

The Association's twin objectives, since its inception in 1944, are to preserve and improve the amenities of Goring, and to encourage the growth of community spirit. These are increasingly important objectives with the continuing pressure to develop every green space and the influx of people that engenders with the associated pressure on our amenities and infrastructure.

The reality is also that the bulk of our membership is getting on in years. Younger members in our society do not seem to be interested in the objectives of our Association. Times and interests change – younger people have a different outlook on life and may face different challenges.

So it is with regret that the committee feels that the Association may have run its course and should be disbanded.

If that happens, you will lose the social programme, the website, access to Facebook and Twitter/X and the scanning of planning issues and liaison with other interested groups.

Maybe there are still members who disagree strongly enough and put themselves forward for the vacant roles on the committee or to be a warden or help with events then please do so. Contact details are set out below.

chair@goringresidents.org.uk

membershipsec@goringresidents.org.uk

socialsec@goringresidents.org.uk

EVENTS – 2024	
Tower of London Talk – Part 2 Thursday 22 February 2023 at 7.30	Alan Kingshott -Tower of London Poppies Pat Kingshott – Tower of London Crown Jewels Free to members, £2 non members Deadline date for booking – End of January
80s Disco with Mel The Pocket Rocket Saturday 23 March 2023 at 7.30	Celebrating 80 years of Goring Residents' Association Licensed bar and raffle Celebration buffet Deadline date for booking – End of February



Goring Residents' Association

Special January 2024 Newsletter

Committee Members



At the Association's Annual General Meeting in November, four long serving committee members stood down as expected. In addition, two of the committee members elected at the Special Meeting in May together with the two other candidates, who had been co-opted onto the committee, also resigned due to pressure of work. Between the four of them, they were responsible for the role of secretary, the redesign of the logo, the much-improved newsletter format, bringing the social media platforms back to life, producing posters advertising the social events and placing editorial articles in the local press.

Although they have continued to offer this support in the background, it is important that we have a presence on the Committee so that we can plan and liaise efficiently.

Furthermore, our very long serving Membership Secretary, Alan Wilcox, is planning to stand down at the next Annual General Meeting. Although he is willing to remain a committee member, we will need to find a new Membership Secretary.

This leaves the committee very short handed. Our constitution states that we should have a Secretary, Treasurer, Social Secretary, Membership Secretary and Web Manager as officers of the Association and up to 8 elected members on our Committee which includes a planning lead and someone to help run events. If we can't achieve that, the work of the committee is not sustainable.

Attendance at the AGM was very disappointing with only 45 members present, most of whom were either committee members or wardens.

But this is not the only issue facing the Association.

Attendance at events

% of members attending social events

Summary



Total membership
1,345

Total attendees
93

Only 7% of our members have supported the social programme

Attendance at the social events has been patchy.

- 25% of attendees at the Quiz were non-members.
- The Christmas Lunch was fully booked.
- Of 100 available seats only 50 people attended the Jazz Night (10 of whom were non-members)
- 43 attended the Tower of London talk.
- Only two members took up the offer of discounted tickets for the Worthing pantomime.
- The Shuffleboard evening in January is cancelled due to lack of support.

The Association has over 1,300 members and the colossal amount of work that our Social Secretary has put into organising and staging these events, the support for them is depressing and there seems little point in continuing to run a full social programme. We do of course acknowledge and appreciate their support. In October only 22 members confirmed that they had completed the Active Travel survey.

Response to our requests for new wardens and people to help at events has been pathetic. We are of course grateful to those of you who continue to help as well as the few who have come forward recently.

In addition, a lot of work has gone into revamping the website to make it easier to navigate and keep it up to date with news of events. However, it seems that very few of our members interact with the website on a regular basis. This is disappointing as it takes time and effort to maintain it.