



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

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

Monday 8th April 2024 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: John Boler, Chair of MIGGS, welcomed the proposed station pedestrian markings plus dropped kerb and reiterated their offer of £1k as a contribution to the cost. On a personal note, he wished to state his concern about the potential trip hazard of the new bollards in the community centre car park.

Members Present:

Chair	Cllr A Smith (AS)
Members	Cllr S Lofthouse (SL)
	Cllr S Bridle (SB)
	Cllr J Emerson (JE)
	Cllr J Hutchins (JH)
	Cllr B Newman (BN)
	Cllr R Williamson (RW)
	Cllr M Stares (MS)
	Cllr N Mallen (NM)

Officers Present:

Clerk	S Edmunds (SE)
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Public and Press: at least 4 members of public

Meeting started 19:30

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

No councillors were absent. Noted the apologies received from District Councillor M Filipova-Rivers

23.52.2. Declarations of Interests [LA 2011 s31]

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

Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interest they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct. (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

None Declared

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



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

23.52.3.1. Meeting held on 11th March 2024

Clarification of title and minute 11.14 re the Goring Poor's Allotment Charity

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

None

Resolved: The minutes were unanimously approved with the changes above.

23.52.4. To Councillor vacancies

23.52.4.1. To note the resignation of Councillor B Drew

Noted

Resolved: If a co-option process be required to appoint a new councillor the closing date for the application would be 6 May 2024

23.52.5. To review the Action List progress and update

Action List

23.52.6. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

23.52.6.1. Oxfordshire County Councillor: F Van Mierlo

Appendix A

23.52.6.2. Oxfordshire County Councillor: K Bulmer

Appendix B

23.52.6.3. South Oxfordshire District Councillor: M Filipova-Rivers

Appendix C

The received reports were noted.

23.52.7. To Receive Minutes of Committees

23.52.7.1. Finance Committee

- Meeting Dated 21st March 2024

Appendix D

23.52.7.2. Planning Committee

- Meeting dated 27th February 2024
- Meeting dated 12th March 2024

Appendix E

Appendix F

23.52.7.3. Traffic Management, Parking & Pedestrian Safety Committee

- Meeting Dated 20th February 2024

Appendix G

Resolved: The above minutes were all received.

23.52.8. To approve the following policies:

23.52.8.1. Business Continuity and Emergency Plan

Appendix H

Cllr JH produced draft scoping paper for the development of a business continuity and emergency plan. It is two pieces of work, one to protect residents in event of emergency and the second is business continuity – if a disaster occurs, most businesses do not survive. This plan will require further work and a number of inputs from others and may benefit from setting up a working group to complete the process.

Resolved: The draft plan was received with thanks to Cllr JH for his work and noted that it provided an excellent template for the plan development which would then require approval



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23.52.9. Annual Meeting of the Parish 18th May 2024

23.52.9.1. To receive an update

Cllr MS updated the council on progress to date for the next meeting of the Parish. He has sent out 44 invitations to clubs and societies, 12 have accepted, awaiting response from 32, he will chase the rest by phone. Playgrounds will be a big pull for visitors to the meeting and we need to find more ways to motivate the village to come. It's a tight timescale for GGN and Genie to publish details, send an invite to the Henley Standard. Consider a suggestion box and asking groups to submit a written report.

23.52.10. To approve changes to Committee / Working Group / Representative including filling vacancies

23.52.10.1. Sheepcot Working Group: To approve replacing Matt Trimmings with Colin Williams as the Football Clubs representative.

Resolved: Unanimously approved the change

23.52.10.2. To approve setting up a business continuity and emergency plan working group.

Resolved: save for a future meeting

23.52.10.3. To approve filling any other vacancies created by the resignation of Cllr B Drew

Resolved: save for a future meeting

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

Traffic Management, Parking & Pedestrian Safety Committee

23.52.11.1. To Receive an update

Cllr RW thanked the Assistant Clerk for the update report – Yellow line feedback indicates that Station Road is a big issue, the aim of the Committee is to increase parking overall NB closing date of consultation 19th April. The flashing speed signs have been ordered, the two on Wallingford Road will be replaced with signs that change according to the time and date to highlight the additional hazard of school children. Hedgehog signs are being trialled in areas considered for speed signs: Manor Road, Cleeve Road, Elvendon Road. The Pedestrian Priority Lane by the station and drop kerb is being considered next on the agenda. At Sheepcot, the car park brambles have been cleared, the order for line marking for the parking spaces has been placed, to be done after half term. The plan for EV charging has been left with SODC to progress.

23.52.11.2. To approve the expenditure of £1,700 (excluding VAT) for the provision of a Pedestrian Priority Lane on GWR land to provide a safe access across the station carpark, and £3,000 for a dropped kerb on the opposite side of Gatehampton Road to link up with the PPL. It is proposed that EMR 349 traffic calming CIL funds be appropriate for this purpose. The work on GWR land will be carried out by their contractors and the dropped kerb by Oxford CC Highways.

It was clarified why multiple quotes had not been sought, it was due to it being on GWR land so will be done by their chosen contractors

Resolved: Unanimously approved



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New Office Space Working Group

23.52.11.3. To Receive an update

JE has reported that OCC has approved the plans with the alteration that the ceiling should be suspended (which creates challenges with attaching the overhead projector) due to concerns of the weight of a solid ceiling.

Planning Committee

23.52.11.4. To Receive an update

To note the appeal starts tomorrow, 9th April 2024 and the village has robustly responded.

Finance Committee

23.52.11.5. To Receive an update

JE updated on progress for opening interest bearing bank accounts and depositing funds. He said the three signatories have been accepted by Unity, the Cambridge society account has not been opened due to confirming the required signatures for writing a cheque, working on the creation of new investments policy to ensure security, fluidity and ease of access.

23.52.11.6. To note the Councils reserves, receipts and payments for the last quarter and the year

Appendix I

SO 17d "distribute the I & E for the year" most overspends recorded relate to movements in CIL between accounts rather than actual overspending.

Playgrounds Working Group

23.52.11.7. To Receive an update

Five submissions received, will be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Parish then go on the website.

23.52.11.8. To note a submission for the Expression of Interest to SODC

Appendix J

The expression of interest for funding from SODC has been submitted and we are awaiting a response. If the application is successful there will be a lot of work to complete to get approval for the grant. SODC have indicated that they wish all approved grants to be able to complete work within 2 years.

Noted

Environment Working Group

23.52.11.9. To Receive an update

EWG Action List

Prioritise the list, look at using the vandalism budget to remove the graffiti, approximately 40 attended the litter picking initiative, GiB cleared gutters, Rectory Garden had a full tidy up, GiB approached businesses to look after their own frontage, special mention for RW & Barbara for further clearing. EWG intended to plant a coronation oak but the risk of attracting the toxic oak processionary moth is high so now looking at changing it to a special elm that is disease resistant but the final mature height is uncertain.

Resolved: Unanimously agreed to replace the coronation oak with another species chosen by EWG



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Sheepcot Working Group

23.52.11.10. To Receive an update

Meeting on Wednesday 10th April, Tomi Wills pulling together current usage by both FC & TC. Tomi Wills will come to the Annual Meeting of the Parish with a draft plan for Sheepcot to start the consultation with the public. A meeting of the WG was planned for later in the week to progress plans.

Liaisons & Representatives Reports

23.52.11.11. To Receive updates

23.52.12. Sports Clubs

23.52.12.1. To receive an update on the tennis club lease negotiations

Wish to enter into a 25 yr lease to replace the two-year contract so as to give certainty and to allow capital investments to take place, such as for sports lighting and resurfacing. Wish to sign a new lease prior to the current one expiring in August 2024. The latest draft will also go to the trustees of the TC for their comments. Biggest give from the parish is potentially upping the number of hours from 200 to 400 hours that the Tennis Club to have priority use of the public court. The draft agreement has a new clause requiring that 30 per cent of those hours must be for events where member of the public are invited to join in.. Other additions to the contract include a requirement for the Tennis Club to maintain the public court's surface at the same standard as the other courts and for the Parish Council to cut back any trees overhanging the courts. Improved signing explaining the availability of courts designed to increase Parishioner's awareness of their rights to use courts was also required by the contract. The Parish Council was aware that when considering the appropriateness of the agreement they were balancing the requirements of two sets of Parishioners, those that were members of the club and those that weren't. There was a requirement in the lease for the club to try to have at least 49 per cent of members from the Parish and its near neighbours. In the medium term the Tennis club would like to introduce a booking system for Parishioners alongside access controls. The council asked the negotiating team to seek agreement from the Tennis club to introduce a restriction to the 400 hours so that they couldn't all be at weekends. They also asked for membership information to be provided annually including on diversity and residency.

23.52.12.2. To approve the proposed new signage for the Croquet & Bowls Club including the use of the parish council logo

Appendix K

Unanimously approved

23.52.13. Clerk's Report

23.52.13.1. To approve a budget of £5k for the replacement of the village gateway signs. The EWG have noted that the signs that mark the entry to Goring have deteriorated significantly over the past several years and are now in a state of disrepair.

Appendix L

Resolved: Approved by Majority to ask the staff to repair, paint, if appropriate and review the entrances gates/supports.



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Motion without notice to suspend standing orders for 10 mins

Resolved: Unanimously approved

Resolved Unanimously Approved for EWG to create design options for new signage at the entrances to the village and to present those options for approval at a future meeting.

23.52.13.2. To note the original gardener appointed to look after the Jubilee Garden has withdrawn his offer and the Clerk is currently interviewing replacements to work within the budget previously approved

Noted

23.52.13.3. To approve a budget for the emergency repairs to the Gardiner Double Doors frame
Unanimously approved £2.5k budget

23.52.14. Matters for future discussion.

To approve setting up a business continuity and emergency plan working group.

To approve filling any other vacancies created by the resignation of Cllr B Drew

To approve continuing to support Readibus

To approve costs associated with the plaque installation at the station

To approve reforming the Communications Working Group

23.52.15. To confirm the time and date of the Next Council Meeting– 7.30pm, 13th May 2024

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