

ROTHERFIELD PEPPARD PARISH COUNCIL: MEETING MINUTES

Council members attended

The Full Meeting of Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council

on Monday 20th March 2023 at 7.00pm

at the Sports Pavilion, Stoke Row Road, Peppard Common.

Attendees: Cllr Berger, Cllr Seaton, Cllr Rowland, Cllr Freeman, Clerk (JA) and P/T Press (Henley Standard), Cllr Bartholomew and Cllr Hillier.

1. Apologies – Cllr Hall
2. Declarations of interest – None
3. Minutes – The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 13/2/23 were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.
4. Open Forum – 5 Members of the Public attended. 3 wished to speak about the junction safety at Gallowstree Road/ Stoke row Road and the remaining 2 wished to ask the Parish Council for a Charity Grant.

The junction was discussed in detail, with history given from Councillors and also Cllr Bartholomew, it was stated that the brutal reality was unless there was an injury there will be very little further done to the junction. Clerk is recording incidents and it was suggested the MOP's did too to ensure all accidents were recorded. The frequency of accidents had dropped since the last set of improvements were made however there is an unknown psychological quantity at the junction which continues to see accidents and near misses. The Stoke Row road will remain at 30mph as it is a bus route. Clerk to enquire with TV Police whether a mobile speed unit could sit at the layby to record speeds. RPPC advised the next steps of reducing speed around the village and Clerk to chase OCC for SID installation.

The 2nd item discussed was a Charity grant for a new charity venture within the village called "Shedquarters" which would be sited at the Memorial Hall site. The idea is to provide a shed where people are invited to do Woodwork, metalwork and craftwork in a friendly environment. The charity is worldwide but have nothing in the locality. The charity have worked hard and fundraised £23k for the shed but now need further money to put in services etc. They are looking at raising an additional £40k. Long term they would like to have a patio area where they can grow vegetables in raised beds. Cllr Hillier suggested if there was an educational element then monies could be awarded from the educational trust and this would widen the scope for funding. Cllr Berger advised that funding would be discussed later in the meeting and the MOP were more than welcome to wait until it was discussed later in the meeting.

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5. Oxfordshire County Councillor's report – Cllr Bartholomew discussed his report, including local issues:
Council Tax was set to rise by 5%, however much of the spending is focussed in the city and not in the rural areas.
Local items discussed were:
Flooding on Church Lane – There is no update as the Officer is away but Cllr Bartholomew is continuing to chase on our behalf. Cllr Freeman will chase the independent consultant for his advice.
Date for 20mph for Rotherfield Peppard to be installed – is not know at the moment and Clerk and Cllr Bartholomew to chase
In June 2023 there is due to be a road closure on the A4130, the diversion is not favoured by Cllr Bartholomew as it will have an impact on his local villages. He is pressing for an alternative diversion and will advise.
Fix My Street items – No updates from Cllr Bartholomew.
 - a. 22939927 CLOSED Issue passed to relevant team for consideration for future programmed works. We were previously waiting for gully cleansing and a repair to be completed
– Old Ref no's 22939927/ 2486229/ 2295389/ 2486207 B481 – Surface water from blocked drains. Awaiting a date for the gully cleansing programme. Cllr Bartholomew was chasing for a date
 - b. 22939928 CLOSED We will continue to monitor during routine inspections if it gets worse open a new report.
Old Ref no. 2295377 – FMS Closed. Clerk will reinstate once (a) is completed as it is a result of the road drains not being cleared.
 - c. Ref no. 2923868 – Plant is coming up through the tarmac. FMS Closed, the issue has been passed onto the relevant team for future programmed works. Is there a date of works being completed. Home-owner has responded to recent letter from RPPC and has weed-killed again.
 - d. Ref no. 22935802 - Loose Drain outside 17&19 Stoke Row Road. CLOSED Cover made safe.
 - e. Ref no 22939923 – Loose Drain cover outside Smartwood. CLOSED Couldn't find defect so no further action
6. No updates from Cllr Freeman on Superuser issues for Rotherfield Peppard Parish Council including update on Sonning Common 20mph proposal.

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7. South Oxfordshire District Councillor's report – Cllrs Hillier discussed the SODC report and discuss local issues including:
 - a. Greylands – this has been raised to the Head of Enforcement and Cllr Rowland asked for a site visit to be carried out for all Officers/ Councillors prior to the committee meeting.
 - b. Outstanding Planning Enforcements – No Update
 - c. No update on Litter bins – Clerk needs an update on the dog bins and extra bins requested for village post the bin survey. This has been on the agenda for 2 years and would like district councillors to add pressure to get action on this.
 - d. No update on response on question raised about Black and Taupe flower pots and suitability for recycling within South Oxfordshire
 - e. Litter around the district, in particular A roads and the A4074 – This was discussed and Cllr Hillier was in full agreement.
 - f. There followed a heated discussion where Cllr Berger voiced his frustrations on the lack of action and the waste of monies within SODC. The frustrations included because something is Officer led then there should be more action getting results as the elected representatives are not getting the results. Cllr Hillier advised that it is as frustrating for her to send emails and still no action is taken. The question was asked if Officers were still working at home post the pandemic, then why is there such expense on a new Council office. It concluded that more actions needed to happen and more people needed to be held to account. Cllr Hillier advised she would advise Mark Stone, chief Exec, of our concerns and try and get some management led accountability happening. Clerk to advise Cllr Robb and Cllr Hillier the bin email history as one example of what Parish Councils are up against and why there is such frustration.
 - g. Cllr Rowland asked about the Oxford City Housing and the impact on SODCs local plan. Cllr Hillier advised this would be challenged from the district.

8. Parish Council Matters –
 - a. Update on Speeding deterrents at Gallowstree road. Clerk to chase for an update from OCC.
 - b. Carlings Orchard state of the hedges and the need for TLC and possibly CIL funding. Cllr Rowland to get quotes.
 - c. No update on planned Sonning Common 20mph and impact on adjoining roads.
 - d. No update on Church Lane Flooding
 - e. Correspondence sent to Gigabit resulted in an answer from them stating it is not them responsible however it is understood that the correspondence needs to go to Gigaclear and SGN.
 - f. No Update on Unknown land with Blandy and Blandy. Ian Kendrick will be advised of all sites and start looking after them.
 - g. Continual parking on grass outside of Carlings Orchard and reinstatement of the verges. Clerk to look at reg numbers and a discussion followed about fencing off the grass and putting signs, and re-seeding.

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- h. Colmore Lane flooding outside of Badbury Rings and is there a solution for the increased flooding with the Pond opposite Colmore House and pipe being full of mud and not allowing soak away. Clerk advised by phone from Parishioner. Cllr Berger and Cllr Freeman to view and update in next meeting.
 - i. Cllr Berger retrospectively approved on governance for the RPPC website
9. Rotherfield Peppard Village Update:
- a. No update on accidents on Stoke Row/ Gallowstree Crossroads
 - b. Update on Mirror on Stoke Row Road. Clerk to write to Moorlands asking for its removal
 - c. 20mph Village speed limit update. Clerk to chase
 - d. Litter pick April 29th update – Clerk has sent poster for inclusion on Noticeboards and Peppard News and will organise Kit through SODC.
 - e. Election information – Clerk will advise all Councillors what they need to do.
10. Planning Update –
- a. Planning matters addressed in Planning meeting earlier in the evening updated to Full Council
 - b. Greylands – Discussed under SODC Matters.
11. Finance and Staffing – F&S matters addressed in F&S meeting earlier updated to Full Council.
- a. Cllr Berger/Clerk updated Councillors on Financial matters for 2022/23.
 - b. Signature on receipts/ payments made in February 2023/ Bank reconciliation
 - c. Update on CAF bank
 - d. Approval of signatures on UTB for March 2023 were Cllr Rowland and Cllr Berger
 - e. All expenditure for March 2023 was approved
 - i. Clerk Salary (Feb 23) = Confidential
 - ii. Village Cleaner (MW) (Feb 23) salary = Confidential
 - iii. Village Cleaner (AP) (Feb 23) salary = Confidential
 - iv. Councillor allowance (RF) – Confidential
 - v. Councillor allowance (DH) – Confidential
 - vi. SODC Loan £327.31
 - vii. Unity Bank Service Charge £18
 - viii. Clerk – Nest Pension – Confidential
 - ix. Clerk – Reimbursement of Zoom not claimed £143.88
 - x. Clerk Quarterly expenses Q4 £210.79
 - xi. Shedquarters £2700 capital grant and £300 for ongoing works
 - xii. OALC subscription £358.49
 - xiii. Autela Q4 invoice
 - xiv. HMRC invoice
 - xv. Parish online sub £54
 - xvi. Bill Wakefield Pavilion water damage repairs £3975

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12. Matters for future meeting

- i. Speed Survey B481
- ii. Wishing Stone

13. Correspondence:

Received from parishioner regarding flooding at Colmore road and frustration of 20mph in RPPC which is "not needed"

Received from Parishioner regarding further accidents at the Gallowstree/ Stoke Road Crossroads

Received from Jon (Feb meeting) regarding becoming a Councillor and it not being the right time

Received from Parishioner regarding Greylands

Meeting finished at 9:10pm.