

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GORING ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL
Bellême Room, Goring Village Hall 7.30pm Monday 12 March 2018

Members Present:

Chairman	Kevin Bulmer (KB)
Vice Chairman	John Wills (JW)
Members	Lawrie Reavill (LR)
	Catherine Hall (CH)
	David Brooker (DB)
	Mary Bulmer (MBu)
	Bryan Urbick (BU)

Officers Present:

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

18/25 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Matthew Brown (MBr) and Emrhys Barrell (EB)

18/26 To receive any declarations of interests

None

18/27 To receive a report from the Police

Item 10 brought forward

PCSO Mark Bell and a colleague were present. He reported a new Neighbourhood Sergeant had been appointed – PS Neil Hands.

Parking issues by builders in Gatehampton Road had been resolved but will be monitored. Local builders have expressed interest in signing up to Business Watch. A white Transit Van had been checked in suspicious circumstances around the village. He noted some burglaries had been reported in the nearby area; there had been an attempt in Cleeve Road the previous week. Local youths had been spoken to in Sheepecot. Hare coursing is a current priority and two vehicles were recently caught and seized nearby.

18/28 Public Forum

John Boler gave an update on a site meeting with OCC and NWR regarding the Wallingford Road widening. NWR are willing to accommodate whatever is practicable and OCC acknowledged there is a serious problem that needs addressing. Following further technical checks, OCC are hopeful to be able to realign / reconstruct the road to accommodate a full width pavement. NWR in the meantime are to cut back vegetation as much as possible.

18/29 To approve minutes of the meeting held on 12 February 2018

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

18/30 Matters arising from those minutes not elsewhere on the agenda

CH stated she cannot be the General Data Protection Regulations fall-back councillor as no training course was available.

18/31 To receive chairman's report and announcements

KB stated he hoped to announce an Extraordinary Meeting for 27 March regarding the NP submission.

He informed GPC that Cllr. Carmela Boff had resigned and that there was therefore a Casual Vacancy for which notice will be given.

Signed:

K. Bulmer

Dated: 9 April 2018

He noted the date for the Weir Judicial Review Appeal Hearing of 20 March at The Appeal Court.

- 18/32 To consider requests for dog waste bins on The Ridgeway and in Gatehampton Road**
Item 18/1 brought forward
Julie Broadhurst explained the need for a bin in Gatehampton Road and BU the need for The Ridgeway.
Resolved: That costs of new bins be obtained and reported back to GPC
- 18/33 To receive a report on the NP Strategic Project for Goring CE Primary School**
BU reported the project was going well and hoped for more detail by the next meeting.
- 18/34 To consider a report on the NP Strategic Project for traffic management, parking and pedestrian safety in the village centre**
Appendix A refers.
Resolved: That a letter be sent to SODC regarding parking deregulation
- 18/35 To receive a report from County Councillor / District Councillor Kevin Bulmer**
Report added as an appendix to the minutes. KB added that OCC were managing a declining roads network with limited budgets and potholes are an ongoing issue. £450-500m was needed to fix the network properly but OCC will continue to repair as efficiently as possible. KB had proposed a devolvement system for initial consideration by OCC.
- 18/36 To consider a report on Recreation Grounds issues.**
Appendix B refers.
Comments on metal detecting were that the recreation grounds are grassed and maintained areas. There was agreement on cricket trophies being placed on one wall and to make good any damage. Letter re dog faeces – keeping dogs on leads was felt to be unenforceable. There are two dog waste bins at Sheepcot. LR would write a note for GGN and GENIE to highlight the issues again.
Resolved: That metal detecting would not be allowed on council owned areas. That permission be given to the Cricket Club for small bat trophies.
- 18/37 To consider a report on White Hill Burial Ground issues**
- 1 To consider future maintenance of the paddock**
Resolved: That the paddock should be cut once a year.
 - 2 To consider whether burial ground charges (resident or non-resident) should be based upon the grave's exclusive rights owner or the deceased's address**
Appendix C refers.
Resolved: That the criteria for Goring residential rates for both interment and memorials would be set upon the last home address of the deceased and not the exclusive rights owner.
 - 3 For residency qualification – consideration of the point at which a 'resident' becomes a 'non-resident', if they move away from the parish of Goring, e.g. into a nursing home out of the area**
Resolved: That there would a maximum five year limit to the qualification
 - 4 To consider an appeal on memorial charges at White Hill Burial Ground**
Appendix D refers – resolved by item 18/37/2 above going forwards, refund in this case only.
- 18/38 To receive a report regarding planned events in the village**
None
- 18/39 Parish Finance:**

Signed:

K. Bulmer

Dated: 9 April 2018

- 1 To approve payments for February 2018**
Resolved: That the payments be approved
- 2 To note receipts for February 2018**
Noted
- 3 To note the bank account and reserves balances as at 28 February 2018**
Noted
- 4 To consider virements within the budget towards the year end**
Appendix H refers
Resolved: Virements approved
- 5 To consider payment of a late invoice £300 plus VAT for Christmas lights 2016 (approved in Sept 2016). 2017 Christmas grants budget (underspent) will need an increase of £150.**
Resolved: To pay the invoice with an increased budget for 2017-18
- 6 To consider a 2018 staff pay increase of 2% in line with national pay agreements.**
Resolved: Approved for payment from 1 April 2018

18/40 To consider three grant applications deferred from the February meeting (papers circulated in February).

1 From the Citizens Advice Bureau

Discussions took place on the merits of local impact, use of public money when not specifically for Goring. It was suggested that the CAB could consider a Goring surgery and agreed that BU would contact them to discuss.

2 From Age UK Oxfordshire

BU stated this met the criteria as being specific for Goring residents and proposed £500 as 25% of their required total. MBu proposed £1000 which was not supported as an amendment.

Resolved: To provide a grant of £500 with an increase in the budget for the current financial year.

3 From the Oxfordshire Association for the Blind

This application was not supported

18/41 To review Standing Orders and Regulations

No changes proposed other than those for the White Hill Burial Ground Regulations resolved as above at 18/37/2 and 3

18/42 Reports from Planning Committee – to receive minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2018.

Received and noted.

18/43 Correspondence

1 To consider a complaint regarding the Neighbourhood Plan

Resolved: That there had been nothing wrong with the NP process as suggested. BU would draft a reply to the complainant

18/44 Matters for future discussion

LR suggested moving unsafe memorial stones where the current owners cannot be traced to the edges of the burial ground. For next meeting.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 2045 hrs.

Abbreviations (where used):

FOI	Freedom of Information
GENIE	Gap Electronic News and Information Exchange
GGN	Goring Gap News
GM	George Michael
GPC	Goring on Thames Parish Council
ICO	Information Commissioner's Office
NP	Neighbourhood Plan
NPSG	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
NPSP	Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Project
NWR	Network Rail
OCC	Oxfordshire County Council
PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
SODC	South Oxfordshire District Council