

Welcome to Genie's latest 'Village Matters' newsletter

In this issue: Goring Neighbourhood Plan update, paying for extra policing - and our latest update of new planning applications.

Goring Neighbourhood Plan What's happening?

Following several years of development, Goring's Neighbourhood Plan is currently still with the Examiner. Below is a detailed statement on the progress of the Plan, issued on 23 December by the Goring Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee.



Following the adoption by Goring Parish Council of the Goring Neighbourhood Plan on 5 April 2018, the Plan with associated documents was submitted to SODC for the conduct of a further public consultation lasting six weeks. As required by statute, in early June 2018 SODC appointed an Examiner to conduct the final stage of the plan verification process. It was understood that the Examiner would produce his report on or around 27 July 2018.

The Examiner received both the Plan documents and copies of all comments received on them.

In guidance issued on 27 June 2018 and 6 July 2018, the Examiner announced that he would hold a public hearing to consider certain specific issues and invited parties who had responded to the previous consultation to indicate whether they would wish to address the public hearing on the topics he had identified. The public hearing was held on 11 July 2018.

On 19 July 2018 the Examiner announced that he was deferring his report to enable consideration to be given to a new version of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), due to be issued by the government by the end of July, and invited interested parties to comment on implications for the Neighbourhood Plan of the new document by 23 August 2018.

From 2 October to 7 November 2018 the Examiner issued three further Directions arising from a Freedom of Information request, inviting further comments from respondents, including the Steering Group of the GNP, by 21 November 2018.

On 13 December 2018 following publication of a New SODC Local Plan 2011-2034, which increases the proposed housing allocation to Goring from 140 to 233 dwellings, the Examiner invited comments on the implications of any changes from the existing Local Plan to be submitted by 7 January 2019. The Steering Group, on behalf of GPC, intends to respond to this latest request, as it has done to all the earlier requests. All documents referred to above, including responses, are available on the SODC website.

Only when the Examiner produces his report will it be known whether he will require any changes to be made the Plan and when the Village Referendum will take place. In particular, it is at this stage when it will be known whether the examiner has accepted the four sites and 94 houses allocated in the Plan, and the site-specific requirements included to mitigate the impact on neighbours of the site and wider views. If the village votes in favour of the plan at the referendum then the housing allocation will be what is included in the Plan, not the numbers in the SODC local plan.

Would you be prepared to pay more council tax to provide better local policing?

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Thames Valley, Anthony Stansfeld, has launched a survey seeking the public view on an increase in the police element of the council tax by £2 a month (for Band D households).



The survey and more information, including the proposed amounts from each council tax band can be found by visiting: [Council Tax Consultation 2019/20](#)

Closing Date: Wednesday 9th January at 5pm

On Thursday 13 December the Home Secretary announced the provisional police funding settlement for 2019/20. In response to the exceptional operational demands on the police, particularly in areas such as Thames Valley, the Government is increasing the funding available to PCCs by up to £813 million. However, this is provided all PCCs increase the police portion of the council tax by £2 a month

or £24 a year (equivalent for a Band D property), which, collectively, will raise £509 million of the £813 million increase in funding.

Anthony Stansfeld said: "The Thames Valley Police budget has been cut by £101 million over the last eight years which has resulted in significant cuts to police officer and staff numbers. This year the Government has encouraged all PCCs to raise the policing element of the council tax precept for all households. To prevent further damaging cuts to policing and restore some important frontline policing capability I would like to make use of this Government advice and raise the council tax precept accordingly.

"Demand on police forces nationally has risen significantly in the last year as a result of an increase in non-crime business, higher crime numbers, the increasing complexity of crime, and the increasing reach of criminals both physically and via technology. Throughout this Thames Valley Police has been efficient and effective but having already faced significant cuts since 2010/11 the process of identifying new cash savings is becoming ever more challenging. However, we are committed to making policing even more efficient and have already identified over £4m of new savings in 2019/20.

"My focus for the future continues to be on delivering strong neighbourhood policing for all of the communities across the Thames Valley whilst addressing the serious threats and hardship posed by criminals. With this in mind the extra cash generated from the proposed increase in council tax will be spent on operational policing. The draft budget for 2019/20 includes additional funding to increase local frontline policing, recruit more investigators and improve contact management with the aim to reduce call waiting times on 101 calls."

REMINDER: George Michael Celebrations - Consultation Questionnaire

Closing date of the consultation is 5th January 2019



The Parish Council has been asked by a George Michael fan group to have a 'George Michael birthday weekend' event somewhere in Goring in June 2019. As there have been supporters of this idea, there have also been some concerns raised about this becoming an annual event. The Parish Council determined it was best to consult on the matter prior to making a decision. Your views are very much appreciated.

You may respond to these questions by an on-line survey, which you can find [here](#), or download a PDF version from [here](#) to complete and e-mail to clerk@goringparishcouncil.gov.uk or deliver by hand/post to Goring on Thames Parish Council, Old Jubilee Fire Station, Red Cross Road, Goring, Reading RG8 9HG.

Please provide your comments by 5th January 2019.



This twice monthly 'Planning Alert' lists all the current planning applications submitted to SODC (South Oxfordshire District Council) and WBC (West Berkshire Council) relating to properties in Goring, Streatley and South Stoke, and occasionally other applications that are locally relevant. They are listed by parish, in expiry date order, so the applications with the shortest periods in which to respond are at the top.

Should you be interested in finding out more, or commenting on any of these applications, click on the Reference number link to the application. To make a comment to the planning department, follow the advice given on the application. New applications, if there are any, will be added to the lists in subsequent Alerts and existing ones will remain until the consultation period has expired.

Click below to see details of 7 applications for Goring, 2 for South Stoke, and none for Streatley,

STREATLEY

None this period

SOUTH STOKE

Location: Icknield Farm House, Icknield Road, Ipsden, Wallingford, OX10 6AS
Proposal: Steel portal framed agricultural building
Reference Number: [P18/S3872/FUL](#)
Consultation Deadline: 15 January 2019

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Location: Fifield Cottage Ferry Road South Stoke RG8 0JL
Proposal: Provision of a garden room in the rear garden, (retrospective) alteration to roof above stairs, and provision of balcony to bedroom on flat roof area above kitchen.
Reference Number: [P18/S4145/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: TBA (as at 31/12/18)

GORING

Location: Spring Hill 70 Wallingford Road Goring RG8 0HN
Proposal: New front and rear gables to first floor bedroom, hip to gable roof conversion to both sides and new roof window to front and rear elevation
Reference Number: [P18/S4212/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: TBA (as at 31/12/18)

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Location: Primrose Cottage Fairfield Road, Goring RG8 0EU
Proposal: Proposed oak framed garage building using existing access
Reference Number: [P18/S3965/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 4 January 2019

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Location: 6 Whitehills Green Goring RG8 0EB
Proposal: Single storey front, side and rear extensions (as amended by drawing no.s 3599.201B, 3599.202B, 3599.203B and 3599.204B to remove open canopy side extension received on 11 December 2018)

Reference Number: [P18/S3988/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 6 January 2019

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Location: 25 Cleeve Down Goring Reading RG8 0HA
Proposal: Single storey rear extension and internal works.
Reference Number: [P18/S4046/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 13 January 2019

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Location: 61 Wallingford Road Goring RG8 0HL
Proposal: Single storey front and side extension. Alterations and new roof to existing garage
Reference Number: [P18/S4101/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 14 January 2019

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Location: 17 Valley Close Goring RG8 0AN
Proposal: Improve the existing layout and accommodation, by rebuilding the existing bay window, add a new window to cloakroom and add a new open canopy to the side elevation above the side door entrance.
Reference Number: [P18/S4000/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 19 January 2019

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Location: 1 Maple Court Goring RG8 9BQ
Proposal: Single storey rear extension with balcony roof.
Reference Number: [P18/S4063/HH](#)
Consultation Deadline: 20 January 2019

To visit SODC's planning website:
<http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/find-application>

Information on how to comment on a SODC application:
<http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/find-application/comment-planning-application>

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To visit WBC's planning website:
<https://publicaccess.westberks.gov.uk/online-applications/search.do?action=simple&searchType=Application>

Information on how to comment on a WBC application:
<https://info.westberks.gov.uk/representations>

NB: Genie News will endeavour to make these alerts as comprehensive and accurate as possible, but Genie and its volunteers cannot accept any responsibility for any omissions, errors, incorrect links or other issues associated with this information.

**To comment on any of these stories please email contact@genienews.org
To send in news items, use news@genienews.org**

Village Matters reports on topical events and items of interest to local residents. There is no specific publication schedule, as it goes out 'as and when' sufficient material justifies a newsletter. Unless stated otherwise, the items will refer to Goring-on-Thames, Streatley, South Stoke and the surrounding villages.

If you like it, please forward to your friends and encourage them to subscribe. Also, to ensure you consistently receive the e-mails it is suggested that you either 'whitelist' subscribe@genienews.org or **add us to your contact list.**

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