



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

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

Tuesday 3rd February 2026 at 2.00pm, Council Office, Station Road

Members Present: Cllr Barbara Newman (Chair)
Cllr Robin Williams
Cllr Brian McKenzie
Anna Povey

Officers Present:
Assistant Clerk Mike Harper

Public and Press:

None

Public Session – Prior to the Start of the Meeting

None

Meeting Started at 2.00pm

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

Cllr Mike Stares, Laura Kelly. Cllr Robin Williams substituted for the vacancy on the Committee.

26.47.2. Declarations of Interests (LA 2011 s31)

26.47.2.2.1. To receive Declarations of Interest

None

26.47.2.2. To consider requests for dispensations.

None

26.47.3. To approve the minutes of previous committee meetings.

26.47.3.1 Meeting held on 7th November 2025.

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

26.47.4. To receive an update on Gardiner Field Playground.

A site meeting with Proludic is planned for 5th February, following that, a date for the commencement of work will be agreed. That may now be weather dependent. The aim is to have the playground completed in time for the Easter school holidays. There was a discussion about the need to inform residents about the closure of the playground and the work to be done once timings were finalised



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

26.47.5. To receive an update on the resurfacing of Bourdillon Field Playground and agree items to be purchased with the Proludic voucher.

Further details and timing of the repairs to the grass surface at Bourdillon are to be discussed at the site meeting on 5th February. Options for additional play equipment at Bourdillon – ideally to provide a more adventurous experience for older children – had been considered but there were limitations due to the space available. A slide on the mound had been proposed by Proludic, it was felt that the playground already has a good provision of slides and the additional one on the mound would be insufficiently adventurous for the older age group.

It was agreed that other options for using the Proludic voucher should be explored with them.

26.47.6 To consider options for facilities for older children and young people and how to take that forward.

The key items to take forward would be a pump track and a teen shelter. Options for siting a pump track suitable for older children and teenagers were limited in the Village. If a site could be found, the example of the pump track at Harwell would be a good model and it was noted that Harwell had run a consultation exercise with young people and parents to inform the design. In the absence of a potential large site, consideration was given to providing a small scale pump track at Bourdillon for pre-teenagers. Cllr Newman agreed to talk to the Deputy Clerk about the contact he had made with OX Trails (a pump track designer) and look at the Harwell site.

It was decided that the first step in taking the idea of teen shelters forward was to consult with that age group and their parents about what they would like. Options for doing so, including contacts through the School, WhatsApp and Facebook groups, were discussed.

26.47.7 To consider proposals for signage for the Bourdillon and Gardiner Fields playgrounds. Appendix A.

The illustration at Appendix A which uses the current wording on the temporary signs at Bourdillon was thought to be too negative and unwelcoming. There should not be an excessive number of prohibitions but at least request No Dogs, No Ball games and No Bicycles. The Assistant Clerk will work with the Chair of the Committee to agree suitable wording and design options to take to potential suppliers. It was agreed that signs should be at the entrance gates at Bourdillon and Gardiner and that they be permanently fixed to the railings rather than on freestanding posts. It was also agreed to proceed without waiting for the village-wide review of signage and have procured signs in time for the opening of the Gardiner Field playground.

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

Action List

The Action List was reviewed and updated. The Committee was informed that playground safety inspections were now the responsibility of the newly appointed Facilities and Grounds Manager who will carry out weekly checks. Annual checks are currently done by RoSPA.



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Work on the development of a pump track and on a teen shelter will be added to the Action List.

26.47.9 To confirm the date of the next meeting: Date to be agreed.

The date of the next meeting was agreed to be Tuesday 24th February at 7.30pm.

There being no further business to be transacted, the Chair closed the meeting at 3.15pm.

DRAFT