

Meeting of the Parish Feedback

Background

At 18.15 on Saturday 18 May 2024 Goring on Thames Parish Council held the Meeting of the Parish. Over 200 members of the public attended the event and everyone who came was asked to complete a short questionnaire (see appendix A).

One hundred and one responses were submitted and this report summarises the feedback and discusses their implications.

Results Summary

The results have been analysed in a number of ways and each method gives broadly a consistent outcome as summarised below:

Rank	Based on Average Priority Score	Average
1	New playgrounds	3.3
2	Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	4.1
3	Further pedestrian safety measures	4.2
4	Increased parking at Sheepcot	4.5
5	Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	4.7
6	Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	4.7
6	An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot	4.7
8	Electric charging points for cars	5.8
9	A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	6.2

The results also indicated that the priorities could be grouped. The results were analysed to look at how many people put one of the options into their top 3 priorities. Under this method a number of options had very similar scores, allowing the following grouping.

Priority	Count/%	Based on incidence of top 3 priority
Highest	55	New playgrounds
High	41	Selling the parish council offices to the surgery
	40	Further pedestrian safety measures
Mid	31	An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot
	27	Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane
	25	Increased parking at Sheepcot
	24	Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot
Low	15	Electric charging points for cars
	13	A music stage in the Rectory Gardens

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The questionnaire also allowed people to indicate which options they would like the council to stop progressing. In order to indicate whether an option had more or less support than opposition a net score was created by combining the “stop” count with the top 3 priority count above. This indicated that some of the options might better be stopped than given a low priority. These rankings were slightly different, but the groups looked consistent.

Priority	Top 3 - Stop	Based on incidence of top 3 priority	Stop Count
Highest	50	New playgrounds	5
High	39	Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	2
	35	Further pedestrian safety measures	5
Mid	22	An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot	9
	20	Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	4
	18	Increased parking at Sheepcot	7
	17	Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	10
Stop	-6	Electric charging points for cars	21
	-18	A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	31

Finally, to give an indication of general support of initiatives (assuming all could be completed) the percentage of people who had included an item in their priorities was compared to those that had indicated we should stop an initiative.

	% given priority	% stop	Net score
New playgrounds	85%	5%	80%
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	84%	4%	80%
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	83%	2%	81%
Further pedestrian safety measures	82%	5%	77%
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot	80%	9%	71%
Increased parking at Sheepcot	78%	7%	71%
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	77%	10%	67%
Electric charging points for cars	67%	21%	47%
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	61%	31%	31%

Commentary on the results and analysis

Obtaining feedback on council initiatives in this way needs to be treated with caution and the results should not be seen as giving definitive answers to the council’s priorities. When considering the analysis it is important to remember that the sample is relatively small for a population of 3,500. This would be expected to give a margin of error of plus or minus c.10% if the sample were selected randomly from the population. Importantly, the surveys were collected from a self-selecting group of the population; the marketing emphasised the playground initiatives and the clubs that attended were asked to encourage their members to attend. The council needs to be mindful of the bias this may introduce.

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Despite those words of caution, the feedback does appear to provide some endorsement of the initiatives currently being progressed. At present the Parish Council isn't actively progressing electric charging points or a music stage in the Rectory Gardens and the feedback doesn't suggest it should change that.

All respondents were given the opportunity to provide freeform feedback. This is reproduced in appendix B. There are not many themes coming out of that feedback, though the following points are made by more than one person:

- Slides would be popular in the playgrounds
- Parking is a concern, notably for those without their own drives
- A landing stage needs to take account of access down ferry lane
- Gratitude to the parish council for its efforts

Finally, the forms were not all filled out using a ranking of 1 to 9. Where priorities were not ranked, but an indication made that they agreed with the initiative, then a priority score was created by averaging the score for the number of items given a priority. For example if someone ticked 4 items then each of the 4 items was given a score of 2.5 (being $(1+2+3+4)/4$). Where scores were provided these were not altered, though it is possible for a respondent to try to influence the results, for example by including a pet project as priority 1 and all other options as priority 9. The full results in Appendix D indicate this was not a significant issue.

Conclusion

The council should consider the results alongside other feedback to guide its views on the priorities it wishes to progress.

Let Us Know What You Think

Please tell us which of our future plans you think we should prioritise and which we should stop.

Priority – please rank from 1 (most important) to 9

Put an X in the stop column if you don't want a project

	Priority	Stop
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
New Playgrounds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
An all weather pitch at the Sheepcot	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increased parking at Sheepcot	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Further pedestrian safety measures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Electric charging points for cars	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Any other comments

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Appendix B

Freeform feedback (by responder reference number)

5 New playgrounds are the most highest priority for all ages 2 - 12 year old. There is a need for a more challenging climbing frame for 4+ year olds to stretch their abilities
9 Place a sign outside for visitors who are wondering what is on & would like to come and have a look
12 Representing a family of 5
13 No chance of stopping people parking outside pierpontos café I suppose? Not against place for a single track stretch
18 Better safe cycling provision please (e.g Goring to Wallingford)
21 Make good use of the ex royal mail building (council offices??)
24 Parish council meetings should be a) better publicised b) open to the public c) agenda and minutes published in genie news
25 Very supportive of the playgrounds but keen for mixed aged at both sites (I have children of different ages)
28 water access is very important. Look at Wallingford bathing stats
29 Imporved parking at sheepcot needs to come before other development there. Pedestrian safety important but narrow pavement at Station will always be a problem. Hedges need to be held back too. How about asking people with gardens in corners to keep fences clear e.g. coming out of Red Cross Road: at least so near the turn cars are not going fast but its still tricky coming out of Mill Lane in Wallingford Road also.
31 Timescales?
34 Keep up the good work. Thank you.
35 Car parking problem in Whitehills Green. Suggest railway anon use of parking on sat + sun
41 Please install adult exercise equipment preferably on Rectory Garden
44 with so many people buying electric cars they are going to need somewhere to charge them. It would be smaller and less fuss than a petrol station. Re: (music)stage. It is quite easy to build a portable stage when needed. I know from experience. It would have to be maintained if permanent and we need to keep the lovely tranquil natural look of the area.
46 Address give. We back onto the Bourdillon field. We get damage currently to our fence and gate from Children using the goal where it is currently sited and this would increase if the area around the goal is increased. The balls go into our garden and the school resulting in kids climbing over trees to retrieve them. This would be a great opportunity to correct the situation. Replace current basketball hoop and goal with just a hoop and resite the goal(s) into the major part of the field.
49 More cycle lanes/paths
51 Residents parking as exemption to the 2 hour parking restrictions in place and planned by OCC. Residents without a drive or residents welcoming friends and families have huge difficulties to find spaces
52 and more slides please
53 Offices should not move into Community Centre. Why not improve pavillion at Sheepcot and have a large, dedicated area there.
55 Board launch good
56 Thank you for all you do.
60 Ferry lane too narrow - not suitable. Music stage would increase noise.
64 What happened to the hydro scheme?
71 Disabled - accessible - equipment in the playground please so all children and families can play. And thank you for all you do as Parish Councillors. It is appreciated.
75 State of pavements (Clevemedede). Very difficult to prioritise my 1 & 6 are almost equal priorities!
76 Difficult to prioritise
77 More slides at the playgrounds
78 Please can we have a slide in the bourdillon because lots of people including me love slides
79 more bush trimming over pavements
80 Many of the pavements have a lot of overgrowth from hedges etc. making the already narrow paths, worse. Households should be, politely, asked to cut them back to the house boundary.
82 Natural burial ground. Landing stage at Ferry Lane
83 More dog bins near golf club and lardon chase
84 Art project on bridge to incorporate grafiti. Jubilee Garden!!! Its a disgrace.
88 Priority - Doctors performance questionable.
91 Launching of craft excellent but raises problem of parking)
92 Would like hard path to walk Ferry Lane to river and link with hard path back to bridge.
96 Pathway an issue in Ferry Lane and single track - needs to be considered before changing use.
97 replace "planting" up to Sheepcot.
98 Farm Rd/Reading Rd to Whitehills Green 100m stretch! Electric chargers: people have them at home; public ones must be maintained/protected against vandalism
99 Charging points at station. Very unkind, selfish to alter the parking around Thames Road, the Birches - people in the birches work. Love families. Have you removed the notice? Saying PS Office?

9 year old girls Y4 Goring c of E. Playground ideas for older kids: real trees to climb/tree house;supernova carrousel;climbing walls;nest swing; skating and skooter area; picnic benches; exercise equipment; swing pole; net ball court; bicycle ramp; higher, longer zip line; designated graffiti wall; vegi and flower growing area. Would it be possible for children to volunteer to help build it? Contact details given.

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Appendix C

Results summary

Priority	Average score	Ranking of Average	Count of Priorities	Rank of Priorities	Count No 1 priority	Rank No1 Priority	Count top 3 priority	Rank top 3 priority
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	4.13	2	84	3	15	2	41	2
New playgrounds	3.27	1	86	1	27	1	55	1
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	4.69	6	85	2	4	6	24	7
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot	4.69	6	81	5	4	6	31	4
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	4.67	5	78	7	6	5	27	5
Increased parking at Sheepcot	4.53	4	79	6	9	4	25	6
Further pedestrian safety measures	4.17	3	83	4	14	3	40	3
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	6.22	9	62	9	2	9	13	9
Electric charging points for cars	5.75	8	68	8	4	8	15	8

Stop	Stop Total	%age Stop	Stop ranking	Top 3 vs Stop Count	Ranking
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	2	2.0%	9	39	2
New playgrounds	5	5.0%	6	50	1
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	4	4.0%	8	20	5
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot	9	8.9%	4	22	4
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	10	9.9%	3	17	7
Increased parking at Sheepcot	7	6.9%	5	18	6
Further pedestrian safety measures	5	5.0%	6	35	3
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	31	30.7%	1	-18	9
Electric charging points for cars	21	20.8%	2	-6	8

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Appendix D Full results

Priority	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	6	6	1		3.5		8	6		
New playgrounds	1	1	2	3	1		5	7		
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	2	2		2	3.5	1.5	9	4		
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot	3	3	4	1	3.5		5	2		
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	7	7		5		1.5	4	1		
Increased parking at Sheepcot	5	5	3	4	3.5		4	3		1
Further pedestrian safety measures	4	4		6			4	9		2
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	9	9		7			3	5		
Electric charging points for cars	8	8		8			2	8		3

Stop	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery										
New playgrounds										
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot										
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot										
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane					1					
Increased parking at Sheepcot										
Further pedestrian safety measures					1					
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	1	1	1		1	1				
Electric charging points for cars			1		1					

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Priority	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	7	9	6	3		4	4	6	7	1
New playgrounds	4		5	3		2	9	5	6	3
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	1	9	9	3		3	3	4	3	7
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot	5		3	3		1	2	2	2	7
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	6	6	7			8		3	1	1
Increased parking at Sheepcot	2	6	2		1.5	7	5		8	7
Further pedestrian safety measures	3	9	1	3	1.5	5	1	1	9	5
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	9	2	8			9			4	9
Electric charging points for cars	8	1	4			6			5	5

Stop	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery										
New playgrounds		1								
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot					1					
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot		1			1					
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane					1		1			
Increased parking at Sheepcot								1		
Further pedestrian safety measures										
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens					1		1	1		
Electric charging points for cars					1		1	1		

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Priority	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	2		3	4	6		2	5	4	2
New playgrounds	1	2	1	3	1		1	1	7	
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	4	1	7	5	4		4	4	5	3
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot	9	4	8	6	3		5	2	6	6
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	5		5	8	9			6	2	4
Increased parking at Sheepcot	6		2	7	2		3	3	8	5
Further pedestrian safety measures	3	3	4	2	5		6		1	7
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	8		6	9	8				9	
Electric charging points for cars	7		9	1	7			7	3	1

Stop	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery										
New playgrounds						1				
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot										
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot										
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane							1			
Increased parking at Sheepcot										
Further pedestrian safety measures								1		
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens							1	1		
Electric charging points for cars							1			

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Priority	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	1				3.5	2	1	7	3	1
New playgrounds	2	1		4		2	6	6	4	2
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	5			4	3.5		4	6	6	3
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot	3			7			2	4	7	3
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	4				1	2	7	4	8	
Increased parking at Sheepcot	8			9	3.5		3	8	1	1
Further pedestrian safety measures	7						5	8	2	4
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	9			9			9		5	
Electric charging points for cars	6			8	3.5		8		9	4

Stop	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery				1						
New playgrounds					1					
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot										
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot					1					
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane				1						1
Increased parking at Sheepcot										
Further pedestrian safety measures				1	1					
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens					1	1		1		1
Electric charging points for cars								1	1	

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Priority	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	1	2	3	7	1	5	9	4	1	1
New playgrounds	6	1	2	7		6	3	3	2	3
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	2	4	4	5		4	6	6	2	4
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot	3	4	9	8	5	7		5	5	2
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	4		5	6	4	8	3	7	5	
Increased parking at Sheepcot	5	4	7	5	3	2	6	1	4	1
Further pedestrian safety measures	8	4	1	7	2	3	2	2	1	2
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens			8	4		9	3	8	3	
Electric charging points for cars	7		6			1	3	9	5	

Stop	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery										
New playgrounds					1					
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot					1					
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot							1			
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane		1								1
Increased parking at Sheepcot										
Further pedestrian safety measures										
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	1	1			1					1
Electric charging points for cars		1		1	1					1

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Priority	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	3	2	9	2	1	2		4	2	7
New playgrounds	1	1	1	5	6	1	1	1	1	
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	2	4	4	1	7	4	2.5	2		6
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot	4	3	6		8	3	2.5	3		5
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	5	5	2		2	6		9	5	4
Increased parking at Sheepcot	6	6	7		4	5		6		
Further pedestrian safety measures	7	7	8	3	3	7		5	3	8
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens		8	3			9		8		
Electric charging points for cars	8	9	5	4	5	8		7	4	

Stop	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery			1							
New playgrounds										1
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot									1	
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot				1					1	
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane				1						
Increased parking at Sheepcot				1			1		1	1
Further pedestrian safety measures										
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	1			1	1		1	1	1	1
Electric charging points for cars							1			1

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Priority	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	1	3	5		1	3	9	4	4	
New playgrounds	5		5	2	6	8	1	2	1	2.5
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	3		5		7	7	5	3	6	2.5
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot	2		5			4	2	5	2	2.5
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	7		5	2	5	2	4		3	
Increased parking at Sheepcot	4		5		2	9	6			
Further pedestrian safety measures	8	1	5		3	1	3	1		
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	6		5	2	4	5	7		5	
Electric charging points for cars	9	2	5			6	8			2.5

Stop	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery										
New playgrounds										
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot				1						
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot				1	1					
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane								1		
Increased parking at Sheepcot				1				1		
Further pedestrian safety measures				1						
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens								1		
Electric charging points for cars				1	1			1		

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Priority	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery	1	9	9	2	9	7	8	3		1	4
New playgrounds	3	1	9		1	9	3	1	5	5	3
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot	5	6	9	4	5	5	7	4	8	9	6
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot	7	2	9		6	7	6	7	8	1	7
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane	2	7	4	3	2	9	1	5		5	8
Increased parking at Sheepcot	6	4	1		4	7	4	6	8	1	4
Further pedestrian safety measures	8	3	4	1	3	7	5	2		2	2
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens		5	1		8	2	9			3	1
Electric charging points for cars		8	3		7	3	2		8		9

Stop	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101
Selling the parish council offices to the surgery											
New playgrounds											
Improved pavilion at the Sheepcot											
An all-weather pitch at the Sheepcot											
Canoe and paddle board launch at Ferry Lane											
Increased parking at Sheepcot											
Further pedestrian safety measures											
A music stage in the Rectory Gardens	1							1			
Electric charging points for cars	1							1		1	