

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GORING ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL
Garden Room, Goring Village Hall 7.30pm Monday 10 October 2016

Members Present:

Chairman	Kevin Bulmer
Members	Catherine Hall
	David Brooker
	Mary Bulmer
	Lawrie Reavill
	Emrhys Barrell
	Bryan Urbick

Officers Present:

Clerk	Colin Ratcliff
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12 members of the public and press.

16/219 To receive apologies for absence

John Wills, Matthew Brown, Brandon Hancox

16/220 To receive any declarations of interests

None.

16/221 Public Forum

John Boler, MIGGS, gave an update on the current situation of the project to widen Wallingford Road pavement. Network Rail is waiting to discuss ownership and options with Oxfordshire County Council (OCC). Network Rail has suggested that because of the electrification they could not widen the pavement/amend the fence. Later discussion indicated that OCC couldn't easily allow the road to be narrowed as it is already narrow at that point and the location of drains and utilities which would probably need to be moved would also make it extremely expensive

16/222 To approve minutes of the meeting held on 12th and 24th September 2016.

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

16/223 Matters arising from those minutes not elsewhere on the agenda

None.

16/224 To receive chairman's report and announcements

None.

16/225 To consider a report on the Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

David Wilkins presented Appendix A and Sara Benbow introduced the Bramhill Landscape Capacity Study Report which was due for publication the following day. The report had similar conclusions for overlapping sites to the SODC Kirkham Report. The NP Steering Group (NPSG) intends to discuss with South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) the dilemma of the report versus their plans for additional housing.

The Chairman congratulated the NPSG on the report and progress so far.

Resolved: That a joint consultation event take place (NPSG and the Parish Council (GPC)) when the draft Plan is ready for publication.

16/226 Parish Finance

1 To approve payments for September 2016

Resolved: That the payments be approved.

2 To note receipts for September 2016

Noted.

3 To note the bank account and reserves balances as at 30 September 2016.

Noted.

4 To review income and expenditure against the agreed budget at the end of the second quarter 2016-17

Noted

5 To approve and accept the annual return for 2015-16 following the report received from the external auditors BDO LLP

Resolved: That the return be approved and accepted.

6 To consider the re-appointment of Arrow Accounting as Internal Auditor for 2016-2017.

Resolved: That Arrow Accounting be appointed.

7 To consider S.137 Grants for Christmas trees and lights in The High Street and The Rectory Garden together with insurance cover.

The Clerk gave details of his enquiry with GPC's insurers who advised that for cover to be provided GPC had to own the project. Volunteer resources and Public Liability would be covered as long as suitable risk assessments had been carried out. Goring Gap News (GGN) has agreed to grant funds to GPC to cover the purchase of trees and lights. Geoff Brown would assist with drafting risk assessments to extend the decorations and trees to include both Rectory Garden and The High Street.

Resolved: That the project be run by GPC with volunteer support with the proposed budget agreed, subject to confirmation the grant is available from GGN.

8 To consider S.137 grants for the 2018 Gap Festival over two years.

Discussion took place regarding the amount requested and GPC's budget.

Resolved: That a decision be deferred until December once the 2017-18 budget has been drafted.

16/227 To note a report from County Councillor / District Councillor Kevin Bulmer

Appendix I referred. There is a strategic review of OCC's property resources. The Clerk was asked to chase OCC for a reply to the previous enquiry regarding the Community Centre.

16/228 To consider a report from the Police

None

16/229 To consider a report on High Street issues

A reply had that day been received from OCC regarding potential High Street improvements and an HGV survey with an offer to meet a representative on site to progress.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) was discussed.

Resolved: That GPC should take up the offer to progress draft plans and that the Planning Committee monitor potential CIL funds with a view to using them towards High Street improvements.

16/230 To consider issues relating to village parking

Dates are being passed to SODC to arrange a meeting with Cllr's K. Bulmer, Wills and Brooker about Wheel Orchard Car Park and fees.

16/231 To consider a report on Gardiner Pavilion development.

Cllr. Urbick had been trying to get hold of the right person at SODC to claim s.106 funds and apply for a capital grant. Further detail on funding will be known once next year's budget is drafted.

- 16/232 To consider a report on Recreation Ground issues**
The working party had met and agreed on most of the specification. Four potential suppliers have been identified. The Chairman noted the Pavilion refurbishment costs may have an impact on timing.
- 16/233 To consider a report on White Hill Burial Ground issues**
Repairs had been completed following the burglary and positive feedback had been received by Cllr. M. Bulmer on the grounds' appearance.
- 16/234 To consider attendees to the Autumn Town and Parish Forum 2 November 2016.**
Cllr's Brooker and Hancox were nominated to attend.
- 16/235 To consider a Department for Communities and Local Government technical consultation on the Local Government Finance Settlement including proposals regarding council tax referendum principles for local parish and town councils.**
Resolved: That GPC send a strong reply that the proposals are not proportionate with referendum costs being prohibitive versus a modest precept rise.
- 16/236 To consider an amended wayleave application from SSE**
Resolved: That the application be approved.
- 16/237 Reports from Planning Committee – to receive minutes of meetings held on 30 August and 13 September 2016.**
Received and noted.
- 16/238 Correspondence**
- 1** An email had been received regarding an accident in Wallingford Road and concerns from the school on road safety. There was some confusion over the exact location and what was alleged to have happened.
Resolved: That Cllr's Barrell and Urbick meet the author / school to find out more detail.
- 2** An email had been received asking permission for a memorial bench in Gardiner Recreation Ground.
Resolved: To thank the family, approve the request and to leave the detail to be arranged via the Clerk with a preference for recycled materials.
- 16/239 Matters for future discussion**
None
- 16/240 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.
- 16/241 To consider a report from Cllr. McMillan, South Stoke Parish Council regarding bus services**
Cllr. McMillan presented a report regarding options being considered by South Stoke Parish Council and others to retain a service to Wallingford as the 134 route by Go-Ride was due for closure. A proposal was made to use Oxfordshire CC Comet service with ticketing but underwritten by the Parish Councils.
Resolved: To approve a three month trial conditionally on no other options appearing in the meantime, South Stoke PC agreeing and that it continued to be financially viable. No concessions, £3.00 return ticket from Goring to Wallingford.
- 16/242 To consider quotes for tree surgery works at Gardiner Recreation Ground,**

Sheepcot Recreation Ground, The Rectory Garden and Yew Tree Court.

Cllr. Reavill suggested contacting The Gatehampton Trust regarding The Rectory Garden.

Resolved: To accept the quote of £1,870 from M&C Landscapes.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 2208 hrs.