

**MINUTES OF THE GORING ON THAMES PARISH ANNUAL MEETING**  
**Bellême Room, Goring Village Hall 7.00 pm Monday 10 April 2017**

**Members of the Parish Council Present:**

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

**Officers Present:**

Clerk	Colin Ratcliff
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14 members of the public and press

**17/1 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from:  
John Wills

**17/2 Chairman's welcome**

Cllr. Kevin Bulmer, as Chairman on the Parish Council welcomed those present. He explained briefly the differences between a Council Meeting and the Parish Meeting. He informed the meeting that Cllr. Brandon Hancox had resigned from the Parish Council due to pressure of work and therefore a casual vacancy now existed.

**17/3 To approve minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2016**

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

**17/4 Matters arising from those minutes not elsewhere on the agenda**

None

**17/5 Annual Report incorporating reports from local organisations**

The Chairman stated he would intersperse his report with others from local organisations at appropriate times.

The Chairman's Report is appended to the minutes and additional comments are included below.

**Planning**

The Chairman gave a report (appended). He said that the Hydro legal claim had been partly funded by donations.

**Railway Action Group**

The Chairman gave a report (appended).

**Neighbourhood Plan (NP)**

Report given by Mike Stares (MS) (appended). He said there had been much effort from so many people and thanked them and the Parish Council for being supportive of the NP work. He said it will be a cornerstone against which to fight large scale development being forced on Goring.

Chris Rickards stated the school was bursting and asked what the plans were. MS said that Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) challenge that it is bursting, the NP has had two major meetings with the School Governors, the Diocese, and OCC in the last six weeks. Initially the school were looking at a 1.5 form entry school but are now planning a new school of the same size as it is now, with the potential for future expansion. He noted however that the NP could not assess it without a fully worked proposal which had not yet

Signed:

K. Bulmer

Dated: 9 April 2018

been received. He explained some aspects of the attendance policy and OCC's reasoning that growth is unlikely.

The Chairman commented that the NP can only consider options put forward by landowners and none had so far done that. The issue is complex and there is a lot of work for the school and governors to do to get a proposal submitted.

MS stated the NP is a living document, there is an urgent need to get it done but it can be adjusted later.

### **MIGGS**

Report given by John Boler (appended). He also stated the lengthening of platforms at the station was due to start soon.

### **Gardiner Pavilion**

The Chairman noted the work was due for handover on 24 April.

### **Buses**

John Boler said that Readibus is funded until the end of March 2019 by MIGGS, and hopes the Parish Council will continue to support it.

### **High Street**

The consultation currently underway on High Street improvements is based upon OCC Highways' advice as a starting point. The aim is to improve safety for pedestrians. He hoped some Community Infrastructure funding might be available as it was one of the top items mentioned during the NP consultations.

### **Weir**

The Chairman stated he had recused himself from any discussions about the weir. Cllr. Urbick introduced the appended report and invited questions. Chris Rickards asked about the current status which was explained and noted that he had tried to contact the Sustainability Group without success noting that some had apparently resigned from the group.

### **County Councillor's Report**

Report given by Cllr. Bulmer (appended) Chris Rickards stated there had been no publicity about who was standing in the CC elections. The Chairman said it was a matter for the parties to inform electors. The names were on the SODC website and had been published in The Henley Standard which would probably do a more in depth article. He noted that the Parish Council cannot get involved in advertising for candidates.

### **District Councillor's Report**

Report given by Cllr. Bulmer (appended)

## **17/6 Public Forum**

Chris Rickards said that the grass cutting in the village was very good and he was impressed with the contractor's work. He asked about electric car charging: the Chairman said there were no plans yet for Goring, some for Oxford City and that it was a challenge to get the different organisations to work together. John Boler stated that Great Western Railway had cut back on two planned charging points due to their reduced budget.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 2007 hrs.