



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Appendix S

Gardiner Pavilion • Upper Red Cross Road • Goring • Reading RG8 9BD

Phone: 01491 874444 • Clerk@goringparishcouncil.gov.uk • www.goringparishcouncil.gov.uk

Loan Approval Report

Title / Subject Matter

Agreed at the Meeting of:

Summary of the Request

The Council Resolved to:

Unsecured Loan Agreement

The Borrower

The Lender

Goring-on-Thames Parish Council

Date of Agreement

Value of the Borrowing

For the Purpose of:

Conditions of the Loan

-

Interest Rate

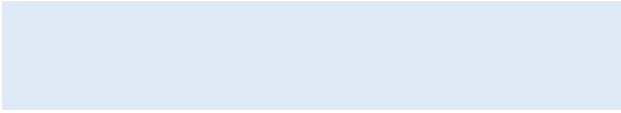
Failure to Repay the Loan in Full:

-

The Agreement

The loan agreement is signed as per the Terms Detailed above by:

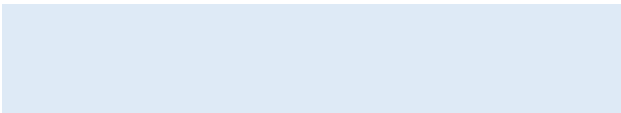
Signed on Behalf of _____
(Borrower)



Name
Chairman of the

Date:

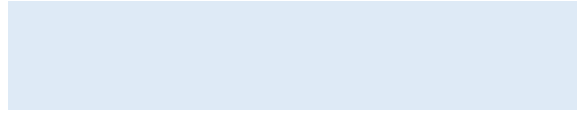
Signed on Behalf of _____
(Borrower)



Name
Treasurer of the

Date:

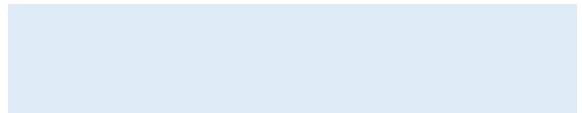
Signed on Behalf of Goring-on-Thames Parish
Council (Lender)



Cllr Name
Chair of the Council

Date:

Signed on Behalf of Goring-on-Thames Parish
Council (Lender)



Name
Clerk to the Council

Date:

1. Review

The Loan Agreement Form was approved for use at the meeting of the Parish Council on 11th September 2023, it shall be reviewed at least once per Council term, nominally every 4 years.

Signed:

Dated: 11th September 2023

C Ratcliff, Chair of the Council

Dear Sirs

Invitation to Quote

Goring Parish Council would like to employ the services of a suitably qualified contractor to undertake works to renew two playgrounds in the village of Goring in Oxfordshire.

One located at Bourdillon Field near Goring Primary School and the other on the corner of the Gardiner Recreation Ground in the village centre – see maps and photos provided.

Existing Conditions: Bourdillon Field

At present the playground consists of a fenced in area approximately 32.5 x 24m with a central grass mound and is located behind Goring Primary School (RG8 0BG). The area of the playground could be extended to 42.5 x 31m

There are ten pieces of existing equipment:

- Wooden Balance Beams
- Climbing Frame
- Spinner – vertical
- Basket Swing (Frame only)
- Roundabout (on top of grass mound)
- Slide (built into grass mound)
- Spinner (cup style)
- Swings (2 x toddler, 2 x standard)
- Chain Bridge
- Balance Logs

In addition, there is one bench inside the play area and one external bin.

The site is enclosed by 1.2m galvanised bow top fencing and is accessed by two self-closing pedestrian gates and one self-closing double access gate (not locked)

Most of the equipment is surfaced with grass matting with only the swings being surfaced with play carpet.

The equipment is well used due to its proximity to the school and is showing signs of wear.

Sports Area

There is also an unfenced area (approx. 16 x 31m) adjacent to the playground with a combined basketball net and football goal.

This area also needs improving but should retain the open sports character.

It has been suggested that climbing elements could be introduced but other suggestions as to how this could be made more interesting and accessible are encouraged

Existing Conditions – Gardiner Recreation Ground

At present the playground consists of a fenced in area approximately 17 x 16.2m and is in the NE corner of the Gardiner Recreation Ground (RG8 9BL). The area of the playground is to be increased to 17 x 28.7m

There are six pieces of existing equipment

- Climbing Frame
- Rockers x 2
- Slide
- Swings (2 x toddler)
- Play Frame

In addition, there is one bench and one litter bin.

The site is enclosed by 1.2m galvanised bow top fencing and is accessed by two self-closing pedestrian gates.

All the equipment is surfaced with individual rubber tile mats which are now lifting.

The equipment is well used and is mostly of traditional metal tube design.

Scope of Works

The council is seeking costed proposals from suitable supplier for the following works:

- To evaluate the existing playgrounds.
- To re-design the playgrounds within new footprint.
- To remove all items required by the re-design, including existing safety surfacing.
- To supply all necessary items required by the re-design.
- To install all necessary items, including safety surfacing, required by the re-design.
- To include all necessary Health and Safety and welfare costs
- To provide a post inspection report and evidence that any recommendations of the report have been carried out.
- To include in the cost, one year's maintenance.

Surfacing

Ideally, we would like to have a low-maintenance safety surfacing (wet pour, rubber mulch, tiger much etc) covering each of the playgrounds but understand that this can usually be one of the most significant costs of the project so are open to suggestion.

In terms of colour and design we would like to see a natural palette used, where appropriate, to reflect the settings of each play area.

Further information relating to the Scope of Works

We would like the playgrounds to appeal to as wide an age group as possible - from toddler to year 6 primary (2-12 years).

The design of the playground should take into consideration the surroundings and be sympathetic to the natural environment. Wooden structures are preferred.

We would like each area to be differently themed to suit the context of the village with a large structure to denote the theme and be the centrepiece of imaginative play

Suggestions have included a river/boats/pirates theme, a farm/countryside theme, a railway theme, and Wind in the Willows.

As part of the main structure and adjacent to it, the desire is to provide where possible:

- Tactile/ Sensory play: Water runs, ball runs, musical play such as xylophones and glockenspiels. Items to stand up at and interact with.
- Risky play: Climbing frames, walk-ways, climbing walls, net climbing frames
- Active items: Zip wire, swings, basket swings, multi-person swings, tunnels, and slides.
- Accessible / SEN play: elements of all the above where possible.

If possible, the existing fencing is to be retained but will require re-finishing or painting.

Two benches and at least one litter bin is required on each site. Consideration should be given to the provision of picnic benches if possible.

Two self-closing pedestrian access points are required and one maintenance gate

Existing play equipment, benches etc can be refurbished and re-used if deemed suitable.

If possible, particularly at Bourdillon Field, we would like an element of shade - e.g. sails – introduced.

Additional Item:

Our focus is primarily the refurbishment of the play areas however we would also like you to consider how we could improve the access path which runs along the boundary of Bourdillon Field from the rear gate of the school to the second access path from Elvendon Road / Milldown Road.

Ideally, we would like this to be widened to comply with disability access requirements, resurfaced and elements of play in either texture or graphics introduced along its length.

Quotations:

Prior to submitting a price for these works the Contractor should have undertaken a site visit to ensure all they have a thorough understanding of the site, access, and requirements of the brief. A member of the Playgrounds Working Group can be available to meet with you on site

Quotations for the work above are required no later than Friday ~~XXXXXXXX~~ 2023

The Contractor shall submit a price, including a breakdown of all equipment and labour costs.

The contractor shall submit a separate price for each of the two playgrounds, the sports area at Bourdillon Field and for the additional path item. In addition, we would like you to indicate the saving that could be made if (at a minimum) both playgrounds were commissioned at the same time.

If it is possible, we would ideally like a range of price options to better inform our approach to potential funders.

Funding:

Funding is still to be sought for this project, but we anticipate the minimum available budget to be in the region of £ 100,0000 for Gardiner Rec and £ 200,000 for Bourdillon Field. These budgets are indicative only. If you wish to discuss the budget please do not hesitate to get in touch as per below.

Advice:

As professional installers of play equipment your advice on current sources of available funding for projects of this type would also be appreciated.

Other Items

Underground services drawings will be forwarded to you for information purposes only. It is the contractors' responsibility to ensure all underground services have been appropriately located and any detailed services searches are undertaken, as necessary, to ensure all services have been identified.

For further information, or if you have any questions, please contact the undersigned on the details provided above or on 07808767425.

Yours sincerely

Craig Dove

Action Number	Title	Task/Project	Current Status	Action Owner	Notes
2023-01	Hedges	Thames Road. (Oriol House, Thames Road) Railway bridge (1, Red Cross Road).Working group to review draft letter for clerk to send to owners to ensure a persuasive approach rather than an authoritative approach in applying the sanction. (We should note that TMPPS has action on hedges on their action list – a guess all we are recommending is a review of the communications process??)	On Going	Environment Working Group/Clerk	EWG to make 'recommendation' to TMPPS i.e. that these two hedges are added to their action list and ask for a review of the letter using the persuasive approach that we hope will be adopted
2023-02	Trees	New Lime tree on Gardiner Field – urgent crown lifting before further damage occurs	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	
2023-03	Trees	Failing fruit tree in Rectory Garden - TPO permission request submitted in July – any progress on this?		Environment Working Group/Clerk	When is the Arboriculturist's inspection due? Is further crown lifting of trees in Rectory Garden possible? Cut back nettles?
2023-04	Ferry Lane	Over recent years the accessible and usable space has been substantially reduced due to lack of maintenance to trees and no control of stinging nettles	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	
2023-05	Ferry Lane	There has been an infestation of Himalayan Balsam which has been treated under contract as it is registered as an invasive threat. The Contract covers monitoring and treatment for ?? years.	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	EWG to review site and the contract.NB HB seeds spread widely. Greenwaste should be burned on site or disposed of in a registered landfill site.
2023-06	Ferry Lane	Crown lift trees on S side –	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	whose responsibility are these?
2023-07	Ferry Lane	Remove elder tree which is going through and impacting on specimen conifer	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	
2023-08	Ferry Lane	Inspect river bank for damage (contact EA for bank repairs – needed in several places due to serious erosion of the Thames Path)		Environment Working Group/Clerk	Be mindful that the north bank of the stream is not Council property. Any work that involves the stream to its mid-point should be communicated to the neighbouring owner at Ferry House.
2023-09	Ferry Lane	General tidy up	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	

2023-10	Signage	Clean signs at village entrances	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	Engage contractor?
2023-11	Signage	Reconsider the installation of new village and attribution entrance signs	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	Raise with signs working group in the first instance.
2023-12	Gardiner Recreation Ground	Remove pile of green waste adjacent to cricket nets	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	
2023-13	Gardiner Recreation Ground	Provision of brown garden waste bin, consider storage position	On Going	Environment Working Group/Clerk	Request financial contribution from Goring Cricket Club.
2023-14	Gardiner Recreation Ground	Metal pole fence repairs	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	
2023-15	Gardiner Recreation Ground	Mowing	On Going	Environment Working Group/Clerk	
2023-16	Gardiner Recreation Ground	Beech Hedge by nets needs annual reduction	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	The hedge should be reduced annually, with the possibility of a planning application for new practice nets. Should this wait until the future of the NW corner of the field is decided.
2023-17	Gardiner Recreation Ground	Lime tree in NW corner has dead branches (one over the footpath) that need removing	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	
2023-18	Sheepcote Recreation Ground	Future of Jubilee Garden – EWG to make proposal for a way forward	Under discussion	Environment Working Group/Clerk	EWG to review original specification.
2023-19	Sheepcote Recreation Ground	Look at options for pedestrian safety along entrance road	Under discussion	Environment Working Group/Clerk	Thirlwell report highlighted dangers to pedestrians, following the installation of the Jubilee Garden.
2023-20	Sheepcote Recreation Ground	Progress of the GGEO proposal for the replenishment of the hedge on the southern boundary	Under discussion	Environment Working Group/Clerk	Post Thirlwell Report recommendations a proposal from GGEO to replenish the intermittent hedge was unsubmitted to GPC.

2023-21	Sheepcote Recreation Ground			Environment Working Group/Clerk	
2023-22	Sheepcote Recreation Ground			Environment Working Group/Clerk	
2023-23	High Street	Potholes	Under discussion	Environment Working Group/Clerk	Fix My Street?
2023-24	High Street	Signs misdirecting drivers onto BT site	Under discussion	Environment Working Group/Clerk	Sign needs to be a different colour
2023-25	High Street	Commercial waste sacks deposited by Free Church	Under discussion	Environment Working Group/Clerk	Enforcement required
2023-26	Seating	Inspections?		Environment Working Group/Clerk	EWG to recommended any refurbishment. (this is not including the benches on the Thames Path between Ferry Lane and Goring Lock which are on EA property – still waiting for a response from EA on whether they will refurbish them. No, just those on GPC's asset list.
2023-27	Seating	Cut back hedge over seat on junction of Red Cross Road and High Street	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	
2023-28	Fly-Posting	Councils' policy on removal of illegal flyposting on council property	Awaiting input	Environment Working Group/Clerk	
2023-29	Inventory	Agreed to carry out an inspection of the public realm in the Spring and Autumn	Awaiting approval	Environment Working Group/Clerk	List of assests?
2023-30	Village Litterpicking Event	Should this be reinstated?	Awaiting approval		Align with Great British Springclean?
2023-31	Weeds	Review policy on weed control		Environmental Working Group/Clerk	
2023-32	Graffiti	Investigate methods of graffiti removal/prevention		Facilities Manager	Incidents of graffiti increase during spring and summer

We have a meeting booked in with a representative of the Oxfordshire Football Association on the 22nd September to guide us through the process.

They have however advised that the Football Foundation are coming to the end of their current funding deal and as such are not 'activating' or green lighting any more projects until April 2024 at the earliest. However, given that it takes at least 18 months to get a project to a point where an application can be started this isn't necessarily an issue.

Hopefully that is enough, will have more for the next update once we understand the process better.

Proposal - Making Space for Nature

A Community Orchard in the Sheepcot field



Summary:

The primary aim is biodiversity gain. In addition, creating a [community space](#) for residents and a new amenity to enjoy and manage is an important secondary benefit. This new space proposed is c.500 sqm, equivalent to about 2 tennis courts. **See dimensions and location below.**

Once established, this small-scale project may lead, if/when the opportunity exists and with GPC's permission, to the development of a larger orchard (five times the size) at the top (NE end) of the field, as previously proposed and submitted to GPC earlier in the year - See graphic used in the original plan for both an orchard and a hedge rejuvenation project.

Soil samples were taken with an auger at both tennis court and top of field sites. Each had approx. 18-20cm of topsoil over subsoil of gravel/chalk and soft chalk respectively. Soil chemical analysis for nutrients and pH is desirable by not a necessity as fruit trees are growing successfully in the Gatehampton Road garden on the other side of the southern boundary.

An Interpretation Board nearby would explain the purpose and environmental and other benefits of the orchard. [Orchards](#) are a *BAP Habitat of Principal Importance*, a pollinator-friendly habitat and sequester of carbon. Fruit trees are particularly good habitats for wildlife because they display 'early senescence', in that they get old relatively quickly and develop veteran features such as hollow trunks, rot holes, dead wood and sap runs. These features are of particular value for a huge range of invertebrates, bats such as the noctule, and hole nesting bird species such as lesser spotted woodpeckers. Also, fruit tree blossom is an important source of nectar for pollinating insects.

This 'orchard habitat' is unusual, in that it is a composite of several different habitats. **1)** 'Tree habitat', which provides the blossom and fruit for food for birds (and humans). Also, cracks and crevices provide homes for bats and birds and the wood provides food for specialist invertebrates to feed on. Mistletoe, fungi and lichens all grow in trees. **2)** Trees will be spaced widely enough for the sunlight to penetrate the ground, so a '[Grassland habitat](#)' will be developed as well, eg wildflowers, insects, small rodents and fungi, especially as this particular orchard will be bounded by **3)** a mature established '[Hedgerow habitat](#)', another BAP Priority Habitat.

Development plan:

- Planting should be ideally in between [Dec 2023 - March 2024](#) avoiding periods when the ground is frozen or too cold and when there should be minimal watering requirements unless there is a prolonged dry spell.
- One year old maiden trees provide a good balance between cost and increased survival rate over using whips.
- Under-sow between the trees with a native-flora rich seed mix. This grass needs to be cut at least once annually to prevent large woody plants establishing and creating scrub to preserve the grassland species. It is important to remove the grass cuttings as if they are allowed to rot down, they will enrich the soil, which can lead to a loss in plant diversity.
- Fruit could be picked by users of the recreation ground and the orchard management group. Windfalls will be collected to avoid attracting wasps near the tennis courts and these will be scattered at the back of the boundary hedge away from the tennis court area to provide a valuable resource for over-wintering bird species such as redwing and fieldfare.
- The orchard could consist of a single fruit or a mix of several with an option to use traditional apple varieties from Oxfordshire. Number/density of trees (on semi-dwarf rootstock) calculated @ 5/100sqm. For 500sqm - 25 trees needed (varieties and mix of fruits tba).

Costs:

All costs to be covered by GGEO - Total £2,000

Breakdown:

Trees (One-year maidens) x 30 @ £25ea = £750

Tree guards ([Grown Green](#): Eco-biodegradable cardboard, box of 100) = £123

Stakes (900 x 22 x 22mm hardwood, box of 25) = £10

Soil analysis ([Cawood](#)) est. = £250

Specialist consultancy est. = £250

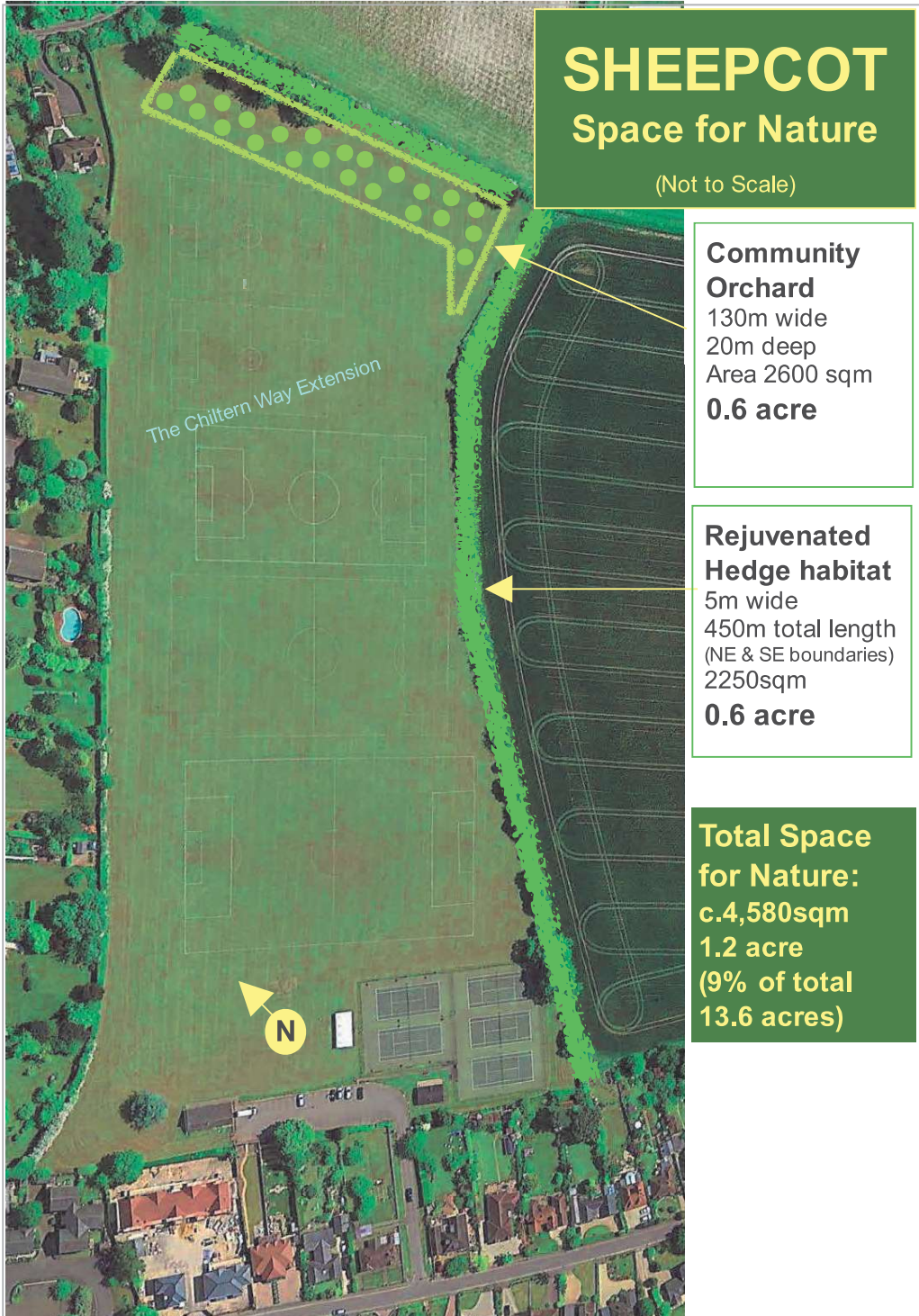
Labour (GGEO volunteers) = FOC

Tools, VAT & Contingency = £617

Proposed location, dimensions and area of proposed Community Orchard



Original plan submitted for an Orchard and the rejuvenation of the NE and SE boundary hedges



Title	Memorial Bench Special Request – Jo Heard
Authors	Assistant Clerk
Meeting	Goring-on-Thames Parish Council Meeting – 11 th September 2023

On the 5th July Jo Heard, the manager of the village café sadly passed away. The community created a Just Giving Page to raise funds for a permanent memorial bench for Jo in the village, a much loved member of our community. These funds have now been passed to her widower who has submitted a formal application for a bench in the Rectory Garden. Additionally, the management team of the arcade in Goring have contacted the Parish Council, asking to install a bench in memory of Jo.

The reason for bring this request to the council is that the style requested is different to the normal style. Jo was a lover of conversation over coffee and her widower has asked if the Council would consider a “Tea for Two” bench, rather than the normal “Dale Commemorative” Bench.



Tea For Two Set



Dale Commemorative Bench

Jo's widower is acutely aware that this bench is quite different to what would normally be approved and therefore a matching pair in the Rectory Garden has been suggested so it doesn't look out of place.

Not wanting to set a precedent of people asking for two benches, the 2nd bench would be without any marker or commemorative plaque and only to balance out Jo's bench.

Proposed Possible Motions:

- To approve installation of 2 Tea For Two benches a the Rectory Garden only one with a commemorative plaque, subject to receiving a donation to cover purchase and installation costs.
- To approve installation of 1 Tea For Two bench a the Rectory Garden with a commemorative plaque, subject to receiving a donation to cover purchase and installation costs.

Crime ref: INC-20230902-0743

Correspondence / APPENDIX Y

I thought I should let you know that we have reported the below vandalism incident in the WC in the car park to the Police.

I have also forwarded a similar email to District Councillor MFP, bearing in mind it was SODC's property which was vandalised, as well as Bloom's. I have asked her if a CCTV camera might be considered in the vicinity as the Police said they could do nothing to investigate without CCTV images or other evidence.

Before these two incidents the whole WC block was covered in graffiti, as you know, which took SODC several attempts to remove, albeit only partially. So, this is the third time the toilets have been targeted in the last few months.

Would the council be supportive of a camera in this location, if could be funded it via a grant of some sort, the parish council would, no doubt, need to support the installation?



