

Minutes
Berrick Salome Parish Council
3rd Nov, 2016

The Meeting of the Berrick Salome Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Berrick Salome, on Thursday 3rd Nov, 2016. Present:

Ian Glyn [IG] (Chair)
Hannah Bradley [HB] (Vice-chair)
Craig Tribe [CT] (Treasurer)
Steve Rhodes [SR] (Councillor)
David Bridgland [DB] (Councillor)
David Turner [DT] (District Councillor)
Chris Cussens [CC] (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence
Steve Harrod [SH] County Councillor, Ellie Cross, Nicol Glyn
2. Declarations of interest as regards items on the Agenda
None
3. To approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting of 1st Sep 2016
The minutes were approved.
4. Matters arising from the Minutes
From the meeting of 12 May 2016
Ref 5.2.9 Mobile phone coverage: DT has provided to DB a draft letter plus all the letters we've had back from the providers. DB will now issue the wording to those who use their services for them to respond to the four suppliers in response to the questionnaire. ACTION
DB
From the meeting of 7 Jul 2016
Ref 4.9 Village Hall improvements: See under agenda item 13
Ref 8 Oxfordshire Together: See under agenda item 10
Ref 13.1 Neighbourhood Plans: See under agenda item 11
From the meeting of 1 Sep 2016
Ref 9 DB has continued to chase Denise Kinsella of Thames Water (TW), who is very apologetic about the lack of a response. DK is planning for the letters with the questionnaire to go out in November. These will go to everyone in the village and DB plans that the PC should contact every recipient requesting them to turn it around within a week, identifying those who have a particularly serious problem with a view to getting TW to meet these people face to face. IG stated that we are on the list of parishes who are badly served and we want to get to the top of that list.
DT stated that Chalgrove PC have quarterly meetings with TW and he agreed to provide to us with the names of the key contacts of the four agencies they deal with. ACTION
DT
Ref 11 The overhanging trees across allotment 'paths' have been cleared by Dennis Cooper, who has done a great job.
Ref 12 Playground Maintenance: See under agenda item 14
Ref 13 CT has agreed with the Home Sweet Home landlord that the second village defibrillator should be located at the pub, once permission for that has been agreed by the brewery. CT agreed to provide a formal written request for that permission. Funding will be provided by the Quarry Charity. ACTION
CT
Ref 16 Broadband: See under agenda item 9
Ref 14 OALC training: CT has attended a training course on planning and will write a report to the councillors and suggest an action plan. ACTION
CT
5. County and District Councillors' reports:-
 - 5.1. DT summarised the District Councillor's plan which can be read in Appendix 3. He presented an update re the Chalgrove Airfield proposed development:-

- 5.1.1. This week, he has attended a four hour meeting in Chalgrove with the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA). The major complaint is that many questions were asked, to which no answers could be provided by HCA.
- 5.1.2. Attendees were vehemently against it.
- 5.1.3. All the responses to the public consultation will be analysed in the New Year by the full district council when they will have the opportunity to vote on what goes into the final proposals for the new local plan which will extend to 2032. This will then go to an Examination in Public by a government inspector, which will be a key meeting, to be held in summer 2017.
- 5.1.4. We have some powerful allies. The County Council have rubbished the plan (eg unsustainable, a gross waste of public money)
- 5.1.5. DT also attended a meeting the other evening to hear the Chief Executive of Oxfordshire Local Economic Partnership ([OxLEP](#)), who said that they were definitely not supporting the airfield proposal. This is an important organisation, as government money coming into the area goes through OxLEP and the [Oxfordshire Growth Board](#) have to bid for this; they too are against the development.
- 5.1.6. OCC are not part of the decision process. They are just one of the statutory consultees.
- 5.1.7. In response to a question as to whether we have any professional help, DT said that meetings have been held with all the villages and one resident already has hired a high-powered legal person who fought off the gravel pit at Rofford.
- 5.1.8. DT is very concerned that local media (eg the Oxford Mail) have said that the strategic choice for the new development is Chalgrove Airfield. Although described as the choice of SODC, this has never been put to the members; it was a personal decision of the leader of the Council. Not one of the members have had a chance to vote on whether this is a good thing or not.
- 5.1.9. Re the earlier consultation on the local plan, 1800 responses were received, of which over 1000 were about Chalgrove airfield.
- 5.1.10. DT agreed to find a target list of influential people and organisations who might be able help us. ACTION
DT
- 5.1.11. From his experience with PAGE, Rob Marsh stated that we need a specialist to get on top of this and to get all the paperwork out on time, as otherwise we'll be blown out of the water.
- 5.1.12. A meeting is to be held in the evening of Nov 4th in Chalgrove at which the leader of the Council, John Cotton, has agreed to talk to the public. He's coming with the Head of Planning, Adrian Duffield.
- 5.1.13. DT has written to the Minister who signed the document transferring the airfield from the MOD to the HCA, because some of the things said by the HCA are simply not true. For example they state that the new development would not be an issue for RAF Benson; when DT raised this with a Group Captain from the base, he said that it would severely disrupt the training of his officers. In DT's letter he asks the Minister whether he's been give all these facts.
- 5.2. IG requested that DT takes one thing back from us. Could the volume of requests for comments on all manner of things re the Council be reduced, so that we have the time to focus on the issues which really matter? DT agreed to investigate. ACTION
DT
- 5.3. SH was unable to attend the meeting. His report can be read in Appendix 4.
6. Chalgrove Airfield Proposals
(This was promoted up the agenda from item 8 in order to catch DT before he left the meeting.)
- IG attended the meeting in Chalgrove on Oct 31st and produced notes from that meeting, which were distributed to the parish mailing list and are reproduced as Appendix 5. IG amplified these points at the meeting.
- 6.1. We need someone to pull together all the points made against the proposal by the affected parishes. ACTION
DT
DT agreed to take this back to the Chalgrove Parish Council meeting, which followed our meeting.
7. Treasurer's Report (See Appendix 1 for full report)
The schedule of payments and transfers was ratified by the Council.

The Parish Council approved and accepted the 2015-16 Annual return and external auditor's certificate.

8. Review of planning applications (see Appendix 2 for details)

8.1. Application [P16/S3246/LB](#) for the erection of a glazed extension at West Cottage was supported by the PC.

9. Ultrafast Broadband

HB announced that Gigaclear have agreed to install ultrafast broadband in our village and thanked parishioners for all the help and support they gave in getting us to this stage. Gigaclear are now in the design stage, with March/April 2017 expected for completion.

HB agreed to take up with Gigaclear long-needed repairs to the tarmac in Weller Close whilst they are digging up the roads. She also agreed to clarify when Gigaclear would be in contact with residents to discuss the siting of connections to the properties. Options for connection to the property can be either underground or above ground (eg along a wall or fence.)

ACTION
HB

10. Oxfordshire Together

This is an initiative from OCC, where they are saying that parishes could work together to take over work from OCC with greater cost-effectiveness. In essence this boils down to just one project - managing the cutting of the grass verges, which this year, OCC only managed to cut once. A meeting has been held with five other local parishes and the decision whether to go ahead or not is ongoing. A suitable contractor has been identified and we are in the process of getting estimates from him, such that we can reach a decision in January. Estimates from a second contractor will also be sought. The downside is that the parish councils would take on the total responsibility from OCC and the liability.

11. Neighbourhood Plan

Progress here has stalled because, and only because, we have to involve SODC and their NP department has emptied out completely. They have since recruited people to start on Nov 1st, so we expect to be back in contact with them very shortly.

12. Village Hall Overflow Car Park

This has now been completed and paid for by the Bridge Club.

13. Village Hall External Refurbishment

We have received a grant of £10,018 (covering 43% of the cost) from SODC, to pay for external cladding, new windows and new insulation.

By way of clarifying the minute of the meeting dated 7/7/16 on the subject IG stated that it is the Parish Council who is driving this, undertaking the project, applying for the grant and paying the bills; the Berrick and Roke Village Hall is a charity and cannot reclaim VAT incurred on the project. The parish council should be able to claim some of the VAT back.

A number of uncertainties have been identified regarding the set up and governance of the charity, such as whether there is a lease for the hall; if so, it would have been signed 38 years ago and does it extend to today? Who are the trustees? IG/CT to investigate where we stand and report back

ACTION
IG/CT

There was a proposal that the PC forms a sub-committee (composed of IG and CT) to deal with the grant and link in with the VHMC and that IG as Chairman of the PC should sign the acceptance form from SODC of the grant. The PC agreed this.

ACTION
IG

14. Playground inspection report

The annual inspection of our playground took place on 13 October and was performed by The Play Inspection Company Ltd.

The overall risk assessment was 'Moderate Risk' which is the same as last year.

There was actually only one individual area of the inspection which was rated as 'Moderate Risk'. This was that parts of the timber ladder above the climbing net on the multi play have rotted. All other areas inspected were rated either 'Low Risk' or 'Very Low Risk'.

There is no immediate need for remedial work. The timber ladder area will be inspected and repaired as necessary. The other major area which requires attention is the level of the play bark under the swings and multi play.

CT agreed to follow up on the actions necessary as identified in the report.

ACTION
CT

15. Any Other Matters the Chairman deems urgent

15.1. The PC agreed that the Chalgrove 10k run could take place through the village on May 1st next year.

15.2. On a PC housekeeping matter, the following timings were agreed for responses to parish documents

15.2.1. For responses to draft minutes and other matters – 5 working days

15.2.2. For items requiring a more urgent response – 48 hours

15.3. On PAGE, Rob Marsh spoke briefly at the meeting re Page and subsequently sent in the report within Appendix 6.

15.4. The meeting reverted to the previous conversation re Chalgrove Airfield.

It was felt that the lack of a coordinated response from all local Parishes to the proposal was surprising and a matter for concern. Without a coordinated and an informed response (for which experts were needed) objectors were unlikely to get a seat at the table of any enquiry on the matter.

Page should serve as a model.

It was suggested that the Berrick Neighbourhood Plan would not be in place in time for it to contribute to the Decision.

John Bird queried whether the expense of fighting the issue was worthwhile given its momentum. Why not focus all our energy on what matters to the Parish, namely traffic management with a view to softening its impact?

CT proposed that the Parish Council should support the efforts of Chalgrove and other affected Parish Councils in their fight against the Proposal. This suggestion was agreed unanimously. IG to write to other Parishes offering our support and reflecting the view that a single co-ordinated response was necessary.

ACTION
IG

The following parishioners (all of whom have experience in this field) kindly volunteered to work with IG to this end: Nigel Nixon , Rob Marsh, Brian Tracey

In the context of proposed expansion in Benson, John King reminded the meeting that The Benson Sewage Treatment plant currently worked to capacity so, presumably, would be upgraded.

16. Dates for Parish Council Meetings 2017

The following dates were agreed: Jan 12, Mar 9, May 11, Jul 13, Sep 14, Nov 9.

They have been confirmed with the Village Hall bookings.

Signed Chairman

Date

Appendix 1: Responsible Financial Officer's Report

To Parish Council meeting Thursday 3 November 2016

1. Bank balances as at 31 October 2016 totalled £16,073. There were unrepresented cheques totalling £484. The total reserves of the Parish were therefore £15,589.
2. At 31 October 2016 the accounts show a surplus of income over expenditure of £7,577. Since the last meeting's report we have received the second half of the parish precept from SODC which was £3,190 and a generous grant from the Quarry Charity of £3,370 towards playground repairs. The expense of the playground repairs was in last year's accounts.

3. Schedule of payments

The following cheques have been issued since the last meeting:

Date	Chq. no.	Payee	Amount (£)	Purpose
20/09/2016	100678	BDO LLP	120.00	External review of annual return for 2015-16
16/10/2016	100679	The Chequers Inn	162.00	Passing over grant from SODC for the Queen's 90 th birthday celebrations
16/10/2016	100680	Derek Shaw	14.00	Photocopying for neighbourhood plan meeting
16/10/2016	100681	Ian Glyn	42.37	Pigeon spikes for playground swings
16/10/2016	100682	Aztec Plant Services Limited	86.40	Timber for swing repair
25/10/2016	100683	The Play Inspection Company Ltd	75.00	Annual playground inspection
25/10/2016	100684	Roger Smith	50.00	Internal examiner's fee for 2015-16 annual return

There have been the following bank transfers since the last meeting.

Date	Transfer from	Transfer to	Amount £
17/10/2016	Community account	Savings account	6,154.01
25/10/2016	Savings account	Community account	125.00

4. BDO LLP were the external auditors for the parish council's annual return covering 2015-16. Their certificate on the annual return did not identify any causes for concern. I propose the following motion

"That the parish council approve and accept the 2015-16 Annual return and external auditor's certificate."

Appendix 2: Planning Application Summary as at 03.11.16

Click on link in Planning ID Column for SODC document

Cllr Abbreviations: DB – David Bridgland; SR – Steve Rhodes; HB – Hannah Bradley; CT – Craig Tribe
Date Abbreviations: PC – PC notification; EC – End of consultation; TD – Target Decision

Planning ID	Cllr	Location	Description	Dates	Status
P16/S2093/HH	SR	Roke Farm Roke	Retention & alterations existing building	PC: 10 Jun EC: 10 Jul TD: 12 Aug	PC fully supports (14 Jul) SODC approved Sep 5
P16/S2091/FUL	SR	Roke Farm Road Running Through Roke	Erection stables & pole barn	PC: 15 Jun EC: 14 Jul TD: 10 Aug	PC fully supports (14 Jul) SODC approved Sep 5
P16/S2597/HH	CT	Hollytree Cottage Rokemarsh	Conversion and small extension to existing garage to an annex with toilet and shower.	PC: 02 Aug EC: 24 Aug TD: 22 Sep	PC fully supports (01 Sep) SODC approved Sep 14
P16/S2681/HH	DB	Cases Court	Construction of single storey extensions and internal alterations. Erection of garden office Construction of new vehicular access crossover	PC: 08 Aug EC: 08 Sep TD: 30 Sep	PC fully supports (01 Sep) SODC approved Sep 29
P16/S2318/FUL	HB	Rose Bank Roke	Amendment to the previously approved application P15/S3823/FUL to amend the design of the garage building	PC: 16 Aug EC: 08 Sep TD: 02 Sep (sic)	PC supports (01 Sep) though has some concerns about planning creep SODC refused Oct 5
P16/S2748/FUL	HB	Home Sweet Home	Installation of roof mounted revent system to serve commercial kitchen	PC: 17 Aug EC: 15 Sep TD: 10 Oct	PC fully supports (01 Sep) SODC approved Oct 6
P16/S3246/LB	DB	West Cottage	Erection of glazed extension	PC: 07 Oct EC: 03 Nov TD: 29 Nov	PC fully supports (03 Nov)

Appendix 3: SODC Councillor's Monthly Report November 2016

Volunteering

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils are looking at ways to encourage more people in the districts to volunteer. We would like to hear from volunteers and are encouraging them to complete a survey at <http://survey.southandvale.gov.uk/s/VolunteeringSV> telling us about their volunteering experiences. The feedback we collect will help inform our understanding of volunteering so we can identify solutions which might support and encourage other people to volunteer in the future. All responses to the survey will be treated in the strictest of confidence and whilst we will publish a report detailing key findings, it will not be possible to identify individual respondents from this. The survey closes midnight, Monday 21 November. For more information about the survey or our plans to support volunteering in the districts, please contact volunteer.support@southandvale.gov.uk

Clear sacks in recycling bins

From 1st November we will only empty green wheelie bins if the recycling in them is loose or in clear sacks. Throughout October we tagged bins that contained non-transparent sacks. The tag explained that we will not empty the recycling bin in future if it contains non-transparent sacks. If you have any questions, please contact Biffa on 03000 610 610 or (admin.southoxford@biffa.co.uk). More information can also be found on the SODC website. www.southoxon.gov.uk

Focus on prevention sees fall in homeless numbers

Last year we successfully prevented 928 households from becoming homeless across the South and Vale districts. This compares with 609 in the previous year, a rise of 52 per cent. These figures are particularly encouraging because the demand on housing need services in both districts has risen strongly but we have not seen a similar rise in homeless households. Behind these figures are positive outcomes for both residents and the councils. Our residents avoid the distress and disruption of homelessness while the councils have significantly reduced their expenditure on temporary accommodation. To achieve these improvements we have strengthened our focus on reaching the most vulnerable residents at risk of homelessness as quickly as possible. The dedicated phone number for households at risk of homelessness is **01235 422452**. Residents can also use our new web-based Housing Options and Advice wizard which provides immediate tailored housing advice to meet their own housing needs. www.southoxfordshirehomechoice.org.uk

New mobile payment car park service starts next week

From 1st November, people who wish to use a mobile phone to pay for parking can do so using the new Connect Cashless service. The new service can be used in all district council car parks across South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse and replaces RingGo. Payment by cash will still be an available option. More information about the service and how to download the free App is available on the [Connect Cashless website](http://www.connectcashlessparking.com). www.connectcashlessparking.com

South and Vale News sign up

We are keen to encourage as many as possible local residents to sign up to South News. The newsletters, emailed out every two months, keep residents in touch with the latest council news including planning updates, recycling collections and activities and events. Please encourage residents to sign up to the newsletter at the South website www.southoxon.gov.uk

Dementia Memory Walk

Our Leisure contractors GLL and Walking for Health are inviting people to join a Memory Walk to help raise awareness about dementia. The free event takes place at White Horse Leisure Centre on Monday 31 October at 10.15am with a gentle one hour walk followed by free refreshments afterwards. For more information about the campaign and event see

www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/vale-of-white-horse/white-horse-leisure-and-tennis-centre/newsitems/free-awareness-walk-taking-place-on-the-31st-oct-10-15am

Christmas rail travel

Improvement work to the Great Western Rail (GWR) network might affect travel over Christmas. London Paddington will be closed to all rail services from Saturday 24 December to Thursday 29 December. GWR rail services will start and finish at Ealing Broadway, where customers can make a connection to the underground, or scheduled bus services for travel into London. Full Christmas season information can be found on the [GWR website www.gwr.com/travel-updates/christmas-2016](http://www.gwr.com/travel-updates/christmas-2016)

Grants

SODC has awarded nine more community organisations in the district a total of £648,000 to help improve their buildings and facilities. This brings the total awarded from the Council's capital grants scheme since April to £1 Million. Grants included are:

- £10,991 to Sandford Talking Shop to purchase equipment for the community shop and café.
- £112,883 to replace the roof for the Nettlebed Village Club.
- £3,743 to Goring Heath Parish Charity for village hall replacement windows.
- £250,000 to Thame Town Council to rebuild the town cricket pavilion.
- Replacement cladding, windows & insulation for Berrick Salome village hall was granted £10,018 which is 43% of the project cost.

Thame through to Great British High Street final

Thame has been named as one of the country's best high streets by being shortlisted in the third annual Great British High Street competition. It is one of the top 3 in the Small Market Town category. To be crowned champion, Thame town needs votes! Votes can be cast up to 18 November via the [Great British High Street website www.thegreatbritishhighstreet.co.uk/high-street-of-the-year-award](http://www.thegreatbritishhighstreet.co.uk/high-street-of-the-year-award)

Nourish at Cornerstone

Nourish, located at Cornerstone is the new licensed coffee shop with a difference. It is open to everyone and offers locally produced food and drink blended together with regular music gigs and events. Enjoy the best grilled cheese sandwich in town or a locally produced delicious, homemade cake while savouring one of our selection of teas or coffees. You might even want to try a local wine or beer. There is also entertainment on occasions. Nourish is open Tuesday to Saturday 9am - 9pm and Sunday at 11am - 4pm. See Cornerstones website for details www.cornerstone-arts.org/

David Turner

3rd November 2016

Appendix 4: OCC Parish Briefing November 2016

UNITARY DEBATE

OCC is continuing to develop a model for a single unitary council with some decision making devolved to different parts of the county based on the current boundaries of the five District and City councils. There is no agreement with District Councils about this and there needs to be a lot of detailed negotiation in the weeks and months ahead.

PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT

The Annual Report by OCC's Director of Public Health has been published and it summarises key issues associated with the Public Health in Oxfordshire. It includes details of progress over the past year as well as information on future work. It is an independent report for all organisations and individuals. The report covers the following areas: Chapter 1, The Demographic Challenge; Chapter 2, Building Healthy Communities; Chapter 3, Breaking the Cycle of Disadvantage; Chapter 4, Lifestyles and Preventing Disease Before it Starts; Chapter 5, Mental Health; Chapter 6, Fighting Killer Diseases. The report can be found by following the link:

<http://ow.ly/Fsok305C9RS>

SECURING THE FUTURE FOR OXFORDSHIRE'S DAYTIME SUPPORT SERVICES

OCC is proposing a new daytime support system that will enable older people and people with disabilities to live independently in their community. The new proposals include a guaranteed core service for people who require daytime support, alongside financial support to enable community-based services to continue to flourish. People with assessed needs who receive help from OCC's adult social services would continue to receive support under a new proposed structure for daytime support in the county. The council values day time support services run by volunteers and will continue to support these services while encouraging new community initiatives to be launched. Three-quarters of all community-based services do not receive funding from OCC so would be unaffected by the changes. OCC has listened to more than 600 people who use services and carers to understand their priorities and develop a new approach. More details can be found here: <http://news.oxfordshire.gov.uk/daysservices/>

APPLY ONLINE FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES

Applications for children due to start primary or secondary school in September 2017 can now be made online. Families with children born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013 are urged to visit the primary school admissions pages on OCC's website to find out how to apply for places for next year. Applications for primary or junior schools also need to be made for children currently attending an infant school who were born between 1 September 2009 and 31 August 2010. Families with children due to move up to secondary school next September should visit the secondary school admissions pages. (There is also information for anyone interested in applying for a Year 10 transfer to a University Technical College (UTC) or Studio 2. Parish Briefing Note – 01 November 2016 School.) When applying, parents are strongly advised to state three preferences and include their catchment school as one of these – even if it is their third preference school. This does not in any way affect families' chances of securing a place at their first-preference school. OCC still accepts postal applications but recommends families apply online where possible, as this helps speed up the applications process. It also means families receive an automatic response confirming their application has been received and can be quickly notified if further information is needed.

RADIO OXFORD TRAFFIC CONTROL

The traffic reports on Radio Oxford are broadcast direct from OCC's traffic control centre at Kidlington. The centre has direct access to over 50 cameras across the county, which show exactly what is happening so listeners can be quickly informed should there be an incident. Also, listeners' calls and texts mean that traffic information can be rapidly updated. The entire breakfast show was recently broadcast from the control centre and OCC Leader Ian Hudspeth was given the opportunity to read the traffic report. He admits being nervous in case he mentioned the wrong road, but everything appeared to go well!

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Kind regards

Stephen Harrod

County Councillor

Chalgrove & Watlington Division

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Appendix 5: Notes from Ian Glyn on Chalgrove Airfield Proposals

IG attended the meeting in Chalgrove on Oct 31st and produced the following notes from that meeting, which were earlier distributed to the parish mailing list.

The ownership of the site has been transferred to [HCA](#) from MOD as MOD has no further use for it.

HCA is a government sponsored organisation charged with and financed to create the infrastructure to support large scale development projects on government land that has no further alternative use.

SODC has proposed Chalgrove Airport site for a residential development of 3500 homes. It is the preferred site (they are working on two alternative ones but without much apparent enthusiasm).

SODC need to find sites for residential development urgently if they are not to fall foul of government directives that require them to do so.

To fall foul of such directives would (so we were told) have serious implications on the ability of SODC to control Planning Applications in the future as, absent the required sites, developers would win any contentious rejection at Appeal.

Initial reaction from affected Parish Councils and other interested parties has been canvassed and received. SODC will respond shortly and the official enquiry into the site is scheduled to start in Jan 2017. It became apparent that SODC accepted the charge that the Chalgrove Airfield proposal offended many components of the SODC Masterplan. They proposed to overcome that issue by rewriting the Plan-- masterful!!

All attending Parish Councils were asked to present their concerns re the development. They naturally focussed on the transport effect and were consistent in terms of the local issues identified. The major issues were the congestion likely at bottlenecks at Stadhampton, Watlington and Benson with subsidiary concerns about "rat race" traffic through villages like Berrick Salome. It was common ground that public transport at Chalgrove was woeful but it was suggested that a scheme of this size tends to resolve such deficiencies by creating the required demand for bus transport.

The sales pitch from HCA was that, if there is to be development (which there is because government have so demanded), then they are the best sort of developer as they are not charged with making a profit but, rather, are equipped to throw money at consequent infrastructure issues. They claim that their budget for the potential infrastructure needs of Chalgrove Airfield is in excess of £100m.

They went on further to say that we should be happy that this cash would be spent to resolve existing traffic bottlenecks that would be aggravated by the extra housing but would not otherwise be addressed absent it.

A lot of information relevant to us in Berrick came out of the various presentations made by other Parish Councils.

Benson, for instance, anticipate between 400 - 1000 new homes (depending on the result of projects in the pipeline) in the foreseeable future. 400 of these are already consented. 280 more are on the plot of land leading up to the first Berrick/ Rokemarsh turn-off and 180 on the edge of Benson on the other side of the Benson/ Watlington Road.

Significant developments were also reported in Watlington, Chalgrove (not airfield) Chinnor, Thame, Stadhampton, Berinsfield, Cholsey/ Wallingford. All of which will add to the congestion in the area. It became common ground during the day that the effect of these developments had not been factored properly into the traffic forecasts produced hitherto.

It also became apparent during the day that HCA were prepared to fund bypasses round areas of major congestion -- conditional on Chalgrove Airfield site going ahead. They prefer not to call them bypasses but rather "edge roads" and they proposed designs accordingly showing us a worked up scheme for Watlington.

The essential difference between a bypass and an "edge road" is that a bypass is just that (a fast road with a roundabout at each end) while an "edge road" links throughout its length with the town in question and is a road around the centre of a town, off which further residential and commercial development is hung. Poundbury was put up as an example. I must say that the logic of such a concept was quite compelling.

The specific issues that affect us in Berrick are:

RAT RUN.

The road from Chalgrove through Berrick Prior, Berrick Salome, Rokemarsh and on to the Benson Watlington Road will certainly become a rat run for those getting to Wallingford, Didcot and Reading.

Similarly the fork by the millennial stone past the HSH will suffer from Chalgrove traffic going through the RAF base to Henley and Maidenhead.

Unless we can persuade the relevant authorities to improve Hollandtide Lane so as to take traffic left to the Benson/ Watlington Road before it hits the village.

Passing bays / speed calming measures (particularly given the dangerous blind peaks) and appropriate signage needs to be deployed.

We should also investigate whether it is possible to prohibit through traffic and enforce with number recognition cameras.

The HCA team have identified Hollandtide Lane as an issue but (at the moment an issue because of its danger) we need to work to use their concern to our advantage.

Otherwise we've got a problem if the Airfield Development goes ahead.

BENSON BYPASS/ EDGE ROAD.

Benson are to push for an "Edge Road "from the McDonalds roundabout to the Rokemarsh turn". They see this as the only way to stop the congestion through Benson and believe it has the added advantage of restricting the housing scheme already consented on that field. This idea is "late on parade" given the fact that the scheme for 400 houses on this field has already got consent but I believe Benson will use the argument that joined up thinking is needed with all the other transport issues in the area (of which Chalgrove Airfield is the most high profile) to influence OCC (Who have responsibility for Highways) to get SODC's consent altered.

Watch this space.

This prospect will clearly have significant effects on those of our parishioners who live on the Benson edge of Rokemarsh.

Appendix 6: Report from Rob Marsh on PAGE

RM has produced the short report below from the PAGE committee to the Parishes Against Gravel Extraction which provides feedback from the Government Inspectors' interim report following the Enquiry in Public concerning the OCC gravel extraction plan.

With the Government Inspector supporting the 1.015mtpa extraction figure, it does now mean that there will be a need for new gravel extraction sites in Oxfordshire.

OCC have been asked by the Inspector to review their proposal to rebalance gravel extraction to South Oxfordshire sites and we expect to receive this report prior to the OCC developing their plan to identify their preferred sites.

It means that in 2017 PAGE, with your support, will need to revisit the arguments that were used in the fight to stop gravel extraction from sites in our area and establish what else needs to be done to protect potential sites. With this in mind we have updated the PAGE website which has a new address www.pagecampaign.org.uk.

RM requested that everyone continues to provide support to PAGE in 2017/18 precept and as usual the PAGE committee would be pleased to attend our Parish AGM to provide further background and answer parishioners' questions.

Feedback on the Government Inspectors' interim report on gravel extraction

1. Local Aggregate Assessment
The case put forward by PAGE, OXAGE (Oxfordshire Against Gravel Extraction) and others to use the 10 year average (0.628 mtpa) was considered by the Inspector, but rejected in favour of the OCC and South East England Aggregate Working Party view that Oxfordshire alone should have a higher than average figure (1.015 mtpa). This is critical as it means that new sites for gravel extraction will be required in Oxfordshire in the period to 2031.
2. Single Plan
The report seems very supportive of a single plan approach but says that there is no legal requirement, so accepts OCC's justification for having a 2 part plan. This means that OCC will develop a plan to agree where new gravel extraction is to take place *starting* next year.
3. Rebalancing *Production from Western to Southern Oxfordshire Sites*
The report accepts that the case has not yet been made and that this proposal by OCC should be reviewed and a new timetable will be published in the next month.
4. SCI Compliance (*Statement of Community Involvement*)
The report accepts that the spirit of the SCI has been broken and we agreed that it would have been unacceptable to halt the Examination because of non-compliance.

Next Steps

- OCC to publish a timetable by the end of October
- OCC to produce main modifications and consult the Inspector before publication (probably next Spring)
- Consultation on this material
- Planning has already been submitted for gravel extraction in Cholsey and Fullamoor *and the local campaign groups* are employing *Experts, Barristers and QC's* to fight the plans.

All our areas are back under threat in the Phase 2 planning being prepared by OCC and PAGE will need the continued support of the Parish Councils (Dorchester, Warborough, Drayton St Leonard, Benson, Berinsfield, Stadhampton, Newington and Berrick Salome) to revisit all the documentation and rationale before preparing a new document detailing why there should be no allocation of a new gravel pit in any of our parishes.

In the meantime we continue to face the potential challenge of an operator submitting a planning application in the PAGE area.