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

Monday 13th July 2026 at 18:30, The Reiss Room, Old School, Station Road, Goring RG8 9HB

Members of the public and press are invited to attend all council meetings.
(Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960)

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)
	Cllr B Urbick (BU)
	Cllr B McKenzie (BM)

Officers Present:

Clerk	S Edmunds
Deputy Clerk	N Mallen

Public and Press: Four Members of the Public

Meeting started 18.30

Member Of Public (MOP 1): Expressed concern about the implications for Icknield Road of the potential quiet road designation for Battle Road

MoP 2 & 3: Representatives from Goring Arts Space Project and their proposed phone box art project. They are Goring residents and are keen to involve the village. They would like the PC to fund renovating the phone box then they would seek funding for the rest.

AGENDA

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

Apologies received from Cllr M Stares

26.17.2. 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)

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

Cllr R Williamson declared an interest in Confidential Item 16

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26.17.3. To note reports from District and County Councillors

26.17.3.1. SODC leader & OCC Councillor: M Filipova-Rivers **Cllr Report**

The two reports were noted Cllr MFR spoke and highlighted from her report - Oxfordshire County Council are still waiting for the decision regarding the council restructure, there is no indication as to what is happening, they continue to prepare. The government are changing how planning will work, the default position is planning officers will be making the decisions, and the District Council will lose some of their ability to call in a decision. On the pilot of quiet lanes. Some expressions of interest were accepted, some not, and even if Goring is chosen for a pilot, there would be a trial period and an evaluation to analyse how it actually works before anything was made permanent.

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

26.17.4.1. Meeting held on 8th June 2026

Minutes were amended for clarity

Unanimously Approved with the amendments

26.17.4.2. Meeting held on 17th June 2026

Unanimously Approved

26.17.4.3. Meeting held on 26th June 2026

Unanimously Approved

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

Quiet Roads – seek clarification regarding what stage this is at.

26.17.5. Chair's Report

TT setting up a meeting with the local police and the SODC Community Safety Officer

Thames Water has announced a soft hose pipe ban, endeavour to reduce use where possible

RHS Britain in Bloom – New flag ordered for Rectory Garden, bridge lights have been cleaned, clerk team have been weeding with the new weedripper.

26.17.6. To Receive Minutes of Committees

26.17.6.1. Finance Committee

- Meeting dated 3rd June 2026 **Appendix A**

Unanimously received

26.17.6.2. Planning Committee

- Meeting dated 19th May 2026 **Appendix B**
- Meeting dated 9th June 2026 **Appendix C**

Unanimously received both

26.17.6.3. Travel & Transport Committee

- Meeting dated 26th May 2026 **Appendix D**

Unanimously received

26.17.6.4. Staffing Committee

- Meeting dated 4th June 2026 **Appendix E**

Unanimously received

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

26.17.7.1. To approve incorporating the Active Travel Group as a working group under T&T.

RW spoke that they were an active campaign group to promote walking & cycling. New information about the structure of the group meant it was inappropriate to incorporate it so instead it was:

Unanimously Approved to allow the group to have access to the room no more than twice a month, booked through the Clerk

26.17.8. 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.

26.17.8.1. Traffic & Transport Committee **Appendix G**

Unanimously Received

26.17.8.2. Open Spaces Committee (combining Sheepcot, Playgrounds & Recreational Spaces committee) **Appendix H**

Unanimously Received

26.17.8.3. Finance Committee **Appendix i**

Amend to say the 2nd anniversary and highlighted the breakdown of the general reserve

Unanimously Received

26.17.8.4. Place & Assets WG **Appendix J**

Unanimously Received

26.17.8.5. Comms Working Group ~~**Appendix K**~~

BN gave a verbal report of activities including HS & GGN articles

Unanimously Received the verbal report.

26.17.8.6. OJFS sale Working Group ~~**Appendix L**~~

Still waiting for a date from solicitors

26.17.8.7. Liaisons **Appendix M**

JE has passed licencing information to BU as renewals are coming due.

26.17.9. To approve the Finance Committee recommendations for the Ear Marked Reserves (EMR) Appendix N

26.17.9.1. A) Noted the changes to EMR names and added EMR 349.

26.17.9.2. B) Unanimously Approved repurposing EMR 390

26.17.9.3. C) Unanimously Approved reopening EMR 420 and transferring £8,000 to it.

26.17.9.4. D) Unanimously Approved keeping EMR 330 and closing EMRs 385, 410, 425 and 430.

26.17.9.5. E) Unanimously Noted the updated descriptions of each reserve in the table of Appendix N

26.17.9.6. F) Unanimously Noted the proposed amount in each reserve in the table of Appendix N – Delegated to the Clerk & Finance Committee to consider and bring back to Full Council proposals for keeping EMR 330

26.17.9.7. G) Council is requested to approve that the Open Spaces Committee may spend up to £5,500 on shade and CCTV for the playgrounds in July or August.

Unanimously Approved to delegate to Clerk with the Open Spaces Committee to spend up to £5,500 on shade and CCTV for the playgrounds in July or August

26.17.10. To approve the GASP phone box project proposal Appendix O

BU pointed out that no commercial advertising can be used. Conservation area means it must end up red. Unanimously Approved the idea in principle once terms of reference and licence are in place, Cllr BU to draft a license.

26.17.11. To approve installing CCTV (as recommended at PAWG) for Bourdillon Appendix P

ICO data impact must be undertaken. BN said we should publicise our proposals, consultation, design of CCTV.

Unanimously approved the principle of installing CCTV and delegate to open spaces to set up a group to develop and implement the CCTV within a budget of £2000

26.17.12. Clerk Report: Appendix Q

26.17.12.1. To approve planting a new tree at The Birches to replace the dead tree T1

Unanimously approved to the Heritage quote from 8210 Trees EMR

26.17.12.2. To approve up to £1k for purchasing a defibrillator & cabinet for Bourdillon on the Milldown/Cleeve side

Unanimously approved £1500 from 8370 Public Spaces Strategy EMR

26.17.12.3. To approve adding bleed kits to all four GoTPC and Sheepcot Defibrillator Cabinets Budget£100 per kit; These are commonly used after gardening accidents etc

Unanimously approved a budget of £400 to purchase bleed kits from 8370 Public Spaces Strategy EMR

26.17.12.4. To approve creating a dedicated email address (or other media) for residents to report any issues to - report@goringparishcouncil.gov.uk

Unanimously approved the new email address

26.17.12.5. To note the new Clerk Team Out-of-Hours Communication and Contact Policy and Clerk Team Sick Pay Report Form

Unanimously Approved the documents, DB typo on p2

26.17.12.6. To approve a budget of £1400 to replace three dilapidated benches on Sheepcot

Unanimously Approved a budget of £1400 for two benches from 8370 Public Spaces Strategy EMR

26.17.13. To note the date and time of the next regular Full Council meeting 18:30 Monday 14th September at The Reiss Room, Community Centre, Station Road

NOTE: Proposals of Motion and Committee / Working Group reports to be received by the Clerk no later than 4th September please

26.17.14. To consider and, if thought fit, approve the following motion: In view of the confidential nature of the business about to transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded, and they will be instructed to withdraw. By reason of confidential business relating to employment. Confidential Papers

26.17.15. To approve signing the Mend the Gap grant letter by Cllrs T Thurston & R Williamson and the clerk for Funding for the Ferry Lane Path Resurfacing Project-

Unanimously Approved the grant letter and it was duly signed

26.17.16. To approve an additional payment to Firedies Design to produce further visualisations for Pedestrian Safety and Traffic Calming projects(as recommended by Travel & Transport Committee June 23rd)

Approved by Majority with one abstention the additional cost of £600 from 8349 Traffic calming EMR

26.17.17. Motion without notice to consider GASP telephone box quotes

JE suggested the CIL S106 allocated for art , BU said the process of approval to spend S106 could take around 12 weeks.

Unanimously Approved to apply for the S106 art grant delegate to Cllr BU and Clerk to find a third option and put in the application.

Motion without notice to extend the meeting by 15 minutes

Unanimously Approved

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26.17.18. To consider and approve recommendations from the Staffing Committee Review

26.17.18.1. Unanimously Approved to appoint WorkNest as the External HR and Employment Law Provider for £1850 p.a. subject to 5 year contract

26.17.18.2. to delegating to the Staffing Committee to share the contract with all Cllrs and if in agreement, sign the contract.

Meeting closed at 20.36

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