**A meeting of Goring Heath Parish Council was held in the Parish Hall**

**Thursday November 14th 2019 at 8pm.**

Present: Chris Jessop, Hilary Dewey, Martin Wise, Nick Elsome, Peter Dragonetti

In attendance, Amanda Holland, Lucy Turner.

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Nick Henry, Liz Collas
2. **Public Forum**: Sue Sandford and Phil Lea of the Woodcote Conservation Group expressed their views about Birch Copse and the 16 parcels of land in Woodcote Woods that have been sold, one of which has been fenced off with barbed wire. MW reported that all councillors were aware of the situation and were monitoring it closely. After discussion about what exactly is allowed to take place on these plots and how enforcement agencies take any infringements very seriously, it was agreed that all parties would remain vigilant and report any new activity to SODC immediately. PD offered to discuss the issue with Officers, and propose forming a new policy on this.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting. Thursday October 10th 2019** were signed as correct.
4. **Matters Arising.** LT agreed to ask residents if anyone was prepared to take to take over the grass cutting/tree maintenance on this private plot of land from Mrs Bridgens.
5. **The Parish Hall :** Nothing to report.
6. **District Councillors Report.** Circulated and Noted. In addition, PD reported on developments on the Planning Application P18/S2555/FULThe Old Poultry Farm which has recently been approved.
7. **Governance Matters.**
8. **Finance and Bank Reconciliation;** The bank statement was checked and approved. Balance £24,745.55. Invoices have been received and paid: Clerk Pay £310.60, Going Forward Buses, £100, The Landscape Group 212.40 Goring Press 270.00.
9. **Housekeeping:**. CJ is preparing precept budget and proposals for the January meeting, AH submitted internal audit details this month to Arrow Accounting. A grant from SODC Councillors fund has been applied for concerning Car Park resurfacing expense. AH circulate standing orders and financial regulations for December.
10. **Correspondence and Reports**: Further to a request from Mr G Forster it was agreed to install a new Grit bin on Path Hill. Ah to reply to Mr Stendhal re B471 gritting. HD to check bins for sufficient supplies of salt/grit. Correspondence has been received regarding articulated lorries coming through the village for BP, and the general difficulties surrounding the one way track into the village via Giddy Bridge. AH to write to Jon Beale. A discussion followed re signage to mitigate damage from poor satellite Navigation choices for lorries, and the signage used when the Goring Heath Horse trials are held. HD and NE to report to next meeting. A new Tree Preservation Order has been filed for Brindles, Bridle Road.
11. **Crays Pond :** The Pollarding of the willow and the beech tree maintenance is in progress. Ah to arrange Pond clearance. NE to wire brush the bench and report on its condition**.** MW to install four Bat Boxes. **The Parish Hall Car Park:** Further to changes in specification and a request to our district councillor for grant aid, these works have been delayed until the outcome of the grant application is finalised.
12. **Review of Grass Cutting and Tree Maintenance**: The new specification is out to 5 companies for tender.

**Play Equipment**: An inspection of the play areas is due. AH/NE to action.

**Footpaths and Rights of Way:** LC has spoken to Robert Cramp at SODC regarding Birch Copse.

1. **Newsletter / Website / Social media :** Discussion followed regarding advertising revenue and the possibility of having a colour centre spread, and a review of the distribution. It was agreed that more photos were a good idea, advertising needs to be reviewed, and VJ to be contacted regarding a review of the distribution.
2. **Planning and Unauthorised Developments**. None received. Bottom Farmhouse
3. **Status on traffic management initiatives**. CJ in correspondence with Kevin Bulmer. AH in correspondence with Jon Beale at SODC. No Progress to report. PD to draw up specification for village gates and signs.
4. **Community Notice boards and publicity signage at Crays Pond**. After discussion PD proposed, NE seconded that we adopt a formal policy. AH to draft for the next meeting.
5. **The White Lion at Crays Pond** : An appeal against the ACV decision has been lodged, PD to attend.
6. **Any Other Business. The** Armistice Service was successful, Marshalls at road closure points were effective, Cyclists were respectful, all present and correct. Correspondence has been received regarding the celebration of The 75th Anniversary of VJ day on the 15.8.2020 , to be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 10.04pm.

Date of the next meeting Thursday 12th December 2019 at **8pm.**