Present: Chris Jessop, Liz Collas, Martin Wise, Nick Elsome, Peter Dragonetti

In attendance, Amanda Holland, Lucy Turner.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Nick Henry, Hilary Dewey
2. **Public Forum**: Bill Pechey and Fiona O ‘Brien, The Crays Pond Community Group. (CPCG) Councillors were updated on the The White Lion. The premises have been awarded an ACV ( Asset of Community Value) but this has been appealed against by the owner. A date for this is pending. A discussion followed regarding the possible outcomes and opinions regarding the future activity on the site. CPCG were confident that should the owner wish to sell they were in a strong position to make an offer. Other pubs in similar locations under community ownership are all successful, operating as community centre/hub/asset, not as a Public House. Plans moving forward include a newsletter, flyer, database and a new logo. Councillors raised questions about funding, sustainability and profitability, and after discussion it was agreed that GHPC would continue to support the ACV and CPCG and would update parishioners via the website, the Newsletter and Facebook.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting. Thursday December 12th 2019** were signed as correct.
4. **Matters Arising.**  LT reported the grass cutting arrangements for Hill Bottom are unchanged.
5. **The Parish Hall :** The keys to the filing cabinet for the council archive are needed.
6. **District Councillors Report.** PD reported that the withdrawal of the local plan has not been allowed by the Secretary of State , and that if emerging local plans are not adopted there could be changes to Local Authority Structures, including the removal of local planning issues to the County Council. A report was circulated.
7. **Governance Matters.**

**Finance and Bank Reconciliation:** The accounts spread sheet was checked and approved. Balance £22,734.15

* **The Budget and Precept 2020 /2021**:CJ presented the precept budget and proposals, and each Item was debated and discussed. After discussion it was agreed to include a phased replacement of the drainage sleepers, repairs to the Car Park Notice board, a tree survey and resultant works and possible refurbishment of the bus shelters. After discussion, it was proposed and seconded that the precept for 20/21 should be raised to £26,000.
* **Parish Hall Resurfacing contract.** These works have been delayed until the outcome of the grant application.
* **Grass and Village maintenance contract.** Three comparable tenders were discussed, after discussion it was agreed that MW clarify a number of items with preferred contractors before a final decision is made.
* **Website Accessibility.** Our website designers have been contacted for necessary works for compliance.
* **Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.** After discussion it was proposed and seconded that we should amend the standing orders item 31 to include the phrase “ In the event that we are approached by representatives in support of planning applications, we will allow them to present to the Council in the first 10 minutes of the meeting, which is allocated to members of the public and their views.” It was proposed and seconded that the Financial Regulations would remain unchanged for 2020 and should be adopted, the Standing orders with amendment would be proposed for approval and adoption at the next meeting.
1. **Maintenance.**
* **Crays Pond:** Further to the article in the newsletter, we have had a volunteer interested in the idea of forming a Goring Heath Conservation Group. (GHCG). Rod has cleared the reeds and undergrowth, and has agreed to an annual visit, and to provide us with a list of annual tasks along with his invoice. AH to progress.
* **Play Equipment**: An inspection of the play areas is due. AH/NE to action.
* **Footpaths and Rights of Way:** vigilant as usual.
1. **Planning and Unauthorised Developments**.
* [P19/S4570/LDE](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P19/S4570/LDE) Mount Pleasant Farm Goring Heath RG8 7TB. No Strong Views
* [P19/S4562/HH](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P19/S4562/HH) Lavender Cottage Coldharbour Goring Heath RG8 7SY No Strong Views
* [P19/S4406/FUL](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P19/S4406/FUL) Bensgrove Farm Goring Heath RG8 7RY No Strong Views
1. **Newsletter / Website / Social media :** Distribution list to be discussed at the next meeting.
2. **Community Notice boards and publicity signage at Crays Pond**. Taken forward to the next meeting.
3. **Any Other Business: None**

 The meeting ended at 10.07pm

 Date of the next meeting : **Thursday February 13th  2020 at 8pm.**