

FERRING PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of FERRING PARISH COUNCIL held on **Monday 25th January 2016** at Ferring Village Hall. The meeting commenced at 19.30 hours.

Present:

Parish Councillors: Councillor Carole Robertson (Chairman), Councillors, Frazer Palmer, Terry Jackson, Stephen Abbott, Geoff Mines, Valerie Simpson, Maura Blackburn, Steve Anning, Roger Elkins and Ruth Sims.

West Sussex County Councillor: Not in attendance

Arun District Councillors: Councillors Roger Elkins & Colin Oliver-Redgate

Sussex Police: Not in attendance

Residents: Three residents attended

The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting and commenced the formal proceedings.

01-01-2016 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Peter Evans & Carole Robertson advised of Councillor Steve O'Donnell's resignation from the Parish Council.

02-01-2016 To elect a Vice Chairman of the Council

Councillor Terry Jackson was elected as Vice Chairman of the Council.

03-01-2016 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest:

04-01-2016 Public Questions

A resident asked for an update regarding the proposed 20 mph TRO for the Ferring Roads. Councillor Carole Robertson advised that this will be discussed under agenda item 6.c.

The same resident asked for an update regarding the Sea Flow Outflow. In the absence of Councillor Peter Evans, this item could not be addressed.

A resident raised concerns regarding litter and the state of the grass verges in the north part of Langbury Lane. Councillor Carole Robertson advised that the Parish Clerk will investigate these items and address them to the appropriate Advisory Group.

05-01-2016 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 7th December 2015

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of Council held on Monday 7th December 2015 were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman presiding as a correct record.

06-01-2016 To receive and consider reports from Advisory Groups including the authorisation of orders for payment:

a) Environment, Footpaths and Amenities

Councillor Geoff Mines reported on the following items:

- Following a meeting between Councillor Geoff Mines, the Parish Clerk and representatives from FRSA, FRSA has requested that the agreement that has been in

place since 2008 between the Parish Council and FRSA in relation to the gardens maintenance contract is to be terminated with immediate effect. FRSA will continue with a maintenance contract for specific sites direct with Ferring Nurseries.

- Following the termination of the contract with Ferring Parish Council and FRSA, Councillor Geoff Mines and the Parish Clerk met with Ferring Nurseries to discuss the future of the maintenance contract and additional village projects which may include Queens 90th memorial and the village green enhancement.

b) Glebelands

Councillor Carole Robertson reported on the meeting held 19th January 2016

- There were minor issues raised by the tennis club in relation to the fencing.
- It was acknowledged that the locking of the tennis courts has been successful and this arrangement will continue.
- It was agreed to recommend to Full Council that the lease agreement with ADC for the Pump House should be terminated.
- In relation to the Play Equipment Project, ADC has advised that the tender has been published with expected installation before Easter.

c) Highways

Councillor Terry Jackson reported the following.

- Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for Ferring. Unfortunately, despite extreme efforts of the Ferring Parish Council (FPC), West Sussex County Council (WSCC) Highways Department have decided to implement a 30 mph Traffic Regulation Order for Ferring private roads instead of the requested 20 mph.

This decision has been based on speed data gathered by WSCC on several roads in Ferring which indicated average speeds of 19.3, 21.5 24.6 and 24.9 mph.

The following is an extract from the WSCC statement:

“The data has been analysed and the resulting average speed information that needed to be obtained in order to establish whether or not the existing traffic speeds fall below the maximum level set out in the WSCC policy for the introduction of a 20mph speed limit. The reason for the policy requiring the average existing speed to be close to the proposed limit is to ensure that the majority of drivers accept the new limit as a reasonable one. On roads where this is the case, it is considered that a relatively high level of compliance can be anticipated and this is necessary because, for the most part, speed limits have to function without any police enforcement. Speed limits with a low level of compliance are unlikely to benefit road safety. In recent years, successful appeals to the cabinet member have allowed such limits to be introduced but the current Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport, John O'Brien, has consistently stated that approval for the policy to be waived can no longer be expected.”

Consequently, although the average speeds recorded show that many drivers were close to the requested 20 mph the speeds were sufficiently higher for WSCC to decide that a low level of compliance could be expected.

FPC has voiced concerns to WSCC with regards to the decision and safety on our roads but residents need to be aware that with a new formal speed limit of 30 mph it is possible that average speeds could rise.

Introduction of the new limit will require all existing 20 mph road markings to be removed.

The Public Consultation has commenced and comments can be made prior to 11th February 2016 and further information will be supplied at the next JEAAC Meeting.

- The Parish Council gave thanks to Councillor Terry Jackson for all of his hard work in relation to implementing a TRO for Ferring roads.
- There is also a public consultation for the proposal for the A259, comments can be made before 19th February 2016.

d) Communications

No meeting held

- There was nothing to report

e) Neighbourhood Plan Implementation (including 3 CRTBO'S)

Councillor Carole Robertson advised:

- The Parish Council is waiting on feedback from the correspondence that Sir Peter Bottomley will be sending to Louise Goldsmith of WSCC in reference to the Glebelands Centre.
- Councillors were advised that the owner of the land adjacent to the allotments has made contact with the Parish Council and is interested in discussing the options for the land.
- Councillor Carole Robertson requested that Councillor Peter Evans arranges a meeting with the new Finance Cabinet Member at WSCC in relation to the purchase of the Glebelands.
- Councillor Roger Elkins expressed concerns that little progress is being made. It was agreed to review the Neighbourhood Plan Project Plan at the next meeting 21st March 2016.

f) Finance & General Purposes

The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2016. The following matters/recommendations from the minutes were considered:

Schedule of payments – The schedule of payments was unanimously resolved by the Council.

- Repair/replace sleepers at the Boat feature area £175.00.
- Conservation Group Twitten Project, wild flower bed £288.00.
- Conservation Group, Community Orchard Project £190.00.
- Bench at Sea Lane £200.00.
- The trees in Ferring Reports was reviewed, no further action at this stage. Waiting to receive the ADC digital report.
- It was agreed that Councillor Stephen Abbott will become a member of the F&GP Advisory Group.
- The above were unanimously resolved by Full Council.

2016. Reports from District and County Councillors & Sussex Police

a) Arun District Councillor Roger Elkins reported the following points:

- Councillor Roger Elkins made a representation at the Objectively Assessed Needs (OAN) hearing on Thursday 14th January 2016 at Arun District Council. This hearing session formed part of the Council's outline timetable for the development of the Local Plan, as agreed by the Inspector (see IDED14 below). The purpose of the session was to provide an opportunity for the Inspector to lead discussion and hear views on the Council's re-advertised OAN for market and affordable housing.
- ADC is reviewing their precept for 2016 – 2017 with the recommendation for Council Tax to rise by 1.95%.

- It was advised that ADC is reassessing their finances due to the reduction in the grants subsidised by the Government, an overall reduction of 1.2 million from central government. The figures from 2.8 million in 2015 – 2016 to 1.6 million for 2016 -2017.

b) Arun District Councillor Colin Oliver-Redgate reported the following points:

Councillor Colin Oliver-Redgate raised the concern that with the proposed housing numbers that there is not the infrastructure in place.

c) County Councillor Peter Evans reported the following points:

- In the absence of Councillor Peter Evans, there was nothing to report.

d) Sussex Police – In the absence of PCSO Paul Bryant, Councillor Carole Robertson reported the following points:

Councillor Carole Robertson reported the following:

December 2015 incidents of interest

5/12/2015 and 17/12/2015 shoplifting at ASDA
 12/12/2015 and 14/12/2015 shoplifting at the Co Op
 19/12/2015 theft of a mower from a shed, Florida Road
 7/12/2015 domestic burglary, jewellery taken, Sea Lane
 8/12/2015 burglary at a commercial property, nothing taken.
 8/12/2015 break to a garage, bag put over security lighting, nothing taken, Singleton Crescent
 19/12/2015 break to a nursery 70 to 90 pounds stolen, Goring
 21/12/2015 Henty Arms broken into at rear, nothing taken , has CCTV.

January 1st to the 18th 2016 incidents of interest:

9/1/2016 shoplifting at ASDA
 14/1/2016 and 17/1/2016 shoplifting at Co Op
 7/1/2016 bikes stolen from garage, Ferring Lane
 9/1/2016 lawnmower stolen from shed, Ferring Lane
 11/1/2016 Bungalow burgled jewellery taken been away since 26/11/2015, south
 16/1/2016 criminal damage to vehicle which had word scratched into it.

Summary

December had a series of break-in's which led to directed patrol activity for Ferring and East Preston. One person was identified and arrested for this. Burglary in January possibly linked to this series also as the owners have been away since November 2015. We have had some breaks to garages and sheds in the north of Ferring (Ferring Lane) and the district has a problem with no pattern to these breaks. Directed patrol activity is in place to cover this.

08-01-2016 Reports from representatives on outside bodies:

Health Matters –

- Councillor Valerie Simpson provided an overview of her comprehensive Health and Welfare Report, a copy of which had been issued to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

School -

- There was nothing to report

Village Hall –

- Councillor Maura Blackburn reported on the meeting held 26th January 2016 which included the next steps for the AED and a few items to be incorporated in the next Parish Flyer.

09-01-2016 Reports from Members in respect of Meetings attended and not addressed elsewhere on the Agenda

There was nothing to report

10-01-2016 Responses in respect of planning applications

FG/198/15/L

Application for listed building consent to partially repoint the south gable wall, partially remove an existing ground floor wall & replace existing load bearing oak beam & remove existing crazy paving on the east elevation & replace with pea gravel.

Bramble Cottage, 50 Sea Lane Ferring – no comment

FG/197/15/HH

Two storey side extension

19 Ferring Lane, Ferring – no comment

FG/207/15/DOC

Application for approval of matters reserved by condition imposed under FG/141/13 relating to condition no. 4 – materials and finished to be used for external walls and roofs.

Sunny Banks, 52A Sea Lane, Ferring – approved by ADC 6th January

FG/205/15/DOC

Application for approval of matters reserved by conditions imposed under planning application FG/104/14/PL relating to conditions no. 20 construction management plan

Grenyers Field, Littlehampton Road, Ferring – no comment

FG/208/15/DOC

Application for approval of matters reserved condition imposed under FG/161/14/PL relating to condition 3 for schedule of materials and finish

Onslow Caravan Park, Onslow Drive, Ferring – no comment

FG/202/15/HH

Rear Extension & garage conversion

15 Elm Park, Ferring – no comment

FG/206/15/PL

Demolition of 52 – 56 Ferring Street & construction of a two & a half storey building with accommodation in the roof, to provide 4no. 2 bedroom flats at ground, first and second floor & 3no retail units at ground floor (Use class A1)

52 – 56 Ferring Street, Ferring - object

FG/214/15/L

List building consent to replace an existing small square window in the west elevation with a lead light, Gothic arch window, to match the windows on the south elevation.

Bramble Cottage, 50 Sea Lane, Ferring – no comment

FG/204/15/HH

Extended garage forward in line with house, first floor extension over garage with new front balcony.

3 Sea Drive, Ferring – no comment

FG/212/15/HH

Single storey side extension

3 Florida Gardens, Ferring – no comment

FG/213/15/HH

Rooms in the roof, raise ridge & install 4no. dormers (resubmission FG/86/15/HH)

White Thorne, The Warren, Ferring - object

FG/2/16/T

Crown reduction by 6.5m to 1no. chestnut tree

St Andrews Churchyard, Church Lane, Ferring – no comment

FG/215/15/OUT

Outline application with some matters reserved for the erection of 2no. dwellings

Rear of the garden house, 34 Sea Lane, Ferring - object

FG/3/16/T

Pollard 5no. lime trees back to previous pruning points within the Ferring

Conservation Area

St Andrews Churchyard, Church Lane, Ferring – no comment

FG/191/15/HH

Re-advertisement due to amended description, first floor and single storey extension and car port

27 Singleton Crescent, Ferring – no comment

FG/211/15/T

Crown reduction of 1no. holm oak tree by 1.5m

Grass verge Ferring Road, adjacent to Oaklands, Ferring – no comment

FG/116/15 Appeal Beehive Lane – Councillors unanimously agree to submit further representation

Local Green Space application correspondence, Councillors unanimously agreed to send a further reply

11-01-2016 Christmas Event 2016

Councillor Maura Blackburn spoke to the Parish Council regarding the future of the Christmas Event. It was agreed that the Parish Council should continue to arrange the event and enlist residents to assist with preparations.

It was also agreed to put together an event Working Group.

2016. Grant Request

It was unanimously resolved that a grant of £300 will be awarded to Ferring Companions Twilight Club.

It was unanimously resolved that a grant of £300 will be awarded to Arun Co-Ordinated Community Transport.

13-01-2016 Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Purchase

The Parish Clerk advised that the village hall committee has been successfully awarded a £600.00 grant for the purchase of an AED. It was advised that the AED cabinet at £350.00 will be provided free of charge resulting in a short fall of £279.00 for the unit and battery at £130.00. It was resolved to purchase the AED and the Parish Council will cover the extra costs.

14-01-2016 Precept 2016 -2017

- Councillors unanimously resolved to accept the draft Precept for 2016 -2017.
- Councillor Roger Elkins abstained from the decision.
- The Parish Clerk was asked to investigate Councillor Allowances and report back to Full Council.

15-01-2016 Pump House

- As recommended by the F&GP Advisory Group, Councillors unanimously resolved to terminate the ADC lease for the Pump House.

2016. Standing Orders

- As recommended by the F&GP Advisory Group and with minor amendments that there is sufficient flexibility and at the Chairman's discretion, Councillors unanimously resolved to approve the draft Standing Orders to commence 1st April 2016.
- Councillors gave thanks to Councillor Roger Elkins & former Councillor Steve O'Donnell for their work producing the standing orders.

2016. Councillor Allowances

- It was acknowledged that some of the elected Councillors were not fully aware of the Councillor allowances. As stated under agenda item 14, the Parish Clerk was asked to investigate Councillor Allowances and report back to Full Council.

18-01-2016 Items to be referred to next agenda and items for information only

- There was nothing to report.

The next meeting will be held Monday 7th March 2016

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40pm

Nadine Phibbs
Clerk to Ferring Parish Council