

**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.

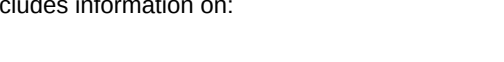
Submission date for articles for the next issue is 26 December

In this issue: Christmas good wishes; Medical Practice update; Reminders; Gap Festival 2026; New SODC Leader and SODC Councillor report – and our latest update of current planning applications.



Your Genie team wishes all our readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year

**Update from Goring & Woodcote Medical Practice**



The Medical Practice has written an update on what has been happening during the past year and ongoing services. Please click [HERE](#) to see the full update, which includes information on:

- Dispensary Services
- Appointments and Telephone Triage
- Nursing and Clinical Team Updates
- Vaccination Clinics
- Their commitment to their patients

**Reminders**



**1 Concert for a Cause Saturday 20 December 5-10pm in Goring Village Hall**  
A local musician William Paddock (17) is arranging a charity concert in aid of Médecins Sans Frontières (also known as Doctors Without Borders).



Tickets are available from Eventbrite – [here is the link](#). This link can also be used to donate even if you are not able to attend.



**2 Perch & Pike now open**  
The Perch & Pike in South Stoke is now open at lunchtime and in the evenings, Tuesday to Sunday inclusive.

**The GAP Festival returns 2026**

The GAP Festival is back in June 2026, bringing ten days of performances, workshops, and creative experiences to Goring and Streatley.

With much-loved favourites returning and exciting new events in the works, the Festival team – led once again by Artistic Director Ginny Avery and Festival Manager Max Heron – is already hard at work behind the scenes. Volunteers remain at the heart of it all, and the team is currently looking for one more person to help deliver a brand-new immersive event. You would work alongside an established artist, helping to shape the final details, timings and smooth running of the event – a brilliant behind-the-scenes role for anyone who enjoys organising and being part of something special. If you'd like to volunteer contact Adrienne at [help@gapfestival.org](mailto:help@gapfestival.org).



You can also support the Festival by becoming a **Friend of the Festival**. A £50 donation helps sponsor a "Journey of Discovery" for local children, funding low-cost or free creative, nature-based and performing arts activities during the Festival. Friends will receive a handmade gift created by the children and an invitation to a special afternoon tea at the final concert. It's a wonderful way to nurture the next generation's creativity and keep this much-loved community festival thriving. Find out more at [www.thegapfestival.org/get-involved/become-a-friend](http://www.thegapfestival.org/get-involved/become-a-friend).

**Clr Maggie Filipova-Rivers elected as new Leader at South Oxfordshire District Council**

Clr Maggie Filipova-Rivers is the new Leader of South Oxfordshire District Council. She was chosen by councillors on Thursday 11 December 2025 and was elected unopposed and by a unanimous decision.

Her election as Leader comes after Clr David Rouane chose to stand down having led the council for four years - and having served as the Cabinet Member for Housing and Environment for two and a half years before that. He will remain in his role as councillor.



Clr Filipova-Rivers is ward member for Goring and South Stoke and has served since 2019 as Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Housing and Communities at SODC. Since May 2025 she has also been a county councillor in Oxfordshire. Her work spans affordable housing, homelessness prevention, public health, and community resilience, including playing a key role in the Covid response. She is a public policy and economic development professional with extensive experience in green growth, refugee integration, and multi-sector partnership work. She holds an MSc in the Political Economy of Development and a BA in Financial and Business Economics.

**November/December Report from SODC Local Councillor, Maggie Filipova-Rivers**



This report covers the following topics:

- Joint Local Plan Update
- Leisure and Playing Pitch Strategies – Action needed!
- Postal Vote Reapplications
- Waste and Recycling Guides
- Town and Parish Council Support
- Energy Saving Measures
- Mental Health Training for Councillors
- Local Nature Recovery Strategy
- South East Strategic Reservoir Option (SESRO) Consultation

You can read it by clicking [HERE](#).

**Check here on all local planning applications, current and past**

This regular twice-monthly 'Planning Alert' service lists all the current planning applications submitted to South Oxfordshire District Council and West Berkshire Council relating to Goring, Streatley and South Stoke.



They are listed in consultation period expiry date order, so the applications with the shortest periods for your comments are at the top. Each has a link to the actual application.

To make a comment to the relevant Planning Department, follow the advice given on the application. New applications will be added to the lists in subsequent newsletters and existing ones will remain until the consultation period has expired.

To check all current APPLICATIONS for Goring, Streatley & South Stoke [CLICK HERE](#).

To check on all DECISIONS of previous SODC applications, [CLICK HERE](#)

To check on all DECISIONS of previous WBC applications, [CLICK HERE](#)

**STREATLEY**

**Location:** Carramar Wantage Road Streatley Reading RG8 9LB  
**Proposal:** Alterations, front and side extensions to existing dwelling house  
**Reference Number:** [25/02582/HOUSE](#)  
**Consultation Deadline:** **16 December 2025**

\*\*\*\*  
**Location:** Churn Lodge Wantage Road Streatley Reading RG8 9LA  
**Proposal:** Proposed new dwelling including new landscaping and parking  
**Reference Number:** [25/02375/FUL](#)  
**Consultation Deadline:** **18 December 2025**

**SOUTH STOKE**

**Location:** Byfield Cross Keys Road South Stoke RG8 0JT  
**Proposal:** Erection of single storey rear and middle extensions.  
**Reference Number:** [P25/S3653/HH](#)  
**Consultation Deadline:** **24 December 2025**

\*\*\*\*  
**Location:** Fernbank 14 Wallingford Road South Stoke RG8 0JD  
**Proposal:** Erection of two storey rear extension.  
**Reference Number:** [P25/S3782/HH](#)  
**Consultation Deadline:** **7 January 2026**

\*\*\*\*  
**Location:** Sycamores South Stoke Reading RG8 0JJ  
**Proposal:** Discharge of conditions 11(Location of drainage and services) and 12(Surface Water Drainage) on application ref. P25/S0405/FUL (Erection of single self-build two-storey dwelling and detached garage, with new vehicular access and boundary wall on amenity space for existing property.)  
**Reference Number:** [P25/S3596/DIS](#)  
**Consultation Deadline:** **Target Decision 8 January 2026**

\*\*\*\*  
**Location:** 1 Ash Cottages Wallingford Road Little Stoke OX10 6AY  
**Proposal:** Discharge of Condition 4 (Archaeological Watching Brief) on planning application P25/S2578/HH (Rear extensions and replacement front porch).  
**Reference Number:** [25/S3603/DIS](#)  
**Consultation Deadline:** **Target Decision 12 January 2026**

\*\*\*\*  
**Location:** Kays Barn & Pond House The Street South Stoke RG8 0JS  
**Proposal:** Discharge of condition 5(Surface Water Drainage Details) on application ref. P25/S1238/HH (Demolition of existing annex (Kays Barn) and part of existing outbuilding. Erection of replacement two-storey outbuilding with single storey front extension to provide annex accommodation and ancillary accommodation, and two detached sheds).  
**Reference Number:** [P25/S3828/DIS](#)  
**Consultation Deadline:** **7 February 2026**

**GORING**

**Location:** Land to east of Manor Road Goring RG8 9EJ  
**Proposal:** Part discharge of Condition 20 (Energy efficiency verification report) on P23/S3520/S73 for Plots 3 and 4 only so the dwellings can be occupied as soon as completed. Not subject to public consultation.  
**Reference Number:** [P25/S3714/DIS](#)  
**Consultation Deadline:** **Target decision date 19 December 2025**

\*\*\*\*  
**Location:** 2 Heron Shaw Goring RG8 0AU  
**Proposal:** Erection of single-storey side extension and part single & part two-storey rear extension  
**Reference Number:** [P25/S3809/HH](#)  
**Consultation Deadline:** **9 January 2026**

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.**

**Local Parish Councils**

Click on the link below for your parish council's website for up-to-date details of planning and other meetings, agendas, minutes and further useful general information.

[Goring-on-Thames PC](#)

[Streatley PC](#);

[South Stoke PC](#)



To comment on any of these stories please email [contact@genienews.org](mailto:contact@genienews.org)  
To send in news items, use [news@genienews.org](mailto:news@genienews.org)

Village Matters reports on topical events and items of interest to local residents. It is published in 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](mailto:subscribe@genienews.org) or add us to your contact list.

More details on Genie newsletters [here](#).

