



# GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

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

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 19:30, Belleme Room, Goring Village Hall

All Councillors are summoned to a Meeting of Goring-on-Thames Parish Council.

Members of the public and press are invited to attend all council meetings.

(Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960)

### Public Session – Prior to the Start of the Meeting

**MoP1:** J.Boler Chair of MIGGS, who have recently had their AGM. There was a warm welcome for the seriousness that pedestrian safety is being taken by the council TMPPS committee and they support most things but one concern is the subject of additional cycle racks in the High St, infirm members see the peninsula as a safe crossing (not for wheelchairs as no drop kerb) and found it was blocked today by advertising boards. Asked to be aware of disabled needs regarding 7.3 and 9.17 on the agenda, he has received representations to ask the Council to put a cinder or hard path to walk round the edge of Sheepcot and the footpath goes across (would be nice to have paths like Streatley has)

**MoP2:** Jim Bartlett from Goring Gap Croquet & Bowls Club. with some comments re item 8 on the agenda. GGC&BC has continued to be successful since Spring 2022, it is fully equipped and affiliated to Croquet England Association. Membership is now in the low 40s , the green is maintained to a high standard and in the New Year they are hoping to reintroduce bowls, plan matches and improve the garden areas, on the north & east sides to make more inviting.

### Members Present:

Chair	Cllr A Smith (AS)
Members	Cllr S Bridle (SB)
	Cllr J Emerson (JE)
	Cllr J Hutchins (JH)
	Cllr B Newman (BN)
	Cllr R Williamson (RW)

### Officers Present:

Clerk	S Edmunds (SE)
Assistant Clerk	M Harper (MH)

**Public and Press:** at least 9 members of public

### Meeting started 19:30

- 23.28.1. Noting the resignation of Cllr C Ratcliff, To elect a Chair for the remainder of this Council year [LGA 1972 ss15(2) and 34(2)] The notice of casual vacancy has been posted and SODC will confirm if an election has been called on 28<sup>th</sup> November**

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved to appoint Cllr A Smith as Chair of the Council.



## **GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL**

### **23.28.1.1. To receive Chairman's declaration of acceptance of office [LGA 1972 s83(4)]**

The declaration was received and witnessed by the Clerk to the Council.

### **23.28.1.2. To receive Chairman's confirmation if they wish to be known as:**

- **Chair / Chairman / Chairwoman / Chairperson for the duration of their term.**

Cllr A Smith wishes to be known as the Chair

The Council thanks Colin for his work as Clerk, Councillor and Chair.

### **23.28.2. To receive apologies for absence. [LGA 1972 s85(1)]**

Cllr B Drew, Cllr S Lofthouse

### **23.28.3. Declarations of Interests [LA 2011 s31]**

#### **23.28.3.1. To receive declarations of interest for items on this agenda**

SB re item 8, the Croquet Club by virtue of being a member; 11-orchard and 12 oak tree and proposed by a family member

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

#### **23.28.4.1. Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**Resolved:** unanimously agreed the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting.

#### **23.28.4.2. Matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda.**

Rename the action list as full council action list

### **23.28.5. To review the Action List progress and update**

**Action List**

### **23.28.6. To receive reports from District and County Councillors**

All of the reports listed below were received.

#### **23.28.6.1. Oxfordshire County Councillor: F Van Mierlo**

**Appendix A**

#### **23.28.6.2. Oxfordshire County Councillor: K Bulmer**

**Appendix B**

#### **23.28.6.3. South Oxfordshire District Councillor: M Filipova-Rivers**

**Appendix C**

### **23.28.7. To Receive Minutes of Committees**

All of the minutes below were received by the Council.

#### **23.28.7.1. Finance Committee**

- Meeting Dated 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Appendix D**

#### **23.28.7.2. Planning Committee**

- Meeting dated 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Appendix E**



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- Meeting dated 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Appendix F

## **23.28.7.3. Traffic, Planning and Pedestrian Safety Committee**

- Meeting dated 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023

Appendix G

**23.28.8. In light of the ongoing success of the newly established Croquet Club, To approve repealing the decision of March 2022 to allow the Cricket Club to develop the Bowls Green for Cricket Nets from January 2023.**

### **Appendix H**

*As per Standing Orders 7a, being six months since the last time this resolution was discussed. (Cricket) given the backing of GPC to take the old bowls club ground, after they had confirmed they no longer wanted it, to SODC for planning advice.*

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved to repeal the decision

**23.28.8.1. To approve moving the croquet club licensing to annually in line with other sports club from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024**

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved to move licensing in line with other clubs, AS RW and JE to negotiate.

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

**23.28.9.1. To appoint a new member to the Finance Committee**

**Resolved:** unanimously appointed RW to the Finance Committee

**23.28.9.2. To appoint a new member of the Staffing Committee**

**Resolved:** AS resigned, unanimously appointed BN & JH to the Staffing Committee.

**23.28.9.3. To appoint a Councillor authorised to negotiate with the solicitors on the sale of OJFS**

**Resolved:** Unanimously appointed AS to join SL to negotiate with the solicitors.

**23.28.9.4. To appoint a Councillor to deal with the Tennis Club lease**

Hold for now

**23.28.9.5. To make any further appointments as required.**

**23.28.9.5.1 Planning Committee**

**Resolved:** unanimously to appoint BD to the Planning Committee

**23.28.9.5.2 New Office Working Group**

**Resolved:** unanimously to appoint SB to New Office Working Group

**23.28.9.5.3 Shepcot Working Group**

**Resolved:** unanimously to appoint BD to the Shepcot Working Group



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## **Traffic Management, Parking & Pedestrian Safety Committee**

### **23.28.9.6. To Receive an update**

Verbal report from Assistant Clerk MH: who said the speed signs plan has been revised, they have discarded the plan to use mobile ones, in favour of permanent ones in locations to be finalised: outside the Miller of Mansfield; the Social Club; Manor Road; Cleeve Road; the junction of Eleveendon & Ickneild, two to replace by the school (these would be school sign in school hours then 20 at other times).

Bike stands due to be installed early in the NY as approved in minutes 23.20.11.1. TMPPS to look at reducing the number of freestanding signs for safety around the new stands.

Yellow lines and pedestrian priority Station Road – consultation due the end of November. MH getting quotes to re-mark the parking bays at Sheepcot car park and a pedestrian priority lane at the entrance. Speed cushion proposed between the Red Cross Rd junction and the Social Club likely to cost £77k+ a decision is yet to be made if this will be taken further.

Comments on the above raised in the meeting included the stands could block the peninsula, there are too many free-standing signs. Recently 16 bikes were noted by the Cafe, left leaning against lamp posts and tables causing concerns that a single bike stand will attract multiple bikes stacked up. In the light of the concerns, RW agreed to speak to the owners of the Arcade about the number and placement of advertising boards.

## **New Office Space Working Group**

### **23.28.9.7. To Receive an update**

**Appendix I**

The report was received with no additional comments from the Council.

## **Planning Committee**

### **23.28.9.8. To Receive an update on the appeal relating to application number P23/S0298/DA ref land adjacent to the White Hills Burial Ground**

To note the appeal has been delayed, SB has agreed to represent the Parish Council. There are concerns more static caravans will be added and damage will be caused to the AONB.

## **Finance Committee**



## **GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL**

- 23.28.9.9. To Receive an update Budget to be brought to the next Council meeting. The unknown factor is the costs associated with the total costs of proposed projects and the amount of grants to be applied for etc. When do we need to start building up funds? How much? What especially is needed for the next year?**

Councillors were asked to submit requests by the 21<sup>st</sup> November so they can be considered at the next Finance Committee meeting 28<sup>th</sup> November.

- 23.28.9.10. To note the CiL receipts for the year, published on the website and sent to SODC**  
**Appendix J**

Noted

- 23.28.9.11. To note the NALC revised cost of living salary scales for the Year 1st April 2023-31st March 2024 have been approved nationally. As the Council operates an NJC contract, to approve paying the newly approved rates and back-pay to 1st April 2023 to all employed during the applicable period, in the November 2023 Payroll.**  
**Appendix K**

**Resolved** Unanimously approved to pay the new rates and back pay.

### **Playgrounds Working Group**

- 23.28.9.12. To approve the revised terms of reference** **Appendix L**

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved subject to removing the word signage from the ToR.

### **Environment Working Group**

- 23.28.9.13. To Receive an update** **EWG Action List**

There has been a meeting with the Ferry Lane neighbours, who are implementing a tree plan and willing to enter in a co-operative relationship.

No further progression with SODC re green waste disposal.

EWG are continuing to look at the benches/seats.

Yew Tree Court, at No1 want the ivy removed from the fence. EWG to get quotes for removal.

Tree survey and maintenance becoming more urgent, Clerk to continue chasing quotes as a priority.

- 23.28.9.14. To approve a budget for sustainably re-instating the Jubilee Garden and the potential on-going maintenance costs** **Appendix M**

The appendix gives the estimated costs for a variety of options. Delegate to Clerk to source further quotes from companies for maintenance.

**Resolved:** Unanimously to not set a budget for reinstatement.

**Resolved:** By Majority to ask the Clerk to seek quotes for watering weeding, replacing existing plants to maintain the Jubilee Garden to look cared for

- 23.28.9.15. To approve the EWG to look at an alternative design for a more affordable solution which is low maintenance.**

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved EWG to look at an alternative design.



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## Sheepcot Working Group

**23.28.9.16. To Receive an update.** CR & AS visited Chinnor to look at the multifunction Pavilion. Helpful to get the details of the architects, builders etc , plan to bring this back to a later meeting.

**23.28.9.17. To approve the revised terms of reference**

**Appendix N**

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved with the amendment to change the quorum to a minimum of two councillors

## Gardiner Pavilion & Field Working Group

**23.28.9.18. To Receive an update –**

Consider establishing this group once the pre-application advice on the Cricket nets has been completed.

## Ferry Lane & Rectory Gardens Working Group

**23.28.9.19. To Receive an update**

**23.28.9.20. To approve the terms of reference**

**Appendix O**

ToR to be brought to the next meeting.

## Liaisons & Representatives Reports

**23.28.9.21. To Receive updates**

**23.28.10. Tennis Club Lease**

**23.28.10.1. To receive an update**

The Tennis Club are generally happy with discussion to date and are looking to future proof the contract allowing them to create access controls and a booking system. Terms to be agreed including solicitors fees.

**23.28.11. To consider planting a traditional orchard in the Bourdillon Field**

**Appendix P**

*Next to the playground*

It was considered that it is not the right time for a standalone project due to the proposed works on the Bourdillon, it should be submitted to the Playgrounds WG

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved to move this proposal to the Playground WG.



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### **23.28.12. To consider a request to plant an oak tree to commemorate the King's Coronation**

#### **Appendix Q**

*There is a suitable space, opposite 'Carlton' along Lyndhurst Road, the same side of the field as the 1953 oak tree, and a small tree planted by the Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012, where there is a gap between the two.*

There were concerns that a sign might be a trip hazard, but the proposed location of the sign would be in the dug area of the tree, close to the trunk. It would be good to have something completed by the Torchlight procession that can be announced.

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved a budget of £250 delegated to the Clerk to work with Ron Bridle

### **23.28.13. Clerks Report**

#### **23.28.13.1. To approve a budget of £600 for the Rectory Garden Christmas Tree and avenue lights (includes insurance, installation, and removal)**

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved the £600 budget for lighting.

#### **23.28.13.2. To approve the Vicar using the Rectory Garden for the Open Air Carols with the Concert Band during the Christmas period**

*In anticipation that the Vicar may be organising Carols co-ordinated with the Streatley torchlight parade*

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved allowing the use of Rectory Gardens for Carols subject to a formal request being received.

### **23.28.14. To receive Items of Correspondence and agree actions arising.**

*None*

### **23.28.15. Matters for future discussion.**

Goring Gap News would like longer reports. It was suggested that the Chair/leader of each group writes a summary (where activity has taken place) to keep the public informed.

Level of detail in the minutes. The Chair asked Councillors for comments on this.

### **23.28.16. 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:** Unanimously approved to exclude the Public and Press.

#### **23.28.16.1. To approve the right of access for East Cottage off the White Hills Burial Ground drive on the proviso we are offered the land & sum indicated by the surveyor**

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved the right of access subject to receiving the land and sum indicated by the surveyor.



## **GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL**

**23.28.17. To confirm the time and date of the Next Council Meeting– 7.30pm, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**NOTE:** *Proposals of Motion to be received by the Clerk no later than 30<sup>th</sup> November, in accordance with the Standing Orders.*

**The Meeting closed at 21:25**