

Welcome to the newest Genie's 'Village Matters' newsletter

In this issue : Goring shops - comings and goings, Parish Council vacancies, how to reclaim concert ticket money, Easter holiday activities - plus other things you may find of interest!

Ticket refund information for cancelled Cello Recital on 18 March

Unfortunately, due to the snow, the recital by Matt Lowe at St Thomas' Church, Goring Sunday 18 March 2018 was cancelled. All people who bought tickets will be reimbursed in exchange for their original ticket.



For reimbursement, please contact Elizabeth Parkinson
Tel. 01491 872020 or parkinsonfamily1@btinternet.com

We hope that the recital will take place later this year. If so, information about this will be made available. Thank you.



Planning Permission is sought for Fish & Chip Shop in Goring High Street An application for full planning permission has been submitted to South Oxfordshire District Council for Change of Use for the old Lloyds/TSB bank premises in Goring High Street from A2 user class (Financial and Professional Services) to part* A5 user class (Hot Food Takeaway).

*Full planning permission is sought for the Change of Use of part of the ground floor to split the use between an A5 Hot Food Takeaway to be used as a Fish and Chip shop, and to retain the remainder as A2 or potentially to A1 should this become necessary in the future. The residential use at first floor is to remain without any alterations.

The application will be discussed by the Parish Council at the next planning meeting in the council offices at 7.30pm on **Tuesday 27 March**. Residents have the opportunity to make comments directly to the planning committee in the public forum before the councillors discuss the application.

TSB closed its branch in the village in June 2017. The building was previously a Lloyds branch up until 2013 when it merged with TSB and changed to a TSB branch. Following TSB's sale of the bank building, including the flat above, the purchaser tried, unsuccessfully, to sell the property on by auction. The owner has now acquired a tenant who has applied for planning permission to change the building's designated use to set up a fish and chip shop business. The proposal is for three full-time staff with opening hours of 12 midday - 10.30pm, Monday-Saturday and 4 - 10pm Sunday.

The application for the change of use of the premises as a fish & chip shop was registered on 6 March with SODC by Mr Muhammed Abul Hasan of Reading. The application was sent to Goring-on-Thames Parish Council and the neighbouring properties on 15/16 March for consultation. The consultation period started on 15 March and ends on 11 April with a 'Target Decision Date' of 1 May.

The diagram on the right shows proposed changes to the ground floor layout. See planning application for full details.

The Application Reference Number is

P18/S0778/FUL. Details and plans, including alterations to the frontage, may be viewed at SODC's website here:

<http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P18/S0778/FUL>

You can also inspect a paper copy of the application by appointment at Goring-on-Thames Parish Council in Red Cross Road, Goring, RG8 9HG. For an appointment, telephone Mr Colin Ratcliff, the clerk, on 01491 874444 Monday - Thursday or emailing: clerk@goringparishcouncil.gov.uk

Residents, who should bear in mind the [material considerations for objections](#), may comment on the application **before the deadline of 11 April**, either:

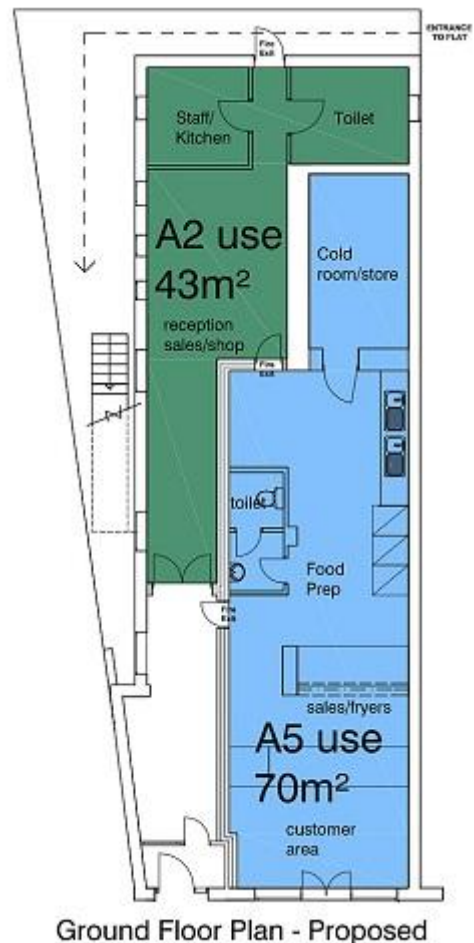
1) Online on SODC's website via the link:

<http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/ccm/support/Main.jsp?MODULE=ApplicationDetails&REF=P18/S0778/FUL>

or:

2) in writing, **quoting the planning reference no. P18/S0778/FUL** to:

South Oxfordshire District Council
135 Eastern Avenue
Milton Park
Abingdon
OX14 4SB



Goring Parish Council Vacancies

Due to the resignation of Cllr Carmella Boff, there is a vacancy on the Parish Council.

The Council is also seeking to fill a new a new part-time post of assistant to the Parish Clerk.

Further information can be found in the following documents:

1. [Parish Councillor](#)
2. [Part-time Assistant Parish Clerk](#)

Please note the deadlines for applications for these two vacancies: 4 April for the Parish Councillor and 30 April for the Assistant Parish Clerk.

South Stoke Council Vacancy

South Stoke will also have an opening from May

for a parish councillor because of the resignation of Cllr Mick Walsh, the contact for any further information or to express an interest is clerk@southstoke.org.uk



Update on vacant shop in Goring Arcade

It is now back on the market again



Following a lengthy period of negotiations with a nail bar business to lease Unit No 7, which were near to completion, the company has recently pulled out and so the unit is now back on the open market.

Any enquires should be directed to Simmons & Sons Commercial Department::

www.simmonsandsons.com/Commercial-Lettings-

Do you need ideas for the Easter school holidays?

Look no further. Check the genie calendar for local places offering activities for children

There are Easter hunt trails to follow at Basildon Park, Child Beale and at the Earth Trust in Little Wittenham.

The Earth Trust are also putting on a **lambing weekend, tree climbing, mud pie making, bushcraft and a night walk**. Or follow your own trail among the loddon lilies at the Withymead open afternoons (see next article). Try getting on the river at the **Sailing Club Open Day** or at **Adventure Dolphin** in Pangbourne. There is **kids yoga** in Streatley and a **festival of family entertainment** at Cornerstone in Didcot. **Ride the trains on the Bunk line** in Wallingford or **take a walking tour** of the town or castle. No need for long boring car journeys - it's all available locally!



As ever there is lots coming up for the big people as well. There's plenty to do in the garden in April but save any unwanted plants for the **Goring Gap in Bloom bring-and-buy plant sale** on April 28th. Don't forget to check out the **amazing music on offer** in the village in April, and remember to book your tickets for the **Goring Gap Players production of 'Shakespeare in Hollywood'** on 25th-28th April.

More details? Please go to

<https://www.genienews.org/enewsletters/calendar-events-planner/calendar/>



Withymead Nature Reserve

Loddon Lily Open Days

Do visit Withymead to see the rare Loddon Lily and enjoy the 13 acre riverside reserve at the Bridleway, Goring-on-Thames, RG8 OHS. (Drive past the Sailing Club to the end of the road. Limited parking is available.) They have one of the largest sites of the Loddon Lily in the UK. The Loddon lilies will be in flower during the latter half of April and throughout May.

They will be open 2-5pm on:

Sunday 1st April (Easter Sunday)
Sunday 8th April
Sunday 15th April
Sunday 22nd April
Sunday 29th April
Sunday 6th May
Sunday 13th May
Sunday 20th May
Sunday 27th May

Normal Summer Open Days

Cream teas will be served throughout the summer at the Withymead Study Centre, 2-5pm, on:



Sunday 29th April
Sunday 27th May
Sunday 24th June
Sunday 30th July
Sunday 26th August

Withymead is owned and managed by The Anne Carpmael Charitable Trust.

E: info@withymead.org W: www.withymead.org T: 01491 872265

Councils sponsor new awards for voluntary and community groups
Voluntary and community groups across the districts are being invited to tell everyone the difference they have made to their communities

– and the best will win new awards thanks to South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse district councils.



The councils are both sponsoring an award for the first time this year – for the Best Group in South Oxfordshire and for the Best Group in the Vale of White Horse.

The awards are part of the prestigious annual Oxfordshire Charity and Volunteer Awards – co-ordinated by Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action. The winners will be announced in Oxford on 5 June 2018.

The challenge has been set down for voluntary or community groups, large or small, new or old, to show how they have made a significant impact to their local communities.

Councillor Charlotte Dickson, Vale of White Horse District Council Cabinet member for community services said: “We are asking all the wonderful community and voluntary groups across our districts to tell everyone about all they have achieved. Whether it is providing community hubs for rural areas or restoring a part of local history they need to send in their nominations.”

Councillor Lynn Lloyd, South Oxfordshire District Council Cabinet member for community services said: “By sponsoring this award it reaffirms our commitment to the voluntary sector which gives so much to our local communities. So don’t be shy, tell us all about your group, what it has done for local people and why it, and its volunteers, should be recognised.”

Please visit the [OCVA website](http://www.ocva.org.uk) for more information and how to nominate.

Nominations close at midday on 10 April 2018.



. . . and finally, an advert for Genie

If you like receiving these Genie newsletters, please help us get more people to subscribe to our mailing list.

Genie is a free community service run by volunteers to communicate topical and important news and information to residents in Goring, Streatley and the surrounding villages.

For instance, if there was a major incident, if everyone was subscribed to Genie, we could inform the whole population within the hour.

Please forward this newsletter to your local friends and contacts and encourage them to subscribe. It's easy, they just need to click [subscribe](#).

To find out more about Genie, click www.genienews.org

Thank you.
The Genie Team