



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

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

Monday 9th October 2023 at 19:30, Bellême Room, Village Hall

Public Session – Prior to the Start of the Meeting

MoP1: Is council prepared to extend the Sheepcot car park further? Will there be a preapplication meeting with the developer of GNP8?

MoP2: Gatehampton Road parking problems on football days.

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 R Williamson (RW)	

Officers Present:

Clerk	S Edmunds (SE)
-------	----------------

Public and Press: at least 5 members of public including District Councillor M Filipova-Rivers

Meeting started 19:30

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

Apologies were received in advance of the meeting from Cllr B Newman & Cllr C. Ratcliff.

23.23.2. Declarations of Interests [LA 2011 s31]

None

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

None

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

None.

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

23.23.3.1. Meeting held on 11th September 2023

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



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

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

None.

23.23.4. To Councillor vacancies

23.23.4.1. To note the resignation of Councillor E McCorkell

AS thanked EM for her work and dedication to the Council.

23.23.4.2. To co-opt a new Councillor for the vacant position left by the resignation of Cllr D Brooker

Belinda Drew has applied and is confirmed as meeting the criteria to be a Councillor

Resolved: Unanimously approved to co-opt Belinda Drew to fill the Councillor vacancy.

23.23.5. Action List

Action List

Updated to note discussions with Enerveo and two other streetlight providers

23.23.6. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

23.23.6.1. Oxfordshire District Councillor: F Van Mierlo

Appendix A

23.23.6.2. Oxfordshire County Councillor: K Bulmer

Appendix B

23.23.6.3. South Oxfordshire District Councillor: M Filipova-Rivers

~~Appendix C~~

Cllr Filipova-Rivers explained SODC planning cabinet supported the housing infrastructure fund whereas the SODC planning committee has rejected it so the Secretary of State has called it in, to be decided in December. The 5 year housing land supply has dropped, developers in current climate are not building and the pace has really slowed around Oxford. Many parishes are reviewing NP (policies changes etc), it is important to ensure they are up to date, giving some protection from speculative developments. There is some District level protection and SODC developing a new plan. Other political changes at CC or a new Government may warrant fast change.

NB Not many councillor grants are two rounds this time and, her deadline to apply is 20 October.

23.23.7. To Receive Minutes of Committees

All of the below minutes were received.

23.23.7.1. Finance Committee

- Meeting Dated 8th August 2023

Appendix D

23.23.7.2. Planning Committee

- Meeting dated 22nd August 2023

Appendix E



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

23.23.8. Committee / Working Group / Representative Vacancies

JE & JH questioned if we are not overloaded with WG. AS stated, that by starting now, it allows for crossover work meaning getting started earlier. SB asked if Thirlwell report is to be formally adopted? AS said it is not but we are considering items from the report and take those actions.

23.23.8.1. To appoint one member to the Playgrounds Working Group

Postpone this proposal until another member is required.

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

Resolved Unanimously approved appointing Belinda Drew

23.23.9. To Receive Committee / Working Group / Representative Reports and Consider Proposals

Traffic Management, Parking & Pedestrian Safety Committee

23.23.9.1. To Receive an update

SL has met with the Assistant Clerk who has chased various depts. The feedback on proposed Red Cross Rd priority scheme is negative. The proposed High Street tabletop speed cushion is an estimated cost of £60k and there is a query re drainage, a zebra crossing would be £100k minimum. SL will chase County Councillor K Bulmer for funding. Parking – Must encourage harder enforcement, look at yellow lines and the PPL on Gatehampton access rd. The proposed bike stand has been approved by OCCH to go on the peninsula on the High Street.

New Office Space Working Group

23.23.9.2. To Receive an update

JE stated a meeting is planned for next week to discuss further & meet trustees of Community Centre.

Planning Committee

23.23.9.3. To Receive an update

Will look at and consider a meeting with the developer of GNP8 and writing letters to the river frontage properties with reports of overnight stays.



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Finance Committee

23.23.9.4. To Receive an update

Revised the dates of meetings to the 4th Tuesday of the month to allow updates to be presented closer in time to the main council meetings. NB precept calculation budgets are in progress so all Cllrs need to ask for what budgets their proposed projects require ASAP.

23.23.9.5. To note the quarterly budget figures

Appendix F

Variances noted included WHBG £1.10 overspend, meeting room hire has increased. Advertising has increased for jobs/notices. Coronation costs.

23.23.9.6. To approve the Grants Policy

Appendix G

Main change from the previous policy is it is to be more by the will of the council rather than a firm black/white decision.

JE supplied a list of typos/grammatical & language clarity. Grant assessment, 4th bullet – evidence of financial stability/viability.

Resolved: unanimously approved with the suggested changes

Playgrounds Working Group

23.23.9.7. To Receive an update

The expressions of interest letter went out, Craig has met with each company, SL went to first meeting. Hoping end of month for figures etc.

23.23.9.8. To add the Bourdillon field to the remit of the group

Resolved: unanimously approved to add to the group remit. and update ToR

Environment Working Group

23.23.9.9. To Receive an update

The EWG have had a meeting with the Clerk to ensure their work was inline with brief. They suggest improvements at Ferry lane to reopen the space by cutting back encroaching vegetation, mowing can be pushed back harder. Trees are very low and cost of tree surgery is expensive, looking to share costs with land owners The Fir in the middle/top of the space has an elder tree growing through it, get a quote to get it removed. SL asked if any Ash trees? If trees belong to Grange then they might HAVE to get them done.



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Other items are Thirlwall Report, mentioned no waste disposal for green matter, brown bins are not appropriate and those who work are volunteers, not contractors, there is no space for compost bins, leaving no facility for disposal. EWG have asked Network Rail to cut back vegetation overhanging pavements. The Clerk to chase ivy removal at Yew Tree Court. The sign in the High Street that directs cars into the car park down the footpath needs urgent attention. EWG will target hedges to be cut back. JH and Facilities have established that the benches on the riverbank are ours. The Clerk has confirmed GoTPC have a standard bench. They have looked at the proposal of a growing Christmas tree and decided that is not possible.

23.23.9.10. To approve the Environment Working Group to look at alternative options for the future of the Jubilee Garden and bring them back to full council for consideration

Appendix H

AS says a controversial topic in the parish, any proposals must be well evidenced and explained, consult sports clubs and residents for their views, explore what it would cost to maintain as it is, costs to create and maintain a path. We spent significant money building it and would need to spend further money to remove it. Don't say we can have a different memorial. There should be focus on that plot of land, the path, the parking-they are all interlinked. Its current status is a Jubilee Garden, should it become a memorial garden? JE says focus on the garden. The brief must be a narrow one. SL says should be a village consultation. BD says do a risk/benefit analysis – gives something more concrete for the village to vote on. RW said whatever the solution is, must prioritise pedestrian safety.

Resolved-unanimously approved EWG to look at the options for the Jubilee Garden

Sheepcot Working Group

23.23.9.11. To Receive an update

Oxfordshire FA consider Goring to be a priority project, they can provide 50/60% cost of updating pitch/pavilion (replace and/or refresh existing); especially interested in an allweather pitch which could cost £1million + .Additional funding is available(subject to meeting the remit), eg TOE, Mend the Gap, District/ County Councils. These facilities would not just be for Football, other sports can be accommodated. Lighting will have to be carefully considered. All the clubs point out that without all weather facilities there is much driving to go to other pitches. Community engagement is the key, and put proposals forwards to gain enthusiasm/interest. We should be looking at Chinnor & Thame as examples, there is great potential for funding due to the high demand for football.

23.23.9.12. To approve adding the Sheepcot field to the remit of the Working Group.

Resolved: unanimously approved to subject to seeing new ToR.

Liaisons & Representatives Reports

23.23.9.13. To Receive updates

The Conservation Area Appraisal document was submitted 10 September. The Council expresses its gratitude to Enid Worsley & Janet Hurst for their excellent work. SODC will edit and may make some changes and then send out the formal draft for public consultation.



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Signage – The Cllrs had a walk around, looked at spaces & signs – propose one sign per recreation ground / area with its name, noting GPC owned with rules and a QR code for further info. This reduces the size of the sign and easy to update. The next step to decide wording/size/exact location; identify manufacturers and bring formal proposals back to council.

23.23.10. To Approve Two New Working Groups & appoint Councillors.

23.23.10.1. Gardiner Pavilion & Field Working Group

Hold until required

23.23.10.2. Ferry Lane & Rectory Gardens Working Group

Concern of crossover between EWG and this group. JE said we should follow the Thirlwall report and investigate options. SB said part owner of the Mill Stream had concerns. AS said better to start with the end game in mind – where are we trying to get to?

Resolved – approved by majority. To create a Working Group with the Cllrs BD, SL, AS and to bring a draft TOR to the next Full Council meeting.

23.23.11. Tennis Club

23.23.11.1. To appoint Councillors to renegotiate the lease

Resolved unanimously to appoint Cllrs CR, AS and SB

23.23.12. Clerk's Report

23.23.12.1. To approve standing by the previous council decision to take on the upkeep of the red phone box by the bridge, and if so, BT will need to know its new function.

AS: there is an old resolution to take it on, it was painted and then BT took back. They have now reapproached us and need to know future use. SL said information centre and maybe a wifi booster. RW confirmed there was not enough room for bike repair.

Resolved unanimously approved to take it with electric supply to use for info centre.

23.23.12.2. To approve continuing to support Readibus to the end of the financial year (31 March 2024) with paying half the cost

Appendix I

Resolved: unanimously approved to continue

23.23.12.3. To consider adopting the dilapidated benches on the quayside/tow path as the EA and adjacent properties have all said they are not their property.

Hold to investigate if any family can be contacted re ownership or repairs.



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

23.23.12.4. To consider a PSPO for the Open Spaces, a restriction on camping and consider options for dealing with anti-social behaviour

Appendix J

Unanimously Resolved to not consider PSPO at this time

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

Appendix K

23.23.13.1. To note a request from Going Forward buses re bus parking

Sheepcot is not an option due to lack of space. AS asked if anyone had any thoughts of alternatives? Upper Red Cross behind pavilion? TMPPS to consider options.

Motion to suspend Standing Orders for 20 minutes

Resolved: Unanimously approved

23.23.14. Matters for future discussion.

None

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

Remind residents they can subscribe to the parish council information email (mailchimp) on the website.

Jubilee Garden future options and a call for volunteers.

The resignation of Cllr E McCorkell (with thanks for her service) and looking at co-option for a new Councillor

J

23.23.16. 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.



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

23.23.16.1. To approve the cost of the pump service at Gardiner Recreation Ground

Resolved: Unanimously approved the £550, more quotes to be obtained for any future work.

23.23.16.2. To consider covenant & overage clause on the sale of the OJFS

Resolved: Unanimously approved:to put an overage clause on the sale.

23.23.16.3. To appoint Councillors authorised to deal with the solicitors on the sale of OJFS

Resolved: Unanimously approved SL & CR to continue the process including the overage negotiations.

23.23.16.4. To approve the loan application received for the Goring and Streatley Torchlight Procession,

Noted that historically the torches were sold in advance.

Resolved: Unanimously approved the loan

23.23.17. To confirm the time and date of the Next Council Meeting– 7.30pm, 13th November 2023

NOTE: *Proposals of Motion to be received by the Clerk no later than 2nd November, in accordance with the Standing Orders.*

Confirmed.

There being no further business to be transacted, the Chairman closed the meeting at 21:49