

All minutes are draft and subject to approval at the next meeting

## FERRING PARISH COUNCIL

### Environment, Amenities and Footpaths Committee (Advisory Powers)

#### Minutes of the Environment, Amenities and Footpaths Committee Meeting held at 7.00pm on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 via Zoom platform

Present	Councillors	Clare Royal
		Ruth Sims
		Stephen Abbott
		Elizabeth Perry
	Conservation Group	Tricia Hall
	Tree Warden	Phillip Ellis
	FRSA	Greg Plenty

1	<p><b>Elect a Chairman</b> Councillor Clare Royal was elected as the Chairman of Environment, Amenities and Footpaths Committee.</p>	
2	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b> Apologies received from Councillors Carole Robertson &amp; Peter Coe.</p>	
3	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b> There were no declarations made.</p>	
4	<p><b>Public Question Time</b> There were no members of the public present.</p>	
5	<p><b>To confirm the Minutes of the last Meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> Dec 2019</b> The minutes were agreed as the correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
6	<p><b>Matters Arising from the minutes of the last meeting</b> Nothing to mention.</p>	
7	<p><b>Information Items</b>  <b>a) Village Green Frontage (ADC works)</b> Councillor Stephen Abbott advised that due to a very wet winter, followed by the Pandemic the scheduled work is now behind. He advised that it is due to go ahead hopefully by Autumn. Stephen also advised that there was £500 in the budget to donate to the Parks Department for the works. Stephen agreed to pursue this project.  <b>b) Oak tree maintenance re plaque:</b> Completed.</p>	<b>SA</b>

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	<p><b>c) Footpath clearance:</b> It was noted that clearance is taking longer due to the Pandemic. Councillor Stephen Abbott suggested that we encourage residents to report any issues on 'Love West Sussex' website.</p> <p><b>d) War Memorial Cleaning:</b> Complete.</p> <p><b>e) Warren Pond replacement pole &amp; rail:</b> Complete.</p> <p><b>f) Village Green Grass Cutting:</b> Complete. Councillor Stephen Abbott pointed out that the WSCC schedule is on the Parish Council Website under the 'I want to' section.</p> <p><b>g) Knotweed Report:</b> Complete.</p> <p><b>h) Beach Litter:</b> Councillor Stephen Abbott suggested this to be reported to the District Councillors. Councillor Elizabeth Perry asked if we could purchase and place normal rubbish bins next to the dog bins along the sea front. Amanda (admin) to write to the District Councillors.</p> <p>Tricia Hall confirmed that there will be a beach clean on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July at 11am by the Conservation Group, Greg Plenty offered to advertise this on the Ferring Village Facebook page to ask for more volunteers.</p>	<p><b>PO/G P/EP</b></p>
<p>8</p>	<p><b>New Projects</b></p> <p><b>a) Bus Shelter South of Railway line:</b> FPC have been approached by residents for a shelter on the south side of the railway gates for shelter from rain. This is to be positioned near where the bench currently is. Proposals were sent out with the agenda. Councillor Ruth Simms suggested it should have a front panel for better protection from the weather, Councillor Stephen Abbott and Amanda to get new quotes showing a front panel. A proposal for the bus shelter will be an agenda item at the next F&amp;GP Committee meeting for their consideration.</p> <p><b>b) Permanent Structure (Statue/Poppies):</b> It was agreed to look at this at the next committee meeting.</p> <p><b>c) Village Green play Equipment:</b> Councillor Clare Royal to ask Peter Coe to cost the price of a swing for the next meeting.</p> <p><b>d) Patterson's Walk rights of way:</b> Councillor Stephen Abbott advised that on the Neighbourhood Plan it was to make Patterson's walk more accessible to the toilets and Kingston Gorse. The right of way now generally has cars parked on the prow on the northern edge of the car park. Stephen will try again for 'rights of way' and take it up as a Planning perspective. Councillor Elizabeth Perry advised that a resident has suggested that a platform is needed to assist with access to the Beach. The committee felt that this would be a project to investigate further. It was agreed that Councillor Elizabeth Perry will revert back to the resident and ask them to provide a proposal. The proposal will be presented at the next Environment Committee Meeting. Councillor Ruth Simms to keep an eye on the grants list for this.</p> <p><b>f) Other Projects:</b> None.</p>	<p><b>PO/S A</b></p> <p><b>CR/ PCoe</b></p> <p><b>SA/E P/RS</b></p>
<p>9</p>	<p><b>Dog Control Issues/FPC Consultation Working Group:</b> Councillor Peter Coe was absent from the meeting; this is deferred until the next meeting.</p>	<p><b>PCoe</b></p>
<p>10</p>	<p><b>Tree Matters:</b> Phillip Ellis Phillip Ellis confirmed that there has been one tree application that had incorrect measurements. He asked Council if they were considering planting more trees? Councillor Stephen Abbott suggested new trees north end of Sea Lane.</p>	

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	<p>FPC decided to plant three trees in Greystoke Road on the West Sussex Program, Ferring Nurseries watered them for one year and it was reported that two of the trees have now died. Amanda (admin) will approach WSCC for two replacement trees.</p> <p>It was noted that the dead Christmas tree at the office needs to be removed. Councillor Ruth Simms suggested a budget for a Christmas tree every year.</p>	<p><b>TH/P</b> <b>O</b></p>
<p>11</p>	<p><b>FRSA:</b> below report provided by Greg Plenty I officially took over as FRSA Gardens Chairman on June 3rd 2020. I have inspected all five gardens. I aim to do a weekly check on all FRSA Gardens depending on the weather. They offer a positive asset to the Ferring village environment but I believe there is more that could be done, within budget constraints. My main aims are twofold: 1. To ensure all the gardens appear neat and tidy and not neglected. 2. To make the gardens more attractive. The gardens are maintained by three organisations at the moment plus one or two areas are maintained by volunteers for the moment. The organisations are • Ferring Nurseries (FN) who do all planting and grass cutting at Langbury Lane • AC's Landscaping (AC) who recently are doing some grass cutting, weeding and general tidying. • Green Thumb (GT) who treat the grass at Ocean Drive garden with weed killer and fertilizer periodically. First impressions are that all three businesses do a good job but perhaps the timings and frequencies of their visits need to be reviewed. I am not aware of any actual contracts. To match my aims above, I intend to • ensure a regular cycle of weeding and tidying at all gardens. I am not sure that this had been happening in the past, based on my observations. • maintain a regular cycle of grass cutting and treating so as to ensure it looks tidy and attractive. • take a view on the plants presently in the gardens, with a view to replacing those that are inappropriate or moribund to make our gardens more attractive.</p> <p><b>The Grove</b> This is a simple circular grass raised bed with narrow border surround possibly planted with spring bulbs. Grass regularly cut by resident on a voluntary basis for the time being. Recently planted the in the middle does not look happy.</p> <p><b>Clover Lane</b> Triangular bed of evergreen shrubs and small tree. A clearer area for spring bulbs. Top dressed with insufficient slate around edge fairly recently. Often looks a bit tired and boring. Recent weeding and extra slate top dressing on surround. (AC)</p> <p><b>Langbury Lane</b> Rectangular area by level crossing. Grass, shrub border and seasonal flower tub. Apparently, a challenge to keep the shrub border tidy, apparently due to litter. (FN)</p> <p><b>Highdown Way/Downview Road</b> Planted tub bought for summer . (FN) Apparently maintained voluntarily by local resident but yet to meet. Not entirely sure of the area of FRSA Garden here yet.</p>	

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	<p><b>Ocean Drive</b>  Summer/ Spring bedding planted and maintained, including watering. (FN) Grass cutting done generally fortnightly (AC) Grass treatment seasonally (GT) Planter (FN). Weeding as required (AC). Perennial beds at either end of bed looking very overgrown.</p> <p><b>Observations</b>  The gardens often seem boring and uninviting. Finance is available to reduce the planting area at Ocean Drive and to turf.</p> <p><b>Aims and ideas</b>  FRSA should be more in control of what goes on, for example the type and density of bedding plants.  Displays should be brighter and attractive. FRSA should be involved in what gets planted before it is done. Observations show that Rustington village borders have a much greater visual appeal than Ferring, even though both maintained by Ferring Nurseries. This is a quality not quantity assessment.  The perennial beds at Ocean Drive could be stripped and turfed using available finance.  Alternatively it could be replanted with more appropriate plants to give an easy to maintain but visually arresting display.  The status of the so-called Christmas tree and the Apple tree at Ocean Drive needs considering.  Both in very poor health. The same applies to the tree at The Grove.  GP 18/06/2020</p>	
12	<p><b>Conservation Group:</b> Tricia Hall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beach clean has been organised.</li> <li>• Guide boat at entrance to village green to be planted up by the Conservation Group. New plants have been donated by Ferring Nurseries.</li> <li>• The new magazine has been published and goes out to 900 people, the Conservation Group have requested donations to be placed in envelopes and posted in letter boxes to avoid money handling.</li> <li>• Tricia asked all the committee to become Conservation members at a cost of £1.</li> <li>• Patterson's Walk beds look lovely with the new sleepers.</li> <li>• The trees on the Rife are all good.</li> <li>• At the orchard, two trees have died.</li> </ul>	
13	<p><b>Parish Clerk Report including Financial Matters</b>  Nothing to report</p>	
14	<p><b>Urgent matters arising, since the preparation of this Agenda &amp; Items to be referred to next Agenda</b>  It was noted that the Mountain Ash behind the War Memorial looks like it is dying, Phillip Ellis to have a look.</p>	PE
15	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020</b></p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 8.45pm</p>	