

Gap Electronic News & Information Exchange Free community e-newsletters serving the Goring Gap

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Issue 91, 30 July 2021

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Welcome to Genie's latest 'Village Matters' newsletter

Please forward this email to anyone you feel may also like to receive these newsletters. Thank you.

Submission date for articles for the next issue is 12 August 2021

In this issue: more road closures; what's on in August; help needed - Transport Office & Festival treasurer; crime figures & police recruitment; Goring Gap Environmental Organisation; 'Power Station' application latest; Floatability launch – and our latest update of parish council meetings and new planning applications.

Road Closure Cancelled

Please note that the road closure at South Stoke Road, Woodcote, 28 - 30 July, 8am to 5pm has been cancelled. (This was listed in Village Matters 90.)





New Road Closures

1 A329 closure in Lower Basildon – from Saturday 31July to 6am Monday 2 August

Reading Road (A329) in Lower Basildon will be closed from Saturday 31July to 6am Monday 2 August, after which the closure will be lifted and traffic lights will be in place until 6 August 2021.

The closure will be between the junction with Park Wall Lane and the junction with Hook End Lane.

The alternative route for local vehicles (non HGV) affected is via Streatley Hill, Road known as Reading Rd, Aldworth Rd, Pangbourne Rd, Pangbourne Hill and vice versa.

The alternative route for HGVs is via A239 (toward Wallingford), A4130, A4074 (to Reading), A4155, A329, and vice versa.

Residential access will be maintained throughout and the diversion will be signed on site. Please Note: Blue light access through these works will be maintained.

All enquiries should be directed to: KCD on 0800 316 9800. A plan of the closure can be found at: <u>https://one.network/?tm=GB122836499</u>.

2 Streatley Hill Closure – 4 to 17 August

The closure will be between the junction with A329 and the junction with The Coombe, though, in reality this will most likely be only 40 metres back from A329 junction.

An alternative route is via A329, Pangbourne Hill, Pangbourne Road, Aldworth Road, Road known as Reading Road, and vice versa.

The purpose of this closure is for building repairs to be carried out on The Bull PH. Scaffolding will need to be erected, therefore the closure will remain in place 24 hours each day. Residential access will be maintained throughout (from Aldworth direction) and the diversion will be signed on site.

Please Note: Blue light access through these works will not be possible.

All enquiries should be directed to: Sunbelt Rentals on 0370 050 0792.

A plan of the closure can be found at: <u>https://one.network/?tm=GB122887755</u>

Can you help?

September will hopefully see the re-opening of the Community Centre Transport Office

We shall again do our best to meet requests from Goring and Streatley residents who need transport to and from appointments at the surgery, hospital or dentist. The service is entirely dependent on the volunteer administrators who log requests and contact the pool of drivers; and, of course, on the drivers themselves – without whom there would be no transport. Goring Transport Office

'The Hub', in the Arcade has already restarted some of its services. These include peer support for carers, stimulation for people with memory difficulties, finding the right care package – and the ongoing Our Villages Emergency Helpline. It's no surprise that these services too are dependent on volunteers.

If you have a bit of spare time and would like to help then please contact Alan Matthews: 01491 872043 (Transport Office) or Claire Rhodes: 01491 525637 (The Hub).

You'll find your contribution much appreciated.



What's On – for the month of August Fun in the sun (we hope)

2-22 Aug	Summer of Play. Free activities to share – see <u>Parish council details</u>
Fri-Sun 10- 4pm	All month – booked visits to Withymead
4 and 11 Aug	Auditions for Goring Gap Players' November production of 'A Doll's House'.
7 Aug	Floatability launch party at the Sailing Club
12 Aug	Deadline for next Genie newsletter
15 Aug	WI tea and cakes by the lock – back by popular demand.
26 Aug	U3A 'My career as an airline steward'
29 Aug	Cream teas at Withymead
1 Sep	Village Greenfingers is back, with 'Gardener's Question Time'

For details see the $\underline{Genie \ Calendar}$ – and don't forget to post details of your own events there.

The Festival is looking for an honorary Treasurer – Could you help?

Do you have accountancy skills and want to put them



to good use supporting a wonderful local festival which is enjoyed by many people of all ages? Or perhaps you know someone who does? The Treasurer (a voluntary role) is essential to the Festival, without which the rest of the team could not schedule the wide variety of acts and events we are planning for next summer to enthral our audiences.

Our current Treasurer, Colin Reeves, has been an integral part of the team since the inception of the festival in 2014, but due to a well-deserved retirement from this role we need a volunteer to step into Colin's shoes as soon as possible, as planning for the June 2022 Festival is well underway. As this is such a key role, it would require becoming a trustee of the Goring & Streatley Festival, a registered arts charity.

The new Treasurer will join a strong and experienced team of seven trustees and other planning team members, most of whom have been involved for many years. Colin has offered a comprehensive handover and, as the books and finances are in very good order, the job would not be too onerous for an experienced accountant. The new Treasurer will also have plenty of support from experienced colleagues to help get to grips with the role in a relaxed manner.

If you are interested, we would love to hear from you! Please contact us by 31 August at <u>help@thegapfestival.org</u> in the first instance. We can provide more details about the role. A full job description can be downloaded from the festival website under the Support Us > Volunteer section or just click this link: <u>https://www.thegapfestival.org/volunteer.html</u>. If you prefer we can send it to you via email along with any other information you may request.

Thank you. The GAP Festival Team.



Floatability Launch Party Confirmed

Saturday 7 August 2021 at 5pm, Goring Thames Sailing Club, Bridle Way, Goring, RG8 0HS

You are welcome to attend from 5 pm onwards. Free Entry. RSVP to Laura Howard <u>floatabilitycic@gmail.com</u>.

There will be an installation of videos from various athletes and a surprise famous face, guest speakers and tea and cake! You can meet the directors and volunteers and see the boat.

Floatability will be booking trial trips to help gather feedback from 7 August onwards, in exchange for donations. So it's an ideal opportunity to help them take people out on the water for very little expense and refine their service.

Take a look at their website <u>www.floatability.co.uk</u> for the services they offer. They are happy to offer bespoke trips of any length and will endeavour to meet any specific requirements.

Crime incidents in Goring since our last monthly report

Below are the 'incidents' in Goring and locality reported by the Thames Valley Police (Henley Neighbourhood Team) since 28 June 2021

28 June	ASB Community, 'Nottingham Knockers'
2 July	Concern for safety, Welfare check
5 July	Criminal damage
5 July	Assault, Police
5 July	Assault, without injury
9 July	Suspicious person, Gatehampton Road
9 July	Road traffic collision, Gatehampton Road
10 July	Burglary, dwelling
16 July	Dangerous Dog
20 July	Parking issue* (see note below)
21 July	Concern for safety, swimming in the river
23 July	ASB Community, 'Nottingham Knockers'



* There is a proposal for Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE), which could see responsibility for enforcement transferred from the police to a new team managed by Oxfordshire County Council. South Oxfordshire District Council enforces parking in its own off-street car parks. However, enforcement for on-street parking in the district is carried out by the police. This puts unnecessary extra pressure on police resources and leaves parking problems unresolved as the police focus on more serious crimes.



Thames Valley Police opens Police Officer Recruitment Campaign:

TVP is actively looking for people to 'be the difference they want to see' in their communities, as Police Officer recruitment re-opens. You may be interested in serving your community in this way. The force is now accepting

expressions of interest for both Police Constable entry routes, ahead of applications opening for those with a degree qualification on 8 August via the Police Constable-Degree Holder Entry Programme (PC-DHEP). This will be followed by an opportunity for those who do not hold a degree to join via the Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship (PCDA) on 1 September.

To find out more about a policing career with TVP – including the realities of working on Response and more about initial training and to register your interest in applying please visit: <u>www.tvpcareers.co.uk/police-officer</u>.

Goring 'Power Station' Planning Application – Latest Update

The decision on the proposed 'Transitional Hybrid Energy Project (THEP)' in Goring, off Wallingford Road, has been delayed again, awaiting a further amendment from the applicant to the original submission to SODC's planning department, made on 8 December 2020. If the applicant provides the new information soon, a decision is likely in September.



As of 28 July, the Local Planning Authority is currently awaiting amended plans to overcome the SODC

Landscape Officer's concerns. It is likely the amended plans will require an increase in the overall site area for additional landscaping. Once the plans are received, all interested parties will be consulted. Depending on when SODC receives the revised plans, the application is likely to be referred to the planning committee on either 1 or 22 September.

What are THEPs? As electricity demand varies throughout the day it creates an imbalance between available capacity (supply) and consumption (demand). THEPs are designed to supply electricity during times of peak demand locally throughout the day.

The details of the application (Number <u>P20/S4706/FUL</u>) have been regularly listed in 'Current Local Planning Applications', which appears at the bottom of every issue of this newsletter, throughout the period of consultation between 21 December 2020 and 15 June this year. During this time is has attracted about 110 comments, which can be seen by opening the above link to the application.



A new local conservation and environmental organisation is being established and welcomes the involvement of enthusiasts

The aim of the organisation is to help protect, restore and enhance the Goring Gap's landscape and ecosystems into the future.

The Goring Gap Environmental Organisation (GGEO), plans to become a registered charity and welcomes people who are passionate about protecting all aspects of the natural world and improving local biodiversity and sustainability.

As announced in the 30 June issue of Village Matters, Mend the Gap has provided significant support from its

enhancement programme to pump-prime the starting up of this organisation, which will be structured to be active in the three broad and inter-related areas of landscape: conservation fieldwork, improving biodiversity and environmental education.

We are compiling an 'Environmental Skills and Experience Register', so should we ever need any specific information, we will know who to contact to see if they may be able to offer any help or advice (on a voluntary or pro bono basis). Details are in the attachment <u>HERE</u>, so please have a look.

For more information about the plans for GGEO and the people needed to make this new organisation effective, please email <u>ronbridle@btinternet.com</u> and type GGEO in the Subject bar and also click the READ MORE link below.

Firstly, we are looking for people who enjoy making a practical difference to the countryside to register to join a local workforce of conservation volunteers. They will assist with fieldwork projects to improve the landscape or habitats whenever there is a need. This will sometimes include working in partnership with regional and national conservation organisations and the AONBs in the Goring Gap area. Any training, if needed, will be provided.

The second area is harnessing local expertise and scientific minds to research and identify which specific species of flora and fauna are under most threat and then produce practical long-term management plans to improve their prospects. There is much ecological data in existence, but some specific surveys may need to be conducted before effective localised remedial programmes and strategies can be instituted to improve the habitats of these plants and animals and restore the biodiversity which may have been quietly declining due to various adverse impacts.

The third area of activity GGEO aims to develop is a programme of activities, talks and learning experiences to engage people to increase their awareness, understanding and enjoyment of the nature which is all around us and sometimes taken for granted. Also, to develop a one-stop, web-based knowledge resource and reference library, not only to learn about nature but to support individuals and groups wishing to reduce their carbon footprint and help with any community initiatives to build climate resilience and sustainability.

MEETING DATES of forthcoming Parish Council meetings and MINUTES of decisions made at previous meetings

The purpose of 'Meetings & Minutes' is to help keep residents of



Goring, Streatley and South Stoke informed about their council's forthcoming meetings and to provide easy access to the minutes of previous meetings. Please note that meeting dates may change and extra meetings may be called. This will be shown on the website.

All council meetings are open to the public and the press (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960) and probably **most, in the foreseeable future, will be 'virtual'** ones due to the Covid-19 pandemic. At the beginning of every meeting there is usually a 'Public Forum' when members of the public can address the sound: Click on the link below for your parish council's web pa

council. Click on the link below for your parish council's web page for up-to-date details of meetings, agendas, minutes and how to log on etc.

Goring-on-Thames PC

- **Council meetings** are usually on the second Monday of every second month month at the Bellême Room, Goring Village Hall.
- **Planning committee meetings** are usually held in the council's meeting room in the Old Jubilee Fire Station, Red Cross Road, Goring on Thames.

 $Contact \ details \ for \ the \ clerk: \ Tel: \ 01491 \ 874444. \ Email: \ \underline{clerk@goringparishcouncil.gov.uk}$

Streatley PC

Dates of individual meetings are not normally published on the council's website but usually held on the second Monday of every month (except August), starting at 7.30pm, and are held in the Morrell Room.

Contact details for the clerk: Tel: 07766 541577 Email: clerk@streatley.org

South Stoke PC

Council meetings are usually held on the third Monday of each month (except December) in South Stoke Village Hall. See <u>website for details</u>

Contact details for the clerk: Email: clerk@southstoke.org.uk



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 ten applications for Goring, two for Streatley, and two for South Stoke.

STREATLEY

Location: Proposal: Reference Number: Consultation Deadline:

Location:

Proposal: Reference Number: Consultation Deadline:

4 Icknield Cottages High Street Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9JA

Rear first floor extension, internal alterations, alterations to rear out building and construction of new brick & flint garden wall <u>21/01775/LBC2</u> **10 August 2021**

4 Icknield Cottages High Street Streatley Reading West Berkshire RG8 9JA

Rear first floor extension, internal alterations, alterations to rear out building and construction of new brick & flint garden wall <u>21/01774/HOUSE</u> **10 August 2021**

SOUTH STOKE

Location:

Proposal:

Reference Number: Consultation Deadline:

South Stoke Community Shop Cross Keys Road South Stoke RG8

Removal/demolition of existing community shop. Erection of community building to provide new hall, meeting room and permanent premises for community shop/cafe. Alterations to existing car park and provision of overflow car parking area. <u>P21/S2642/FUL</u>

Erection of a powder coated aluminium glasshouse sited on a dwarf

brick/stone wall in keeping with existing brickwork within the property.

Devonshire House The Street South Stoke RG8 0JS

6 August 2021

P21/S3214/HH

25 August 2021

* * * * Location: Proposal: Reference Number: Consultation Deadline:

GORING	
Location:	Heathercroft Elvendon Road Goring RG8 0DT Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) in application P20/S0017/FU
Proposal:	- Demolition of existing and erection of 3 dwellings with detached garages
Reference Number: Consultation Deadline:	<u>P21/S2635/FUL</u> 5 August 2021
* * * *	
Location:	3 Cleeve Park Cottages Icknield Road Goring RG8 0DJ
Proposal:	Construction of a double storey side extension.
Reference Number: Consultation Deadline:	P21/S3070/HH 6 August 2021
* * * *	
Location:	Ridgeway Rise Goring RG8 0JY
Proposal: Reference Number:	Erection of a detached two-storey dwelling house P21/S3176/FUL
Consultation Deadline:	12 August 2021
* * * *	
Location:	The Boathouse High Street Goring RG8 9AB
Proposal:	Discharge of Conditions11 (External Lighting) on Application P19/S0336/ FUL - demolition and replacement of existing dwelling an boathouse. Not subject to consultation.
Reference Number:	P21/S2940/DIS
Consultation Deadline:	Target decision date 13 August 2021
* * * *	
Location: Proposal:	Croft House Limetree Road Goring RG8 9EY Single-storey side extension to form double garage
Reference Number:	P21/S3156/HH
Consultation Deadline:	13 August 2021
* * * *	
Location:	Thurle Down Bridle Way Goring RG8 0HS Discharge of conditions 4 (Tree Protection), 8 & 9 (Drainage) in
Proposal:	application P21/S0712/FUL Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) on application ref. P20/S3979/FUL - demolition of existing and construction of new dwelling. Not subject to consultation
Reference Number: Consultation Deadline:	P21/S2924/DIS Target decision date 16 August 2021
* * * *	
	Land to the Rear of Cleeve Cottages Icknield Road Goring RG8
Location:	0DG
Proposal:	Discharge of conditions 11 (details of refuse and recycling) & 14 (management plan for grassland) in application P20/S0767/FUL - Erection of four terraced dwellings. Not subject to consultation
Reference Number:	P21/S2981/DIS
Consultation Deadline:	Target decision date 17 August 2021
* * * * Location:	Windrush 10 Lockstile Mead Goring RG8 0AE
Proposal:	Single Storey timber clad detached garden room/outbuilding
Reference Number:	<u>P21/S3084/HH</u>
Consultation Deadline:	18 August 2021
* * * *	
Location:	98 Elvendon Road Goring RG8 0DR
Proposal:	Single storey front extension, first floor extension, front porch
Reference Number: Consultation Deadline:	<u>P21/S3094/HH</u> 18 August 2021
* * * *	
Location:	Upper Gatehampton House Gatehampton Road Goring RG8 9LT
Proposal:	Discharge of condition 4(Bat Survey) on application P21S1860/HH; Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) on application P20/S4779/H - Single storey side extension. Not subject to consultation
Reference Number:	P21/S3056/DIS
Consultation Deadline:	Target decision date 24 August 2021

http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/find-application

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

* * * * *

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: <u>https://info.westberks.gov.uk/representations</u>

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 <u>contact@genienews.org</u> To send in news items, use <u>news@genienews.org</u>

Village Matters reports on topical events and items of interest to local residents. It is published at the middle and end of each month. It includes planning applications for Goring, Streatley and South Stoke which are open for comment at the date of publication. 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.

More details on Genie newsletters here.

