

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GORING ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL
Bellême Room, Goring Village Hall 7.30pm Monday 12 February 2018

Members Present:

Chairman	Kevin Bulmer (KB)
Vice Chairman	John Wills (JW)
Members	Lawrie Reavill (LR)
	Catherine Hall (CH)
	David Brooker (DB)
	Mary Bulmer (MBu)
	Emrhys Barrell (EB)

Officers Present:

Clerk	Colin Ratcliff (CR)
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10 members of the public and press

18/1 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Bryan Urbick (BU) and Carmela Boff (CB)

18/2 To receive any declarations of interests

CH declared an interest in Item 8

18/3 Public Forum

Ann Hart spoke in favour of the grant application for Age UK Oxfordshire for Bereavement Group in the village. John Boler was present to speak to Item 17.

18/4 To approve minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2017

Resolved: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.

18/5 Matters arising from those minutes not elsewhere on the agenda

None

18/6 To receive chairman's report and announcements

None

18/7 To receive a report on the Neighbourhood Plan.

Appendix A refers. KB warned the timing may be tight for the next council meeting and therefore an extraordinary meeting may be required in order to make timely progress. EB asked if the Icknield Road planning permission approval was relevant. Mike Stares stated they had reduced the initial 14 houses to 10 but otherwise no impact on the NP.

18/8 Planning Application – To consider a response to the following application:

P17/S4113/HH 34 Lockstile Way, Goring, RG8 0AL – Extensions and alterations to existing dwelling (as amended by plans and D&S statement received 24th January 2018)

CH left the room.

DB stated the original application had previously been recommended for approval by the Planning Committee. It was noted the revision is for a smaller development than the previous submission.

Resolved: That the council had **No Strong Views** on the amendment

CH returned.

18/9 To receive an update on the NP Strategic Project for Goring CE Primary School

Appendix B refers.

Signed:

K. Bulmer

Dated: 12 March 2018

18/10 To receive a report on the NP Strategic Project for traffic management, parking and pedestrian safety in the village centre

Appendix C refers. DB raised issues that OCC are not answering emails / request for meetings. KB stated he would enquire who is dealing with Goring matters and write to the Cabinet Member responsible.

18/11 To note a report from County Councillor / District Councillor Kevin Bulmer.

Appendix D refers. KB highlighted Carilion issues and that OCC was in a stronger position than many Authorities having cancelled their contract before they went into receivership. There are still some details to unravel but OCC are providing continued service. The Growth Deal is moving through District Councils and SODC cabinet passed it that day. It would reduce the need for a 5 year housing supply to 3 for a few years, thus providing some protection to overdevelopment.

18/12 To receive a report from the Police

JW reported further complaints of drugs use at Sheepcot, all the village recreation grounds are now on the Neighbourhood Team's targeted patrol list. There was damage to a vehicle in Nun's Acre. The PCSO will attend some council meetings in person – next one being March.

18/13 To consider a report on Recreation Grounds issues.

Appendix E refers.

Resolved: That the proposals to submit further applications to SODC on tree works for The Rectory Garden and Gardiner Recreation Ground be approved.

18/14 To receive a report on White Hill Burial Ground issues

MBu reported there had been no response to letting of the paddock and at the next meeting council would need to consider maintenance or leaving as a wild meadow. Volunteer supporters to help keep the burial ground tidy include Maureen Whicher looking after flowers at the entrance, Julie Broadbent litter picking and Janet Lester who reports issues during her regular visits. A letter was received about disabled access; MBu and KB will review other lawn burial grounds for ideas on any potential changes.

A number of memorial headstones have had to be laid down as unsafe. Attempts are being made to contact the exclusive rights owners but many are older graves and current owners unknown.

18/15 To consider a report regarding planned events in the village

Appendix F refers.

Resolved: That the Gap Festival may place stakes in the ground at The Rectory Garden subject to making good any damage.

18/16 Parish Finance:

1 To approve payments for December 2017 and January 2018

Resolved: That the payments be approved

2 To note receipts for December 2017 and January 2018

Noted

3 To note the bank account and reserves balances as at 31 January 2018

Noted

4 To review income, expenditure and the current budget following the end of the third quarter 2017-18 (as at 7 February 2018).

Noted

18/17 To consider a report on the Wallingford Road pavement and a proposal that 'The council

Signed:

K. Bulmer

Dated: 12 March 2018

resolves to make urgent representations to persuade Oxfordshire Highways to permit the removal of the rusty, bull-nose rail barrier in Wallingford Road between High Street and Goring and Streatley station, taking note of the overwhelming evidence adduced by MIGGS that pedestrian safety would be improved without reducing the safety of road vehicles or the railway’.

Appendix K refers. John Boler had asked Network Rail to send him copies of their requests and contact details. Their main contact is apparently not in Highways. KB stated he would make enquiries as to the relevant officer and write to the Cabinet Member responsible to try and progress the outstanding issues.

18/18 To consider actions required to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations and an update on the website

CH was willing to attend a course. It was noted that councillors would need to use dedicated council email addresses for all official council business once the new website was up and running. **Resolved:** That the Clerk be appointed as Data Protection Officer with CH as support / fall-back as necessary, and to report back on other actions required following training.

18/19 To receive a report on the ‘Get Involved Fair’

Appendix M Noted

18/20 Reports from Planning Committee – to receive minutes of meetings held on 21st November, 5th December 2017 and 9th January 2018.

Received and noted.

18/21 Correspondence

1 To consider an application for a grant from the Citizens Advice Bureau

2 To consider an application for a grant from Age UK Oxfordshire

3 To consider an application for a grant from the Oxfordshire Association for the Blind

Resolved: To defer a decision on all three applications until April as limited funds were left in this year’s budget

4 To consider a Wayleave Consent application and commuted payment from SSE regarding development at 19 Gatehampton Road.

Resolved: That the application be approved

18/22 Matters for future discussion

None

18/23 Confidential Business - 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.

Resolved: That the motion be approved

18/24 To consider staff matters

Recommendations in a confidential report were approved including increasing the cleaner’s salary in line with legislative changes.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 2042 hrs.

Abbreviations (where used):

FOI Freedom of Information
GM George Michael

Signed:

K. Bulmer

Dated: 12 March 2018

GPC Goring on Thames Parish Council
ICO Information Commissioner's Office
NP Neighbourhood Plan
NPSG Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
NPSP Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Project
OCC Oxfordshire County Council
PCSO Police Community Support Officer
SODC South Oxfordshire District Council