

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GORING ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL
Bellême Room, Goring Village Hall 7:30 pm Monday 11th February 2019

Members Present:

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

Officers Present:

Clerk	Colin Ratcliff (CR)
Assistant Clerk	Mike Ward (MW)

17 members of the public and press

19/1 To receive apologies for absence.

None

19/2 To receive any declarations of interests

None

19/3 Public Forum

Ann Hart was present to commend the award of a grant for litter picking, Item 18/3. John Boler for MIGGS said the Norman Radley Plaque for the Station Bridge was being manufactured. He updated Appendix J that traffic lights will be in place for two weeks for fence work and that the vegetation outside Station House had been cut back but he has asked OCC if they will remove stumps etc.

Jonny Russel regarding item 13 said the Cricket Club was strongly opposed to the Gardiner Recreation Ground being proposed and summarised their reasons.

Mike Stares wished to thank John Boler, MIGGS and GPC for efforts to amend the crash barrier on Wallingford Road – there would be a great increase in safety.

19/4 To approve minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2018.

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

19/5 Matters arising from those minutes not elsewhere on the agenda.

None apart from 18/233 updated by John Boler as above

19/6 To receive chairman's report and announcements.

KB said that BU, CH, DB and DG plan to walk around the village regarding the Britain in Bloom entry in order to make early observation of issues that can be fixed.

The Neighbourhood Plan was still awaiting the Examiner's report.

19/7 To receive a report on the NP Strategic Project for Goring CE Primary School

BU stated the group had met recently; work was progressing well, and they planned another meeting with all the Governors soon.

19/8 To note a report on the NP Strategic Project for traffic management, parking and pedestrian safety in the village centre

Signed:

K. Bulmer

Dated: 11 March 2019

DB reported bollards had been fitted in the High Street and explained the location limitations controlled by OCC, the Arcade owners have applied for planning permission for similar. He said a response was still awaited from OCC on plans for the High Street improvements. BU suggested getting a consultant to do the design work and it was agreed the idea should be explored. KB noted SODC and OCC are still working on deregulated enforcement.

- 19/9 To receive a report from County Councillor / District Councillor Kevin Bulmer.**
Appendix A was noted. BU asked KB how the £1billion fund could be accessed by local communities as, for example, GPC has 211 streetlights that will require replacement at some point and is an OCC responsibility elsewhere.
- 19/10 To receive a report from the Police**
JW reported between 19-24 January three burglaries had occurred in Milldown Avenue and Heron Shaw, all in unoccupied premises and on 5 February a vehicle window was smashed on the Bridleway.
- 19/11 To consider reports on Recreation Grounds issues, including a proposal regarding plans and consultation for new play equipment in Gardiner Recreation Ground**
Appendices B and B1 referred.
LR said he had intended to put forward more detailed proposals for The Rectory Garden but that is now planned for the next meeting. KB noted the Conservation Area Officer would need to be consulted, even if planning permission was not required.
BU spoke to the Appendix B1 proposal.
Resolved: That GPC commission Anthony Stiff & Associates to do the full project with the budget for the consultant coming from the (no longer needed) Conservation Area Appraisal reserve.
- 19/12 To receive a report on White Hill Burial Ground issues.**
MBu reported the burial ground was looking good and that rare breed sheep were now in place in the Paddock.
- 19/13 To consider a report regarding planned events in the village including a proposal regarding the outcome of the George Michael Event Consultation.**
BU presented Appendix C; results of the consultation on a GM event.
A discussion took place which included contributions from the public. Comments included a further event's outcome being critical for the future; a well organised event being better than no organisation; local charities might benefit as well as national; that both a substantial number of people did not support an event and that a substantial number did. Terry Daniels (potential event organiser) commented on GM's philosophy and charitable work. Jonny Russell, Chairman of the Cricket Club had circulated and highlighted objections to Gardiner Recreation Ground being used. Other comments included Sheepcot being the largest venue available; opposition to The Rectory Garden being used; Gardiner already being booked for cricket matches; importance of communication to local residents.
KB proposed an amendment that Sheepcot Recreation Ground should be offered for 2019, with specific Terms and Conditions being drawn up.
Resolved: That the amendments and the App C motion be accepted and a working group including BU/CH/DG and the Clerk make the arrangements.
- 19/14 Parish Finance:**
- 1 To approve payments for December 2018 and January 2019**
Resolved: That the payments be approved
 - 2 To note receipts for December 2018 and January 2019**
Noted

3 To note the bank account and reserves balances as at 31 January 2019

Noted

4 To consider budget amendments / virements for the current financial year

Resolved: That the requests in Appendix G be approved

5 To receive a report from the internal auditor for 2018-19

Appendix H received. Jim Emerson pointed out a potential error on Page 5. The Clerk will check and report back at the next meeting.

19/15 To review Standing Orders and Governance Documents numbered 1 to 8 on the council's website <https://www.goringparishcouncil.gov.uk/documents/governing-documents/> including consideration of an updated Code of Conduct

KB noted that the NALC code of conduct was less vague than SODC's version. Proposed and seconded to adopt the NALC updated code at Appendix I, which would require an amendment to Standing Orders and Regulations, and therefore deferred until next meeting.

Resolved: Approval given that minor updates be made to documents numbered 2 to 8 on the website as suggested in a prior circulation by the Clerk.

19/16 To note a report from John Boler on the Wallingford Road pavement widening

Appendix J noted, including the suggestion for a joint meeting.

19/17 Reports from Planning Committee – to receive minutes of meetings held on 27 November and 18 December 2018.

Minutes received.

19/18 Correspondence

1 To consider a survey request from OCC regarding devolvement of services

Resolved: That the survey response be drafted by DG and agreement obtained by email for submission.

2 To consider a request for an additional salt bin at the junction of Elvendon Road and Wallingford Road

Councillors agreed to give some thought to a possible location before making a decision.

3 To consider a s.137 Local Government Act 1972 grant request of approx. £150 for litter picking in the village

Resolved: That a grant of £150 be awarded.

4 To consider a s.137 Local Government Act 1972 grant request of up to £200 by Home Start Southern Oxfordshire for their home-visiting volunteer service.

Resolved: To decline a grant at this time but to refer to the Goring Volunteer Trust and the Goring Poor Allotment Charity as potential sources of funding, should they not be able to assist then GPC would reconsider.

19/19 Matters for future discussion

BU – Proposals being drawn up for High Street grass verges near The Rectory Garden.

19/20 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 public and press should be temporarily excluded.

19/21 To consider staff pay from 1 April 2019

Signed:

K. Bulmer

Dated: 11 March 2019

CR and MW left the room.

BU submitted proposals for staff pay increases in line with contracts.

Resolved: That the recommendations in the report be accepted.

19/22 **To consider quotes for new playground equipment in Gardiner Recreation Ground**
Decision deferred due to the appointment of a consultant (see minute 19/11 above).

19/23 **To consider tenders for grass cutting and grave digging**
Tenders had been received from five companies.
Resolved: That the contract be awarded to M&C Landscapes

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9:25 pm.

Abbreviations (where used):

GGIB	Goring Gap in Bloom
GGN	Goring Gap News
GM	George Michael
GPC	Goring on Thames Parish Council
MIGGS	Mobility Issues Group for Goring and Streatley
NALC	National Association of Local Councils
NP	Neighbourhood Plan
NPSG	Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
NWR	Network Rail
OCC	Oxfordshire County Council
PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
SODC	South Oxfordshire District Council
TVP	Thames Valley Police