

Chair's Annual Report 2024-25

Thanks to the current Parish Councillors: Richard Ovey, Susan Hems, John Hill. Robert Hadfield resigned and we welcomed new Councillor Nicola Whittle and thanks also to our Parish Clerk, Annette Young. Also due thanks to our elected representatives; up until the 1st May on Oxford County Council, Cllr David Bartholomew and on South Oxfordshire District Council, Councillors Jo Robb and James Norman. Since the 1st May with the boundary changes and the election we are now represented on OCC by Stefan Gawrysiak as boundary changes mean the Parish has moved into the North Henley Ward.

Planning Applications

18 received during the year 2024-25 (there were 22 in 23-24)
1 objections and there have been 2 appeals.

Highlands Park

The further expansion of Highlands Park continues to be a concern. It is clearly generating increased levels of traffic passing through our village.

Remembrance Sunday

The 106th Remembrance was marked with wreath laying at the War Memorial.

The Village Fete

The fete took a break in 2024 but is returning again this year in its usual slot on the first Sunday in September.

Finance

Our finances remain on a sound footing, with a healthy balance in excess of £30,000 at the end of the financial year.

Charities

The parish council continues to support local and community charities. We made a variety of charity donations. SCAS £150, RB £100L, Wyfold RD A£150, Millies Dreams £300, Chiltern Soc £30 and St Nicholas Church £800.

Traffic Calming - 20 MPH Zones

The volume and speed of the traffic on all roads through the village is an ongoing concern to many residents. We have installed two 20MPH zones in the village. One on the road that includes the corner past the church and The Maltsters Arms as we have been unable to drive forward the scheme to install a pedestrian pavement on that corner. There is also now a 20 MPH zone on the back lane that passes Shepherd's Green.

Village Litter Pick

A village litter pick took place in March, thanks are due to Graham and Jo Duncan for organising it and providing tea and cakes afterwards.

War Memorial

There are now 22 individuals named on the War Memorial righting a wrong that should have happened a long time ago. It is apt that we got this done in time for last years' Remembrance Sunday and last weeks, VE DAY 80 celebrations.

Defibrillators

Millie's Dreams now maintain the two defibrillators in the village, at the Village Hall and The Maltsters Arms. The PC charge will be treated as a donation. A defibrillator training session was held for residents last summer.

Website and Email

We have a new website which is proving much easier and quicker to update. All Councillors and the clerk have a .gov.uk email address. <https://rotherfieldgreysparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Nick Digby
Chair – RGPC
May 2025