

Rotherfield Greys Parish Council

Couty Councillor report 10th November 2025

Sorry I cannot be with you tonight.

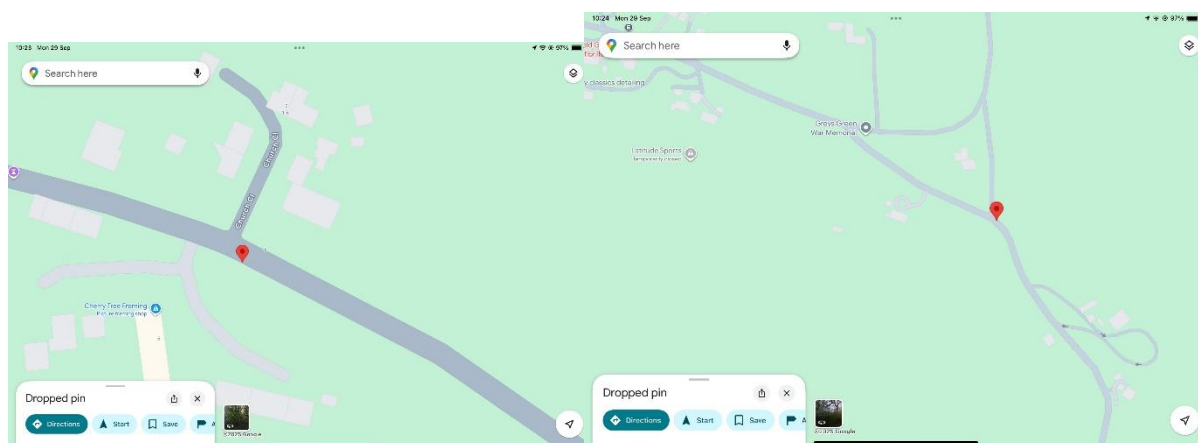
Road improvements

I have spoken to the officers re getting some money from Highlands Park Phases 1 and 2 to improve traffic in Harpsden. The chicane gates at either end of the village. Unfortunately, it is deemed that the distance from the site is too great and the amount of traffic exiting left towards Rotherfield is too small to warrant funding from the site. I have challenged this on the grounds of extra traffic and the speed through the village but they did not agree with me. Therefore, we have to try and get funding for the gates from other sources.

Try to source funding for the Chicanes and Speed activated signs.

Drainage

As per the map below I have asked Daniel Depp OCC to look and he has. I am now awaiting his reports to see what can be done. Church close is just a clear out job, the other one might be trickier. When I know I will tell you.



Local government Reform

Oxfordshire County Council are submitting a plan to government and South Oxfordshire, Vale and West Berkshire are also submitting a separate one called Ridgeway council. In January the government will choose and then do a consultation. There is no doubt that both of these have the danger of making decisions more remote, therefore I will be pushing for powers to be devolved to parishes IF they want more powers with money attached.

Henley Fire Station

There is an existential Threat to the Henley fire station.

Henley Fire Station

OCC have launched a 12-week Consultation on Fire Service

<https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/ofrs-consultation>

CONSULTATION Starts NOW and ends 20th January

Virtual Public meeting for Henley Wed Dec 3rd. 12.30-2pm

You have to sign up. Follow the above link.

Summary

In the consultation papers it is stated that 3 stations are earmarked for closure. Henley, Eynsham and Woodstock. The reasons are which we are challenging that it is difficult to get a volunteer crew together for the day shifts. I disagree.

If the fire station is closed then: -

If there is an RTA or house fire in Henley three crews are deployed. The Henley crew arrives in 7 minutes. If the fire station is closed then a crew is deployed from Caversham which means depending on Traffic takes 20 minutes. It is stated in the papers that this will result in a 1 second delay to the fire crews attending an incident. Ridiculous.

This represents a real and present danger to the lives of Henley Residents (population 12,000 and the surrounding villages, therefore it must not close.

Please read the papers. Read my summary at the end. Fill in the consultation and sign in to the public meetings **and make a noise.**