

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GORING ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Bellême Room, Goring Village Hall 7:30 pm Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

**Members Present:**

Chairman	Kevin Bulmer (KB)
Vice Chairman	John Wills (JW)
Members	Bryan Urbick (BU)
	Matthew Brown (MBr)
	Lawrie Reavill (LR)
	David Brooker (DB)
	Sonia Lofthouse (SL)

**Officers Present:**

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

9 members of the public and press

**19/148 To receive apologies for absence.**

Debbie Gee (DG), Catherine Hall (CH), Mary Bulmer (MBu)

**19/149 To receive declarations of interests**

None

**19/150 Public Forum**

A resident asked whether the proposed hedge in Appendix H might cause any obstruction for wheelchair users. BU assured it would not.

**19/151 To approve minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

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

**19/152 Matters arising from those minutes not elsewhere on the agenda**

None.

**19/153 To receive Chairman's report and announcements**

KB noted signs for an Art function at the Morrell Rooms in Streatley had been placed in some inappropriate and dangerous locations, some have been removed.

**19/154 To receive a report from District Councillor Maggie Filipova-Rivers (MFR)**

Appendix A refers.

DB asked if there were any problems with parish councils developing affordable housing. MFR asked whether GPC were planning to. DB said can you answer the question yes or no. MFR said she would need to check.

DB also asked if there was any update on Civil Enforcement Powers. MFR said that OCC and SODC were working on it and that a study had been commissioned. KB asked for timescales (see item 19/166 following)

**19/155 To receive a report from County Councillor Kevin Bulmer**

KB stated this was a quiet holiday period. He is seconding a motion being put forward in September regarding the proposed third bridge at Reading and the lack of cross border co-operation on infrastructure in Oxfordshire.

**19/156 Correspondence:**

- 1 To consider a request for a croquet lawn at Gardiner Recreation Ground**

Signed:

K. Bulmer

Dated: 9 September 2019

Discussion included that GPC are trying to find locations for play equipment and that space on Gardiner away from the cricket and football fields might be problematic, questions raised on how often the space would be needed and whether the group had thought about The Rectory Garden.

**Resolved:** To offer The Rectory Garden as the most suitable location subject to the usual booking procedure and charges tariff.

**2 To consider an email about the speed limit on Battle Road**

Councillors were not sure that a change to the limit would make a difference and that a survey would probably be needed.

**Resolved:** To ask OCC to consider a 40mph limit or something more appropriate to the road

**3 To consider a request from Ron Bridle for The Chilterns Conservation Board to use council office space**

**Resolved:** To agree in principle subject to discussion about times, equipment requirements and an agreed contribution towards costs, the details being delegated to BU and CR to negotiate.

**19/157 To consider minimally amending the Burial Ground regulations (as proposed) and to delegate to Cllrs K Bulmer, M Bulmer and B Urbick to draft a basic letter to those responsible for burial ground plots sensitively informing of the rules, the reasons for the rules, and to seek their help in maintaining their loved ones' plots accordingly**

**Resolved:** That the motions in Appendix E be approved

**19/158 To consider amending the terms of reference for the Planning Committee to include responsibility for all aspects of the Neighbourhood Plan, including the NP monitoring framework**

**Resolved:** That the terms of reference be so amended

**19/159 To consider adoption by GPC of the BT telephone box by the Sorting Office, High Street. BT have advised that they may be decommissioning it.**

CR advised of the criteria BT apply and that they have not yet formally consulted. BU stated South Stoke had done so and were discussing potential uses. DB asked whether BT would consider using it as a Wi-Fi hotspot.

**Resolved:** To ask BT to consider the possibility of a Wi-Fi hotspot

**19/160 To consider seeking volunteers to be an on-going volunteer resource and to delegate Cllrs M Bulmer and B Urbick to set-up the initiative.**

KB proposed an amendment to the motion in Appendix F – that the Village Audit recently carried out should be a regular twice yearly event run by the same working group with support from any other councillor (BU, DB, DG, CH, SL) and that any projects leading out of that audit should be assessed for the optimum way to achieve results which could lead to advertising for volunteers at that time.

**Resolved:** That the amended proposal be approved

**19/161 To consider annual playground inspection reports / recommendations**

LR noted the appendices G and G1 contained minor recommendations with nothing particularly significant.

**Resolved:** That the medium risk recommendation be actioned, with others reviewed by the Clerks in line with the budget, leaving a contingency, and to review in 3 to 4 months.

**19/162 To consider, in principle, a low beech hedge along the curb-edge of the verge in front of Rectory Garden and to seek quotes for final approval at a future Council meeting**

Appendix H refers.

**Resolved:** That the proposal be taken forward

**19/163 Playground update – to receive report**

Appendix I refers.

BU noted a meeting with the sports clubs is planned for 21<sup>st</sup> August.

**19/164 To consider electronic circulation of council agendas and papers; individual authority from each councillor is required**

BU proposed councillors should consider saving costs by authorising email circulation of official council papers. CR will send an email requesting authority.

**Standing Items:**

**19/165 To receive a report on the NP Strategic Project for Goring CE Primary School**

BU had met with Governors recently, there had been some changes to responsibilities, and they were keen to work with GPC on the project, coming back to GPC in a few months.

**19/166 To consider a report on the NP Strategic Project for traffic management, parking and pedestrian safety in the village centre**

Appendix J refers.

MFR updated on the earlier question on Civil Enforcement. OCC are leading a joint project and have appointed ITA as consultants. The first meeting was in July. A report for SODC is expected around Christmas. The Police and Crime Panel are struggling with PCSO recruitment with over 70 vacancies and she noted that some councils are sponsoring their own PCSOs.

BU noted that SODC cannot delegate powers to parish councils unless they hold the Power of Competency.

Regarding proposals on consultants for the High Street: **Resolved:** To approve an amended motion to spend up to the requested amount from the reserve on appointing consultants to develop the High Street improvement plans.

**19/167 To receive a report from the Police**

JW reported that he had been advised of the following incidents:

Recent Burglary in Reading Road

10th July 1 x Public order (domestic related)

11th July - Burglary residential (shed break)

12th July – Missing Person

15th July – Missing Person

17th July – Stalking/Harassment (within care home!)

17th July – Assault with Injury (domestic related)

20th July – Shoplifting

25th July – Theft (outboard motor)

27th July – Neighbourhood dispute

28th July – Burglary residential (Domestic related)

**19/168 To receive a report on Recreation Grounds issues**

Appendix K refers.

LR also reported that the gas boilers at Sheepcot Pavilion had recently been condemned and was on the agenda for the sports clubs meeting on 21 August.

It was also **Resolved:** That the temporary additions to the sports clubs working group be made permanent (LR, JW, BU, MBu, MBr and (DB re Sheepcot Pavilion only).

**19/169 To receive a report on White Hill Burial Ground issues**

None

**19/170 To receive a report regarding planned events in the village**

None

**19/171 To receive a report on the Conservation Area Appraisal**

JW reported that they have started the spatial analysis which involves mapping and recording some key features of the CA, such as views and vistas, trees and green landscape and street pattern and plot layout. Over the next two months, they anticipate starting on drafting the historical development and archaeology of Goring, and working to try to construct a character analysis of the CA.

**19/172 Parish Finance:**

**1 To approve payments for July and 27-30 June 2019**

**Resolved:** That the payments be approved

**2 To note receipts for July and 27-30 June 2019**

Noted.

**3 To note the bank account and reserves balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019**

Noted.

**4 To review income & expenditure to date (as at 7th August 2019) and consider proposed budget changes**

**Resolved:** That the proposals in Appendix O1 be approved and that a new working group be formed to take forward a replacement streetlamp programme (KB, BU and MBr)

**19/173 Reports from Planning Committee – to receive minutes of meeting held on 25 June 2019**

Minutes received.

*JW left the meeting at 8:50pm*

**19/174 Matters for future discussion**

None

**19/175 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

**19/176 To consider approval of the terms and costs of a licence with OCC regarding GPC's lease of the Community Centre Car Park.**

**Resolved:** To approve the terms and to pay OCC's legal costs of £500

**19/177 To discuss options to recognise the work done by volunteers / village supporters**

Discussion postponed for the time being

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:59 pm

**Abbreviations (where used):**

CA	Conservation Area
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
GiB	Goring on Thames in Bloom
GGN	Goring Gap News
GPC	Goring on Thames Parish Council
MIGGS	Mobility Issues Group for Goring and Streatley

NALC National Association of Local Councils  
NP Neighbourhood Plan  
NWR Network Rail  
OCC Oxfordshire County Council  
SODC South Oxfordshire District Council