

Proposed plans are respectful and appropriate although possibly not a priority over Bourdillon and Gardiner

agree with recommendation

Croquet would be better suited to Rectory Gardens,

This is an under-used site right in the middle of the village. The proposals are moderate and relatively cheap. They would be a great addition to the village if it could lead to greater use of this site.

Option 1 for Rectory Garden

See this as low priority. In our option there is sufficient access for the amount of times the area is used for events.

Priority 4. Rectory Gardens

Nice to have updated but not essential. This area has always been lovely.

This email is to inform you that both my husband and I approve of the options as follows:

Rectory Garden – option 1

I support Option 1

Rectory Gardens- all lovely ideas but less of a priority than the other areas

we agree a small covered area would be a good addition, as would new benches and think it would also be good to consider some picnic tables too so that families visiting Goring can sit and picnic. Perhaps this site could include a sensory area, and/or perhaps some natural play features too and would therefore be better used

Proposals are simple and shouldn't have great cost implications. Agree with suggestions

the plans sounds sensible

A path across to the Village Hall gate is a good idea.

I have no strong feeling for the need for a performance area.

A lot of young families use this area for picnics, especially in the Summer. Is there any way of making the low wall next to the High Street, with a dangerous, long drop to the pavement any safer?

Option 1

I like the idea of providing quieter areas for reflection, and using Rectory Garden for this.

I don't agree with no dogs in Rectory Gardens. Why is this? I agree it is a site for quiet reflection but why can't the signage just remind people to keep their dogs on the lead? A lot of nice events are held in this space and banning dogs from this area restricts families on what would be a nice family day out. For example, Christmas eve carols, markets etc.

I am supportive of the plans for the Rectory Gardens

Could the parish council give thought to potentially using the Rectory Gardens as a possible site for the Croquet Club?

I have no strong views over Rectory Gardens or Ferry Lane, other than these areas shouldn't be given focus on improvements or facilities for the foreseeable future but should come after the priorities are given to Bourdillon Fields, Sheepcot and Gardiners Recreation grounds.

SUPPORT The renovations proposed for the Rectory garden.

I am totally in support of the idea of a bandstand for the Rectory Gardens as outlined in [] email to you below.

Like [them], I have to decalre an interest, being in three local bands [] all of which would make use of the bandstand

“R24.4 Location for performances

Consider the provision of an area for un-amplified performances within the site. This would need to meet planning considerations and not impact on the day to day use of the site.”

I have thought for some time that a band stand would be a very appropriate addition to Rectory Gardens. With this in mind, last year I prepared the attached mock up using Henley riverside bandstand as an example. I would not necessarily recommend this architectural style but the acoustics of the structure at Henley seem to work well.

We are fortunate to have this attractive area centrally in the village but I believe it is currently underutilised. A bandstand would provide a focus which the site currently lacks. No doubt it would be popular with many local musicians and musical groups. It may also appeal to organisations such as Goring Gap Players who may wish to put on outdoor performances or recitals.

I believe that such a structure could be used through most of the year and would become a significant attraction to villagers and visitors alike.

I must declare an interest in that I am a member of [] Band which regularly plays on Rectory Gardens – usually in a marquee which has to be temporarily erected.

These views are mine alone and whilst other band members would no doubt support this view I do not purport to speak on behalf of the band as a whole.

I appreciate that funding would be a major issue but I would be happy to support the development of this idea if it gained broad support from villagers.

A small outdoor performance area would be a wonderful facility, the school would welcome the opportunity to utilise any such venue.

I don't think this space is used all that much by the public but it's an attractive space visually from both the Goring Churchyard path and from the High Street. A few years ago the trees were crowned which really improved the space it as it made it much lighter. Other than occasional village events the site isn't used all that much by the public.

Option 1

Consider improvements suggested within the report on Rectory Garden and Ferry Lane

No strong views

Do nothing

Agree with recommendations

Rectory Gardens is governed by covenants. I do not think it is necessary to create another path on the West side leading to steps to the Village Hall. These steps can be quite challenging apart from being hazardous because of vehicular movement when the Village Hall is used. Maybe another bench or two would be appreciated

Regarding re-turfing the green spaces with new grass - apart from being extremely costly, lawns have proved over many years that they will recover well from adverse weather conditions as well as heavy footfall during many Village festivities, funfaires, Circus etc. as well as regular football and cricket matches during the winter and summer months respectively.

Launching any water craft from Ferry Lane Green is dangerous and hazardous in its present state.

I also support the proposals for Rectory gardens

Perhaps a band stand type pavillion/pagoda would be good to allow our concert band to have rain cover/shade when they want to perform.

I do not believe any change of this area would be beneficial

Rectory Garden, where we don't believe any change is required.

Rectory gardens I have no option on

I support Option 1 so that it improves access to the GVH from the gardens. There is a missed opportunity to link the gardens to the GVH more effectively so that events could be held using both sites.

Make more welcoming, as suggested in the review, remembering that it is an areas where the village sometimes assembles.

(Received Twice)

Design principles agreed, including more than the current 2 benches

New path to village hall steps unnecessary unless includes new disabled ramp alongside steps. Otherwise public footpath to exterior of the garden (Manor Road/High Street) to suffice.

pleased to see that it will remain a quiet and reflective area. The small 'stage' is a positive.

I like the idea of a small concert pavilion so the village bands can play there more easily.

(Received Twice)

No strong view

leave as is - no updating - save money for other areas.

Leave as it is. No need for signage or modern structures in a space that is beautiful and already has shading and benches. It can be used for all the needs listed without building any new paths or performance spaces. These are always underutilised and look worn over time.

No strong views

Seems like a very sensible plan - with the backing of the family who donated the land, what's not to like

Rectory Gardens always seems criminally underused (outside of village wide activities like Christmas carols or Jubilee). I understand the covenant in place restricts use somewhat, but the small number of benches and nothing else just makes it a dead space. Your proposals for reflective/quieter activities is a good one, more places to sit (picnic benches) would also be good.

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The existing two seats are in a state of dilapidation. In addition to introducing further seating, these two items should be replaced.

Planting along the southern boundary is suggested, but again, this would raise the same issue as on Gardiner of what would thrive in shade. It would be better to make a bed in the north-west corner by the entrance to the Village Hall, which is an open space but an area not much used by visitors. Also a flower bed round the flag pole would be attractive.

There is a suggestion to replace the hedge along the western boundary with natural hedging plants. Please be aware that under the original conveyance it is stated: 'Forthwith to plant and for ever after to maintain a suitable Thuja lobii hedge to be approved by Sir James Edmondson on the western boundary of the land conveyed.' Thus the species of hedging plant has already been proscribed. This has legal implications for the council.

Page 71. History of the site and background to Peggy Edmondson. This has been researched already and the information is available from the Local History Society at any time. Peggy did not actually die in Goring as many believe, but sadly in a boating accident in Poole Harbour.

The idea of a Bandstand on the Rectory Garden has been raised by villagers but does not appear in this report. We have an active band and choir in Goring and many villagers enjoy out-door concerts during the summer and at Christmas. Maybe the popularity of a new bandstand could be significantly greater than some of the other options being considered and it could also significantly enhance the appearance and utilisation of this recreational space in the centre of the village. Please consider this as an option to be added to the report.

We would urge that workstream 1 (Gardiner and Bourdillion, playground equipment) be a priority both in terms of timing and investment. Followed by workstream 3 (Gardiner and Sheepcot Recreation grounds) and then workstream 2 (Rectory Garden and Ferry Lane). This we feel is in the priority order of the % of people that will benefit from these changes and will have the greatest impact on the community.

Would it be worth considering purchasing a 'community' gazebo/marquee instead that could be used for performances? For the less than 10 times a year this might be used, a gazebo/marquee would potentially have much wider use (Summer of Play etc.) than just Rectory Gardens and be a better investment, rather than adding a permanent structure. Just an idea!

Lovely space, totally under-used... would be lovely to have flower beds as part of the Goring in Bloom but appreciate they need looking after and also might break existing covenants... more seating for families pic-nic maybe might be a good addition but lower down the priorities than all of the others in my view

Again, I think this is a space to keep simple and of the highest quality as it is in essence the village square.

Consider improvements suggested on Rectory Gardens and Ferry Lane

Rectory Gardens - this is a well used area in the village, and not solely by the church. It is good for informal gatherings. A few more benches would be ideal, as would an interpretation board to tell the history of the garden. This is quiet place and I hope that ethos is maintained.

I support the recommendations in Option one and particularly the addition of a platform for events, concerts, outdoor plays, etc. It was reassuring to learn that the family who donated the space are in favour of these recommendations.

The plans for this site are sensible. Given it's central location at the heart of the community I'd support greater use of this site whilst retaining its character. I fully support use for reflective and peaceful activities and community led events as recently with the Gap festival and Jubilee celebrations. The seasonal cover for musical and even theatrical shows/events sounds like a wonderful use. I would've liked to see the Jubilee Gardens in this location for all to enjoy young and old with benches to facilitate time to reflect in the heart of the village.

The garden would benefit from a small floral bed around the flagpole in memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11. Goring -on-Thames in Bloom would like permission to create such a memorial.

- Seating should be traditional and made from wood.
- Dead tree should be removed
- Existing seating should be properly maintained or removed