

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GORING ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL
Bellême Room, Goring Village Hall 7.30pm Monday 14 August 2017

Members Present:

Chairman	Kevin Bulmer (KB)
Vice Chairman	John Wills (JW)
Members	Emrhys Barrell (EB)
	Mary Bulmer (MBu)
	Bryan Urbick BU)
	Carmela Boff (CB)
	David Brooker (DB)
	Lawrie Reavill (LR)

Officers Present:

Clerk	Colin Ratcliff (CR)
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Approx. 36 members of the public and press

17/73 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Catherine Hall (CH) and Matthew Brown (MBr)

17/74 To receive any declarations of interests

None.

17/75 To receive chairman's report and announcements

1. KB said that following discussions with some parents of children at the school that it would be appropriate to have an Extraordinary Council Meeting dedicated to the issue of a new school. It had been arranged for Wednesday 13th September, 19:30 at the Bellême Room. It follows a meeting the same day with the NPSG, School Governors, The Diocese, OCC and SODC so the most up to date information can be shared.

2. KB was pleased to announce the council had agreed to offer Stephanie Bridle the Freedom of Goring in recognition of the good work she has done in the village. She has accepted and an award ceremony will now be arranged.

17/76 Public Forum

Murray Symes thanked GPC for the opportunity to discuss the school at a council meeting. He stated he is a parent and it was not just the governors who are interested in this matter of a new school. He noted there is also a pre-meet with councillors on 6th or 7th September to have a dialogue about the scope of the extraordinary meeting.

Rob Jones said that 10 years ago he was chairman of the school PTA and is shocked at the condition of the school, he said there was a need for more housing and infrastructure and it would be a positive move to have a new school. A debate is needed about where and funding but he hoped the principle could be established.

A MOP was concerned that development at the edge of the village would mean encroachment and extension to South Stoke.

Maureen Whitcher asked KB in his role as OCC Cllr. to ensure give way markings were re-instated at the Reading Road / Wallingford Road junction. She stated beer bottles had recently been left near the dog waste bin at Sheepcot.

A MOP asked KB as OCC Cllr. about hedgerows across pavements and how to deal with them. KB explained the process and asked for issues to be sent to his OCC email if no response was obtained via Fix My Street. Alan Jones raised hedgerow issues at Pennypiece.

17/77 To approve minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2017

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

17/78 Matters arising from those minutes not elsewhere on the agenda

Signed:

K. Bulmer

Dated: 11 September 2017

None

17/79 To consider a report on the Neighbourhood Plan

Nigel Gilson (NG) presented Appendix A.

He said an article is due in the GGN and mentioned there were alternative options for a school location and welcomed the Extraordinary Council Meeting.

Murray Symes asked for the Goring Plan website to be updated. Tom Rothwell (TR) said it is intended to have a full re-engineer ready for the consultation in the near future.

KB said it would be time soon to look for volunteers to take on the next iteration of the Plan which has to be done within 5 years and will be a rolling programme.

A MOP asked for clarification on NG's comments about alternative locations. TR said the GGN article explains the issues and options.

17/80 Parish Finance:

1 To approve payments for July 2017

Resolved: That the payments be approved

2 To note receipts for July 2017

Noted

3 To note the bank account and reserves balances as at 31 July 2017

Noted

4 To note 2017-18 expenditure against budget as at 9 August.

Noted.

17/81 To note reports from County Councillor / District Councillor Kevin Bulmer.

KB ran through his reports at Appendix F and F1.

CB asked about grants for rural projects, KB advised her to follow the links on the website.

DB stated the Community Centre have put out a request in the GGN to use or lose the centre and whether OCC are aware of any issues over renewal of the lease. KB was not aware of anything specific.

17/82 To consider a report from the Police

JW reported there had been a burglary at the School but it was not known if anything had been taken, a car had a roof damaged in Cleeve Down and that Abingdon CID are dealing with a report of sexual assault near Bourdillon where the victim was touched inappropriately.

17/83 To consider a report on High Street issues

DB referred to Appendix G.

17/84 To consider a report on Recreation Grounds issues

LR referred to Appendix H. He proposed obtaining / renewing quotes for replacement swings at Bourdillon and applying for grants / use of S.106 funds recently received from SODC.

Resolved: That quotes be renewed and for BU and LR to apply for grants and source funding.

JW proposed obtaining quotes to install a new entrance at the South-East corner of Gardiner Recreation Ground.

Resolved: To obtain quotes.

DB raised the issue of the litter bin at Sheepcot. Comments discussed included the main culprits being youths leaving litter; removing or adding bins have both been proven to work in other areas; the removal of the bin had been a trial; the issue being people leaving rubbish, not the presence / absence of bins as the same problem does not occur at Gardiner or Bourdillon; that there is a cost implication of replacing / increasing bins.

Signed:

K. Bulmer

Dated: 11 September 2017

Resolved: That an estimate be obtained of the cost of re-instatement and collections.

17/85 To approve a Fire Risk Assessment for Gardiner Pavilion

Resolved: That Appendix I be approved.

17/86 To consider a report on White Hill Burial Ground issues

MBu said the previous paddock tenant had moved with no forwarding address and it is currently unused. The paddock will need cutting this autumn and she proposed advertising for grazing or to use it as a wild flower meadow.

Resolved: To advertise in the GGN for grazing.

17/87 To consider a report conducted on behalf of SODC on councillors' allowances.

Noted. No proposals were received to pay councillor allowances.

17/88 To consider the future of the Community Centre Car Park following notice that Hitachi Capital Finance are relocating, given the lease renewal is due in October.

16 permit holders have recently been lost with the relocation of Hitachi away from the village. Options discussed included returning the lease to OCC or continuing to negotiate and trying to fill the spaces.

Resolved: To continue negotiations with OCC on lease renewal (BU, DB and CB) pending the outcome of DB assessing interest from High Street businesses with a final decision to be made at the next meeting.

17/89 Reports from Planning Committee – to receive minutes of meetings held on 6th, 20th June and 4th, 18th July 2017

Received and noted.

17/90 Correspondence

1 The Information Commissioner has notified GPC a complaint had been received which was being investigated.

2 An email had been received from Veronica Reynolds of Vectos asking for GPC support as grant recipient in applying for a GWR communities grant for a cycle shelter and bike repair stand at Goring and Streatley Station. There would be no ongoing commitment for GPC as all future maintenance would be with Network Rail.

Resolved: That the application be supported by GPC.

17/91 Matters for future discussion

DB suggested investigation of a mapping system for recording of GPC's assets and other ongoing mapping requirements and to investigate costs: for the next agenda.

DB also raised recent issues with the website which is getting old and no longer supported by our software provider: for the next agenda.

17/92 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.

17/93 To consider quotes for the Parish Council's Insurances.

A number of quotations were assessed.

Resolved: To accept the quotation from Came & Co, Specialist Parish and Town Council insurance brokers.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 2155 hrs.

Abbreviations:

CID Criminal Investigation Department
GGN Goring Gap News
GPC Goring on Thames Parish Council
MOP Member of the Public
NP Neighbourhood Plan
NPSG Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
OCC Oxfordshire County Council
SODC South Oxfordshire District Council