



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Travel and Transport Committee of the Goring-on-Thames Parish Council

Tuesday 15th April 2025 at 10.30am, Council Office

Members Present: Cllr Robin Williamson (Chair)
Cllr Sonia Lofthouse
Cllr Nick Mallen
Cllr Toby Thurston

Officers Present:
Assistant Clerk Mike Harper

Public and Press:
Four members of the public (MoPs).

Public Session – Prior to the Start of the Meeting

MoP 1 spoke about the further arrangements Goring Robins FC were intending to make to alleviate the parking problems at Whitehills Green (to be discussed under agenda item 5). It was noted that GRFC was not the only user of Sheepcot Field, Goring United FC would be using it for training over the Summer and there was the Tennis Club as well as one-off events like the 10K and Hairy Legs. Is the Committee asking these other users to take action to avoid using Whitehills Green for parking? In response Committee members said that they were grateful for GRFC's initiative, the Tennis Club's proposals for increased use will be considered by Full Council, and that they would be looking at the possibility of increasing parking space at Sheepcot Field.

MoP2 was there to represent Going Forward Buses for agenda item 7.

Meeting Started at 10.40am.

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

None.

24.75.2. Declarations of Interests (LA 2011 s31)

Cllr Thurston noted that, in relation to agenda item 7, he was a volunteer driver for Going Forward Buses.

24.75.3. To consider requests for Dispensations (LA 2011 s33)

None.



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

24.75.4.1. Meeting held on 18th March 2025.

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

24.75.5. To receive an update on parking at Whitehills Green.

Appendix A

Cllrs had met GRFC and a note of the meeting was at Appendix A. MoP1 said that they were planning, with the Council's agreement, to move two junior five a side pitches to the Gardiner Recreation Ground, and subject to the School's agreement, to move two seven a side pitches to Bourdillon Field. The School's agreement would be needed to enable access to toilets and the use of the school carpark. It would also be necessary to have arrangements for managing the use of school premises. GRFC would also seek to increase the use they currently make of the Oratory School's facilities. The GRFC website now includes details of the new parking spaces in the Village.

It was agreed that the priority should be to move the two five a side pitches to Gardiner on a trial basis in September, and to review parking at Whitehills Green in October.

Resolved: Unanimously resolved that Goring Robins FC be permitted to add two junior five a side pitches to Gardiner Field in September.

24.75.6. To review the implementation of changes to parking restrictions.

Complaints had been received about the new parking bays on Cleeve Road at the junction with Glebe Ride; OCC Highways advised that any concerns should be forwarded to them. Otherwise Cllrs felt that the changes had been accepted generally but needed time to settle down. The marking of yellow lines in Upper Red Cross Road had been delayed because of the condition of the road surface. OCC Highways were investigating the options for repairs and how far the road surface extended to the Network Rail fence.

It was recognised that the changes would need to be enforced and the Assistant Clerk was asked to contact OCC parking enforcement to explore the possibility of contracting enforcement officers for the Village, possibly in conjunction with other Parish Councils. The Assistant Clerk was asked to pursue progress on Upper Red Cross Road.

24.75.7. To consider the OCC Review of Bus Services prior to tendering for new contracts. Appendix B

Route 134 is a popular route, visiting places where people live and at times that were convenient, including a specific service for Wallingford School. The route had been entirely financed by Going Forward Buses prior to the Pandemic. The current subsidy of £90,000 was less than the operating costs of £100,000 pa. It



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was expected that a new operator would only provide a direct route to Wallingford via South Stoke.

The Parish Council will respond to the consultation supporting the continuation of the service as currently provided by Going Forward Buses.

24.75. 8. To consider the Mend the Gap Access Improvement Report and agree future actions.https://mendthegap.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2025/03/MTG-access-improvements-Final-report-compressed_1.pdf

The Mend the Gap report identifies the Wheel Orchard Carpark as a potential hub which would now be supported by the new Station Road pedestrian lane. The Committee's proposals for re-establishing the path at the Ferry Lane open space would continue that route and form part of a circular walk around the Village. On the basis of advice from OCC Rights of Way a board walk is not suitable for the location and a hard surface should be used instead. The route of the path should follow that of the existing restricted byway along the southern side of the open space. It was agreed that the route should be assessed to identify the need for further clearance of undergrowth and the presence of tree roots.

24.75.9. To review the Action List and agree any further actions.

The Action List was reviewed and updated.

24.75.10. Matters for future discussion.

None.

24.75.11. To confirm the date of the next meeting: 20th May 2025.

Confirmed.

There being no further business to be transacted, the Chair closed the meeting at 12.20pm