

THE GORING AND ILEX CONSERVATION GROUP

Conserving the beauty and present character of Goring, the Ilex Avenue,
the trees in Sea Lane and the Goring Gap



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.15pm for 7.30pm Thursday 6th June 2019 at
Methodist Church Hall, Bury Drive, Goring

Members and Non-Members are cordially invited to attend.

Following the AGM there will be a selection of
films of a local nature presented by
South Downs Film Makers

Review of the year

Consultations

As well as responding to the consultation on the Local Plan we have commented on Government proposals for 'Protecting and Enhancing England's trees and Woodlands', the Council's 'Draft Statement of Community Involvement', Adur and Worthing 'Sport, Leisure and Open Spaces Study', Adur and Worthing 'review of traveller encampments', and proposals to improve Highdown Gardens.

Planning

Progress on the new Worthing Local Plan continues. We previously commented on the first consultation stage in 2016 urging consideration be given to the Local Green Space applications and responded again in 2018 to the latest public consultation. The current draft Plan recommends that both parts of the Gap be designated as both Local Green Spaces and Local Gaps, this principle also supported by the adopted Adur Plan 2017. The

landowners of the Gaps have, naturally, objected to the designations and the Council will now test to see if there is still robust justification for continued protection for these areas in the Plan. The final version is expected to be adopted during spring/summer 2021 following review and approval by the Government Inspectorate. We will continue to press for these Gaps to be safeguarded and the best interests of Goring and wider areas to be accommodated.

We continue to monitor local planning applications at our regular meetings and where we think necessary have relayed our thoughts or objections to the planners. Much work is still being undertaken through the relaxed "Permitted Development" rules which has resulted in some projects which may well have been improved by prior discussion with the planners. We also review changes to national planning guidance.



Practical Help Required Distributing Newsletters

Currently we only have about half a dozen members willing to help with the distribution of newsletters. If you feel this is something you could do in future years please contact any of the committee members at the AGM.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

Your details (name & postal address) will be placed on our membership list and kept secure. Please be assured that we will not pass your details on to any third party.

News from the Plantation

Over the last year our work has gained a pace and with more recognition from the public walking through praising our work. Sadly, our new trees received vandalism regularly through the summer months but we will not stop planting as some do survive.

Meeting once a month for 2 hours on a Saturday our volunteers have achieved just over 400 hours physical work over the last 12 months.

We have planted native Bluebells and Daffodils that will become an annual autumn task. We have planted 250 young trees that slowly establish under the canopy of the larger trees. Establishing trees is not easy when you consider the high winds that constantly batter the Plantation from the sea.

We continue to cut down brambles, dead trees and vegetation together with spreading woodchip along the inner paths. We do give a brief report each month in the Goring Guide of our progress but do remember this work is completely carried out by volunteers from the community. If you are fit and able do come along and join us to help improve the Plantation even if it's only once a year.

We thank all those volunteers that have come along and involved improving the Plantation.

Flint Walls

We are extremely grateful to three of our members who have produced a photographic record of many of the flint walls in the Goring area. This will help the Group identify those walls under risk of development or deterioration in order to liaise with the Council.

Beach Huts

Recently an application for 8 new privately owned beach huts for Goring was lodged. We are objected to this proposal on the grounds that, if approved, views to the sea will be lost to walkers along the designated coastal path, and may well lead to an increase of potentially, another 86. Where will they be sited? Of the existing 288 beach huts in Goring on Easter Monday only 31 were in use and there were 7 for sale.

Annual Accounts - Year Ended 31/12/18

Once again we have been well supported by our members and, although the actual number of member households fell, their accompanying donations, together with a £300 grant from the Aviva Community Fund, brought the total received in the year to £1,944. Since income exceeded expenditure the surplus arising of £654 increased our reserves to £7,021, of which £6,000 is set aside as our "Conservation Fund".



The Goring & Ilex Conservation Group 2019 Subscription

If you were unable to pay your subscription when the newsletter was delivered, could you please bring the completed 'tear off' slip to the AGM or alternatively drop it through the letter box of one of the following collectors. A membership card will then be issued.

John Daley

48 Aldsworth Avenue

Bob Niall

34 Marine Crescent

Name.....Address.....Tel.....

Amount Enclosed £.....(Membership £1 per household but additional donations welcome)