



GORING-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

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

Monday 8th June 2026 at 18:30, Reiss Room, Goring Community Centre Station Road RG8 9HB

At the start of the meeting; Questions and comments from members of the public

Members Present:

Chair Cllr T Thurston (TT)
Members: Cllr S Lofthouse (SL)
Cllr J Emerson (JE)
Cllr R Williamson (RW)
Cllr B Newman (BN)
Cllr A Povey (AP)
Cllr D Bermingham (DB)

Officers Present:

Clerk S Edmunds
Deputy Clerk N Mallen

Public and Press: No members of the Public

Meeting started 18.32

Member Of Public (MOP) : None

AGENDA

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

Apologies received from Cllrs B Urbick, M Stares & B McKenzie

26.09.2. 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

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

None

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

26.09.3.1. Meeting held on 18th May 2026

Unanimously Approved

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

JE item 26.3.16. – the Goring Poor Allotment Charity is now known as Helping in Hardship



26.09.4. Chair's Report

- Mike Wards funeral is at Goring Free Church Monday 15th June at 1.30pm
- Application for more Cllrs will be considered by SODC in September 2026
- New Cllr pack to go to all Cllrs for approval
- Increase in anti-social behaviour, residents are encouraged to report any issues to the police – online or using the 111
- We are delighted to support the Gap Festival

26.09.5. To note reports from District and County Councillors

26.09.5.1. SODC leader & OCC Councillor: M Filipova-Rivers
No report was received.

~~Cllr Report~~

26.09.6. To Receive Minutes of Committees

26.09.6.1. Finance Committee

- Meeting Dated 11th May 2026

Appendix A

Unanimously Received

26.09.6.2. Planning Committee

- Meeting Dated 7th April 2026

Appendix B

Unanimously Received

26.09.6.3. Travel & Transport Committee

- Meeting dated 28th April 2026

Appendix C

Unanimously Received

26.09.6.4. Staffing Committee

- Meeting dated 7th May 2026

Appendix D

Unanimously Received

26.09.6.5. Playgrounds Committee

- Meeting Dated 3rd February 2026

Appendix E

Unanimously Received

26.09.6.6. Sheepcot Committee

- Meeting Dated 15th April 2026

Appendix F

Unanimously Received

26.09.7. Review and approve changes to the terms of reference for committees & working groups

26.09.7.1. To approve the Cyber Essentials TOR

Appendix G

Unanimously Approved

26.09.7.2. To approve the Open Spaces TOR

Appendix H

Change the word “will” to “may” in section 4, penultimate bullet point.

Unanimously Approved with the above change.



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26.09.8. To approve any amendments to existing committees and working groups, and to incorporate an additional column identifying the nominated Clerk where applicable **Appendix i**

Update Comms WG to include Cllr DB.

The NPUSG were asked to hold a meeting, appoint a Chair and resolve the query re membership

Unanimously Approved with the above changes

26.09.9. 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,

NB.at the time this agenda is published, appendices have been allocated but maybe replaced with a verbal report instead.

26.09.9.1. Traffic & Transport Committee

Appendix J

Unanimously Received the attached report

26.09.9.2. Open Spaces Committee (combining Sheepcot, Playgrounds & Recreational Spaces committee)

Appendix K

SL has been appointed Chair and spoke to say they have met, set up WGs, produced minutes and action list

Unanimously Received a spoken report

26.09.9.3. Finance Committee

Appendix L

JE has been appointed Chair and spoke to say the internal audit report has been received. DB asked to add I&E plus balance sheet reports

Unanimously Received

26.09.9.4. Staffing Committee

Appendix M

BN has been appointed Chair & spoke to note that they will move to quarterly staffing committee meetings due to the increase in staff. They are currently looking at staff contracts, holiday leave etc. Pension scheme enrolment, in conjunction with LGPS. They have approved the contract for voluntary Deputy Clerk role.

They are now working on the permanent Deputy Clerk position, job description and contract. The proposed new Appraisal Policy was approved to put to full council.

Unanimously Received the spoken report

26.09.9.5. Place & Assets WG

Appendix N

AP spoke that looking at mid/long term look at Emergency Plan, looking at replacing benches in disrepair. Bin increase. Community Days – next 07 November 2026 for leaf clearing. Electrical inspection of the phone box-we are awaiting the report but have received a quote for suggested works

Unanimously Received

26.09.9.6. Comms Working Group

Appendix O

BN spoke to say excellent coverage of No Mow May in GGN

Unanimously Received the spoken report

26.09.9.7. OJFS sale Working Group

Appendix P

SL, answering the couple of last queries, hoping the contract will be ready for signing. TT said there will be a clause that binds the property as a medical practise for 25 years and can only be disposed of as a medical facility

Unanimously Received the spoken report



26.09.9.8. Liaisons

Appendix Q

BN – Gap Festival – GoTPC would not be participating in the community day

JE – Helping in Hardship have met, accounts presented

Unanimously Received the spoken reports.

26.09.10. To approve the Traffic and Transport Committee proposal to make an application to Oxfordshire County Council to designate Battle Road as part of the ‘Quiet Lanes’ pilot scheme.

Appendix R

Proposed by RW, seconded by SL.

Battle Lane was chosen as if you want to make it a quiet lane, stop it being a rat run, you need an alternative, there are three, of which, Reading Road is the closest. RW said they are looking at putting the barrier beyond Elvendon Priory. Nothing will be done without public consultation. AP concerned about it penalising the Elvendon side of the village

Approved by majority with one against and one abstention to ask the T&T Committee to make the application

26.09.11. To consider and approve actions regarding the five Pedestrian Safety Improvement Projects under discussion by the Traffic and Transport Committee & identify priorities for progression.

Appendix S

NM said the next stage is to share these designs with residents – looking at which one(s) to prioritise. RW spoke about all five, three crossings on the High Street. No1 Davis Tate – highlight the table, possibly cobble stones, No2 Manor Road – 2a is the pedestrian refuge and 2b is a build out of the existing pavement as an alternative. No3 by the social club, raised table reduces speeding. No4 Pierreponts would remove parking apart from a disabled space. No5 Reading Road traffic calming in the narrow section where the footpath crosses the road. NM said better to send our top choice out as the recommended

Cllrs Voted for:

1 :Two

2a: None

2b: Three

3: None

4: None

5: Two

No consensus on the five options put forward in Appendix S was agreed. No motion was carried. The matter is referred back to the T&T Committee to further discuss and to bring forward to the full council a formal proposal



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26.09.12. To approve the following policies:

26.09.12.1. To Approve the Scheme of Delegation

Appendix T

Approved by majority with one abstention

26.09.12.2. To Approve the Expenses Policy

Appendix U

SL spoke re Chair Allowance, Councillors Allowance, Carers Allowance suggested it goes back to the Clerk Team

Voted against 4 to 2 delegated to Clerk Team to rewrite and return to a future meeting for consideration

26.09.12.3. To Approve the Appraisal Policy

Appendix V

Introducing quarterly appraisals, emphasis on health & wellbeing.

Unanimously Approved

26.09.13. Clerks Report

Appendix W

26.09.13.1. To approve a budget of £600 to purchase a double bin for Manor Road

Glasdon Gemini, the same as Ferry Lane.

Unanimously Approved to purchase the bin from cost code 6150 street furniture

26.09.13.2. To approve using budget allocated (July meeting ref) and style of a replacement benches for Wallingford Road (Heron Shaw and Farm Road junctions) Cllr AP and Facilities to propose design & circulate amongst members

Unanimously Approved to spend up to £1800 for two benches from EMR 370 public spaces strategy

26.09.13.3. To approve fitting Ring Cameras to Council Office, budget £250 for purchase, consider if £4.99 monthly cloud video storage subscription is required

Subject to finding a suitable location and permission from The Community Centre

Unanimously approved to purchase the cameras from cost code 6130 security including the subscription, recognizing that the cost code will then be over spent

26.09.13.4. To note the date and approve any actions regarding the Annual Meeting of the Parish 2027 – The entire Village Hall including kitchen has been booked for Saturday 13 March 2027 from 2-7pm, N.B. this was the only Saturday free, apart from Easter Weekend, in the period 01 March – 31 May as laid down by legislation.

TT stated the plan is to set up the whole village Hall, Cake from WI, invite village community groups.

26.09.14. Matters for future discussion.

In recent conversation, Cllr MFR has asked if Goring would be interested in funding a youth social worker for Goring & Woodcote

26.09.15. To note the date and time of the next meeting Monday 13th July at 18:30

NOTE: Proposals of Motion to be received by the Clerk no later than **30th June**, please.



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26.09.16. Confidential Items: 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 to exclude the public. The recording was stopped.

26.09.16.1. To approve waiving fees for Mike Wards burial at White Hills BG.

In light of Mike Ward's exemplary service to the village (including Parish Clerk) over many years

Unanimously Approved to waive the burial cost of £808 and the Parish Council will pay the gravedigging cost of £391

26.09.16.2. To approve a recommendation from the staffing committee regarding additional seasonal hours

Unanimously Approved the Staffing Committee proposal to allocate the Grounds & Facilities Assistant seasonal/additional hours for a 13-week period from now to September: 2 hours per week for litter-picking/bins and 2 hours per week for watering during drought periods (with prior authorisation), to be paid at the weekend rate of time-and-a-half, with the budget from staff costs £2,000

Meeting closed 20:20