



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Goring-on-Thames Parish Council

Monday 10th February 2025 at 19:30, Belleme Room, Goring Village Hall

All Councillors are summoned to a Meeting of Goring-on-Thames Parish Council.

Members of the public and press are invited to attend all council meetings.

(Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960)

**Prior to the start of the meeting; Questions and comments from members of the public
(limited to 10 minutes in total)**

Public Session – Prior to the Start of the Meeting

MoP1: Requested the Council: 1. expand weeding into more areas 2. less bins on the Gardiner 3. green waste removal from Gardiner 4. update on the streetlight survey

MoP2 Re tennis club – cannot proceed with floodlights or resurfacing until the root problem is addressed, please can the work done ASAP.

MOP3: Re improvements to Gardiner to make inclusive facilities, by dividing the former office to provide a Croquet changing room and a bar for Cricket plus a scoreboard and honours board.

Members Present:

Chair	Cllr S Lofthouse (SL)
Members	Cllr J Emerson (JE)
	Cllr T Thurston (TT)
	Cllr R Williamson (RW)
	Cllr N Mallen (NM)
	Cllr D Birmingham (DB)
	Cllr N Mallen (NM)

Officers Present:

Clerk	S Edmunds (SE)
Assistant Clerk	M Harper (MH)

Public and Press: at least 6 members of public

Meeting started 19:30

AGENDA

24.60.1. To receive apologies for absence. [LGA 1972 s85(1)]

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs B Newman, B Urbick & B McKenzie

24.60.2. To Receive any Declarations of Interests for items on this agenda [LA 2011 s31]

Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interest they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct. (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

None

24.60.2.1. To consider requests for Dispensations [LA 2011 s33]

None

24.60.3. To approve the minutes of previous council meetings [LA 1972 Sch 12. Para 41(1)]

24.60.3.1. Meeting held on 9th December 2024

24.60.3.2. Meeting held on 7th January 2025

Resolved: Unanimously approved

24.60.3.3. Matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda.

None

**24.60.4. To review the Active List progress & move outstanding items to the Clerks report Full Council
Active List**

Reviewed, updated in meeting and attached to these minutes

24.60.5. To Receive Minutes of Committees

24.60.5.1. Finance Committee

- Meeting Dated 25 November 2024

Appendix A

24.60.5.2. Planning Committee

- Meeting dated 26 November 2024
- Meeting dated 10th December 2024
- Meeting dated 14th January 2025

Appendix B

Appendix C

Appendix D

24.60.5.3. Travel and Transport Committee (formerly TMPPS)

- Meeting Dated 19 November 2024
- Meeting dated 17 December 2024

Appendix E

Appendix F

24.60.5.4. Staffing Committee

- Meeting dated 21 May 2024

Appendix G

Received the above with the exclusion of 5.3-17Dec24 held for the next meeting.

24.60.6. To receive reports from each of the Committees, Working Groups or Village Liaisons:

Where possible they should provide a written report and/or action list in advance of the meeting as per standing orders.

~~24.60.6.1.~~ To receive an update from Travel & Transport Committee

Appendix H

24.60.6.2. To approve the Travel & Transport Terms of Reference

Appendix i

Resolved: Unanimously approved

24.60.6.3. To receive a report from the Place & Assets WG

Appendix J

24.60.6.4. To receive a report from the Finance Committee

Appendix K

24.60.6.5. To receive a report from the Playgrounds Committee

Appendix L

Resolved: The above updates/reports were received.

24.60.7. Committees / Working Groups / Liaisons

24.60.7.1. To approve changes to the attached list of Committee/Working Group/Liaisons **Appendix M**
Reviewed and updated in the meeting & attached to these minutes

24.60.7.2. To appoint members to organise the next Annual meeting of the Parish 31st May 2025

Resolved: MS handing organisation over to DB

24.60.7.3. To approve the membership to the Bourdillon Evaluation Group **Appendix N**

Resolved: Unanimously approved the proposed membership

24.60.8. To approve the following updated Policies & Documents

24.60.8.1. To approve the Playground Inspection Policy **Appendix O**

Resolved: Unanimously approved

24.60.9. To receive an update from WhiteHills Burial Ground **Appendix P**

Received: the grant has been approved, the funds will be held in a new EMR, WHBG clerk has not yet confirmed if the new tariffs have been shared.

24.60.10. To approve the upgrade of all remaining sodium lamps in the village by the end of FY 2025/2026, subject to the limits of the current ear-marked reserve, and the capacity of the current maintenance contractor. **Appendix Q**

Not intended to be definitive but should be a strategy, as this could cut up to 75% of the current cost of electricity with a return on investment 2-3 years. Any revisions should be proposed to Council

Resolved: Unanimously approved subject to the revision of replacing “ and revised if necessary, by the” with “ and any revisions proposed to Council by the” (revised agenda to be attached to the minutes)

24.60.10.1. To approve a scheme to replace all remaining streetlights in the attached area **Appendix Q.1**

The quote is being considered under 18.1

Resolved: Unanimously approved

24.60.11. To approve the video recording of full council meetings with a budget of £1700.

Proposed by the Communications WG; their solution would be an Owl Labs Meeting Owl 4+ (£1666 plus VAT) “This appears to provide a robust solution with the minimum pieces of equipment and looks very easy to use. By offering a video recording of meetings we believe more people will start to engage with council activities and gain a better understanding of what council meetings entail.”

Resolved: Approved by majority the video recording of council and committee meetings, further options to be brought to the next meeting for approval and budget allocation.



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24.60.12. To approve directly receiving the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds due to Goring-on-Thames Parish Council.

*SODC are in the process of identifying any anticipated town and parish CIL monies that have been paid between 1 October 2024 to 31 March 2025 that can be transferred to your town or parish by 28 April 2025. Goring-on-Thames Parish Council should decide if they wish SODC to hold these monies on their behalf or have share to be **automatically** transferred as is the usual practice.*

Resolved: Unanimously approved to directly receive CIL monies

24.60.13. Clerk Report: The Clerk would like to remind everyone that any concerns or defects should be reported directly via email at the earliest opportunity.

24.60.13.1. To approve the ongoing cost of weeding between River and Railway via the High Street, twice a year with an annual budget of £200

Resolved: Unanimously approved

24.60.13.2. To approve the addition and design of “please take it home” stickers to all the litter bins in the village with a budget of £150 for printing and installation.

Appendix R

Resolved: Unanimously approved, budget from cost code 6240

24.60.13.3. To approve remedial work on tree roots encroaching onto the tennis courts at Sheepcote

Resolved: Unanimously approved

24.60.13.4. To approve permitting the parking of a second Going Forwards bus at the OJFS

Subject to the agreement that both will be promptly removed when additional parking is located or when the OJFS is sold- whichever is sooner

Resolved: Unanimously approved

24.60.14. To approve delegating to the Clerk to actively seek an alternative supplier for IT infrastructure to improve security of our email, website & shared storage facilities.

Full proposal to be brought to full council

Resolved: Unanimously approved

24.60.15. Gardiner Pavilion

24.60.15.1. To approve supporting the Goring Spring Clean Litter Pick permitting the use of the Gardiner and a budget £100 for advertising and refreshments

Appendix S

Resolved: Unanimously approved

24.60.15.2. To approve three new green Glasdon bins at Gardiner to replace the old black ones.

Budget £250 per bin to match existing.

Appendix T

Resolved: Unanimously approved to place three new bins at the Gardiner.



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24.60.15.3. To approve the Free Church holiday Kings Club from July 28th to August 1st with no charge
The periods required for the Rectory Gardens would be between 10.45 and 11.45 for games for the under 6s. Part of the Gardiner Recreation Ground would also be required between 10.45 and 11.45 for games for the 6-11 year olds. Also, the Rectory Gardens would be required on August 1st from 12.30 for a picnic for the children attending the holiday week together with the parents. A "Bouncy Castle" would also be erected as we have done in previous years. The supplier of the "Bouncy Castle" has the appropriate insurance to cover public liability

Resolved: Unanimously approved

24.60.15.4. To note the emergency roof repair to the Gardiner
authorised by the Clerk in conjunction with the Chair under the Scheme of Delegation; to repair storm damage allowing water to enter the roof space and refit/replace multiple slipping/broken slates- quoted cost £980 + VAT

Noted

24.60.15.5. To approve agreeing in principle the attached plan of alterations
with the undertakings from the Clubs that:

Appendix U

- 1. Planning Permission is sought if necessary*
- 2. Fire assessment undertaken with new room configuration.*
- 3. Shared usage shall be non-exclusive and agreed through updated license when renewed.*
- 4. All internal doors shall remain unlocked when not in use (the new bar area is the exception)*
- 5. The Clerk shall be notified of any additional usage other than covered by licenses.*

Resolved: Unanimously approved, subject to satisfactory fire assessment.

24.60.16. To note the results of the speed survey conducted in December 2025. And approve the Travel & Transport committee to consider appropriate measures to mitigate speeding in residential roads and make recommendations to the next full council meeting.

Appendix V

The results were noted.

Resolved: Unanimously approved the T&T Committee to consider options and bring proposals to council.

24.60.17. To receive reports:

24.60.17.1. Oxfordshire County Councillor: K Bulmer

Appendix W

Received



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

24.60.17.2. South Oxfordshire District Councillor: M Filipova-Rivers

Appendix X

MFP gave a verbal report including:

SODC are currently budget setting , for the first time in over a decade they now have surplus

There will be another round of grants from < £5k to Capital Grant (works/machinery/playground/pavilion etc) and also CIL Grant Scheme –Can apply for both, application dates to be announced.

Toilets to be refurbished (RW asked for bike racks). Wheel Orchard charges going up 10% but funds are ringfenced .

Devolution- The Government White paper is proposing a combined mayoral authority ,Councils are arguing the geography, preferred option is BOB (Berks/Oxon/Bucks) but could be as big as Thames Valley.

24.60.18. Matters for a future agenda

Approve 17.12.2024 Travel & Transport Minutes

Video recording equipment additional options to OWL and budget

Recording policy

Frequency of bin emptying

The future of The Boathouse / former sorting office.

24.60.19. 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. LGA 1972 s.100 (a)

Confidential Papers

24.60.19.1.To approve the budget for the scheme to upgrade all remaining streetlights as per 10.1

Resolved: Unanimously approved to appoint Enerveo with a budget of £9,657.76 from the streetlighting EMR

24.60.19.2.To approve the budget & contractor for replacing the gutters at the Gardiner Pavilion.

Resolved: Hold and get more quotes for the next meeting

24.60.19.3.To approve the budget for remedial work on tree roots encroaching onto the tennis courts at Sheepcote

Resolved: Unanimously approved to appoint Heritage Tree Services with a budget of £3575

24.60.19.4.To approve the budget & contractor for replacing the gate posts at the Rectory Gardens

Resolved: Unanimously approved to appoint M&C Landscaping with a budget of £400.

24.60.20. To note the date and time of the next meeting Monday 10th March 2025 at 19:30

NOTE: Proposals of Motion to be received by the Clerk **no later than 28th February 2025**, in accordance with the Standing Orders

Meeting Closed 21:03

List of Membership of Committees – subject to acceptance by all including those absent at the meeting and clarification from the monitoring officer where potential conflicts of interest/code of conduct matters apply.

Committee, Working Group (WG) or Liaison	Membership Number	Current membership	Changes
Planning Committee	6, all other Cllrs automatically reserve members if required.	BN RW MS SL NM JE	
Staffing Committee	4	NM BN SL BU	
Travel & Transport Committee	4	RW NM SL TT	
Finance Committee	4	JE NM MS BM	
Public Spaces Sheepcot WG	6 (inc. 1 tennis rep & 2 football reps GU GR)	SL MS BU (JC TW CW)	
Public Spaces Playgrounds Committee	6 (inc. 4 non-Cllr members)	BN MS NM BM (AP CM)	
Place & Assets WG	4	RW TT DB Facilities	
Gap Festival Liaison	1	BN	
Goring Poor Allotment Charity	3 (2 Church, 1 Cllr)	Nigel Gordon-Potts (Goring Free Church) Father Kenneth Macnab (Our Lady & St John's Chapel) Cllr NM	
Goring Fire Brigade Volunteer Trust Liaison	1	NM	
Twinning Association Liaison	1	RW	
Village Hall Committee	1	TT	
OJFS Sale	3	SL TT DB	
Communications WG	4	BN NM BU TT DB	
Emergency Planning WG	1	TT DB Clerk	
WHBG Liaison	1	BU	
Goring in Bloom Liaison	1	NM	

Street lighting upgrades — February 2025

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Most rural street lighting in Oxfordshire is managed by the County Council, but Goring is one of the small number parish councils that manage their own. There is no statutory duty on the parish council to do this; the lights are provided as an amenity to the village, and paid for out of the precept.
- 1.2 The parish council is responsible for the street lights on the public highway but we do not maintain lighting in private areas, private car parks, or on new housing developments. The area that we are responsible for is roughly within the limits of the Goring village welcome signs. The County Council is responsible for maintaining illuminated traffic signs and bollards.
- 1.3 The parish council is responsible for administering the contract to supply the street lights with electricity, and to maintain them, including regular cleaning and re-painting.
- 1.4 There are currently 211 street lights on the managed inventory. Of these 144 are the older sodium lamps which give an orange, or orange-white light; and 67 are LED lamps that give a neutral or warm white light. The parish council budget already includes an ear-marked reserve (EMR) for replacing the sodium lights with LED lamps.

2 Street lighting policy

- 2.1 The long term strategy of the parish council is to have the County Council take over responsibility for providing and maintaining street lighting in Goring.
- 2.2 The parish council are aware of the County Council's policy set out in [1], and intend to replace all sodium lamps with LED lamps in line with that policy.
- 2.3 The County policy also sets out an ambition to turn off most street lighting in smaller towns and villages from about 1.30am to 5am in order to reduce electricity usage and to reduce light pollution. The parish council policy is to keep all street lights on from dusk to dawn, however all LED lamps fitted in the village will have a factory-programmed controller that will dim the lights to 50% output from midnight to 6am.
- 2.4 New LED lamps will be fitted in batches of 20 to 30 lamps to make best use of the installation team. Where possible, each batch should include all currently failed lamps, and the chosen lamps should be in adjacent roads. It will take about six batches to replace all the sodium lamps in the village.
- 2.5 There will be three different types of LED lamps fitted:
 - **LED-A** – neutral white, 19W with 16 bulbs,
 - **LED-B** – extra warm white, 15W with 12 bulbs, and
 - **LED-C** – warm white, 35W with 16 bulbs.
- 2.6 LED-A are brighter, and will be used for the main roads through the village: Wallingford Road, Reading Road, and the High Street (except for the residential part between the Pharmacy and the Free Church). LED-B will be used everywhere else, except for the eight heritage lamps on Goring Bridge, which need the LED-C lamps.
- 2.7 There are 41 LED-A lights already installed in the village, of these 27 are installed in residential roads. These 27 can be swapped for LED-B lamps, and re-used for the main roads.

- 2.8 The parish council will no longer pay for repairs to sodium lamps, any failing sodium lamps will be replaced with LED lamps as part of the upgrade programme.
- 2.9 The parish council may consider requests from residents for street lights to be added, removed, or re-positioned, subject to financial approval.

3 Business case for replacement

- 3.1 The parish council pay for unmetered electricity for street lighting on a fixed price contract that was calculated on the basis of an annual usage of about 64000 kWh. This annual amount is calculated by multiplying the wattage of each lamp by an assumed number of hours of darkness in the year (plus a small continuous amount for the light sensors).
- 3.2 There are two types of existing sodium lamps installed: SON lamps are bright orange, and each lamp uses about 375 kWh per year; SOX lamps are less bright, and each uses about 270 kWh per year. The new LEDs use less electricity: an LED-A lamp uses about 60 kWh per year, and an LED-B lamp uses about 48 kWh per year.
- 3.3 As of January 2025 our current mix of 144 sodium lamps, and 67 LED lamps represents just under 50000 kWh annual usage – this is slightly lower than the amount used to calculate the current contract because we have installed more LEDs since the contract was negotiated.
- 3.4 The target all-LED estate will represent about 10500 kWh annual usage. We should therefore expect to be able to negotiate a significantly better contract for electricity supply, since we will be using about 16% of our current supply.
- 3.5 The current sodium lamps usually have to be replaced every three years. The current generation of LED lamps typically have a manufacturer's warranty of five years, and an expected life of about 12 years.
- 3.6 The LED lamps need less maintenance than sodium lamps, so the costs of maintaining each LED lamp is about 25% of the cost of maintaining the equivalent sodium lamp.

4 References

- 1. Oxfordshire County Council, *Street Lighting and Illuminated Assets Policy*, 2022.
https://mycouncil.oxfordshire.gov.uk/documents/s62482/CA_OCT1822R11%20Annex%20A%20Street%20Lighting%20Policy_2022%20Clean%20Version%20250522.pdf

5 Revision

- 5.1 This document was discussed at the full council meeting in February 2025, and the current version includes the minor clarifications agreed. It should be reviewed annually, and any revisions proposed to full council by the Clerk, with assistance from the Place & Assets WG.

Approved by:

Dated:

_____, Chair of the Council