

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF GORING ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL
Bellême Room, Goring Village Hall 7:30 pm Monday 14 May 2018

Members Present:

Chairman	Kevin Bulmer (KB)
Vice Chairman	John Wills (JW)
Members	Catherine Hall (CH)
	David Brooker (DB)
	Mary Bulmer (MBu)
	Bryan Urbick (BU)
	Lawrie Reavill (LR)
	Matthew Brown (MBr)
	Debbie Gee (DG) (From minute 18/77 onwards)

Officers Present:

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

18/72 To elect the Chairman for the year ahead.

Cllr. Kevin Bulmer was nominated unopposed and duly elected

18/73 To receive declaration of Chairman's acceptance of office

Received

18/74 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Emrhys Barrell (EB)

18/75 To elect a Vice-Chairman for the year ahead

Cllr. John Wills was nominated unopposed and duly elected

18/76 To receive declaration of Vice-Chairman's acceptance of office

Received

18/77 To approve the appointment of Debbie Bevan as a co-opted member of council

Resolved: That Debbie Bevan (now Gee) be co-opted onto the council

18/78 To receive declaration of member's acceptance of office

Received

18/79 Councillors to confirm their registrations of interests are up to date on the SODC website

All present confirmed

18/80 To receive any declarations of interests

None

18/81 Public Forum

Jim Emerson asked why there was no report from the Weir Committee on the agenda and was concerned over the amount GPC had spent on the case.

JW explained there had not been a committee meeting as the final report had not yet been received from the solicitors. Although the judgement was publically available the lawyers were still discussing costs. He stated that explanations over decisions had been given at each step of the process. KB said decisions had been based upon legal advice on the likelihood of success. BU noted the challenge was layered, briefly explained the issues and was happy to discuss further if required.

Signed:

K.Bulmer

Dated: 9 July 2018

- 18/82 To approve minutes of the meetings held on 5 and 9 April 2018.**
Resolved: That the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.
- 18/83 Matters arising from those minutes not elsewhere on the agenda.**
None
- 18/84 To receive chairman's report and announcements.**
None
- 18/85 To appoint Planning Committee members**
DB, JW, CH, BU, LR, MBu, MBr and DG were appointed
- 18/86 To consider the need for / appoint Goring Weir Committee members**
Resolved: To continue the committee for now. All councillors except KB were appointed
- 18/87 To appoint Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group members (Advisory Committee)**
Resolved: That the existing committee be re-appointed
- 18/88 To appoint representatives to serve on other bodies:**
- 1 Goring Volunteer Trust – DB appointed
 - 2 Twinning Committee – KB, JW and DG appointed
 - 3 Lybbe's Alms House Charity – LR appointed
 - 4 Goring Village Hall Committee – BU appointed
 - 5 The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group – KB, CH appointed
 - 6 Goring Poor Allotment Charity – KB appointed
 - 7 Gap Festival Committee – CH appointed
- 18/89 To receive any reports from representatives on external bodies**
KB reported that the Allotment Charity had changed a stile to a gate but meetings were currently in abeyance following the death of the Rev Paul Boughton. LR noted the same issue at Lybbe's Alms House Charity.
- 18/90 To consider individual councillor's responsibilities**
Resolved: That Appendix A stay unchanged except that DB and JW be appointed to assist LR with Recreation Grounds and Sports Clubs
- 18/91 To receive a report on the Neighbourhood Plan.**
David Wilkins spoke to Appendix B. KB noted that traffic monitoring was taking place in Springhill and Wallingford Roads.
- 18/92 To receive a report on the NP Strategic Project for Goring CE Primary School**
BU reported that the group had met on 9 May to go through the results of the feasibility study and that a formal document would be released in a few days. There were requests for GPC to release the report. KB pointed out it was the school group's report and not GPC's. Stephanie Bridle asked for clarification on who attended the meeting, BU explained the make-up. Nigel Gilson asked that the NPSG be involved more; BU stated he would take that back to the group.
- 18/93 To receive a report on the NP Strategic Project for traffic management, parking and pedestrian safety in the village centre**
DB reported notes of a recent meeting with OCC Highways Officers had been circulated to councillors. OCC agreed to provide drawings and specifications within 3 months; they are also looking at the footpath widths for potential additional posts to prevent parking on pavements. He said there had been no response yet from SODC on Civil Enforcement Powers re parking. It was

agreed to copy the letter to the new council leader.

18/94 To note a report from County Councillor / District Councillor Kevin Bulmer.

Appendix C refers.

Ned Worsley asked if KB was aware of a report on strategic traffic modelling that the NP had not seen. KB was not aware of a report.

He stated that SODC were considering asking government about the consequences of delaying the local plan to allow a review of major development sites. He mentioned that there was a new leader and cabinet at SODC and that he had been appointed as a cabinet member.

18/95 To receive a report from the Police

CR reported there had been some Theft from Motor Vehicles (vans) and shed burglaries around nearby areas. The local PCSO has stated that parking enforcement is no longer a NHPT priority. JW reported a stolen pedal cycle that evening where a van registration number had been taken and passed onto the police.

18/96 To receive a report on Recreation Grounds issues.

Appendix D refers.

DB suggested a meeting with Goring Robins was needed about a potential refurbishment. He stated that Goring Vets were willing to sponsor a new dog waste bin.

18/97 To receive a report on White Hill Burial Ground issues

MBu reported that flowers in tubs had been planted, a bench needed some maintenance and that the gate needed cleaning. She had received a complaint about long grass; BU proposed the contractor could monitor and do additional cuts as required during peak months. This was allowed for in the current contract but may need additional budget later.

Resolved: To ask the contractor to cut weekly if the weather was suitable, and the grass needed extra cuts, during May to July.

18/98 To receive a report regarding planned events in the village

CH reported that Gap Festival tickets were selling fast and the organisers were still looking for volunteers to help. There was no update on a George Michael memorial although the family had asked for those left outside the houses to be removed soon.

18/99 Parish Finance:

1 To approve payments for April 2018.

Resolved: That the payments be approved

2 To note receipts for April 2018

Noted

3 To note the bank account and reserves balances as at 30 April 2018.

Noted

4 To approve direct debit mandates

Resolved: Those in Appendix H were approved.

5 To consider pay scale progression for the Clerk from 1 April 2018 from point 33 to 34 as previously agreed in principle, but subject to annual review.

Resolved: That the progression be approved.

6 To approve an increase in the weir legal fees budget / reserve

Deferred until next meeting when costs may be known

Signed:

K.Bulmer

Dated: 9 July 2018

- 18/100 Financial Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2018**
- 1 To approve the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2018 (balance sheet and income & expenditure)**
Resolved: That the accounts be approved
 - 2 To approve the annual governance statement in section 1 of the statutory annual return**
Resolved: That the statement be approved
 - 3 To approve the statement of accounts in section 2 of the statutory annual return**
Resolved: That the statement be approved
 - 4 To approve a variances report to the external auditors**
Resolved: That the report be approved
 - 5 To note budget variations for 2017-18**
Noted
 - 6 To receive a report from the internal auditor for 2017-18**
Received
 - 7 To note year end cash and investment reconciliation as at 31 March 2017**
Noted
- 18/101 To consider new / amended Privacy, Information and Retention policies**
Appendices P, P1, P2 referred.
Resolved: To approve the policies
- 18/102 To consider attendees (2) to the OCC Town and Parish Event at Didcot on 18 October 2018**
JW and MBu were nominated to attend
- 18/103 To consider an update on flow problems to Gardiner Pavilion Showers**
Reports had been circulated prior to the meeting. BU suggested looking further into the requirements and obtaining competitive quotes with a view to grant funding
Resolved: To progress as suggested
- 18/104 Reports from Planning Committee – to receive minutes of meeting held on 27 March 2018**
Received and noted
- 18/105 Correspondence**
- 1 To consider an application for an event with alcohol sales at Gardiner Pavilion by the Cricket Club**
Resolved: That the application be approved
 - 2 To consider in principle a right of access to East Cottage from White Hill Burial Ground entrance road.**
KB proposed that council agree to explore the options, e.g. design of access, legal fees, potential conditions etc.
Resolved: To arrange a site visit and meet with the applicants (MBu, DB, CH, KB)
- 18/106 Matters for future discussion**
None
- 18/107 To consider cancelling or postponing the next meeting.**
Resolved: That the June meeting be cancelled, the next being 9 July

Signed:

K.Bulmer

Dated: 9 July 2018

18/108 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

18/109 To consider a recommendation from KB and BU on the appointment of an Assistant Clerk

Resolved: That Mike Ward be appointed as Assistant Clerk.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 2110 hrs.

Abbreviations (where used):

GPC	Goring on Thames Parish Council
NHPT	Neighbourhood Policing Team
NP	Neighbourhood Plan
NPSG	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
OCC	Oxfordshire County Council
PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
SODC	South Oxfordshire District Council