

ROTHERFIELD PEPPARD PARISH COUNCIL: MEETING MINUTES

Council members attended The Full Meeting of Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council on Monday 14th September 2020 at 7.00pm, via Zoom.

Attendees:	Councillors: Berger, Rowland, Freeman, Mitchell, Hall, Wood, Bartholomew (part). Clerk (JA), Press (GH) and 2 members of the Public
	Open forum: There were 2 members of the public, one wished to observe the meeting and the second wanted to discuss their frustrations with the Planning Enforcement team under Planning and SODC.
1.	Apologies: Apologies received from: Cllr Robb, Cllr Hillier and Cllr Pengilly
2.	Declarations of interest: No declarations of interest from Councillors.
3.	Minutes: The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13/07/2020 were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.
	<u>Agenda order was amended and agreed due to the timings of visiting Councillors.</u>
7.	<p><u>Finance and Staffing</u></p> <p>Councillor Berger updated Councillors on financial matters: RPPC received £500 from OCC and this will be matched by RPPC for the repair of Sedgell Spring. Work has now started; the gate has been taken away but was more damaged than originally thought. The well has been boarded up, the debris has been removed and brickwork has started. The balances brought forward at the end of July £48,657, at the end of August £45,680 after monthly expenditure. The 2nd part of precept has been received and it is estimated that after the monthly expenditure the balance brought forward will be £62,000. The budget is on track however due to 2 non budget expenditures (i) Sedgell Spring (ii) refurbishment of the Phone-box the estimated year end cash balance will be £38k not £40k.</p>
8.	<p><u>Village Update</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. There have been no accidents reported at Stoke Row Road/Gallowstree Road. ii. There was a discussion about the patch of land at Shiplake Bottom, and it was decided and approved that Landmark were to clear the ground and then cut it. £60 for clearing and £20 a cut (approx. every 2 weeks from May_Sept) This will be reviewed in one year's time. Clerk to speak to Landmark to action. iii. Cllr Freeman and Cllr Mitchell updated that the Phone-box is due to be refurbished in the next fortnight. There has been no training taken place however Mr Crouch is chasing this on behalf of the group. The next job is to look at the seating opposite Gallowstree crossroads which needs repairing. iv. Reading Transport Strategy RPPC have responded individually to Reading Borough Council, MP Howell, and the Henley Standard. They have also responded jointly via Kidmore End joint Parish report. v. Covid funding is available from SODC for Volunteer groups and organisations – this was discussed and it was agreed that some money should be applied on behalf of RDA, where there has been a loss of earnings and also Peppard School who should be in a position to be able to offer all School Children within the village the opportunity for online learning, if the need arises again. Clerk to review and apply.
4.	<p><u>Matters relating to Oxfordshire County Council:</u></p> <p>County Councillor Bartholomew discussed his report and discussed local issues.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Flooding on Church Lane. The work started last week, unfortunately we will not know if it has been successful until it rains. He is hopeful that it is now resolved. ii. 3rd Reading Bridge – Cllr Berger had seen a map indicating that the planned Reading North Orbital Road would run from Dunsden (planned 3rd Reading Bridge landfall) and follow the B481 going through Sonning Common, across Peppard Common and running up to Nettlebed and then onto the M40 around junction 6. Cllr Bartholomew indicated that the latest version of the planned Reading North Orbital Route would have it running from end of the 3rd Reading Bridge at Dunsden Village via Emmer Green, Chalkhouse Green, Kidmore End and then on to meet the B481 at Cane End. Given the bridge

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	<p>(coming off the A329M / A3290) would be dual carriageway, it is likely this new road, which would go through the South Oxfordshire countryside would also be a dual carriageway. It was unclear exactly where the traffic would be directed once it joined the A4074 (the road up to Wallingford) but it would be necessary to have a route (probably a dual carriageway) up to the M40 to manage the additional traffic that would be coming across into South Oxfordshire via the proposed 3rd Bridge. OCC have responded to the Reading Transport Strategy opposing in three ways (i) Opposed to the Bridge (ii) Opposed to the North Reading Park and Ride (iii) Opposed to the North Reading Orbital Road.</p> <p>iii. The return to School within the County has been a success with good levels of attendance.</p> <p>iv. Covid19 – The County as a whole is low in terms of cases and deaths however East of Oxford is dipping in and out of the amber zone. There are much lower rates within rural Oxfordshire.</p> <p>v. The Government are reviewing Unity Councils for cost savings, there are 3 options for OCC (i) A move to align both County and District to look at efficiencies and this would create the larger savings however there is a downside that as it becomes bigger it becomes more distant to the public. (ii) Oxfordshire CC as a single County Council or (iii) Oxfordshire North and South.</p>
5.	<p><u>Fix My Street</u> 1] Update on: There were no outstanding items however the councillors raised: (i) The junction at Gallowstree Road/Stoke Row road markings and uneven tarmac at the junction. Cllr Freeman to take photos and research older FMS ref no. which have not been satisfactorily dealt with. (ii) The pavement at Shiplake Bottom coming up the Hill is not easily passable. Clerk to investigate, take photos and record.</p>
9.	<p><u>Planning Update</u> Cllr Rowland updated Councillors on Planning</p> <p>i) Enforcements Mulberry House – RPPC are sympathetic with the situation and Cllr Berger wondered if there was a legal route to pursue. There is a complaints procedure and the 2 residents are encouraged to escalate through this channel. RPPC will speak with SODC Councillors at the next meeting.</p> <p>ii) Highway Cottage, Gallowstree Road – RPPC think this is vandalism to the area due to the look but cannot do anything further to this matter as this is permitted development not Enforcement.</p> <p>iii) Hazel Grove Cottages, Stoke Row Road – RPPC are awaiting an update from Planning/Enforcement teams as there is no planning permission granted as part of the Planning application.</p> <p>iv) Applications – These will be discussed at the Planning meeting on the 21st September.</p> <p>v) Planning information – It is not clear what is being asked for on the Government paper. All local parishes have been contacted by the Clerk but there is no information as they are all holding September meetings. Cllr Rowland would like to discuss further with SODC.</p>
6.	<p><u>Matter relating to South Oxfordshire District Council: (15mins)</u> No Cllrs from the District Council. Clerk to invite them to the Planning meeting on the 21st September as the outstanding queries relate to Enforcement, and the Government white paper.</p>
10.	<p><u>Expenditure:</u></p> <p>i. Expenditure for Sept 2020, including retrospective payments was approved.</p> <p>ii. On-line signatories for Sept 2020 were Cllr Berger and Cllr Mitchell.</p> <p>iii. Clerk to chase UTB on Cllr Halls log on problems</p> <p align="center">See Appendix</p>

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11.	<p><u>Matters for future meetings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Due to the Government legislation on “Rule of 6” it was agreed that Parish Council meetings would remain virtual. Decision to be taken at November meeting for February onwards.ii. There has been an increase in crime within the surrounding area and RPPC need to be aware that there has been an increase in dog theft and also some residents have reported knocking on home windows to ascertain whether there is someone in the house. Police have been informed and it would be ideal to put into Peppard News dependant on the issue date.iii. Clerk advised SODC no longer issue Dog bins and it was decided a normal bin be put in Church Lane to minimise the amount of Dog Bags littering the area. Clerk to order.
12.	<p><u>Correspondence:</u></p> <p>Sue Nickson re: stolen Yew Hedging on Stoke Row Road. A number of saplings have been removed, the police have been informed and the resident has contacted their insurance company. This is a police matter and it was decided there were no actions for RPPC.</p>

Meeting finished at 9:00pm.

Appendix:

Clerk JA	Salary (July)	Confidential
Village Cleaner MW	Salary (July)	Confidential
Village Cleaner MW	Overtime Bonus Covid	6hrs – Delayed until October
Village Cleaner AP	Salary (July)	Confidential
Clerk JA	McAfee Renewal	£69.99
Clerk	Retrospective Reimbursement for Telephone kiosk repairs	£723.52
HMRC	Q4,Q1 Tax	£594.50
HMRC	Q2	£227.47
Landmark	Retrospective VAT missed on last invoice	£45.71

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