

A meeting of Goring Heath Parish Council was held in the Parish Hall on Thursday 13th September 2012 at 8pm.

Present: Chairman Peter Dragonetti, Councillors Nick Elsome, Nick Henry, Marjo McGee, Richard Greenford, and Tim King, Also present, District Councillor Ann Ducker, parish clerk Caroline Hadley and one member of the public.

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Kate Giles, Martin Wise and Dave Sexon.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting**, 12th July 2012 were signed as correct.
3. **Matters arising** the work on the Ash tree at Tinepits is still to be done.
4. **Parish Hall.** Nothing new to report.
5. **Newsletter/Website** .The September newsletter was another very good edition. The website will have to be started afresh it was suggested that a request for assistance could be put in the newsletter and Peter would investigate alternatives.
6. **Recreation Ground.** The toddler swing seat for Garton End has a problem with the fixing.
7. **District Councillors Report.** Ann asked if the email address of herself, Pearl and the clerk could be put on the back of the newsletter. The District Council was looking into the changes in wards that will come about when the number of councillors is reduced. The District Council would keep the parishes informed with the changes to the planning system. There were changes on the way for business rates and also to benefits. Residents who used brown bins now had to pay for them by Direct Debit.
8. **County Councillors Report** none
9. **Planning and Unauthorised Developments.**
 - P12/S1836/HH Laundry Cottage Reading Road Goring Heath RG8 0LL Single storey side extension forming enlarged kitchen / dining room, single-storey porch extension and associated works. No Strong Views
 - P12/S1799/FUL Copyhold Farm Lady Grove Goring Heath RG8 7RT Erection of a new general purpose storage building and workshop at Copyhold Farm. No Strong Views
 - P12/S1831/HH 6 Hill Bottom Close Whitchurch Hill Goring Heath RG8 7PX To install and erect a single storey glass veranda 7m wide by 4m projection onto the rear of the property. No Strong Views
 - P12/S1772/HH Goffs Clump Goffs Hill Crays Pond RG8 7QA Erection of a two storey rear extension, single storey front extension and reconfigure roof to from gable ends. No Strong Views.
10. **Finance.** There was £ 10,289.65 in the bank on 3rd September. The grass cutting allowance of £462.4 had been paid in July and £3.08 earned in untaxed interest. The following cheques were drawn and authorised.

301258 July Grass	£386.88
301259 External Audit	£162.00
301260 September Newsletter	£240.00
301261 Playground safety inspection	£82.80
301262 August Grass	£580.32
301263 Open Spaces subscription	£40.00
301264 H M Revenue & customs	£145.20
301265 Clerks Salary July & August	£514.80

301266 RBL Poppy Wreath	£30.00
301267 Orchard Coombe Grass	£50.00
Total	£2,232.00

The external auditor's report had been received and it was noted that despite the fact that there are no funds in the recreation ground charity and no income or spending as the parish council is a trustee and this must be disclosed in the Annual Return. The annual return was approved and accepted by the meeting. A letter had been received confirming the appointment of BDO LLP as external auditor to audit the annual return of Goring Heath Parish Council for five years from 2012/13

- 11. Crays Pond/Tinepits.** The willow tree was causing the grass cutters difficulty. The meeting agreed that Martin Wise should go ahead and lift the willow crown at a cost of £15/hour. Tim asked the clerk to check that the parish council had not been charged for the missed grass cutting.
- 12. Working Parties.** The dates are 23rd September, 14th October, 18th November and 16th December. The September date is to continue work on the hedge at the recreation ground.
- 13. Community Plan.** The differences between a community plan and a neighbourhood plan were discussed and Ann Ducker said that she would prepare a simple letter for the newsletter explaining the differences. The parish was too small for a neighbourhood plan but it could join with Whitchurch in producing a community plan. There would be a cost to producing a plan. The meeting agreed that the idea of producing a plan should not be dismissed and would be considered further. There would be a Town & Parish Forum on 21 November.
- 14. Linking the footpath to Goring.** The Paths for Communities grant scheme had been launched in May. It was agreed that the clerk should get an expression of interest form and find out more information. If at the next meeting it was decided to take this further Goring Parish Council and Flint House could be contacted for support.
- 15. Correspondence.** Nick Glass the new PCSO had been in touch concerning the problem of overhanging hedges and greenery near the school bus stops. It was agreed that this was causing a visibility problem and Peter would arrange for this to be cut back. Brian Tappern had emailed concerning the overgrown bridle path between the Goring Heath Road and Path Hill and the footpath at the top of Hods Lane. The clerk would contact the footpath officer. John Houlihan had been in touch to ask about the neighbourhood watch mentioned in the parish magazine. Marjo was still awaiting information from the police on this. Ian Tiller had written on behalf of the Representative Group of the Residents of Orchard Coombe regarding the parish council's contribution to the grass cutting in Orchard Coombe. Peter would reply.
- 16. Any other business.** Peter had applied for a road closure for the Remembrance Day ceremony and wreath laying.
- 17. Date of the next meeting.** This will be Thursday 11th October at 8pm in the Parish Hall.
The meeting finished at 9.40pm