

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GORING ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL
Garden Room, Goring Village Hall 7.30pm Monday 12 December 2016

Members Present:

Chairman	Kevin Bulmer
Vice-Chairman	John Wills
Members	David Brooker
	Mary Bulmer
	Lawrie Reavill
	Bryan Urbick
	Emrhys Barrell

Officers Present:

Clerk	Colin Ratcliff
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11 members of the public and press

16/270 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from:
Catherine Hall, Matthew Brown, Brandon Hancox

16/271 To receive any declarations of interests

None

16/272 Public Forum

John Boler stated an appeal had raised sufficient funds for MIGGS contribution to Readibus until at least April 2019. He updated the Parish Council (GPC) on attempts to get Network Rail and Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) to remove the rusty barrier on Wallingford Road. Network Rail have said that if OCC agree they will remove it and put a new fence behind the current barrier, thus allowing for a widening of the pavement. GPC were asked to continue supporting the project by writing to OCC to press for their agreement.

Andy Best, an ex-member of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) raised a number of issues relating to the exhibition held on 10 December on site selection: He was concerned that GNP6 was included for a small number of houses and that would be damaging. He questioned the decision making process, queried the brief to Bramhill, commented on the screening and access road and lack of transparency in the decision. The Chairman made a declaration of interest that Cllr. M. Bulmer's and his house sits directly behind that site.

David Wilkins noted that Andy Best had not declared a similar interest. He stated an FOI request had been received on similar issues which would probably assist in explanation as to the reasons and process, and that no firm decisions have been made yet. Mr Best stated that he did live nearby the site.

Ann Ludlam said that it was misleading the site had been off the list but was now back on. It was pointed out that no site was excluded. Cllr. Barrell asked Mr Best to submit a written statement outlining his comments.

Richard McNeill, a neighbour of Mr Best asked that the vehicle access be revisited to GNP6.

It was noted that a supplementary Bramhill report is still required and that a six week consultation will take place once the draft plan is published and before submission to South Oxfordshire District Council (SODC) who will also consult and submit to an examiner prior to a referendum.

Simon Carter spoke about Goring and Streatley Festival's request for funding.

Signed:

K. Bulmer

Dated: 13 February 2017

- 16/273 To approve minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2016**
Resolved: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman
- 16/274 Matters arising from those minutes not elsewhere on the agenda**
 Item 16/254 The litter bin has been removed at Sheepcot, initially there was a lot of rubbish which was dumped at the Council Office but since then the recreation ground has been clear of litter.
- 16/275 To receive chairman's report and announcements**
 The Chairman has written to Mme Roy, expressing condolences on behalf of GPC on the death of her husband, Bellême Twinning Association.
- 16/276 To consider a report on the Neighbourhood Plan. To ratify the appointment made at the last Council Meeting of Enid Worsley to the NPSG .**
Resolved: That Enid Worsley's appointment be ratified.
 David Wilkins referred to Appendix A adding that the exhibition on 10 December had taken place. The NPSG are awaiting a supplementary report from Bramhill which will be published once received. He reported the proposed dates through to referendum will slip. The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to all those involved in the Neighbourhood Plan for the hard work done so far.
Resolved: To give a vote of thanks.
 Mike Stares noted the Site Selection Overview Group (SSOG) has formally written and confirmed the process was handled with integrity and no bias.
 A request for an additional £6,000 for the NP budget was discussed, for additional consultations, exhibitions and unexpected consultant's fees.
Resolved: To approve an extra £3,000 for 2016-17 and £3,000 for 2017-18.
 The clerk was asked to contact SODC about the potential for any further grants.
- 16/277 Parish Finance**
- 1 To approve payments for November 2016**
Resolved: That the payments be approved
- 2 To note receipts for November 2016**
 Noted
- 3 To note the bank account and reserves balances as at 30 November 2016**
 Noted
- 4 To consider a reviewed Neighbourhood Plan budget**
Resolved: That the proposed virements be approved.
- 5 To consider a grant application of £8,000 over two years for the Goring and Streatley Festival (deferred from October meeting).**
Resolved: To defer until April or May when more will be known about current large scale expenses and the impact on 2017-18 budget.
- 6 To consider a request from Goring United for a partial refund of fees due to disruption caused by the Gardiner Pavilion works**
Resolved: That no refund is possible given advance notice and the alternative facilities provided.
- 7 To consider a request from MIGGS for funding towards an "Accessible by train" leaflet / brochure to promote visits to Goring and Streatley**
Resolved: To defer until April or May when more will be known about current large scale expenses and the impact on 2017-18 budget.

- 16/278 To note a report from County Councillor / District Councillor Kevin Bulmer**
Appendix I refers. NALC have given advice which undermines Community Bus funding issues. Cllr. Bulmer has taken that up with OCC whose legal department have a different view; asking them to work with NALC to review their advice. He updated on the latest situation on Unitary discussions, District council leaders are now apparently looking into a Mayor for a combined Authority which may have an impact on local planning decisions.
- 16/279 To consider a report from the Police**
Cllr. Wills had been unable to contact the local PCSO whose phone has apparently been out of order. The clerk had reported two suspicious persons seen and photographed in the village that the police did not apparently respond to. With recent reports of burglaries in South Stoke and at least one attempt in Goring this was disappointing.
Resolved: To write to the police to raise concern over these two matters.
- 16/280 To consider a report on High Street issues and Gardiner Pavilion**
Appendix J refers. Concern was raised that no reports have yet been received on CIL funds despite over seven months passing from its inception with promises of regular six monthly updates. There was some support for a loan but more detail of costs and expected income to cover a loan would be needed.
A proposal regarding the footpath from Wheel Orchard was placed on hold pending Goring Gap in Bloom's plans for the area.
Resolved: To write to SODC regarding GPC's frustration at the lack of CIL information and for Cllr. Brooker to contact Keith Stenning regarding examples to help draft consultation plans for the High Street.
- 16/281 To consider issues relating to village parking**
None – awaiting a reply from SODC
- 16/282 To consider a report on Gardiner Pavilion development.**
Works are progressing satisfactorily. A report had been received that day from the architect.
- 16/283 To consider a report on Recreation Grounds issues**
Cllr. Reavill stated that swings in Bourdillon had been condemned and removed. Quotes have been received for replacement.
Budget issues mean a review of how to proceed with new equipment in Gardiner is required. Cllr Urbick reminded the working group that formal plans need to be available at least a year in advance for grant applications.
Cllr. Reavill wondered about contacting the Charity Commission to clarify what GPC can do with restrictive covenants in place at The Rectory Garden. The clerk was asked to review the previous discussion and decision (approx. 2012-13).
- 16/284 To consider a report on White Hill Burial Ground issues**
None
- 16/285 To consider Food Festival use of The Rectory Garden, Gardiner Recreation Ground and car parks.**
Resolved: That approval be given and to delegate future authority on this subject to the Clerk
- 16/286 To consider options for re-routing of the 134 bus and a request to park the bus at the Parish Council Office**
Cllr. Wills explained emails received about proposed changes to the 134 bus route. It would not go through the High Street but via Station Road, Thames Road and Glebe Ride. There were no objections to the proposals.
Resolved: That permission be granted for temporary parking of a bus at the Council Office for a maximum of 6 months.

- 16/287 Reports from Planning Committee – to receive minutes of the meeting held on 8 and 22 November 2016.**
Received and noted.
- 16/288 Correspondence**
None
- 16/289 Matters for future discussion**
Cllr Barrell asked why the number of votes cast are no longer recorded in the minutes. The clerk stated there is no requirement to record them unless a member asks for names to be recorded at the time of a vote. It was suggested this matter could be considered when standing orders are reviewed (February 2017).
Cllr. Reavill stated he had received a complaint the access point into Gardiner had been closed for the building works. It was pointed out the works include a new path at the same point so it has to be closed until finished.
- 16/290 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
- 16/291 To consider quotes for replacement of removed swings in Bourdillon Recreation Field.**
Concerns were raised that insufficient funds are available at present to replace.
Resolved: To defer a decision and rethink a replacement in association with other plans for play equipment in the village. The working group to meet and bring proposals back at a future meeting.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 2135 hrs.