

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GORING ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Bellême Room, Goring Village Hall 7.30pm Monday 11 April 2016**

**Members Present:**

|               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| Chairman      | Kevin Bulmer   |
| Vice-Chairman | John Wills     |
| Members       | Catherine Hall |
|               | Mary Bulmer    |
|               | Matthew Brown  |
|               | Lawrie Reavill |
|               | Bryan Urbick   |

**Officers Present:**

|       |                |
|-------|----------------|
| Clerk | Colin Ratcliff |
|-------|----------------|

13 members of the public and press

**16/63 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from:  
Cllrs. Emrhys Barrell, David Brooker, Brandon Hancox

**16/64 To receive any declarations of interest**

Cllr. Hall stated that the Wayleave request, item 14, is for work connected to a client so would not take part in any discussion or vote.

**16/65 Public Forum**

No comments

**16/66 To approve minutes of the meetings held on 14 March and 2 April 2016**

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

**16/67 Matters arising from those minutes not elsewhere on the agenda**

None

**16/68 To receive chairman's report and announcements**

The Chairman reported he has written to the Clerk to state he would not take part in the Goring Weir Committee meetings. As Chairman of the Parish Council and a District Councillor he felt it best to recuse himself.

**16/69 To consider a report on the Neighbourhood Plan**

Tom Rothwell gave an update from Appendix A. There had been 21 exception requests regarding the site survey questionnaire due to changes since the last published electoral roll. Approximately 750 responses had been received. Cllr. Urbick asked if there had been any feedback on grants funding. Mr Rothwell was not aware of any.

**16/70 Parish Finance**

**1 To approve payments for March 2016**

**Resolved:** That the payments be approved

**2 To note receipts for March 2016**

Noted

**3 To note Cash and Investment Reconciliation as at 31 March 2016**

Noted

Signed:

K.Bulmer

Dated: 9 May 2016

- 16/71 To note a report from County Councillor / District Councillor Kevin Bulmer**  
The Chairman referred to Appendices E and E1.  
Regarding the District Council Planning Committee he accepted that Councillors can make comments and that it is for Planning Officers to advise Councillors. He read out letters he had sent to SODC and replies received regarding the decision of the Planning Committee on Goring Weir. A meeting was suggested but he will not be meeting them about the matter as he felt it would not be appropriate while legal action is pending.
- 16/72 To consider a report from the Police**  
Cllr Wills reported there had been further damage to the school fence at Bourdillon, the police will monitor the area. Drug use had again been reported in Gardiner. The police have advised CCTV signage. Jacks store have suffered youths bullying and rubbish thrown.  
**Resolved:** That CCTV signs be placed at Gardiner and Sheepcot. **(Action Clerk)**
- 16/73 To consider any Freedom of Information appeals**  
None
- 16/74 To consider a report on Recreation Ground issues**  
Cllr. Reavill summarised Appendix F.
- 16/75 To consider a report on White Hill Burial Ground issues**  
Cllr. M. Bulmer reported that there had been no success so far in getting quotes for redecoration and that the gates are green with algae again and asked that this be an annual maintenance issue after the winter. **(Action Clerk)**
- 16/76 To consider a request from Scottish and Southern Energy for Wayleave Consent for a supporting stay wire in Fairfield Road.**  
**Resolved:** That consent be given.
- 16/77 To consider actions that might be taken following the report on Unitary Authorities in Oxfordshire discussed at the meeting of 14 March.**  
It was agreed that this item wait for reports to be published by the relevant councils as the situation had changed since it had been placed on the agenda.
- 16/78 To consider maintenance works proposed at Sheepcot Pavilion.**  
Cllr Wills referred to Appendix I, stating the kitchen in particular needs improvement but the whole building needs some work doing. There is no budget for works in the current year but cleaning of the kitchen may be needed.  
**Resolved:** That the list of works be prioritised and any urgent work progressed as soon as practicable and that it be included in budget discussions for the following year
- 16/79 To consider a report on legal action against SODC regarding the weir planning application.**  
Cllr. Urbick ran through the Pre-Action Protocol (PAP) letter to explain some of the issues of the legal claim which is based on four key areas. If proceedings are lodged the council would seek a protective costs order. A committee meeting has been arranged for 18 April after SODC's response is expected. He asked that the PAP letter be available to the public. Cllr Brown reported an article had been written for the next Goring Gap News. Cllr. Urbick also suggested the council seek a formal Conservation Area Appraisal. He stated the Clerk had sent an FOI request to the Environment Agency. Cllr. Hall agreed to assist with listed buildings information for the solicitor. A letter to Streatley Parish Council was discussed to explain the legal action.  
**Resolved:** That a redacted (solicitor and barrister details) copy of the PAP be made available and that a letter be sent to Streatley Parish Council.
- 16/80 To consider a number of bids for grant funding regarding the Queen's 90th Birthday**

**celebrations. A total of £1689 is available from SODC.**

Appendices J1, J2 and J3 refer. The three bids total £118 more than the grant available from SODC. Appendix K summarised the current budget for parish council grants and funding the difference was discussed.

**Resolved:** That the applications are approved and that the difference is funded from the S.137 grant budget.

**16/81 To consider a S.137 grant application by The Gap Festival**

Cllr. Hall stated this is the second of a quickly growing, professional event that is good for the village. The turnover is approx. £81k so the application is for a small percentage of the overall costs. Concerns were raised over the available funds from this year's budget.

**Resolved:** That a grant of £1000 is approved and that an interest free loan could be considered if required.

**16/82 Reports from Planning Committee – to receive minutes of meeting held on 1 March 2016**

Received and noted.

**16/83 Correspondence**

Acknowledgement and thanks had been received from Goring Village Hall regarding the donation of the clock and £1000.

**16/84 Matters for future discussion**

None for future agenda

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 2045 hrs.