

## ROOKSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ROOKSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL (RPC)  
held in the ROOKSDOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE, ROOKSDOWN  
on 25 March 2019 at 1930

	In Attendance	Apologies	Absent
Councillor Mahoney (Chairman)	✓		
Councillor Lovett (Vice-chairman)		✓	
Councillor Botten	✓		
Councillor Jasti	✓		
Councillor Mason	✓		
Councillor Morris		✓	
Councillor Payne	✓		
Councillor How	✓		
Councillor Harris		✓	

**Clerk:**

Martin Whittaker

**In attendance:**

Simon Bound, Borough Councillor and Manager of Rooksdowm Community Association (RCA) – arrived during item 19/7

Michelle Biggs, Chair of RCA

Robert Taylor, County Councillor

For item 19/6:

Jess Harris, Operational Programme Manager, BDBC

Matthew James, Hampshire Property Services

Hazel Morton SYSTRA (transport consultants)

For item 19/7:

Glen Parkinson, Strategic Development Officer, Children's Services, HCC

Stephen Reid, County Councillor & Executive Member for Education

No members of the public present.

**Action**

**19/1 To receive and accept apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Harris for personal reasons, Cllr Lovett due to work commitments and Cllr Morris due to illness.

**19/2 To receive and note any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and requests for dispensation for items to be discussed**

None.

**19/3 To approve the minutes of the Rooksdowm Parish Council meeting of 25 February**

The motion being proposed by Cllr Mahoney, seconded Cllr How, **IT WAS RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the minutes.

**19/4 To discuss matters arising from the minutes**

All actions complete except:

- 18/182 and 18/214 Apply to BDBC for bus shelters – Cllr Lovett has arranged a meeting with Becky Poulter, Engineer, BDBC, for 1000 27 March.

- 18/273:
  - Cllr Mahoney offered to provide evidence of excessive speeding during school access times to Cllr Taylor – see item 19/7.
  - Parish and Town Council Investment Fund – Cllr Taylor to meet with the Clerk to discuss further – ongoing.

Clerk

**19/5 To invite members of the public to address the meeting (up to 15 minutes in total)**

None.

**19/6 To discuss the implications of the proposed No Right Turn from the A339 into Rooksdown Avenue**

The chairman welcomed Jess, Matthew and Hazel and explained the issues:

- The council understands the safety need for the No Right Turn on the A339. We are concerned only with traffic being diverted through Rooksdown, as this will send vehicles through narrow residential roads (see Appendix B). There are 2 issues:
  - Traffic from Basingstoke to the golf club - regular during the week, but heavy on Saturdays and Sundays
  - Golf club construction traffic. The recent partial redesign work at the club has resulted in large lorries going up Rooksdown Lane. If such work reoccurs, how will they access the club?
- There is also the separate issue of what may happen if there is any trouble at the new double roundabout for southbound traffic. Satnavs might well divert traffic travelling south on the A339 up Rooksdown Lane and down Nightingale Gardens. How can this be discouraged?

Hazel explained the reason for the No Right Turn:

- Even before Manydown the traffic is increasing, with a number of rear end shunts occurring. The new junction at Rooksdown Avenue is much closer to Rooksdown Lane after the redesign. This makes it difficult to have a right turn as traffic may back up. There is not enough room within the highway boundary for a full junction redesign, and because of the hill crest, visibility can't be improved. All these small risks build up, so No Right Turn is the only option.
- The golf club is the biggest flow: 40 vehicles in peak hour of weekday, 200 per day. At weekends, overall traffic is higher, but it is believed that the peak is lower (surveyed for one week in May 2016).
- Though traffic will now flow through twisty residential roads in Rooksdown, the balance of risk is that this is the safest solution. The decision has been made to have the No Right Turn and keep the estate roads under review.
- For heavy vehicles there is a turning and servicing area 400m further along, which they can use to turn around and approach from the north. This can apparently be enforced, despite public cynicism.

Councillors made the following observations:

- RPC has no faith in heavy vehicles being restricted, as extensive recent experience with construction traffic on developments in Rooksdown shows this not to be possible – despite escalation with BDBC.
- The golf club peak flows were confirmed as 0800-0900 and 1600 to 1700, so the earlier peak flow coincides with the school run.
- Why can't the junction be widened?
  - because the developers do not control the necessary land, and the children's cemetery is in the way; the road can't be widened

- Could the speed limit be reduced to allow the right turn?
  - It is being reduced to 50, but the nature of road means it can't be reduced further
- What is the acceptable traffic flow through a residential area?
  - Probably 250-300 movements per hour (half in each direction), but less on narrow twisty roads
  - Residents' views of traffic flows are very different to Highways view: they say this is not a large number for residential roads. Unless you can show higher traffic flow, there is no way of changing their mind.
- Would the T junction originally proposed at Rooksdown Avenue have alleviated the situation?
  - Probably not: the double roundabout is better for traffic flow
- By when must RPC comment?
  - Before the application goes to committee at the end of May
- Could a new entrance be made to the golf club?
  - Possibly
  - But who would pay for it? The land is not controlled by the developer
- Is this problem related to through traffic not being allowed through Manydown, increasing load on A339?
  - Essentially, no.

The chairman concluded that there was much to discuss outside the meeting. Councillors will revisit the matter at the next meeting.

Cllrs

**19/7 To discuss improvements to pedestrian crossings for the school**

The chairman welcomed Robert Taylor, Stephen Reid & Glenn Parkinson and outlined the current situation:

- There have been many complaints about the threat to children's safety due to the lack of safe crossings near the school
- There have been a number of near misses – in car parks and on roads
- People have to edge out to see whether the road is clear: sightlines are very poor
- There have been a number of meetings with the school and councillors, but there are no obvious improvements.
- The council has sets of data showing excessive speeding, especially during school run times
- The general feeling is that a child must die before improvements are made.

Glenn Parkinson responded that the school entrance protection markings have been improved and yellow lines extended. The school has gold accreditation for travel to school. He has been working with HCC and BDBC councillors to improve matters. The school has done as much as it possibly can, and he is not sure what else can be done.

In response to questions about a school crossing patrol, he stated that the school must apply for this through the school travel team.

Councillor Bound stated that safety has been an issue since before the school was built. It's a design issue for which HCC is responsible: it doesn't take into account human behaviour. The attitude seems to be "lets make a few changes and see what happens",

but nothing seems to improve. There is no point in contacting the police, as PCSOs will not attend.

Councillor Payne stated he had seen the problem at first hand, and the main issue was sightlines at the southerly crossing outside the community centre. The new path leading from this had increased the usage.

It was not known whether the school had similar concerns about safety.

In conclusion, Glenn Parkinson agreed to:

- Take up the speeding issue with the appropriate team, if the chairman would pass on the data.
- Speak to school about a patrol, and see what else can be done, and to arrange a meeting with Adrian Morgan of BDBC about road markings.

**Mahoney/  
Parkinson**

**Parkinson**

However, progress was not likely before Easter.

### **19/8 To receive reports from:**

1. Chairman of Rooksdown Parish Council – See Appendix A
2. Clerk to the Parish Council
  - The clerk asked if anybody wished to discuss parish arrangements in the case of the death of a senior royal, but it was generally felt that this was best left to the principle authority.
  - Grants
    - The application for LIF funding for the replacement of wooden knee rail with metal railings throughout Rooksdown had been provisionally approved, but formal notification had not yet been received.
    - The application to the (MHCLG) Pocket Parks Plus programme had been unsuccessful.
    - The application for LIF funding for pocket parks had also been unsuccessful, but the council had been advised to reapply after further consultation.
  - The Pumphouse Way parking order had been approved and the yellow lines were currently being painted.
  - The final version of BDBC review of ward boundaries had been released, with the expected combining of Rooksdown, Sherborne St John, Monk Sherborne and part of Wootton St Lawrence parishes into a single ward being confirmed.
3. County Councillor
  - Squirrel Wood – Robert has met with the developers. Access to site is appalling – not just for construction, but for residents when the houses are built. Cllr Taylor will ask Hampshire Highways to review access from A339.
  - Medical Centre: Cllr Taylor will be attending the PPG meeting and would like a briefing. Councillor Bound reported that the current practice operators are now on 6 months' notice and a new provider had been identified. The new NHS GP contract was expected to result in changes in working practice, with GPs working in the community.
4. Borough Councillor - all matters dealt with under other headings
5. Rooksdown Community Association (RCA) – no report
6. Police/PCSO/CSPO – no report

### **19/9 To approve payments**

The motion being proposed by Cllr Payne, seconded Cllr How, **IT WAS RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the payments as follows:

25/2/19	Waitrose	Training supplies	26.33
26/3/19	HMRC	Salaries and allowance	831.32
26/3/19	M Whittaker	Salaries and allowance	767.18
27/2/19	giffgaff	Phone	5.00
26/3/19	Cllr P Mahoney	Repairs and Maintenance	22.78
26/3/19	Badgemaster	General admin	14.70
26/3/19	RCA	Hall hire	30.00
26/3/19	RCA	Hall hire	36.00
26/3/19	RCA	General admin	15.00
26/3/19	RCA	Handyman	460.00
26/3/19	RCA	Handyman	-936.00
26/3/19	RCA	Handyman	780.00
26/3/19	M Whittaker	Clerks exp (benefits)	69.30

Cllr Botten agreed to authorise the payments.

#### **19/10 To note bank reconciliations**

The reconciliations, verified and signed by Cllr Mason, were duly noted.

#### **19/11 Planning applications**

1. [19/00702/FUL](#) | Erection of public artwork | Land North Of Park Prewett Aldermaston Road Basingstoke Hampshire

The motion being proposed by Cllr Mahoney, seconded Cllr Botten, **IT WAS RESOLVED** unanimously to support the application.

2. [19/00522/HSE](#) | Conversion of garage to living accommodation | 37 Northbrook Crescent Basingstoke RG24 9RB

The motion being proposed by Cllr Botten, seconded Cllr Mahoney, **IT WAS RESOLVED** unanimously to give no comment.

In view of the number of similar applications being received, Cllr Payne asked that a policy for such applications be discussed at the next meeting

Clerk

3. Applications not on agenda

[19/00296/HSE](#) | Conversion of garage to living accommodation and erection of single storey rear extension (amended scheme to that approved under 17/03274/HSE to allow change in material finish from brick to render) | 78 Gander Drive Basingstoke Hampshire RG24 9JR

The motion being proposed by Cllr Mahoney, seconded Cllr Payne, **IT WAS RESOLVED** unanimously to make no comment.

#### **19/12 To approve Grievance Policy (see attachment) – Cllr Payne**

The motion being proposed by Cllr Payne, seconded Cllr Mahoney, **IT WAS RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the policy.

The clerk will add it to the website.

Clerk

#### **19/13 To receive an allotment update and approve transfer documents (see attached) – Clerk**

The final draft of the transfer deed had been received, and the final engrossed version was expected shortly. This would then need to be executed by Persimmon, Vivid Housing and RPC.

The motion being proposed by Cllr Mason, seconded Cllr Payne, **IT WAS RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the draft document “19-13 Allotment TP1 - amended inc. Trowers amends” circulated with the agenda, subject to there being so significant

changes in the final version as determined by Cllrs Mason and Payne in agreement with the Clerk, and that said councillors would execute the document as a deed.

**19/14 Data Control Committee (DCC):**

- To note approved GDPR documents (see attachments)  
Duly noted
- To approve minutes of DCC meeting 11 March (see attachment)  
The motion being proposed by Cllr Mahoney, seconded Cllr Botten, **IT WAS RESOLVED** unanimously to approve the minutes.

**19/15 To discuss arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting (APM)**

In the previous council meeting Cllr Lovett had suggested changing the format of the APM to make it more relevant and attractive to residents. In his absence, the clerk summarised the key ideas for the meeting:

- To take place on a Wednesday when the fish and chip van was present (Cllr Mason's suggestion)
- The main session would consist of a series of information boards in the foyer of the Community Centre, with attendees wandering freely around.
- Each councillor would present the contents of one board to interested residents and answer questions
- There would also be a brief formal session for approval of the minutes and Q&A session.

The provisional date for this was the 1 May at 1930. Councillors would meet for a planning meeting at 1930 on 1 April.

**19/16 To discuss the content and production of the next edition of the "Rooksdown Reporter"**

Deferred to next meeting

**19/17 Chairman and Clerk's correspondence**

The Clerk had received:

- A copy of an email from Cllr Bound to Cllr Taylor expressing concern about the apparent high accident rate at the A339/Priestly Road junction.
- Email from the chair of the RCA asking for progress on Old Hall management contract. The clerk had replied saying that there were few gaps in the agreed heads of agreement, but turning these into a contract was considered relatively low priority due to the lack of any indication of the hall being ready for handover in the near future.

**19/18 Closed item - Exclusion of Press and Public**

To consider passing the following resolution:

That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act, 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item(s) of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt, legal and contractual matters as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act. The Public Interest Test has been applied and favours exclusion of the information from the Press and Public.

In the absence of Cllr Lovett this was deferred to the next meeting.

**19/19 Chairman to close meeting**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 1000.

## Appendix A

### Chairman's Report for Rooksdown Parish Council meeting – March 2019

#### **My actions from last Parish Council meeting:**

- **18/295 Chairman to provide evidence of excessive speeding during school access times to Cllr Taylor to help with the discussion with regard to school parking, safety, traffic and danger to children**

Information prepared for meeting this evening. Will share during the meeting this evening.

#### **Since the last Parish Council meeting - attended the following meetings:**

- **Squirrel Wood development - resident concerns and member update** (also by Cllrs How & Bound) 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019.  
Minutes included later in this summary  
Next meeting – 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019 – if any Councillor wants to join the meeting.
- **RPC Management Meeting (Chair, Vice Chair & Clerk)**  
18<sup>th</sup> March 2019:
  - Review of agenda items for the Parish Council meeting
  - Priorities for the next few weeks / month / quarter
  - AOBNext meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> April 2019 – if any Councillor wants to join the meeting.
- **Data Control Committee Meeting (Chair, Vice Chair & Cllr Botten)**  
11<sup>th</sup> March 2019:
  - To discuss the final GDPR documents which are to be presented to tonight's meeting

#### **Squirrel Wood development - resident concerns and member update**

This meeting was convened following the attempt by a contractor vehicle to gain access to the Squirrel Wood site at 3.30 am 26.2.19.

I escalated this issue to Mark Glendenning along with the many others relating to the way that Allenbuild manage the Squirrel Wood site.

The other issues that I am aware of:

26-Feb-19	Articulated HGV attempted delivery at 0330 (with photographic evidence)
26-Feb-19	Lorry with delivery of machinery blocking the road (with photographic evidence)
25-Feb-19	Complaints by residents about the 'adoption work' at the two entrances to Squirrel Wood
12-Feb-19	Construction traffic via Pumphouse Way
	Response from Bryan Hare - that they will issue apology in newsletter ... What newsletter??
29-Jan-19	Chalk slurry flooding public foot path between Squirrel Wood and A339
29-Jan-19	Poor state of pegs way and Sheepwash Court due to poor road cleaning
11-Jan-19	'Convoy' of 4 HGVs at 0815 – email to SB/PM re Andre McHugh's email 25 November re Condition 17 'to avoid' 'undue interference with the operation of the public highway'
25-Nov-18	Andre McHugh's email stating intention not to comply with Condition 17 - 'the management and coordination of deliveries of plant and materials and the disposing of waste resulting from demolition and or construction activities so as to avoid undue interference with the operation of the public highway, particularly during the Monday to Friday AM peak (08:00 to 09:00) and PM peak (16:30 to 18:00) periods.'
24-Nov-18	Report of poor state of Peggs Way and poor/no cleaning of Peggs Way
17-Nov-18	Saturday working beyond 1.30
6-Nov-18	Attempted HGV delivery at 0630
12-Oct-18	Last Newsletter issued by Allenbuild
10-Aug-18	Muck on the whole length of Peggs Way
27-Jul-18	Poor communication re SE Water activity
2-Jul-18	Damage to Peggs Way road signs outside the Squirrel Wood Site
25-Jun-18	HGV and noise from site at 0730
4-Apr-18	SB sent email stating that things were not great ... Offering to set up a meeting ...
27-Mar-18	Tyre tracks between the 2 entrances to Squirrel Wood
22-Mar-18	3 large lorries at 8.30 blocking the road (with photographic evidence)
21-Mar-18	2 vehicles - coming from A340 & the Avenue

## Minutes from the meeting:

### Attending:

Graeme Brand, Head of Construction – Allen Build  
Andre McHugh, Project Manager – Allen Build  
Joseph Stewart, Site Manager – Allen Build  
Bryan Hare, Operations Manager – Allen Build  
Mark Glendenning, Dev manager – Homes England  
Cllr Paul Mahoney, Chair – Rooksdown Parish Council  
Cllr Simon Bound, BDBC Ward Councillor  
Cllr Doug How, Rooksdown parish Council

### MG outlined reason for the meeting:

- *Lack of communications from Allenbuild/Design Your Home following flooding of the southern footpath to Winklebury (inspected by MG, PM and SB -29th January. A 'newsletter' was promised outlining remedial steps taken on the development site to prevent chalk slurry discharging across the footpath, but never materialised).*
- *Damage to road verges (Parcel Drive) by the mini road sweeper used to clear the southern footpath*
- *Deliveries to site not using the agreed route*
- *Deliveries arriving during the night and parking up on residential roads outside the site*
- *Lack of care and effective road sweeping on existing estate roads, chalk dust on the delivery route (view was that the 'mini' sweeper was distributing rather than lifting debris across the roads)*
- *Disruption to local traffic and blocked roads etc.*

SB advised that the community was angry and frustrated that the promises made by Kim Slowe had not been kept: Kim had said that there would be no deliveries to site before 9.30am and after 3.30pm to avoid conflict with 'rush hour' on the estate and that all major deliveries would be escorted to the site from the key estate access road (Rooksdown Avenue). In the absence of information to the contrary explaining their actions to address problems, residents had naturally made up their own minds that Allen Build was just the same as any other developer i.e. say what they need to say to get approval and then ignore all the promises made.

GB apologised that the communication with the Parish and neighbourhood had not met expectations. He also advised that some of what had been promised was probably not realistic e.g. escorting all deliveries to site. JS advised that the road plainer which had arrived at 3.30am on morning was not acceptable and the company (DW Surfacing (Eastern) Ltd.) had written to apologise that their driver had not acted as instructed (to park up on the layby on the A339 by the golf course). JS advised that all suppliers had been written to again and the delivery route confirmed as per the PBA construction route plan.

SB expressed concern that drivers were following Satnavs rather than the construction traffic route signs or delivery note instructions. *What could AllenBuild do to reinforce this message?*

JS advised that the tarmacking supplier had been changed as a result of performance concerns and that he challenged all drivers if not using the correct route.

JS also expressed concerns that drivers and staff coming to site had been threatened and he had informed the police on at least one occasion about abusive behaviour to delivers.

GB advised that they would take the following actions:

- *Issue an immediate newsletter to residents (attached below) – along the delivery route and those affected by the development/delivers not sticking to the approved route. The newsletter would acknowledge the disruption caused by the development and problems with deliveries and apologise for this, and update on the southern footpath flooding.*
- *Thereafter there would be a regular newsletter issued to residents every 2 months providing an update on the development programme*
- *The 'big' sweeper would be used bi-weekly over the next few months – on all roads affected and used for deliveries (including from Rooksdown Avenue)*
- *All residents adjacent to the site would receive a letter advising them of potential disruption by visitors to the site on the 5th April for the launch event*
- *There would be a 'meet the team' event for residents/neighbours after the official launch of the show home on 5th April in May/June – when neighbours would be invited*



**Chalk slurry from the Allen Build site. Hazelwood Drive / Ringway North footpath**



27 December 2018

I mentioned in my February update that Cllr Bound and I had had a meeting in January regarding the state of the flooded footpath that connects Rooksdown with Winklebury – Hazelwood Drive / Ringway North footpath with Mark Glendenning (Homes England) and James Holt (HCC).

Mark then spoke to Bryan Hare (Ops Director) & Joseph Stewart (Site Manager) who agreed to build a deeper ‘French drain’ trench along the edge of the site to hold more water and to prevent water run-off & chalk leaching from the site.



27 January 2019

Bryan also added that it was his intention to produce a resident bulletin to give an update on progress and to explain what had caused the issue with the chalk & slurry on the footpath. This has only just been produced, but doesn’t go far to apologise for the mess / inconvenience to our residents.

Allenbuild confirm that deeper French drains have been built along the southern boundary of the site which should prevent flooding of the southern footpath – but the path previously flooded as a result of a dip and this was unavoidable. Joe from Allenbuild monitors the path daily in wet weather.

Mark has emailed James Holt at HCC to ask for an inspection and remedial works to the broken surface of the footpath. Cllr Bound also agreed to follow this up separately with HCC.

**Adoption of the Southern Area including Lights update**

One of the issues delaying the adoption of the Southern Area is the state of the street lights.

The lights not working are identified below (some of which have been raised on Social Media sites):

We have also received a number of complaints from residents on Basswood Drive due to the absence of lights pose both a health and safety hazard and a personal security / home security concern.



These lights have now been rectified.

**Result of recent Grant Applications**

<https://democracy.basingstoke.gov.uk/documents/s16088/Copy%20of%20Appendix%20Summary%20of%20Applications%20and%20Recommendations.pdf>

APPENDIX 2: SUMMARY OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUNDING						
Applicant	Project Description	Ward	Project Cost	Grant Request	Proposed allocation	Recommendations
<b>SECTION A - RECOMMEND AWARD</b>						
Rooksdown PC	To replace low level wooden fencing along verges and open spaces with long lasting steel railings to prevent vehicle access	Rooksdown	£91,200	£82,000	£82,000	To award grant of £82,000 subject to standard terms and conditions
<b>SECTION C - RECOMMEND NO AWARD</b>						
Applicant	Project Description	Ward	Project Cost	Grant Request	Proposed allocation	Recommendations
Rooksdown PC	To improve six pocket parks that are an integral feature of the development around the former hospital site	Rooksdown	£135,000	£121,500	£0	Recommend development of plans informed by community consultation before reapplying

Expression of interest for the next round of funding has been submitted for the improvement to the Pocket Parks in case we decide to try again, following recommended community consultation.

The application for Pocket Park Plus Grant Funding from Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government was not successful.

## **Allotments**

Thanks to Martin for the work he has done over the last 12 months to drive the handover of Allotments from Persimmons.

Looks like an end is [finally] in sight (...*famous last words!*).

I will let Martin provide the latest position in his Clerk Update.

*Paul Mahoney – March 2019*

## Route from Basingstoke to Weybrook Golf Club If No Right Turn A339/Rooksdown Lane

