

## **A meeting of Goring Heath Parish Council was held in the Parish Hall on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2012 at 8pm.**

**Present:** Chairman Peter Dragonetti, Councillors Nick Elsome, Nick Henry, Richard Greenford, Tim King and Martin Wise, Also present, County Councillor Dave Sexon, District Councillor Ann Ducker and parish clerk Caroline Hadley.

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Kate Giles and Marjo McGee, and Dave Sexon.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting**, 13<sup>th</sup> September 2012 were signed as correct.
3. **Matters arising.** The matter of the overhanging verges had been discussed at the September meeting and following this six areas of concern were noted
  - a) Overhanging vegetation on verge by the bus stop at the well – Peter Dragonetti’s sons will get this cleared as soon as possible.
  - b) The west side of the B471 from Boundary House to the Village Hall car park. The trees may need to be surveyed for tree safety.
  - c) The footpath on the east side of the B471
  - d) The Slabs
  - e) Brickhills wood between the permissive footpath and the road
  - f) Hillbrow, where the road is gradually being narrowed by the verge.

It was decided that c, d & e could be cut by a tractor with a flail. Dave Sexon will get Highways to look at the problem of the verge at Hillbrow. It may be possible to get some funding to help with the costs from conservation groups looking to improve the footpaths, it may be possible to apply to community budgets for help. It was agreed to get the work done locally. Martin will contact possible people to cut the hedges. When a quote has been received a letter can be written to the owners. Dave Sexon will speak to Highways about roadside nature reserves. Martin will do the work on the Willow tree at Crays Pond.

4. **Parish Hall.** There was nothing to report
5. **Newsletter/Website** Contributions were now due. An advert would be put in the newsletter asking for help with the website.
6. **Recreation Ground.** The clerk would email Nick Elsome with Wicksteed’s details so that the problem with the fixing of the toddler swing seat at Garton End can be sorted. .
7. **District Councillors Report.** Ann Ducker mentioned that there is a Community Investment Fund which the parish could apply to get a grant for equipment etc. for community use. The Parish Forum will be on 21<sup>st</sup> November. The article about neighbourhood and community plans has been sent in for the next newsletter there is also a very good website explaining the different plans. The meeting decided that a grant from the fund might be useful for expanding playing facilities at the Recreation Ground and at Garton End. Nick Elsome would find out what was wanted at Garton End, possible ideas for the recreation ground were new goal posts or an outdoor table tennis table.
8. **County Councillors Report.** Dave Sexon updated the meeting on local developments.
9. **Planning and Unauthorised Developments.** none
10. **Finance.** There was £16,857.12 in the bank on 1 October. £1.46 had been earned in untaxed interest and the second half of the precept from SODC of £8,750 had been paid

into the bank on 1 October. The Loan payment of £2,674.44 would be paid by DD on 1 November.

The following cheques were drawn and authorised.

301268 H M Revenue & customs	£72.60
301269 Clerks Salary September	£257.40

- 11. Crays Pond/Tinepits.** The drainage scheme is working well at Crays Pond the filth from the road is now in the swales and not in the pond. In a year or two the pond can be re-surveyed to assess how much the water quality has improved. Tinepits pond is still quite dry.
- 12. Working Parties.** The dates 14<sup>th</sup> October, 18<sup>th</sup> November and 16<sup>th</sup> December. The next working party will continue grub out the blackthorn on the hedge at the recreation ground. The hedge will need to be bought into next year's grass cutting contract. Martin has an Oak tree for the village green.
- 13. Community Plan.** Information about the plans would be published in the newsletter.
- 14. Linking the footpath to Goring.** It was agreed to look at the route for the new path after the next working party. Martin would find out what would be involved in changing a footpath to a bridleway. Goring and Flint house could be contacted to see if they would be interested in the plan
- 15. Correspondence.** A community resilience event is being organised October on several events and locations if parish councillors wish to attend. It was agreed that councillors were happy to receive the Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association newsletter electronically in future. Frank Decmar had emailed concerning the road junction going on to Long Toll where he had personally seen three accidents in the last two years the meeting suggested that he should contact Highways directly and copy his email to Dave Sexon.
- 16. Any other business.** 2014 would see the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the First World War so some thought should be given to what the parish council might do to mark the event. There were concerns from a resident that motor trade was being carried out at New House Farm, the clerk would ask the enforcement officer to investigate to see if this was the case. Richard Greenford enquired if the Speed Activated Camera could be better located. Richard also mentioned a scheme providing 1:1 computer tuition for the over 50's which take place in Purley which was very good and might be of help to some members of the parish. It was agreed to mention this in the newsletter. Marjo had sent a message to say that Doreen Pechey is the only registered NHW Coordinator for Goring Heath. The group consists of 14 members who live in Crays Pond and Doreen. Doreen would be happy to add John Houlihan to the list. The clerk had contacted the stonemasons again concerning the change of lettering. She would email the clerk of Whitchurch to remind them that it was their turn to clean the War Memorial and that there would be a road closure for the Remembrance Day ceremony and wreath laying.
- 17. Date of the next meeting.** This will be Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 8pm in the Parish Hall. The meeting finished at 9.40pm