



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Goring-on-Thames Parish Council

Monday 11th September 2023 at 19:30, Bellême Room, Village Hall

Public Session – Prior to the Start of the Meeting

MoP1: re Sheepcot- thanked GoTPC for extending the car parking field, roping off needs to be organised so it can be fully used. Clerk to follow up.

Members Present:

Vice-Chair	Cllr A Smith (AS)	[Chair for the meeting]
Members	Cllr S Bridle (SB)	
	Cllr J Emerson (JE)	
	Cllr J Hutchins (JH)	
	Cllr S Lofthouse (SL)	
	Cllr B Newman (BN)	
	Cllr R Williamson (RW)	

Officers Present:

Clerk	S Edmunds (SE)
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Public and Press: at least 5 members of public

Meeting started 19:30

23.20.1. To receive apologies for absence. [LGA 1972 s85(1)]

Apologies were received in advance of the meeting from Cllr E. McCorkell & Cllr C. Ratcliff.

23.20.2. Declarations of Interests [LA 2011 s31]

None

23.20.2.1. To receive declarations of interest for items on this agenda

Cllr SB declared non-pecuniary interest in 12.1 & 12.2 & 15.2.

23.20.2.2. To consider requests for Dispensations [LA 2011 s33]

None.

23.20.3. To approve the minutes of previous council meetings [LA 1972 Sch 12. Para 41(1)]

23.20.3.1. Meeting held on 10th July 2023

It was agreed unanimously that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting, and they were duly signed.



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23.20.3.2. Matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda.

None.

23.20.4. To receive Chairman's Report

None.

23.20.5. Action List

Updated

Action List

23.20.6. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

23.20.6.1. Oxfordshire County Councillor: F Van Mierlo

Appendix A

23.20.6.2. Oxfordshire County Councillor: K Bulmer

Appendix B

~~23.20.6.3.~~ South Oxfordshire District Councillor: M Filipova-Rivers

Appendix C

Cllr Filipova-Rivers sent their apologies. A report was received on the day of this meeting and was forwarded to all the Councillors.

JE notes many grants are becoming available.

23.20.7. To Receive Minutes of Committees

All of the below minutes were received. The Finance Committee comment was noted.

23.20.7.1. Finance Committee

- Meeting Dated 13th June 2023
- Meeting dated 11th July 2023

Appendix D

Appendix E

Budget will be presented next month.

23.20.7.2. Planning Committee

- Meeting dated 27th June 2023
- Meeting dated 11th July 2023
- Meeting dated 8th August 2023

Appendix F

Appendix G

Appendix H

23.20.7.3. Traffic Management and Pedestrian Safety Committee

- Meeting Dated 20th June 2023
- Meeting dated 18th July 2023

Appendix I

Appendix J

23.20.8. To Consider proposals from the Staffing Committee

23.20.8.1. To appoint Mike Harper as Assistant Clerk, SCP 9, 12 Hours plus up to 5 hours overtime per week

Resolved: Unanimously approved to appoint MH as AC.



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23.20.8.2. Moved to Clerks Report (23.20.15.3)

23.20.9. Councillor vacancy

23.20.9.1. To note the resignation of Councillor D Brooker, and that the vacancy was advertised in line with legislative requirements. SODC has confirmed that no election has been called, vacancy to be filled by co-option.

AS and the rest of the Councillors thanks DB and wishes him well for the future.

23.20.9.2. To co-opt one Councillor for the vacant position, subject to any eligible candidates coming forward.

One applicant has come forwards- Belinda Drew who is keen to get involved in the community.

Resolved: Unanimously approved to bring to a future meeting once the eligibility criteria has been confirmed.

23.20.10. Committee / Working Group / Representative Vacancies

23.20.10.1. To appoint Cllr A Smith to replace Cllr J Hutchins on the Staffing Committee.

Resolved: Unanimously approved.

23.20.10.2. To appoint one member to the Traffic Management, Parking & Pedestrian Safety Committee

Hold for the next agenda

23.20.10.3. To appoint a representative for the Goring Volunteer Trust

Resolved: Unanimously approved to appoint SB

23.20.11. To Receive Committee & Working Group Reports and Consider Proposals

Traffic Management, Parking & Pedestrian Safety Committee

23.20.11.1. To approve Sheffield Bike Stand Proposal

Appendix K

Discussion if (1) will block the use of the pavement by the café. A query if public consultation be required? Install one there subject to review after 6 months? Write to OCCH and raise the concerns about blocking informal crossing point. No (2) & (3) less contentious.

Resolved: Unanimously approved subject to confirmation from OCCH that (1) is safe.

23.20.11.2. To approve Speed Bump proposal and budget £9k

Appendix L

Investigated options to control traffic speed, queries as to what the scheme might cost to build. Is a zebra crossing a possibility? Change traffic priorities at the crossroads by the bridge?

Hold for next agenda.

New Parish Office

23.20.11.3. To approve the Office Space WG Terms of Reference

Appendix M

Resolved: Unanimously approved.



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23.20.11.4. To consider a proposal to move the Parish Office to the East Wing of the Community Centre as the Short-Term solution, whilst a long-term solution is developed. To Approve the working group together with the Clerk, to negotiate the terms of an agreement with the Community Centre Trustees. Full terms and costings to be brought to the Full Council for approval prior to any move, ideally before the start of the next Cricket Season

Resolved: Unanimously approved to negotiate the proposed move to the Community Centre.

Planning Committee

23.20.11.5. To receive the Neighbourhood Plan Monitoring Documents **Appendix N**

JE suggests updating when change occurs, not just annually.

Resolved: Unanimously Received

Finance Committee

23.20.11.6. To note Audit challenge

Noted

23.20.11.7. To approve delegating to the Finance Committee review of the policy wording of the Grants Policy and to bring the approved policy and potential reinstatement to a future Council Meeting.

Resolved: Unanimously approved.

23.20.11.8. To approve the updated Reserves Policy **Appendix O**

23.20.11.9. To approve the updated Cash Receipts Policy **Appendix P**

23.20.11.10. To approve the updated Statement for Internal Controls **Appendix Q**

23.20.11.11. To approve the updated Expenses Policy **Appendix R**

23.20.11.12. To approve the updated Loan Agreement Form **Appendix S**

All the above 23.20.11.8-12 are Unanimously Approved.

Playgrounds Working Group

23.20.11.13. To approve suitable for use, the proposed scoping document for tendering the updated playgrounds, and approve seeking tenders based on this document. **Appendix T**

SL reported that a scoping document has been developed to go out to get expressions of interest from companies, JE suggested "To approve suitable for use, the proposed scoping document for quotations for the updated playgrounds." JE would appreciate if PGWG could advise budget required to plan the precept. SB was concerned if a PC applied for too many grants within a certain period, it would restrict other opportunities for grants from SODC.

Resolved: Unanimously approved with the above updates.

Environment Working Group



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23.20.11.14. To Receive the Action List

Appendix U

SB keen to progress items, JE says it would be useful to get costs and the EWG should be exploring options and costs to reduce Clerk workload. SL- Action List should clarify items that belong with other depts eg village signs, facilities etc

Resolved: Unanimously received.

Sheepcot Working Group

23.20.11.15. To Receive an update

Appendix V

Resolved: Unanimously received.

23.20.12. Planting on Sheepcot Proposals

23.20.12.1. To delegate to the Clerk to set up agreement with Mend the Gap to make fully funded improvements to Sheepcot including: Infill the gaps in the existing hedge, addition of standards (larger trees in the existing hedge line) three gates (existing access points) fitted into the hedgerow being improved, levelling the gateway where possible.

Resolved: Unanimously approved

23.20.12.2. To approve a proposal from GGEO for planting a Community Orchard by the Tennis Courts

Appendix W

SL, not appropriate at the top of the field. Likes idea of a community orchard but must have a plan to maintain it. Jubilee Garden has suffered from a lack of care, will this get the correct attention with no cost to the Council. JE what does tennis club think & maintenance costs? Need to know what financial costs we are letting ourselves in for. Mend the Gap needs permission from GoTPC to permit this proposal to go ahead. Water is an issue although planting in correct season should mitigate. GGEO will maintain and water the planting.

Resolved: Unanimously approved for GGEO to plant a community orchard subject to having an agreed maintenance plan.

23.20.13. Christmas Preparations

23.20.13.1. To approve loan of up to £3k subject to formal application by the event organisers of the Goring and Streatley Torchlight Procession, to be repaid by 31 January 2024.

Resolved: Unanimously approved subject to receipt of an acceptable proposal.

23.20.13.2. To delegate to the Clerk approval of the loan, subject to receiving appropriate application documents.

Resolved: Unanimously To bring to Council

23.20.13.3. To approve using the EMR GGBN reserve for the High Street Christmas trees & big Christmas tree in Rectory Gardens.

Resolved: Unanimously approved.



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23.20.13.4. To approve asking the Environment Working Group to investigate planting a permanent Christmas tree in the Rectory Garden for 2024

Resolved: Unanimously approved.

23.20.13.5. To approve £450 for new tree lights ideally solar powered for High St ones, Mains for Rectory, the same as the ones purchased for the avenue last year.

Resolved: Unanimously approved.

23.20.14. Clerk's Report

23.20.14.1. To approve extending the current lease of Yew Tree Court Dell for 10 years to the current lessee for £1 per annum.

Resolved: Unanimously approved.

23.20.14.2. To consider whether to continue the lease on the Paddock at the Burial Ground to the current lessees and review rates.

Resolved: Unanimously approved to explore alternative options for the paddock.& bring them back to Council

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

Appendix X

Resolved: Passed by majority to install two benches

23.20.14.4. To approve Laura White as Burial Ground Clerk, SCP 19, 4 hours per week (to be reviewed after 6 months)

Resolved: Unanimously approved for a fixed period of six months.

23.20.15. To receive Items of Correspondence and agree actions arising.

23.20.15.1. To note a letter has been received from George Michael's Estate to state that Neither the Estate nor George's immediate family have ever requested a statue (of any kind) to be erected in his honour.

Noted

23.20.15.2. A request for Village CCTV following graffiti, and GiB planters being used to vandalise the toilets in Wheel Orchard Car Park.

Appendix Y

Unanimously approved to permit SODC to put up CCTV.

Motion to suspend Standing Orders for 30 minutes

Resolved: Unanimously approved

23.20.16. Matters for future discussion.

New Councillor approval

New Member of TMPPS

Cllr A Smith

Vice Chair of the Council

9th October 2023



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Speed Hump
Reviewed grants policy
Budget

23.20.17. To agree list of items from this meeting to be submitted to the Goring Gap News as a Parish Council Update.

New Assistant Clerk
Playground update
Bike Stands
Jo Heard bench

23.20.18. To consider and, if thought fit, approve the following motion: In view of the confidential nature of the business about to transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw. Confidential Papers

Resolved: Approved Unanimously to exclude the public and press.

23.20.18.1. To approve Parish Council Insurance provider and budget.

Resolved: Unanimously approved BHIB subject to clarifying like for like cover

23.20.18.2. To approve the fitting costs of bollards in car park –within existing budget previously approved by Full Council

Resolved: Unanimously approved NDB

23.20.18.3. To approve a replacement shutter door (to match existing colour) on the Gardiner storage garage due to the wooden ones splitting and constantly breaking hinges & tie backs due to wind shear.

Held for the future Gardiner Pavilion Working Group to consider as part of their remit.

23.20.18.4. To approve a tree survey provider and budget.

Hold for next meeting, more quotes required.

23.20.19. To confirm the time and date of the Next Council Meeting– 7.30pm, 9th October 2023

NOTE: *Proposals of Motion to be received by the Clerk no later than 28th September, in accordance with the Standing Orders.*

Confirmed.

There being no further business to be transacted, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21:59