**Present:** Liz Collas (LC) Martin Wise (MW) Hilary Dewey (HD) Peter Dragonetti (PD) Peter Burdon (PB) Michael Holland (MH)

**In attendance:** Amanda Holland (AH Clerk ) Louise Shearer (LS)

**AGM 1.**      To Elect a Chair and Vice Chair for 2022/3. Liz Collas was proposed as Chair MW Seconded PD, agreed.

Peter Dragonetti was proposed as Vice Chair, LC Proposed, MW seconded, agreed.

**2.** To Complete Declarations of Office and Register of Interests. All provided and signed.

**3.** Acceptance & Review of the Parish Council Standing Orders/Financial Regulations and Policies. Taken Forward.

1. **Apologies for Absence**: None
2. **Declarations of Interest.** Mr P Dragonetti
3. **Public Forum. None**
4. **To Approve the Minutes** of the last meeting of the Council on Tuesday April 11th2023. Approved.
5. **Correspondence for Information**. The Crays Pond Scout Hut is in need of repair. Councillors supported their fundraising efforts and asked to be kept informed of progress.
6. **District Councillors and County Councillors Report.** None due to Election. PD has been re-elected.
7. **Key areas requiring discussion**:

* **The White Lion at Crays Pond.** After discussion it was agreed that PB would make contact with interested parties to effect some agreement on the future of the site.
* **The Fete.** PB reported that 23 stall holders have confirmed, including the Sun and its Bar and the Silver band. He is having difficulty sourcing coconuts however, the logistics of tent delivery chairs etc may necessitate hiring a van for the day. GHPC is in charge of the BBQ, vegetarian burgers were discussed. HD offered to find an extra burger flipper for the day. AH to circulate Rota.

1. **Governance matters**

* Finance Report and Bank Statement / Reconciliation. Circulated and approved.
* Invoices approved : Bus, A and W Grounds £498.00 plus hedge top £200, Goring Press £275, Heritage Trees £1116, BHIB £1037.00, Hill Bottom Close Grass Cutting £100.00.
* The Annual Governance and Accountability Return : taken forward
* Project Finances Update. AH to circulate all tree works information for discussion.

**10.**  **Goring Heath Maintenance.**

* **Grass and Maintenance.** A and W quote agreed for reducing height of Laurel Hedge. It was also agreed that the Parish Hall mowing strip should be included into the Grass Specification as of this year.
* **Footpaths and Rights of Way.** Shirvells Hill footpath. We have received further correspondence from a parishioner noting that someone has fallen over there recently. I was also noted that the drain is blocked and it has flooded badly over the last few days. AH reported that the chamber cover and the tarmac have been repaired recently. The path itself is rough track and could do with removal of large flints, it was agreed that we should seek an expert opinion on the situation. LC agreed to liaise with AH and to speak to KB our County Councillor to resolve this.
* **Playgrounds.**. The work to replace surfacing and repair the swings has been completed satisfactorily. MH questioned the height of the roundabout needs to be checked against the Rospa reports. AH
* **Crays Pond.** MW reported that The SEED silt testing report had been received. We can now go ahead with arranging for proper disposal of the silt. It can now go to inactive land and our chosen contractor can organise the required licences. AH to circulate report. A decision regarding the Grant will be made in June.

**11. The Newsletter /Website/Social Media**. Articles for the July issue are likely to be very wonderful and a request was made to agree a colour photo mid-section. Approved, LS to progress. A report was made regarding the Coronation Entrance Competition, the winners were announced and prizes were discussed. A budget was agreed. AH to inform winners. PB enquired about our Social media account, he will contact LT to discuss. Regarding the website, IT MH to contact TM to continue the training on the new Microsoft account.

**12.**     **The Parish Hall.** Nothing to report at the moment.

**13.**     **Planning and Unauthorised Developments.**

* To discuss and agree consistency of reporting : Object, Support, No strong views. Now Support, Object, No View.
* [**P23/S1492/HH**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P23/S1492/HH) Oakdene Gashes Lane Whitchurch Hill Reading RG8 7PY

Erection of a detached single storey temporary garden room rear garden. No View

* [**P23/S1484/DIS**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P23/S1484/DIS) BP Technology Centre Bozedown Drive Reading RG8 7QR. NV
* [**P23/S1249/HH**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P23/S1249/HH) Hill Bottom House Hill Bottom Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PU

Installation of 16 ground-mounted solar panels each 1m wide 1.8m high. Conversion of loft /storage space in existing garage to create a one bedroom annex above the garage with kitchen and bathroom. NV

* [**P23/S1389/HH**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P23/S1389/HH) Covert Cottage Hill Bottom Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PT

Single storey rear extension. NV

* [**P23/S1220/HH**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P23/S1220/HH) 5 Oakdown Close Whitchurch Hill RG8 7NR

New roof and loft conversion creating additional bedroom accommodation. Object.

* [**P23/S1342/HH**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P23/S1342/HH) Old Well Cottage Goring Heath Road Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PQ Erection of a garden studio and garage. NV

**14.**    **Councillors Reports and Items for future agenda.**

Traffic Management and Speed Report : Cllr Holland reported on the consultation to date. There followed discussion of the sale of plots of wooded areas, and in particular the Woodland Feast Company which takes place in an ancient woodland, and in an area of outstanding natural beauty. LC agreed to discuss with planning ( Mr Robert Cramp ) and PD to pursue as District Councillor. It was noted that The Berkshire Bedlam Morris Dancers would be performing at the Sun Inn on the 15th June 2023. PB apologised in advance for not being able to attend the next meeting in June.

**To confirm the date of the next meeting**: Tuesday June 13th 2023 at 8pm.