



**GORING-ON-THAMES  
PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Traffic Management, Parking & Pedestrian Safety  
Committee of the Goring-on-Thames Parish Council**

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2024 at 10:30am, Gardiner Pavilion**

**Members Present:**

Cllr Sonia Lofthouse

Cllr Nick Mallen

Cllr Toby Thurston

**Officers Present:**

Assistant Clerk      Mike Harper

**Public and Press:**

None

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

None

**Meeting Started at 10:30**

**24.19.1 To elect a Chair for the meeting in the absence of Cllr Williamson**

24.19.1.1 Cllr Lofthouse was unanimously elected Chair for the meeting.

**24.19.2. To receive apologies for absence and substitutions. (LGA 1972 s85(1))**

Cllr R Williamson

**24.19.3. Declarations of Interests (LA 2011 s31)**

None.

**24.19.4. To consider requests for Dispensations (LA 2011 s33)**

None.

**24.19.5. To approve the minutes of previous committee meetings [LA 1972 Sch 12. Para41(1)]**

24.19.5.1. Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

It was agreed the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting and they were duly signed.



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### **24.19.6. To consider proposals for improving accessibility to the Ferry Lane open space. Appendix A**

Cllr Thurston explained that the proposal was to install a board walk along the length of the Ferry Lane Open Space as shown in Appendix A. This would be a useful improvement, and he had discussed it with several residents. It would make a circular walk, accessible for wheelchairs and push chairs, via Station Road, the Thames Path and back along the High Street. Details of the scheme would need to be worked up before putting it to Full Council. Bushes to the south of the space would need to be trimmed, the board walk would need to be designed to take account of flooding and provide for drainage. The boardwalk would be made of re-cycled plastic having a longer life than timber and being environmentally acceptable. An initial estimate of cost would be £11,000 for the materials and £10,000 for installing. The plan could need a Flood Risk Activity Permit and the Assistant Clerk was asked to check if planning permission was needed (Withybush Nature Reserve had recently applied for permission for a similar boardwalk). The Committee agreed that Cllr Thurston should get quotes for the work and work up a fully costed proposal. The possibility of funding from Mend The Gap should be explored with the newly appointed person responsible for accessible routes

### **24.19.7. To consider the need for extending the existing 20mph speed limit to the remainder of Gatehampton Road and, if thought necessary, request the Highway Authority to do so.**

This arose following the Planning Committee meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> August when residents expressed their concerns about proposed housing development on Gatehampton Road and the current and likely future speed and volume of traffic along the Road. It was agreed that the unrestricted length of Gatehampton Road was narrow and used by walkers, cyclists and horse riders and that it would be appropriate to consider extending the 20mph speed limit to the full length of the road. This would be for a resolution by Full Council and the Assistant Clerk was asked to contact OCC Highways to establish what would be required to initiate a request.

### **24.19.8. To review the Action List and agree any further actions.**

The Action List was reviewed. Item 2022-015 to include carrying out speed surveys in Manor Rd, Cleeve Rd and Elvendon Rd (taken from 2022-007 now otherwise completed).

### **24.19.9. To consider and, if thought fit, approve the following motion: In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.**

No members of the public were present, and the motion was not voted on.

24.19.9.1 To consider quotes received for line marking pedestrian priority lanes in the Community Centre Carpark and along the access road to Sheepcot Field, and for laying a grass mat path as an alternative pedestrian access to Sheepcot Field and proposals to go to Full Council accordingly.



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Following the meeting of the Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> July when it was considered that alternative solutions to a hoggin path for providing a safe pedestrian access to Sheepcot Field should be explored, including a pedestrian priority lane (PPL) or a grass mat path, and that quotes should be obtained together with the additional quotes for providing a PPL at the Community Centre carpark (Action List 2024-003).

Quotes for supplying and fitting grass matting to provide pedestrian access on the northern side of the Sheepcot access road between the Jubilee Garden and the neighbouring property had been sought but not received. However, an estimate of the cost of grass matting, based on advertised prices, would be between £1,080 and £700 for the length of the road, and there would be additional costs for laying and pegging. The cheapest quote for marking a PPL along the road was considerably cheaper.

Grass matting would separate pedestrians from vehicles, but the pathway could still be muddy in winter months when it is likely to be most heavily used. A PPL would not take pedestrians off the road and a residual risk of accidents remains. If cars continue to observe the yellow lines this may be acceptable.

It would be most cost-effective to marking the PPL at the Community Centre car park and at Sheepcot Field at the same time.

**Resolved:** Approved unanimously that the Assistant Clerk should prepare a resolution for Full Council seeking approval for the replacement of the proposed hoggin path at Sheepcot Field with a PPL along the access road and for the marking of a PPL at the Community Centre car park and a budget for both.

### **24.19.10. Matters for future discussion.**

Councillor Thurston raised concerns about the condition of the Thames Path. It was agreed that he should facilitate a discussion with the various interested parties, including Mend The Gap, and report back to the Committee. He also drew the Committee's attention to the Ridgeway art project 'Ridgeway 50' and proposed a sign advertising it. It was agreed that he should put a resolution to Full Council accordingly.

### **24.19.11. To confirm the date of the next meeting: 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

Confirmed.

There being no further business to be transacted, the Chair closed the meeting at 12.15pm.