



# GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

## The Freedom of Goring

### 1. The Freedom

- 1.1. The Freedom of Goring (“the Freedom”) is intended to honour a resident, past or present, living or dead, of the parish of Goring on Thames who has given outstanding service in respect of enhancing the quality and / or diversity of village life.

### 2. Legislation

- 2.1. Section 249 (5) of Local Government Act 1972, as amended by Section 29 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development & Construction Act 2009, allows the Council of a relevant authority (including a Parish Council) to admit to be honorary freemen or honorary freewomen of the place or area for which it is the authority:
  - a. Persons of distinction, and
  - b. Persons who have, in the opinion of the authority, rendered eminent service to that place or area.
- 2.2. The legislation continues, stating:
  - (8)A resolution under subsection (7) above must be passed—
    - a. at a meeting of the relevant authority which is specially convened for the purpose and where notice of the object of the meeting has been given; and
    - b. by not less than two-thirds of the members of the relevant authority (or, in the case of charter trustees, of the trustees) who vote on it.

### 3. Criteria

- 3.1. When considering candidates for the Freedom, the following should be considered:
  - a. Candidates should have a strong and continuing connection with and commitment to Goring-On-Thames or have made a major contribution to village life and in doing so have enhanced the reputation of the village
  - b. Awards should not be for a job well done or because someone has reached a particular level. They should be awarded because an individual has ‘gone the extra mile’ in the contribution they have made or stand out ‘head and shoulders’ above others in what has been achieved.
  - c. To be considered, the nominee should meet at least two of the following criteria:
    - (i) delivered in a way that has brought distinction to Parish life and enhanced the Parish’s reputation in the area or activity concerned
    - (ii) contributed in a way to improve the lives of those less able to help themselves
    - (iii) demonstrated innovation and entrepreneurship which is delivering results in the Parish
  - d. Candidates should have made a substantial contribution to the Parish in any area of activity, which could include but is not limited to:



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- (i) Artistic and Cultural endeavours
  - (ii) Business, economic growth and prosperity
  - (iii) Charitable work
  - (iv) Improvement to the built and natural environment
  - (v) Religious and spiritual life
- e. Candidates should be considered from all walks of life. The honour should not be considered exclusive to a particular endeavour or activity.
  - f. Candidates should be considered from all parts of the Parish or to those outside of the village but have made a significant contribution to the village over a great number of years.

### **4. Nomination**

- 4.1. A nomination for the Freedom shall, in the first instance, be initiated by the clerk having received a nomination form signed by not fewer than ten individuals listed in the current electoral roll for Goring.
- 4.2. A nomination shall be accompanied by a written summary setting out the reasons for the nomination.

### **5. Approval**

- 5.1. The nomination will be approved provided it has the support of not fewer than two thirds of the councillors, as indicated by either their signatures on the nomination or their votes cast at the meeting at which the nomination is decided or a combination of both.

### **6. Confidentiality**

- 6.1. The approval process must be conducted in the strictest confidence until such time as the nominee approved by the council has confirmed his or her willingness to accept the Freedom and the appropriate public announcement is made by the council.

### **7. Review of the Roll of Living Holders**

- 7.1. The Freedom will be reviewed by the council at least once during its four year term to ensure that the award and the roll of its living holders remain appropriate to the conditions at that time.

### **6. Review**

This Terms of Reference document was approved for use at the meeting of the Parish Council on 11th January 2021, it shall be reviewed periodically.

Signed:

Dated:

K Bulmer, Chairman



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## NOMINATION FOR FREEDOM OF THE PARISH

Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Nomination form received by the Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_

The nominee meets the following criteria (tick all which apply)

When completing this part of the form, consider:

- Candidates should have a strong and continuing connection with and commitment to Goring-on-Thames or have made a major contribution to village life and in doing so have enhanced the reputation of the village
- Awards should not be for a job well done or because someone has reached a particular level. They should be awarded because an individual has 'gone the extra mile' in the contribution they have made or stand out 'head and shoulders' above others in what has been achieved.
- Candidates should be considered from all walks of life. The honour should not be considered exclusive to a particular endeavour or activity.
- Candidates should be considered from all parts of the Parish or to those outside of the village but have made a significant contribution to the village over a great number of years.

<b>The nominee should meet at least two of the following criteria:</b>	
Delivered in a way that has brought distinction to Parish life and enhanced the Parish's reputation in the area or activity concerned	
Contributed in a way to improve the lives of those less able to help themselves	
Demonstrated innovation and entrepreneurship which is delivering results in the Parish	
<b>Candidates should have made a substantial contribution to the Parish in any area of activity, which could include but is not limited to:</b>	
Artistic and Cultural endeavours	
Business, economic growth and prosperity	
Charitable work	
Improvement to the built and natural environment	
Religious and spiritual life	
Other, please state	

### Nominators

	Name	Elector #	Signature
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			



**GORING-ON-THAMES  
PARISH COUNCIL**

Reasons for Nomination

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