

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

Present: Chairman Peter Dragonetti, Councillors Nick Elsome, Nick Henry, Tim King, Marjo McGee and Martin Wise, also present parish clerk Caroline Hadley.

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Richard Greenford and Dave Sexon.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting**, 8th November 2012 were signed as correct.
3. **Matters arising.** The telephone boxes were still being used as phone boxes and paid for by BT. If they were adopted they would have the phones removed, there was also an option to sponsor them. The clerk to check if this was still possible and Peter would check to see if the parishioner who had offered was still willing to sponsor them. Marjo and Peter had attended the parish forum
4. **Parish Hall.** The hall was not being as well used as previously. A Quiz Night was being arranged for February as well as a musical evening next autumn. When the hedge laying course runs in the parish hall car park the meeting agreed to make a contribution towards the stakes and binders and tool maintenance – perhaps £5/m which might be half to a third of the normal cost.
5. **Newsletter/Website** Thanks to Chris Wellings a new website would be up and running shortly. Articles were needed for the newsletter by 16th December at the latest.
6. **Recreation Ground.** Wicksteed had replaced the faulty part of the toddler swing seat at Garton End free of charge. Martin has cut and cleared up the hedge which will be laid at some point.
7. **District Councillors Report.** None .
8. **County Councillors Report.** Dave Sexon had sent a message asking if the parish council has any community project they would like finance for? He had spent £8 000 of the £10 000 I have available on projects in Woodcote, Goring and Whitchurch. If the pc wishes to make a bid, the forms and information can be downloaded from the OCC website. The foliage that is now growing out onto the Goring Heath Road just past Rivacres is going to be cut back by OCC. The clerk would forward the information to Nick Elsome about the councillor community budget and he would look into the possibility of applying for some funding for extra play equipment at Garton End
9. **Planning and Unauthorised Developments.**
P12/S2860/HH Cherry Cottage Hill Bottom Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PU Single and two storey front and side extensions with internal alteration to existing. (amendment to planning permission P12/S1397/HH) (As clarified by amended Design and Access Statement received 06/12/12). Should be refused
P12/ P12/S2813/FUL Former Goring Heath Poultry Farm Goring Heath READING RG8 7RU Erection of a new veterinary practice barn type building. No strong views
S2893/LB Police Rehabilitation Centre Flint House Reading Road Goring RG8 0LL Removal of existing servery hatch between dining room and kitchen and enlarge opening to create new doorway. No strong views
P12/S0578 Woodlands had been refused by SODC and P12/S2577/LB & P12/S2443 the Enigma Estate has been withdrawn

10. **Finance.** There was £12,945.37 in the bank on 3rd December. Untaxed interest of £2.07 had been earned and £225 had been paid in from adverts in the parish newsletter. The following cheques were drawn and authorised

301279	October Grass cutting	£307.44
301280	H M Revenue & customs	£72.60
301281	Clerks Salary November	£257.40
301282	dog bin emptying	£24.40
301283	tree felling	£100.00
301284	Bugler for remembrance service	£60.00
301285	Planting at Crays Pond	£120.00
		£941.84

11. **Crays Pond/Tinepits.** Rod D'Ayla has sent a full report for the file of what has been planted, Martin will email it to Tim. The grass has yet to be cut at Tinepits. Martin raised his concern that he was doing the work and wondered if we should get another quote but the meeting felt that it was unlikely that any one would do it for less than the £15 per hour that Martin was being paid and also as the estimated time for the job was four hours they were happy for Martin to do the work.
12. **Working Parties.** The hedge will be finished soon there was no need for another work party this year. Peter will let Ian Tiller know.
13. **Community Plan/ Neighbourhood Plan.** Peter will put information in the newsletter.
14. **Linking the footpath to Goring.** Martin had contacted Goring Parish Council and Flint House. Tom McAuslin the Chief Executive of Flint House is keen. It was agreed that a meeting should be arranged in the New Year. The route would need to be surveyed and a map of the road and verges obtained from Ordnance Survey online. Peter is pursuing the upgrading of the footpath at Upper Gatehampton
15. **Better Broadband for Oxfordshire** Nick Elsome agreed to be the nominated Broadband Champion
16. **Correspondence.** Pat Turner had written raising her concerns that the parish council needed to get the hedges cut on the existing footways before spending money on creating new footways. The meeting agreed that this was a very valid point and that a letter should be written to householders concerned at the beginning of January asking them to cut their hedges. If they did not get them cut by the end of the month then highways would do it and charge the householders. Peter would respond to Pat Turner's letter and Martin would draw up a list of householders/landowners with problem hedges.
17. **Any other business.** Peter would deliver the salt. The footpaths had been cleared although there was still an old stile to be removed where a new kissing gate had been put in.