



# GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the Goring On Thames Parish Council

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 7:30pm

### Public Session – Prior to the Start of the Meeting

MoP1: Agenda item 10, welcome the idea of a strategy being made, but £8-10k seems a lot to spend before more scope is given to the plan.

MoP2: Compliment the clerk on the job specifications for the Cleaner and the Litter Picker and would like for any other jobs in the future, such as the COVID-19 Volunteer Coordinator.

MoP3: Update on the play equipment – response: Agenda Item 10.

### Members Present:

Chairman	Cllr Kevin Bulmer (KB)
Vice Chairman	Cllr John Wills (JW)
Members	Cllr Bryan Urbick (BU)
	Cllr Laurie Reavill (LR)
	Cllr David Brooker (DB)
	Cllr Sonia Lofthouse (SL)

### Officers Present:

Clerk	Laura White (LW)
Assistant Clerk	Samantha Jones (SJ)
Assistant Clerk	Michael Ward (MW)

**Public and Press:** Total: 7

### Meeting started 19:34

#### **20.02.1. To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given. (LGA 1972 s85(1))**

Cllr Matthew Brown (MBr)

Cllr Mary Bulmer (MBu)

2 Vacant Seats

Resolved: reasons approved, unanimous.

#### **20.02.2. Declarations of Interests (LA 2011 s31)**

None

#### **20.02.3. To approve the minutes of previous council meetings**

##### **20.02.3.1. Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous

**20.02.3.2. Matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda**

None

**20.02.4. To receive Chairman's report and announcements**

None

**20.02.5. Vacancies**

**20.02.5.1. To note, resignation of Cllr D Gee and Cllr C Hall**

*Cllr C Hall, confirmed, position to be filled by Co-option*

*Cllr D Gee, to be filled by co-option if election not requested by 15<sup>th</sup> July.*

Noted

**20.02.5.2. To appoint members to Co-option Advisory Working Group, and approve terms of Reference**

**Resolved:** To appoint JW, SL, KB, BU to the working group, TOR Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.5.3. To note resignation of Cleaner and Litter Picker**

Noted

**20.02.5.4. To approve application forms and job description for positions of Cleaner and Litter Picker**

**Resolved:** Approved, unanimous.

**20.02.5.5. To delegate recruitment of replacement Cleaner and Litter Picker to the Clerk**

**Resolved:** Approved, unanimous.

**20.02.6. To receive Clerk's Report**

**20.02.6.1. To approve date to suspend current COVID-19 support, to define retention period for records, for the purpose of restarting in the event of local lockdown or second peak.**

**Resolved:** Approved, to suspend GPC COVID19 activities as of 2 weeks after the "unsheddling" of vulnerable individuals on 1<sup>st</sup> August as per government guidelines, and to retain the records for at least 1 year, to cover the winter period, unanimous.

**20.02.6.2. To agree response to Streatley PC regarding local lockdowns.**

Secretary of State with County will decide. Given experienced to date, more likely to be outbreaks in care homes etc, there is a very robust county response to outbreaks in care homes. There are cross border bodies who will deal with cross boarder matters. The council has neither the authority or ability to have our own response.

**Resolved:** To respond that the idea is valid, but will be managed differently in Oxfordshire to West Berks, GPC can only make recommendation if and when local lockdowns comes up, unanimous.

**20.02.6.3. To formally approve the costs to date for the eviction of the unauthorised encampment.**

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.6.4. To approve sending letters of thanks for the donations for the future security provision of the public spaces.**

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.6.5. To approve GDPR approach.**

BU & LW gave narrative of the background of why this item has been raised. It was suggested that there be a policy on the website and in meetings, to be “at the clerk’s discretion, where deemed necessary, your name may be recorded”.

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.6.6. To consider applying for speed monitoring on the Wallingford Road, for September 2020.**

To apply now, and to review immediately before, to ensure we are not in a local lockdown, and that we are in normal traffic times.

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.6.7. To approve standard approach regarding refunds on fees due to COVID-19 closures.**

To refund for the days closed, of GPC owned property only.

**Resolved:** Approved, by majority.

**20.02.7. Property Report (SJ)**

**20.02.7.1. To approve spend up to £3500 for H&S prioritised building inspections and testing.**

It was discussed further that the works are being prioritised further to ensure priority works are kept within £500, with a note of future works made for the next budget.

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.7.2. To approve joining the Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association (£74)**

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.8. To receive reports from the representatives of Oxfordshire County Council and South Oxfordshire District Council**

**20.02.8.1. County Councillor K Bulmer**

Active travel 1<sup>st</sup> Tranche was not overly successful due to the very tight timescales. 2<sup>nd</sup> Tranche is ongoing.

**20.02.8.2. District Councillor M Filipova-Rivers**

Items in addition to the report:

The cabinet decision to extend the voluntary sector organisation support for 1 year. Also, decision to adjust the process for applying for disability grants, trying to make accessing easier particularly for elderly residents. Working on homelessness prevention. Corporate plan, working hard to imagine the “new normal” so trying to get as many residents as possible to input as to what they think the new normal will look like, not just a new normal. Civil parking enforcement devolvement is an indicative project on the corporate plan, not progressed, but there are plans for the organisation but who it will be devolved to has not yet been decided. Depending on the County Cabinet decision, should come to District for decision in November and then go to the government to approve. The local plan is going to examination tomorrow.

Q: what is the plan regarding cycling and them “terrorising” the village?

A: Need to learn to coexist, and make sure each keeps to their part of the road. The 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche of active travel grants should hopefully work harder on the pedestrians and other parts of the active travel times.

**20.02.9. Planning**

**20.02.9.1. To receive minutes of the planning committee, meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> February**

**Resolved:** Received, Unanimous.

**20.02.9.2. To receive minutes of the planning committee, meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> May**

**Resolved:** Received, majority.

**20.02.9.3. To consider response to planning application P19/S2923/O**

*Land to the east of Manor Road to the south of Little Croft and to west of Elmcroft Manor Road Goring, Erection of 20 dwellings and associated works with all matters reserved except for access. (as per amended plans and information received 29 November 2019, 22 and 29 June 2020).*

KB gave narrative: and recommended resubmitting the previous response again

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.10. To receive report on public spaces, agree actions**

BU gave narrative, acknowledging MoP comments, recommending engaging a professional landscape architect and asking for the options, make changes and only then make a recommendation to the council to progress. It was noted that when engaging a professional such as this, multiple quotes are not required.

It was confirmed that the updated budget (later in the meeting) includes the £10k requested for this budget.

**Action:** To create working group, including BU, MBu, LR & SL + SJ, working to budget £10k.

**Action:** SJ to draft the ToR, for approval at the next meeting.

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

[SL LEFT THE MEETING 20:34]

**20.02.11. To receive Items of Correspondence**

**20.02.11.1. E-mail from Goring-On-Thames in Bloom**

Received

**20.02.11.2. E-mail from Goring Gap Business Network, to Approve holding the funds in an EMR for the purpose, and apply the required rules to the intended expenditure.**

**Resolved:** Approved to accept and hold the monies, Unanimous.

[SL REJOINED THE MEETING 20:37]

## Standing Items

### **20.02.12. To receive a report on the NP Strategic Project for Goring CE Primary School (BU)**

MoP (School governor), the governors made the decision to concentrate on developing the existing school site. The previous aspiration of a new school on a new site, is now a very long term plan but only if there were extensive school development putting excess pressure on the existing school. Pleased to now be concentrating on the new avenue, as at this time of financial uncertainty it is not ideal to be embarking on a very expensive whole new school project. Will use the previous work completed by GPC on the phased redevelopment of the current site. Keen to keep a close relationship between the school and GPC, working with the existing working group (currently BU), and ultimately reporting back to the council in due course.

**Action:** Add two more councillors to the school working group – after the co-option.

### **20.02.13. To consider a report on the NP Strategic Project for traffic management, parking and pedestrian safety in the village centre including the purchase of a new planter (DB)**

Item 1 the high street works – if the monies are available, proposal to move forward with the project. Particularly if the works start now, there is £9k from Highways, if we delay that money may be reallocated.

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

Planter: To approve the additional spend of £150 on top of the original cost

**Resolved:** Approved subject to monies being available from the high street works budget, Unanimous.

Active Travel – potential one way system, other towns are making one way paths, etc one idea for Goring to be a temporary one way system, allowing for additional path or cycleway during the period of 1+ social distancing. A price has been sought for consultation / feasibility study for the one way system. Traffic lights and other physical obstructions such as speed humps, require much more detailed consultations with emergency services etc.

It was suggested to ask the community if they would support it before doing the feasibility study, and the job of the council being to support to the will of the community.

**Proposal:** should the money be externally sourced, to complete the feasibility study then make further decision including asking the community.

**Resolved:** Approved, majority.

### **20.02.14. To receive a report from the police (JW)**

It was noted that the same report also gets published in Genie.

### **20.02.15. To receive a report on Recreation Grounds Issues (LR)**

Proposal to purchase an alternate lock with ability to have more keys to allow for volunteers to lock and unlock daily.

Gardiner has now been mowed, and cricket has recommenced - pavilions still closed.

**20.02.15.1. To consider the reopening of the play equipment and associated costs.**

The fact that a number of parishes have reopened their play areas with the use of signs etc was discussed.

Narrative was given on the responsibilities of GPC to protect unaccompanied children with the recommendation to remain closed as per 50% of the rest of the country.

Concerns were raised that the insurers are clearly saying signs are not good enough, therefore by opening would be going against the recommendation.

The chairman summarised the discussion, stating the government guidance does not give adequate detail on what adequate cleaning includes.

**Resolved:** Proposal (KB) To keep the play equipment areas closed, whilst seeking a cleaning option and seeking better guidance from the government on how to reopen and clean (BU Seconded), Approved, Unanimous.

**Action:** LW to write to the secretary of state asking for better guidance on what the adequate cleaning includes, design etc.

**Action:** MFR to help with guidance and advice from the SODC approach.

**20.02.16. To receive an update on White Hill Burial Ground**

**20.02.16.1. To consider special request for cremated remains interment fee reduction**

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.17. To consider a report regarding planned events in the village**

**20.02.17.1. To appoint a councillor to take over this role after councillor resignation.**

Deferred to a later meeting

**20.02.18. To consider a report on the Conservation Area Appraisal**

MoP: The conservation area appraisal has started again, the first appraisal has highlighted 3 areas. Anglo-saxon, Queen Victorian village centre, Victorian suburbs which ring the core. Currently not protected by Historic England. Plan to document area, type, materials of each of the building in these areas.

**20.02.19. Security Review**

**20.02.19.1. To appoint a councillor to lead this item.**

KB to lead.

**20.02.19.2. To formally accept offer of gates from Grundon and approve budget of up to £1000 for the installation, making good the area around the gates and suitable padlock and additional keys, and choose colour for the gates and posts to be sprayed.**

To choose traditional green for the gate, for example like at the railway.

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.20. Finance FY 2020/2021**

**20.02.20.1. To approve finalised payment schedule for Apr, May & June 2020**

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.20.2. To note receipts for Apr, May & June 2020**

**Resolved:** Noted, Unanimous.

**20.02.20.3. To note the reconciled bank account and reserves balances as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

**Resolved:** Noted, Unanimous.

**20.02.20.4. To approve updated budget for 2020/2021**

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.20.5. To approve suspending all grants for FY 2020/2021.**

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.20.6. To approve the annual fees review**

**Resolved:** Approved to accept the recommended fees, Unanimous.

**20.02.21. Matters for future discussion.**

Registering for Keep Britain Tidy

**20.02.22. 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:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.22.1. To consider matters at Yew Tree Court**

Inform Network Rail the fence will be removed.

Seek legal advice regarding the content of the title deeds.

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.22.2. To consider legal advice regarding unauthorised encampment at Gardiner Receptions Ground.**

To pursue through small claims court, costs associated with removing the unauthorised encampment.

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous.

**20.02.23. To confirm the time and date of the next meeting: Virtual Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020.**

**Meeting Ended: 21:53**