

A meeting of Goring Heath Parish Council was held in the Parish Hall on Thursday 8th March 2012 at 8pm.

1. **Present:** Chairman Peter Dragonetti, Councillors Kate Giles, Richard Greenford, Tim King, Marjo McGee and Martin Wise. Also present County Councillor Dave Sexon and District Councillor Ann Ducker, parish clerk Caroline Hadley and one member of the public.
2. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Nick Henry and Pearl Slatter.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting**, 9th February 2012 were signed as correct.
4. **Matters arising.** The cheque for £4,500 from BP for the VAS had arrived. The quiz night would be held the next Saturday. The hedge laying had been started and the swing seats had arrived. No more had been heard on the judicial review. The litter blitz would take place on 17th March.
5. **Parish Hall.** The expenses of running the hall are considerable but the hall is breaking even and making a small surplus. Guttering is going to be put up to help with the drainage of water from the flat roof.
6. **Newsletter/Website.** Tim was thanked for another excellent newsletter. Peter has engaged a company to fix the problems on the website the charge will be £150 for three hours work this should then enable the website to be regularly updated.
7. **Recreation Ground.** The swing seats have arrived. The church yard now looks dramatically different and has been opened up. There was some concern that this should have been planned better to take into account the management of potential wildlife habitats. The hedge laying on the edge of the recreation ground is being held up by the tree on the verge. The remaining hedge laying and clearing can be continued later in the year. The Lions have planted a White beam for the Jubilee.
8. **District Councillors Report** Ann Ducker reported that the Boundary Commission was carrying out an electoral review of SODC and the first part of that review is to look at the number of councillors the proposal is to cut the number from 48 to 36 there would be the opportunity for people to make their comments in April. SODC car parks will be free on Saturday afternoons. The meeting questioned why planning application notices were no longer being put up outside properties, Ann said that this was to save the cost of a planning officer going out and doing it. The immediate neighbours will still be notified and the parish councils can put up the notices themselves.
9. **County Councillors Report** Dave Sexon reported that there was funding for local highway issues but at present there were none actually going on in Goring Heath. There were two areas that the parish council were concerned about one was the bends on the hill going down to the War memorial and the other was the flooding outside Ladygrove. Dave said he would look into what could be done.
10. **Planning and Unauthorised Developments.** There were no applications. There was some concern about a skip hire business which Ann said she would look into.

11. **Finance.** There was £9,848.688 in the bank on 2 March. £180 had been paid in from adverts in the magazine. The following cheques were drawn and authorised.

301204	H M revenue & customs	£72.60
301205	clerks salary February	£257.40
301206	March Newsletter	£240.00
301207	Dog bins	£12.20
301208	OALC Subscription	£219.06
301209	Replacement swing seats	£281.23
301210	OCC VAS	£3,500.00
Total		£4,582.49

12. **Crays Pond/Tinepits** The work on the swales has been delayed, David Keable the senior drainage engineer had been in touch to explain the problems and it looked as if the work would now go ahead in September. .

13. **Working Parties.** None planned at present.

14. **Litter blitz** would be going ahead at 10am on 17th March. Peter will get the bags.

15. **Judicial review.** Nothing had been heard yet. Richard said he was concerned about the cost for a small parish, Peter said he would indemnify the parish for £2,500. At this point the parish was still not committed to any expense as Peter had underwritten the parish council for £2,500. When a decision is made it was decided that it was important for all members of the parish council to be involved. When the judge has made his decision the matter could then be discussed fully.

16. **Annual Parish Meeting** It was decided to change the date to March in 2013 to try and encourage more members of the public to attend, the date of the April meeting falling so close to Easter meant that many people were away. Local groups to be invited as usual, but no refreshments to be offered.

17. **Toad Hall 10k** Adrian Wheeler had written to ask if the recreation ground could be used and it was agreed that this could go ahead.

18. **Correspondence.** Three TPOs had been received as part of the council's policy of reviewing its TPOs some orders are being revoked and re served to update and improve their accuracy. TPO No. 31/2004 reserved at No. 175/2009 – trees adjacent to Waterfield Nursery, Collins End TPO No.11/1961 is now 179/2009 trees adjacent to junction of B4526 and Long Toll. TPO No.14/1963 is now 180/2009 – trees within the area of Common Covert, Long Toll Rupert Reid had written to ask if they could refurbish the bench in goring heath that had been put there at the time of the coronation. Peter has a jubilee plaque which needs to be recast.

19. **AOB.** So far there had only been one reply from the local councils that had been invited to the meeting of local councils to be held on 19th March if no more were received the meeting would be postponed. The clerk to investigate why no response has been received to last year's enquiry about roadside nature reserves.

20. **Date** of the next meeting will be Thursday 12th April at 7pm in the Parish Hall followed by the annual Parish Meeting at 8pm

The meeting finished at 9.55