**Present:** Chair Liz Collas (LC) Martin Wise (MW) Michael Holland (MH) Hilary Dewey(HD) Peter Dragonetti (PD Nick Elsome (NE)

**In attendance:** Amanda Holland (AH) ( Clerk ) Lucy Turner ( LT ) (Editor, Goring Heath Parish News)

1. **Apologies for Absence**: Apologies from Tarek Moghul (TM).
2. **Declarations of Interest.** [**P22/S3217/DIS**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P22/S3217/DIS) (LC)
3. **Public Forum**. None.
4. **To Approve the Minutes** of the last meeting of the Council on Tuesday July 12th 2022. Approved.
5. **Matters arising** from those minutes not on the agenda elsewhere. None.
6. **Correspondence for Information**. An offer has been made to help with the War Memorial (MW)
7. **District Councillors Report.** Circulated and approved.
8. **Key areas requiring discussion**:

* **The Annual Fete.** It was with great sadness that we accepted the resignation of one of our most longstanding and committed councillors, Mr Nick Elsome. He has been a councillor for many years, working tirelessly in Cray’s Pond and Garton End on many different Parish Issues. With other members of the Elsome Family he has organised the Parish Fete, and been a mainstay of litter picks, playground and defibrillator installation, and speed awareness campaigns. GHPC warmly thanked him for his service. Cllr Peter Burdon offered to coordinate the fete, which was approved.
* **Status on Traffic Management Initiatives.** Cllr Holland reported that the 20MPH proposals for

the Whitchurch Hill triangle of roads is securely in the pipeline for consideration by OCC.

* **Reduction of the speed limit on the B471**. Thanks were expressed to Mrs S Morris for her correspondence with Mr Andrew Gant, Highways and Traffic, and for organising a local petition. This has been most helpful to progress our application. Cllr Dewey wished to include the issue for heavy lorries on our unsuitable roads, and highlight the dangers again of Whitchurch Hill itself. It was agreed to address the heavy vehicle issue separately, but to include Whitchurch Hill and its specific dangers on all further correspondence.
* **Speed Watch Group**. Cllr Elsome reported that Mr Ian Reynolds is continuing to organise the Speed Watch Volunteers, and it was noted that more volunteers were needed to expand the speed check

operations. Mr Reynolds was thanked for the newsletter article in the last edition.

* **Defibrillators**. The defibrillator at the Parish Hall is undergoing routine maintenance and repair to

outdated software and will be out of action for a couple of days this month. The planned defibrillator

at the Sun Inn is due to be installed soon. The planned defibrillator at Crays Pond has not proved to be

popular and it was decided not to pursue this and return the grant for its purchase to SODC.

1. **Governance matters**

* To review and accept the External Audit Report 2021/22. The document was discussed, formally approved and accepted by all Councillors and was signed as necessary.
* The Finance Report and Bank Reconciliation was circulated, reviewed and approved. A Budget monitoring spreadsheet was circulated, we have a number of grant monies in the account which are earmarked expenditure. A receipt for £195.00 was queried and the payee was contacted. The second half precept was accepted, and a grant for £11.994.70 from Southern Electric was accepted for an emergency generator for the Parish Hall. PB to liaise with Parish Hall committee for installation.

1. **Maintenance.**

* **Grass and Maintenance Contract.** Very satisfactory. It was noted that the Parish Hall Hedge had been cut and repairs to the Playground Horse had taken place.
* **Footpaths and Rights of Way.** The footpath between Crays Pond and Shirvells Hill was discussed.

Reinstatement after Utilities work is due to take place before the end of the year. Airband have visited the site and accept that it had not been completed to a high standard, and will effect repairs to the damaged surface, the chamber cover and to unacceptable tarmac work as soon as possible. MW and AH to progress.

* **Playgrounds.** The ROSPA Safety reports for both playgrounds this year were accepted, reviewed and discussed. A check list for monthly inspections for Garton End was passed to Cllr Elsome, who agreed to continue to monitor the playground for the foreseeable future. It was agreed that it was time for the multi play unit to be replaced and essential repairs carried out to the rest of the equipment and surfacing on the Rec. Quotations from Arrow and Wicksteed were discussed, MH to check budget and costings. A newsletter article to be prepared for December. It was suggested that the playground at Tidmarsh had the type of play equipment that we might buy for the Rec at WH. it was agreed that all councillors would try to have a look at this before the November meeting so we could have an informed discussion.
* **The pond at Crays Pond**. A summary of recommendations for the maintenance and upkeep of the pond was reviewed and discussed. It was agreed that works to desilt and clear the willow scrub could take place as soon as possible. MW to discuss the issue of arisings from the works with the Oratory School and to liaise with Sherfield on Loddon Parish Council and GCN (DLL) regarding funding and to contact the recommended contractors.
* **Notice Boards/ Well maintenance**. Mr Tony Price was thanked for repairing the notice board at Crays Pond. Two Estimates for Repairs to the Well roof at Goring Heath Road were obtained over the summer break. After discussion it was agreed that MW would contact Mr Mat Carter to accept the quote and start works as soon as possible.

1. **The Newsletter /Website/Social Media**. It was noted with great sadness that Mrs Lucy Turner, who has

edited the Goring Heath News so wonderfully and entertainingly for over 5 years, is stepping down

from the role after the next edition in December. Mrs Turner has also been responsible for our Facebook

page and social media reporting. Lucy was warmly thanked for her outstanding contribution to the

parish over this time and will indeed be sorely missed.

1. **The Parish Hall**. No report.
2. **Planning and Unauthorised Developments.** Councillors reviewed the number of properties that were

Currently under SODC Enforcement. Activity at Long Toll, Penny Royal and New House Farm

is being monitored, also Conway Cottage and Stapnells Farm.

[**P22/S3331/LDE**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P22/S3331/LDE) Lower Hitch Whitchurch Hill RG8 7NU. Use of land as a camping site for the siting of a safari tent under the provisions of Paragraph 6 of the Public Health Act 1936. This is not a formal planning application but it was decided to write to the officer concerned and object. WOT PC to be informed. (LC)

[**P22/S3223/FUL**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P22/S3223/FUL) Technology Centre Bozedown Drive Whitchurch Hill RG8 7QR. No strong views.

[**P22/S3217/DIS**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P22/S3217/DIS) Haw Farm Deadmans Lane Goring Heath RG8 7RX No strong views.

[**P22/S3068/HH**](https://data.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P22/S3068/HH) Windmill Bozedown Drive Whitchurch Hill RG8 7PE Wildlife Pond. No strong views.

1. **Councillors Reports and Items for future agenda.** None.

The meeting ended at 10pm.

To confirm the date of the next meeting: Tuesday November 8th 2022 at 8pm.

A Holland, Clerk : Goring Heath Parish Council