



THE PARISH FLYER - 59

Ferring Parish Council – Winter 2020 Village News & Views from your Council

CHAIRMAN COUNCILLOR STEPHEN ABBOTT WRITES –

In recent years, your Parish Council has consistently strived to defend the strategic green gaps separating Ferring from Worthing to the east and Angmering / East Preston to the west, from repeated development attempts contrary to the Ferring Neighbourhood Plan and Arun Local Plan. This also applies to the land on the southern slopes of Highdown Hill.

The proposed new housing development by Persimmon Homes for some 475 dwellings, north of the railway line on the North Goring Gap, stretches from the Ferring boundary to Goring Street (Goring Station) and north as far as the Rife. Whilst it is entirely within the Worthing catchment area, Ferring Parish Council and Ferring Conservation Group joined the newly formed Goring Gap Action Group (GGAG) to oppose this development.

For residents of Ferring, Goring and the wider local community, loss of these precious 'green lungs' to more development will adversely affect our environment, wildlife conservation, roads, infrastructure and services. At the time of writing, the hearing date by Worthing Borough Council Planning has not been fixed but is likely to be in late November or soon after. More information can be found on the Parish Council website www.ferringparishcouncil.org.uk and notice boards.

Stephen Abbott,
Chairman Ferring Parish Council



REMEMBRANCE DAY - The annual act of Remembrance organised by Ferring Parish Council and our local Ferring Churches includes a service at St Andrews Church, followed by the laying of wreaths by 38 local organisations at the War Memorial in Ferring Street. The event attracts hundreds of people. For 2020, the proceedings were somewhat different. On Sunday 8th November 2020, wreath layers were invited to lay their wreaths at the War Memorial whilst adhering to social distancing. The British Legion Guidance was to “Remember from home”.



CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES - The Christmas Festivities include, entertainment, Christmas Fair and the Christmas light 'switch on'. To observe the current Government Guidelines, the event on 5th December has been cancelled. The Parish Council will ensure that the centre of the village is still illuminated with Christmas Lights.



CHRISTMAS AT OUR CHURCHES - As we go to print, we cannot be sure what we will be able to do to mark and celebrate the birth of Jesus. However, we encourage you to visit the websites of Ferring Baptist Church [www.ferringbaptist.org.uk] or St Andrew's Church, Ferring [www.standrewsferring.org.uk] to find out about details of Christmas services which may be in church or online. Despite all the challenges, may you know the peace of Christ in your hearts and homes this Christmas.



PARISH OFFICE - Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Parish Office is still closed to all visitors until further notice. However, the Parish Office staff are contactable to assist you. The Clerk, can be contacted in the office on 01903 249449. Alternatively send an email parishclerk@feringparishcouncil.org.uk



NEW CROSSING SHELTER – We have had the benefit of a shelter on the north side of the railway crossing for many years. Ferring Parish Council has now installed a similar shelter on the south side. This will provide an additional welcome refuge for pedestrians during the sometimes-lengthy wait at the railway crossing. The bench has been restored and relocated and incorporates the Covid-19 painted snake pebbles that have been concreted in and now surround the bench.



TENNIS COURTS – The Parish Council is pleased to advise that the village tennis courts have recently been cleaned and repainted. The Contractor has done an excellent job. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Tennis Club and the Ferring Football Club for their assistance – very much appreciated.



OVERGROWN HEDGES & BOUNDARIES – This is a request to residents to ensure that their garden plants and vegetation are kept in good order and hedges are cut back to their original boundaries and not causing any danger or obstruction to other residents. We have an increasing number of residents contacting the office to highlight such issues. This is of particular concern at corners of 'T' junctions and cross-roads and edges of public footpaths.



WINTER EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS - In the event of snow and ice, the County Council grits the main roads through the village – the route of the 700-bus service. In order to assist all other areas, there are four grit bins, the east end of Langbury Lane, north entrance to the village green, north Greystoke Road and outside the convenience store south Ferring. The salt is provided for residents use for public areas only.



VILLAGE HIGHWAYS ISSUES – Residents will recall that in a previous Parish Flyers, the Parish Council was exploring the possibility of erecting a traffic island as a pedestrian refuge in Rife Way at its junction with Ferring Street. This required working closely with WSCC Highways and applying for a Community Highways Scheme. Ferring Parish Council is pleased to advise that the construction of the refuge is scheduled for this winter subject to weather conditions.



SPEEDING IN THE VILLAGE - Vehicle Activated Speed Sign update.

The Vehicle Activated Sign was placed in Onslow Drive between 1st – 25th September following comments made by residents. An average of 243 vehicles per day, 85% of which are driven at 24 mph. Of the 5,810 vehicles detected, 22 were driven at >30 mph, of which 3 exceeded 35mph. Fastest speed recorded was 40mph on 7th September at 9:30pm. At the time of writing, the sign is currently placed in Langbury Lane. The results are now published on the parish council website.



SPEEDING REMINDER – Please note that the speed limit on all roads in the village is 30 MPH



COMPASS BUS/LOWER FERRING PARKING – In the summer, it was noted that there was an increase in comments on social media and complaints from Residents in the West/South/Ocean Drive area of South Ferring relating to inconsiderate parking, which was also causing access problems for the No 8/8A bus services and emergency services attempting to access the area. The Parish Council, together with FRSA, initiated discussions with both Compass Travel and West Sussex County Council Highways department to identify enforceable solutions to address these problems.

One quick solution was the installation of the painted bus stops at both ends of South Drive which were completed by FRSA, on the authority of WSCC, in August. In addition to the access problems created by parking on the bends at either end of South Drive it was also noted that parking on alternate sides of West and South Drive, was creating “chicanes”, which were impeding access. In conjunction with the bus stop implementation, an application for a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) was submitted for consideration by WSCC to implement parking restrictions in the area. This will be reviewed by WSCC in November and will be scored against other TROs submitted across the county to determine priority. If approved there will be a consultation and design phase which means that, even if the TRO is approved in November, there is no guarantee that the works will be approved before next summer.

Further negotiations with WSCC have resulted in their waiving of the fee for a Temporary TRO, which will enable measures to be put in place pending permanent approval which could allow the restrictions to be in force by Easter 2021. Further details are available on notice boards and the parish council website www.ferringparishcouncil.org.uk under ‘Local Interest’.



WELCOME TO NEW COUNCILLORS - Ferring Parish Council are pleased to welcome two new co-opted Councillors, Alex Juniper and Ruth Arnold, who we are sure will become valuable members of the Parish Council Team.

WE NEED YOU



COUNCILLORS NEEDED – Whilst the Parish Council is pleased with the addition of the new co-opted Councillors, we are still looking for more Councillors to meet our full quota. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Clerk for a confidential conversation and more details parishclerk@feringparishcouncil.org.uk.



HANDYMAN REQUIRED - After many years of excellent service by our maintenance contractor, we are now in need of a new handyman to manage the quarterly cleaning and maintenance of the bus shelters, notice boards, benches/seating areas, memorial area and additional general ad hoc repairs in the village as required. We are interested in hearing from any individual/company who would be interested in undertaking the role. Please contact: parishoffice@feringparishcouncil.org.uk for more information/details on the work entailed.

RAISING THE FLAG - The Parish Council is seeking a volunteer that would like to take the responsibility to raise the flag within the village on national/local important dates. If you are interested, please contact: parishoffice@feringparishcouncil.org.uk for more information/details.



AND FINALLY:

Future Full Council Meetings 7th December 2020 via the Zoom Platform

CONTACTING YOUR COUNCIL:

Visit our website at <https://www.ferringparishcouncil.org.uk/>

E-mail your comments regarding any Village matters to: parishoffice@feringparishcouncil.org.uk

Write to the Council at **1 Elm Park, Ferring, West Sussex, BN12 5RN**

Read the information on the Council's notice boards

Phone the Parish Office on **01903 249449**

