forecast						
Wages, Pension and NI	£	8,774.00						
Office/Admin	£	1,500.00						
Assets	£	500.00						
Audit and accountancy	£	500.00						
General RPPC Village Ma	£	25.00						
Clerk/Councillor exps	£	2,500.00						
Carlings Orchard Mainter	£	2,700.00						
Insurance		£	300.00					
Footpaths & Open Space	s	£	1,000.00					
Dog Bins		£	75.00					
Activities from Parish Plan	£	1,750.00						
APM costs	£	200.00						
Subscriptions	Subscriptions							
Donations / Grants		£	2,750.00					
Grant to Sports Pavilion 8	k Field, Rotherfield Peppard. (The Charity)	£	4,000.00					

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Appendix 3: 2012/13 Accounts as at November 30th 2012

		2012/1	3
RECEIPTS		Forecasted Receipt £	Actuals £
Precept		22,547.00	22,547.50
		,	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Nat West interest (deposit)	5.00	3.93
RPPC Receipts	Investments / Treasury Stock / Interest	30.00	
· 	TOTAL	35.00	3.93
	Fees / Hire charge	1,000.00	296.21
Charity Receipts	Utility refunds from sports clubs	510.00	
Charity Receipts	Other	25.00	
	TOTAL	1,535.00	296.21
Total Receipts :		24,117.00	22,847.14
VAT Reimbursement		24,117.00	1,238.32
RECEIPTS TOTAL inclu	ding VAT	24,117.00	24,085.46
RESER TO TOTAL MOIN	unig vai	24,117.00	24,000.40
		2012/1	3
SPEND		Forecasted Spend	Actuals
		(budget) £	Actuals
	Inna	100000	1000
Wages, Pension and NI	RPPC	XXXXX	XXXX
	Charity (Grant)	XXXX	XXXX
Wages, Pension and NI	TOTAL	10,137.00	2,611.31
Office Rental		240.00	108.00
Phone		240.00	149.35
Postage		85.00	20.70
	Stationery	250.00	57.67
Office Supplies	Web & IT Costs	85.00	304.65
	Software	250.00	28.33
Pavillion Hire for meetings	S	280.00	150.00
Office/Admin	TOTAL	1,430.00	818.70
Assets	TOTAL	-	1,270.00
Audit and accountancy		585.00	345.00
General maintenance General RPPC	Cleaning Materials (Village) TOTAL	50.00	

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Signed:....

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Appendix 3: 2012/13 Accounts as at November 30th 2012 (continued)

		2012/1	<u>3</u>
SPEND continued		Forecasted Spend (budget) £	Actuals
	To the state of th		
	Chairman's Allowance	200.00	-
	Members Allowances	960.00	
Clerk/Councillor exps	Training	400.00	297.00
	Books and documentation	100.00	-
	Travel	440.00	206.10
Clerk/Councillor exps	TOTAL	2,100.00	503.10
Carlings Orchard Mainte	nance	2,250.00	1,250.00
Insurance	RPPC	500.00	281.09
modranoc	Charity (Grant)	500.00	-
Insurance	TOTAL	1,000.00	281.09
Footpaths & Open Space	500.00	200.00-	
Dog Bin Emptying	RPPC	90.00	20.33
Dog bill Emptying	Charity	90.00	-
Dog Bins	TOTAL	180.00	20.33
Costs for activities result	ing from Parish Plan	600.00	50.00
Parish Plan (** see belov	<u> </u>	600.00	50.00
	Various	550.00	145.00
General Reserve A/c	APM : Hire Peppard WMH	80.00	-90.00
("Misc")	APM : Printing	75.00	71.62
	Diamond Jubilee recognition		-
Misc	TOTAL	705.00	126.62
	Repairs (Pavillion/Field)	-	-
Q	Cleaning Materials (Grant)	30.00	385.00
Charity	Electricity (Grant)	1,200.00	14.94
	Water (Grant)	120.00	-
Charity	TOTAL	1,350.00	399.94-

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Appendix 3: 2012/13 Accounts as at November 30th 2012 (continued)

		<u>201</u>	<u>2/13</u>
SPEND continued		Forecasted Spend (budget) £	Actuals detailed £
	Other	-	-
	Society of Local Clerks	105.00	110.00
	OALC	255.00	-
Subscriptions	ORCC	30.00	30.00
-	Chilterns Society	25.00	25.00
	CPRE	30.00	29.00
	OPFA	35.00	35.00
Subscriptions	TOTAL	480.00	229.00
	Peppard News	250.00	435.00
	Peppard Church Maintenance	1,000.00	1,000 .00
Donations, Gifts and	Peppard War Memorial Hall	-	-
Contributions	NDCC	-	480.00
	Other	1,500.00	
	Sports Pavilion & Field (Rotherfield Peppard) Charity	-	2224.63
Donations Contributions	TOTAL	2,750.00	4,139.63
SPEND TOTAL		24,117.00	13,202.10
VAT			1,298.02
SPEND TOTAL inclu	iding VAT		14,500.12

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Appendix 4: Chairman's Report

10 December 2012

As we come to the end of our last Parish Council Meeting of the year, it is a good opportunity to look back as well as forward.

Before doing that I would like to thank **Fiona** for chairing the last meeting – and for leaving us with the challenge of finishing by 9:30!

I would also like to record my thanks to **Nick Launders** who has announced that he wants to step down as a Parish Councillor after this meeting. Nick and Sue embody Peppard. Nick is our last link to the "old" Parish Council and we will miss his insights and experience. He goes with our best wishes. Nick has said that he would like to continue to be involved in the Pavilion Management and in Carlings Orchard and I propose that we welcome this and formally appoint Nick to the Pavilion and Sports Field Management Committee.

In January of this year I set out **three priorities** for the Council:

- 1. To support the Parish and preserve all that local people find so attractive about living here
- 2. To fill our Council vacancies and to continue the work to ensure our finances and processes meet requirements
- 3. To work closely with our partners in the Parish and build on the Community Planning Work.

Much of what we have done and achieved this year has come out of the Community Plan Survey. There is still much to do.

Let me highlight a few things and give you an update on where we are:

- 1. **Diamond Jubilee:** In common with the rest of the country we celebrated the Jubilee and the Olympics in the summer. It is good to see our new noticeboards providing a lasting memorial to the Jubilee.
- 2. **Pavilion and Sports Field:** We now have new users and are about to get another with Rotherfield United Football Club on the point of signing up for their first season here.
- 3. Broadband: We know we don't have the fastest broadband in the country though we are probably better off than some in Oxfordshire. We have actively engaged with Oxfordshire County Council and John Howell on the subject and we welcome the work currently going on to appoint a contractor to use government and Oxfordshire money to upgrade the infrastructure across Oxfordshire with the aim of getting 90% of residents to "superfast broadband" by 2015. Some of us are sceptical about how far the money will go, but we will remain engaged in the process.
- **4. Roads and Speeding Traffic:** We have had useful contacts with the police and others. Increased speed checks in the Stoke Row Road have not stopped accidents happening there, but, hopefully, will have had some impact on speed. The road markings at the junction of the Stoke Row Road and Gallowstree Road have been improved. We have also seen the proposal tonight to reduce the speed limit around Bolts Cross. A number of other actions have been discussed including a concerted attempt to make road signs more

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- visible, to start regular checking of sight lines at junctions and possibly setting up a neighbourhood SpeedWatch team. We will return to all these in the New Year.
- 5. Illegal Signage in the village: We have encouraged local businesses to comply with the rules and have had some success. I would like to comment on the amicable meeting Linda and I had with the proprietor of the Studio Gallery. She was unaware of many of the rules and didn't understand local hostility to Manor Farm. She now has a better understanding and is keen to co-operate with the Council.
- 6. Parish Website: There have been some discussions with the Peppard News Team about building an overall "Parish Website". The current view is that Peppard News could do this as part of their planned development of their own site and the information that is currently duplicated on the Parish Website could be moved to the new site. There was also discussion of setting up a "Parish Forum" which would allow individuals to post messages which could be read by others. No firm proposals have been made to the Council about what would be required to support any new developments. The Parish Council gave additional funding to Peppard News in the current year. At the same time, we need to review our own website, the software used and the amount of time it takes the Clerk to maintain it. So another topic for the New Year.
- **7. Footpaths:** During the summer Tony and Linda and I met with Susan Maguire the local footpaths representative for the Chiltern Society. This has resulted in regular sharing of information on state of our footpaths. Each footpath in the Parish is currently the responsibility of one Parish Councillor who reports back any issues. Sorting out identified issues can be more difficult but again we are making progress.
- **8.** Carlings Orchard: We celebrated the planting of new trees in March and the regular maintenance has continued and been enhanced. We will be hearing about plans for next year from Leanne shortly.
- **9. Nettlebed and District Commons:** We have moved forward on a number of fronts. Support for the KPCV continues and we were pleased to see the agreement reached to get the first part of Esther Carling Lane resurfaced earlier in the year.
- **10.** And there's more Planning, Finance, Play Area ... all have moved forward in the year.

So looking ahead to 2013, I believe we should consolidate the work done from the Community Survey into a Community Action Plan so that we can review progress. I will bring a proposal on this to the January meeting