



# GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

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

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July 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)**

*This provides an opportunity for members of the public (who are not usually permitted to speak during the meeting except by special invitation of the Chairman) to participate before the start of the meeting. Members of the public may make only one address to the council of no more than three minutes' duration and only concerning topics on the agenda. No decision can be taken during this session, but the Chairman may decide to refer any matters raised for further consideration.*

MoP 1:Conservation area/report item 12: the report states the situation and will need help to get SODC to complete the appraisal, would like the Council to send a chase letter to SODC and MFR  
Items 16 & 17 draft conservation area has recommended styles of street furniture, please bear in mind that whatever is done now will become part of the public style guide  
TT stated that he intends to pick up the style guide as per the Thirlwall report.

**Members Present:**

Chair

Cllr J Emerson(JE)

Members:

Cllr T Thurston (TT)

Cllr D Bermingham (DB)

Cllr N Mallen (NM)

Cllr B Newman (BN)

**Officers Present:**

Clerk

S Edmunds (SE)

Assistant Clerk

M Harper (MH)

**Public and Press:**

two

**Meeting started 19:30**

## AGENDA

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

*Apologies received from Cllr B McKenzie, Cllr R Williamson, Cllr S Lofthouse, Cllr M Stares Cllr B Urbick*



## GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

### **25.13.2. 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)*

Cllr JE declared non-pecuniary interest in item 12 and 14 due to his wife's involvement – no dispensation required.

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

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

25.13.3.1. Meeting held on 09<sup>th</sup> June 2025

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

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved – clarification of new date 19 July for OJFS clearance and next weed control date in Sept TBC

### **25.13.4. To Receive Minutes of Committees**

25.13.4.1. Planning Committee

- Meeting Dated 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**Appendix A**

25.13.4.2. Travel and Transport Committee

- Meeting Dated 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**Appendix B**

**Resolved:** Unanimously Approved

### **25.13.5. To note reports from District and County Councillors**

25.13.5.1. Oxfordshire County Councillor: M Filipova-Rivers

**Cllr Report**

### **25.13.6. To note the 25-year Tennis Club lease, the 2025-6 Cricket Club license and the 2025-6 Croquet and Bowls Club licenses were signed in June.**

**Noted**

### **25.13.7. To note the 2025-6 licenses for Goring United to play on Sheepcot (following their league promotion they will no longer play on Gardiner) and Goring Robins to play on both Sheepcot and Gardiner are ready for signing in July.**

*T&T Committee had already unanimously resolved to recommend to Council that Goring Robins FC be permitted to add two junior five a side pitches to Gardiner Field from September, which should also help to reduce parking issues*

**Noted**



## GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

**25.13.8. To approve the revised internal drawing for Gardiner Pavilion Appendix C**

*This is a variation to the one already approved, it removes the door in the partition of the old council office.*

**Resolved:** Unanimously Approved the updated drawing to remove the internal door.

**25.13.9. Approve changes to committees/working groups or terms of reference Appendix D**

25.13.9.1. To approve a ToR update for all committees that any one committee membership can be substituted by its clerk, with any councillor of Goring-on-Thames Parish Council to remain quorate.

**Resolved:** Unanimously Approved

**25.13.10. 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.*

25.13.10.1. To receive an update from Traffic & Transport Committee **Appendix E**  
Cllr JE as finance chair stated total £17.5k available in budget for Pedestrian safety MFP very helpful in facilitating the meeting.

25.13.10.2. To receive a report from the Finance Committee **Appendix F**  
Finance has the quarter end report. NB property income is variable

25.13.10.3. To receive a report from the Playgrounds Committee **Appendix G**  
Official Bourdillon opening 24 July, planning app for Gardiner has gone in today. Working figure of £150k subject to funding. PC looking to create a fundraising group. Signs info to follow & be circulated for approval amongst Cllrs

25.13.10.4. To receive a report from the Place & Assets WG **Appendix H**  
Streetlight survey, two columns are of concern and should get quotes to replace. We are now up to 75% replacement of Sodium with LED. The bridge surveyor met with Cllr TT & Facilities, but we are still in the position that a weight test should be done on the posts and there are no engineering drawings. OCC are trying to find a suitably qualified engineer. OJFS clearance sale planned for this weekend Saturday 19 July.

~~25.13.11. To approve the Effectiveness of Internal Audit policy updated for 2024-2025 Appendix I~~

25.13.12. To receive the Report of Conservation Area Appraisal Working Group and agree any actions **Appendix J**

**Received,** Assistant Clerk to write to SODC as per the report



## GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

### **25.13.13. To approve giving the Playgrounds Committee permission to go out to tender for the Gardiner playground, working in conjunction with the Clerk**

#### **Appendix K**

With a view to evaluating the proposal from suppliers in preparation for making a formal proposal to a future Full Council meeting. N.B. Any decisions are subject to GoTPC approval and availability of external grant funding. We will follow the same open competitive procurement process as for Bourdillon and also broadly the same evaluation process.

**Resolved:** Unanimously Approved to go out for tender in principle subject to Council approval of final documents via email

### **25.13.14. To consider and approve the Community First Responder Grant Application**

#### **Appendix L**

*LGA 1972 Section 137(4) gives occasions where the grant can be paid to an individual where that individual is carrying out a service which benefits the local population*

**Resolved:** Unanimously Approved a grant of £3500

### **25.13.15. To delegate investigating the placing of the old Orientation plaque, purpose for the phone box & village noticeboards, to the Place & Assets Working Group**

*Any final decisions to be approved by full council.*

**Resolved** Unanimously approved to delegate all three to PAWG

### **25.13.16. To approve the installation of three new benches**

#### **Appendix M**

*to provide places for walkers to rest so that people who need the occasional rest can better enjoy the riverside.*

£1900 street furniture left in budget and a donation from MIGGS. Elegant Homes happy to support a space for a bench, and subject to landowner's permission, a metal perch bench on the Thames Path, near the Thames Water pumping station and Manor Road, the benches are circa £500 plus installation costs.

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved to delegate to Clerk to proceed in conjunction with PAWG

### **25.13.17. Maintenance of benches in 2025 / 2026**

#### **Appendix N**

25.13.17.1. To approve the repair of up to 8 existing benches identified by the Place and Asset WG, with all work to be completed by April 2026

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved to repair the eight benches (up to £1k)

25.13.17.2. To approve the replacement of three existing benches identified by the Place and Asset WG as beyond repair

**Resolved:** Unanimously approved to replace up to three benches depending on sums left from the previous resolutions

### **25.13.18. Clerks Report & Updates**

#### **Appendix O**

25.13.18.1. To consider the current locations of Christmas trees & avenue lighting and approve arrangements for 2025 and beyond.

*Bearing in mind the lights failed in 2024 and we had to hire some at short notice, these would need replacing for 2025*



## GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

**Unanimously agreed to only have the tree, delegated to Clerk to bring proposals to the next meeting.**

25.13.18.2. To note the OJFS sale update – papers are with both sides' solicitors

**Noted**

25.13.18.3. To consider wild flower seeding and bulb planting on areas left unmown.

*To brighten the village and encourage pollinators*

**Clerk to liaise with PAWG**

25.13.18.4. To note that the Clerk & Chair are working with the Goring Gap Local History Society & The Arts Society to support them creating a new temporary memorial for this year, and helping with the small associated costs under the clerks delegated budget spend.

**Noted, the cost unlikely to exceed £100**

**25.13.19. Matters for future discussion.**

Signage for the Bourdillon and other open spaces- include QR codes for further information

Implications of Martyns Law on usage of our open spaces- policy for users

Plumbing at the Gardiner

**25.13.20. 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. Confidential Papers**

**Unanimously approved the motion to exclude the public & press**

25.13.20.1. To approve a contractor for electrical works and maintenance at Gardiner & Sheepcot Pavilions

Unanimously Approved to appoint Forbury Electrical

25.13.20.2. To approve Staffing Committee Proposals re payroll provider and annual leave.

Unanimously Approved a trial period with Sage & offering current staff the option of revised contracts including holidays paid on taking annual leave.

**Motion without notice to extend the meeting by 10 minutes- unanimously approved.**

25.13.20.3. To consider the method of recording / publishing meetings regarding GDPR, SAR

**Resolved:** Unanimously Approved to concentrate on livestreaming and not post recordings on YouTube.

**25.13.21. To note the date and time of the next meeting Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 19:30**

NOTE: Proposals of Motion to be received by the Clerk no later than **31<sup>st</sup> August** please

Meeting closed 21.35