

FERRING PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of FERRING ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL held on **Monday 6th June 2016** at Ferring Village Hall. The meeting commenced at 19.30 hours.

Present:

Parish Councillors: Carole Robertson, (Chairman), Terry Jackson, (Vice Chairman) Councillors, Roger Elkins, Geoff Mines, Ruth Sims, Stephen Abbott and Maura Blackburn

West Sussex County Councillor: Not in attendance

Arun District Councillors: Roger Elkins

Sussex Police: PCSO Paul Bryant

Residents: three residents attended

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

A01-06-2016 Approval of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 18th May 2015

The Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on Monday 18th May 2015 were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

A02-06-2016 Annual Report from the Chairman of Ferring Parish Council

Councillor Carole Robertson read the Chairman's Annual report as attached.

A03-06-2016 To receive report from Sussex Police

PCSO Paul Bryant presented the annual police report as attached

Summary for Ferring : Against the previous year, the figures on the crime sheet does show an increase within the village, however it is important to note:

- Other theft & handling increase is in relation to theft reported by Asda and Co-Op.
- Burglary & other burglary are in dispute as only 21 reports have been made. Since early 2016, due to a suspects being arrested the reported figures have reduced dramatically.
- Violent crimes at 44, these are described as verbal abuse or slight handling ie. pushing or shoving, it is suggested that more than one individual was involved in any once incident.
- Although the Police encourage Asda to report any incidents, it was advised that it is expected that the police will not get too involved with shop thefts, they will encourage the retailer to review their store security to reduce the number of incidents.
- PCSO Paul Bryant advised that the role of the PCSO will change sufficiently along with other police services. It was suggested to invite the Chief Inspector to attend a Parish Council meeting to explain what the changes will involve.
- PCSO Paul Bryant also advised that he will be leaving the police force later this year to relocate to Cornwall. Councillor Carole Robertson thanked Paul for all of his hard work over the years within the village and wished him well for his future.

A04-06-2016 To receive report from Arun District Councillors

Councillor Roger Elkins

- It was reported that there has been 273 planning applications over the past twelve months.

- Reference to the Local Plan, following the Objectively Assessed Needs (OAN) hearing the Inspector advises that further sustainable tests in relation to housing numbers are required and the local plan has been suspended for 15 months.
- ADC is in the process of setting out its vision. Due to government cuts, ADC are faced with the task to save 4 million pounds.
- The order for the new swimming and leisure facility in Littlehampton is going forward at a cost of 16 million pounds..

A05-06-2016 To receive report from West Sussex County Councillor - in the absence of Councillor Peter Evans, Councillor Carole Robertson reported:

- **Glebelands (Formerly The Rifers Youth Centre)** - As you will know the building is currently leased from West Sussex County Council to the Glebelands Community Centre Ltd, Ferring Parish Council are negotiating to purchase the freehold from County as proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan. This is slowly progressing, a district valuation has now been obtained and a further meeting with the Cabinet Member for Finance will be sought to move this forward.
- **Speed Limit in the village** - As you are undoubtedly aware we were unable to introduce this TRO (Traffic Regulation Order) due to the average speeds measured in the village being in excess of the parameters laid down by the government – main criteria is that the speed limit should be self-governing.
We are now introducing a village wide 30mph scheme; this will make our roads safer as currently the national maximum speed limit applies in the village.
- **Sea Lane Outfall** - This has been in the pipeline (please excuse the pun) for many years, renewing the blocked outfall on the beach and foreshore and clearing the remaining pipework of compacted beach debris which has accumulated over many years.
Work has been hampered by the many permissions required to conduct the works and exacerbated by the fact that the number of experts that cover this type of work in West Sussex County Council have been much reduced yet workloads have increased. This occurring due to the County becoming the main flood authority for the area. However the team has now been rebuilt to full complement and the works are planned to commence this summer/autumn.
- **Camper Vans on the Seafront** - Over recent years the number of vehicles parking along Marine Drive has steadily increased. These are recreational vans, lorries, caravans and motor homes where people have been sleeping in them.
You will have seen signs stating 'No Camping' (it is illegal to sleep in a vehicle on the public highway). Offending vehicles have been warned and others towed away but we are still faced with vehicles being parked up for extended periods. I have worked with Worthing Borough Council, Arun District Council and West Sussex County Council to drive enforcement. We are now in a position of having a TRO implemented which will prohibit the parking of campervans, caravans or vehicles equipped for sleeping in during the hours of 11pm to 10am seven days a week which will stop camping and long term parking of vehicles along Marine Drive and Ferring and Goring.
- **Operation Watershed** - This is funding provided by the County Council to enable local works to prevent flooding throughout the County.
- Ferring has been very successful in obtaining funding for investigative and physical works in the village to help protect us from flooding in the future.
- **Local Grants** - Ferring groups have been successful in obtaining funds towards local projects in our village. I am currently working 1st Ferring Scout Group to find funding towards maintaining their aging scout hut which is in much need of repair.
- **New Street Lights** - You will have noticed the replacement for all lamp standards and illuminated road signs over the past year. This is part of a contract to replace 71,000 lamp standards in West Sussex. These new standards encompass new technology

that are low consumption with controlled light spread. Ferring selected dark green lamp standards to help them blend into the background. You will notice Worthing chose light grey and East Preston black. I believe ours look the best.

- Ferring is an unique village, well run and with a great array of local clubs and groups, with Local Councils that work together to maintain the village in tiptop condition whether they be Ferring Parish, Arun District or West Sussex County Council.

A06-06-2016 To receive an update on the Ferring Neighbourhood Plan

As mentioned in Councillor Peter Evans WSCC report, Ferring Parish Council is waiting to receive the report from the district valuation. In addition it is still a priority to acquire land for a new allotment site.

A07-06-2016 Matter raised by residents

A resident asked, with reference to the revised planning application FG/12/16, raising concerns with regards to the traffic and parking implications. The resident asked if the Parish Council will consider engaging an independent traffic evaluation. Councillors will discuss this option after the meeting.

Councillor Carol Robertson congratulated Ferring Conservation Group on their recent announcement that they have honoured with The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2016. This is the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the UK and it is the equivalent of an MBE.

Nadine Phibbs
Clerk to Ferring Parish Council