

Rotherfield Greys 11th May 2026

Cllr Stefan Gawrysiak

Henley Fire Station



Excellent, Wonderful, epic News

The Henley Fire station will not be closing. This is a great result for all the pressure that the Henley community expended on the consultation. Over 200 responses from Henley, over 220 attend the public meeting at Christchurch. Thanks to Geoff Luckett henley society, Kate Aldridge Greener henley and all the many Whats App group that meant this campaign has been a success. AND also, thanks to the Henley Standard led by Phil Simms who campaigned, reported and sort FOI requests re the data. Also, Thanks to Leigh and Freddie our MP.

In summary 85% of the responses to the consultation were negative. Re Option c the closure of Henley, Woodstock and Eynsham 79% were negative. ALL of the proposals have been withdrawn. The second engine at Thames will stay.

This is absolutely what we wanted. The consultation was fundamentally flawed because the granular data was not included. There is NO POINT in saying the response times on average will go UP by 1 second IF for some communities they go up by 20 mins.

Had our fire station closed we would rely totally on Caversham (30 Min Response time) and Wallingford (40 Minutes). This clearly was unacceptable.

OUR biggest thanks must go to our wonderful Henley Fire fighters Full time and on call. They led the way with the campaign and of course we rely on them to keep us safe. Well, done.

However good this is we still to recruit more volunteer on call fire fighters.

Well, done to All

Breast Screening Unit

Claire the lead for this at Royal Berks. I drove her round the town for sites and we have successfully now sighted it at Tesco's near the Hockey Club. A great result in a short space of time. If only all decisions went so quickly.



LCWIP

Local Cycling Walking Infrastructure Plan. One of these is being development by OCC. It aims to improve walking and cycling routes between settlements. A plan is being formulated and I will keep you informed.

[Henley Area map](#) | [Let's Talk Oxfordshire](#)

Drainage

Four schemes have been put forward. Church Close, Dog Lane dip, Bix and corner out of Rotherfield Greys towards Greys Green. Awaiting costing and WHEN!!!!

Speeding and Speed Cameras

A Speed survey was under taken week of 16/03 paid for by my Councillor Grant.

Results Need further work BUT

Volume 5-day Average

7am-10am 1096 vehicles / hour

4pm-7pm 840 Vehicles / hour

Speed 5-day Average 7am-7pm

Speeds

20-25	3082
25-30	4447
30-35	1587
35-40	138

So, lots above the 20 limits

Speed cameras

See OCC suggestions for discussion.

Hi Stefan,

I've taken another look at this with regards to electronic signs and the power supply to them now that the trees are in leaf, the sun was out and I've obtained a copy of the electricity utility maps...

- A. The approach from Greys Green is not a problem and an electronic sign should work well at the small gateway as well as maintaining the bend warning sign and relocating the 20mph repeater plate slightly further along the road (towards Greys Green):

B The Approach from Henley is more problematic as there isn't any available electricity and the preferred location is within shadow all day therefore, we would be looking at a battery unit where the batteries would need swopping every 2 to 3 weeks:

There is, however, a location slightly nearer the beginning of the speed limit signs (not totally 'ideal' for positioning but possible for solar power) which has a little more sunlight:

I've marked this with a white spray on the carriageway if you happen to be out that way... whilst this is currently getting a reasonable amount of sunlight, I'd expect the available sunlight to decrease significantly during the autumn and winter when the sun is lower in the sky and the trees behind me in the photo will increase the period of time the unit is in shade... I've therefore spoken with one manufacturer where a more bespoke option would be to install a SID unit with a larger solar panel here (SIDS use less electricity than the traditional 20 'slow down' VAS to start with – who knew...) – this should extend the working time of the unit further into times of lower light where, if it runs out of juice, it will just 'hibernate', till the battery recovers.

Whilst the above would need fully costing with the custom spec, I'd envisage this would be in the region of £10 to £12k for 2no SID units (one at either end of the village) all installed.

I hope this helps and do let me know what you / the parish think.

Local Government Reform

You are aware of the Government intention to reorganise local government under Unitaries i.e. remove the district tier. An announcement of the preferred route will or NOT be made in June/ July. Will it be Whole Oxfordshire or West Berks Vale and South Oxfordshire preferred. We have to leave it to the wisdom of Government!