

ROTHERFIELD PEPPARD PARISH COUNCIL: MEETING MINUTES

Council members attended, via Zoom, The Full Meeting of Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council on Monday 11th May 2020 at 7.00pm.

Attendees:	Cllr Berger, Cllr Wood, Cllr Rowland, Cllr Freeman, Cllr Hall, Cllr Mitchell, Cllr Bartholomew (part), Cllr Robb (part), Press (Henley Standard) and Clerk
	Open forum: No members of the public wished to speak
1.	Apologies: Cllr Hillier
2.	Declarations of interest: None.
3.	Minutes: The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 6/04/2020 were discussed and approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.
4.	Matters relating to Oxfordshire County Council: County Councillor Bartholomew previously sent his report, there were no questions so he discussed the Local issues. <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. Update on Flooding on Church Lane – The drains have all been cleared and are all working. A Member of the Public has contacted Cllr Bartholomew as the Clerk had asked for him to prune some of the larger trees which might be clogging some of the drainage and the MOP's concern is that commercial vehicles are driving on the verges and the mud/debris from these is clogging up the drains with the next rainfall. Cllr Bartholomew has advised that gullies will be added to the road in August.ii. Cllr Bartholomew has agreed to pay £1000 to match RPPC funds so that the White Gates may be purchased. With the current pandemic the Highways program is running smoothly and these jobs are being prioritised.iii. Cllr Bartholomew answered questions on the 3rd Reading Bridge raised by Councillor Rowland. The meetings are currently being postponed and there is no further update. Cllr Rowland suggested a need to review the traffic figures and Cllr Bartholomew hoped the current climate and the potential ongoing change in home-working, would help the argument that the Bridge, if it went ahead, should be solely Cycling, Walking and Public Transport.iv. Cllr Wood proposed the Potholes opposite "Little Cottage" at the side of the Cricket Green be fixed at the same time as the larger potholes on the nearby main road. Cllr Bartholomew asked Clerk to send FMS references so this could be married up.
5.	Fix My Street: No Fix my street outstanding matters.
6.	Matter relating to South Oxfordshire District Council: (15mins) <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. A report from District Councillors Hillier and Robb was receivedii. Update on Covid-19 from SODC. Cllr Robb advised that the first virtual Planning meeting would be held on 28/5, however she raised concerns that there would be no access to the public or interested parties due to Security issues. There had been no agenda issued so it is unknown if any of the RPPC Planning matters would be discussed.iii. Cllr Rowland questioned the lack of enforcement visits due to the pandemic and she was concerned that applications would run out of time and potentially be granted despite concerns. Cllr Robb agreed to look into this on RPPC behalf.iv. Thanks were given to both Cllrs Hillier and Cllr Robb for their recent grants of £250 each for Springwater Church and their Covid19 Foodbank. It was noted they both have funds still available if required by the Parish Council.v. Oakley Wood recycling centre opened today, and it was hoped this would help with the recent increase of Fly Tipping.vi. Cllr Hall asked if there was any help to increase/improve the cycling routes between Rotherfield Peppard and Reading Railway Station. Cllr Robb confirmed that there was a large sum of money available to widen footpaths and improve the national cycle routes, but there was a concern that the current national cycle route was not as appealing or direct as travelling along the main road. Cllr Berger suggested lighting would help and Cllr Robb agreed she would feed it back and try and resolve.

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	<p>vii. SODC had previously understood that the finances of £1.4million would cover expenses for Covid19 however these had increased to £4million</p>
7.	<p><u>Resignation</u></p> <p>i. Resignation received from Cllr Simon Crouch and has been accepted, and RPPC would like to thank him for his service. Simon is keen to assist in the Village Assets Subcommittee</p> <p>ii. Resignation received from Ruth Raunkiaer and has been accepted. The Council were upset that she thought the Council had not done more in the current climate. Cllr Berger thought with limited resources that the Council had been doing a reasonable job and the website would help to keep the community up to date on news. The Council were pleased that RPPC had secured £500 through a SODC grant for Springwater Church and £3000 grant for FISH through SSEN for them during Covid19. Cllr Hall was going to enquire whether the School needed any financial help for the provision of Home Learning.</p> <p>iii. Acceptance of proposal for Acting Chair to be Cllr Joe Berger and Acting Vice Chair to be Cllr Jeni Wood was accepted unanimously.</p> <p>iv. The White gates at the entrances to the Village are to be put on hold as there are other Village priorities including the Well. Cllr Berger and Cllr Wood will discuss with the Land-Owner whether it is private property or whether the Well is for Public use and will report back at the June Meeting. To potentially utilise the OCC Councillor Grant and include a plaque with the historical information.</p>
8.	<p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>i. Councillor Berger updated Councillors on financial matters. Finance is £56,234. The forecast for year end is £43,050.</p> <p>ii. Cllr Rowland would like a letter to go back to RDA and Citizens Advice Bureau saying they will be considered for a charity grant from RPPC at the end of the financial year, after their correspondence to RPPC.</p> <p>iii. Cllr Mitchell will join the Finance and Staffing committee due to the loss of Cllr Crouch and Cllr Raunkiaer.</p>
8:05	<p><u>9. Village Update</u></p> <p>i. Accidents Stoke Row Road/Gallowstree Road by month, there have been no new accidents reported.</p> <p>ii. Website update – Clerk will share her “unofficial” password for a preview and would like it launched by the end of May.</p> <p>iii. Top Common Noticeboard. A tradesman has been found and Clerk has circulated quote of £250. Proposal to accept £250 quote accepted. Clerk to liaise between Mr Crouch and Tradesperson for installation.</p> <p>iv. Covid19 Response Sonning Common Document attached asking for RPPC inclusion. Clerk is to resend email and this will be discussed in the June meeting.</p> <p>v. A Community Assets Subcommittee has had agreement to be formed which will look after and maintain assets owned by the Council. Cllrs Mitchell and Freeman will sit on this subcommittee.</p> <p>vi. Clerk advised a recent application to SSE (Scottish Southern Electric) for a £3,000 grant to FISH to help with the loss of income from Covid19 was successful.</p> <p>vii. There was no update from Cllr Wood on possible Fly tipping incident on 2/5/2020. Moved to June meeting.</p>
8:15	<p><u>10. Planning Update</u></p> <p>Cllr Rowland updated all Councillors on Planning. Both Little Sparrows and Highfield, 17 Stoke Row Road are taking longer than normal and this is of concern. RPPC are awaiting the agenda for SODC Planning meeting to see if these are included.</p>

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8:20	<p>11. Expenditure:</p> <p>i. Expenditure for May 2020, including retrospective payments was approved.</p> <p>ii. On-line signatories for May 2020 were confirmed as Cllr Berger and Cllr Mitchell</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>Clerk JA</td><td>Salary (March)</td><td>Confidential</td></tr><tr><td>Village Cleaner MW</td><td>Salary (March)</td><td>Confidential</td></tr><tr><td>Village Cleaner AP</td><td>Salary (March)</td><td>Confidential</td></tr><tr><td>Clerk JA</td><td>Zoom Annual Charge</td><td>£143.88</td></tr><tr><td>Autela</td><td>Payroll expenses</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>J Wood</td><td>Reimbursement for Phonecalls</td><td>£49.67</td></tr><tr><td>J Berger</td><td>Reimbursement for Phonecalls</td><td>£29.65</td></tr><tr><td>V Mitchell</td><td>Reimbursement for Phonecalls</td><td>£59.24</td></tr><tr><td>J Askin</td><td>Reimbursement for Phonecalls</td><td>£65.57</td></tr><tr><td>Came and Co</td><td>Insurance</td><td>1013.16</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	Clerk JA	Salary (March)	Confidential	Village Cleaner MW	Salary (March)	Confidential	Village Cleaner AP	Salary (March)	Confidential	Clerk JA	Zoom Annual Charge	£143.88	Autela	Payroll expenses		J Wood	Reimbursement for Phonecalls	£49.67	J Berger	Reimbursement for Phonecalls	£29.65	V Mitchell	Reimbursement for Phonecalls	£59.24	J Askin	Reimbursement for Phonecalls	£65.57	Came and Co	Insurance	1013.16			
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8:25	<p>12. Matters for future meetings:</p> <p>Well repairs Possible Flytipping SOCO and RPPC involvement Cllr Berger to update on new Councillor conversation and Cllr Mitchell to update on recruitment notice on the Next door site.</p>																																	
8:30	<p>13. Correspondence:</p> <p>Correspondence received from Gareth Shields Scottish and Southern Electric to explain we have been successful in a Covid19 Grant of £3,000 which we applied for on behalf of Fish</p> <p>Correspondence from Clive Mills thanking Chair for the help in obtaining the SSE grant</p>																																	

Meeting finished at 8:50pm.

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