

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 July

In this issue: Information about future Genie Village Matters Newsletters



Genie News is ceasing its mid-month edition and will now be published on the 30th of every month

There has been a steady decrease of news items and other material submitted by residents, which has required our team to research and develop most of the articles we publish. This is very time-consuming and not what we had anticipated when we launched Genie.

Also, there has been very little response to our regular appeals for new volunteers to help spread the workload. More help would have meant fewer hours and days spent each month preparing your newsletters. The existing team of 4 volunteers all have other multiple volunteering roles and cannot continue the twice-monthly editions with the amount of time this requires.

We launched our first newsletter over 9 years ago in June 2017 and since then have published 275 editions of Village Matters and the Public Information bulletins, which were particularly helpful to the local community. This was especially true at certain times, eg during the Covid period, when it became the primary method of communication. Readers have also found the information on road closures and planning applications a very valuable service.

In addition, our popular Genie calendar and event planner has provided the only online listing of local, non-commercial events and activities by local organisations. It can be viewed either by visiting the [Genie calendar](#) or, better still, it can simply be downloaded to your mobile phone or computer for instant access. It's a pity so relatively few organisations take advantage of this unique free service, but this will still remain available to access at any time.

Genie was introduced to deliver a package of free and useful digital information which is not available anywhere else, but we can only continue with more support. So, if any of our readers are able to help, please let us know by emailing contact@genienews.org or calling 07789 871620. Thank you.

Planning Alerts – Service Update

A pause while systems change

For many years, GENIE News has provided a regular twice-monthly Planning Alert service, listing local planning applications across Goring, Streatley and South Stoke.

Due to recent changes to the South Oxfordshire District Council planning system, it is no longer possible to reliably search and compile comprehensive parish-level application lists in the way we have done previously. As accuracy and completeness are essential to this service, we have taken the decision to pause the Planning Alerts feature for now.

This is not necessarily a permanent change. With wider local government reorganisation expected over the coming year, including potential changes to how planning services are delivered, we will review and, where possible, reintroduce a refreshed and reliable version of this service.

In the meantime, you can still search for and comment on planning applications directly using the official council websites below. If you know an address, postcode or application reference, these tools remain the most accurate and up-to-date source of information.

South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC)

Find and comment on applications: <https://southoxfordshire.planning-register.co.uk/>

How to comment effectively:

<https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/planning-and-development/comment-on-planning-applications/how-to-comment-on-a-planning-application-effectively/>

West Berkshire Council (WBC)

Find and comment on applications:

<https://www.westberks.gov.uk/article/40109/Find-and-comment-on-a-planning-application>

Check here on all past local planning applications

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

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

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

To send in news items, use news@genienews.org

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](#).

