

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 14th December 2020 via Zoom platform

Present	Councillors	Clare Royal
		Ruth Sims
		Elizabeth Perry
		Ruth Arnold
	Conservation Group	Tricia Hall

1	<p>Apologies for Absence Apologies received from Councillor Stephen Abbott, his apologies were accepted.</p>	
2	<p>Declarations of Interest There were no declarations made.</p>	
3	<p>Public Question Time There was one member of the public present.</p>	
4	<p>To confirm the Minutes of the last Meeting held Monday 14th September 2020 The minutes were agreed as the correct record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
5	<p>Matters Arising from the minutes of the last meeting Nothing to mention.</p>	
6	<p>Information Items a) Village Green Frontage (ADC works) – In the absence of Councillor Stephen Abbott, Amanda provided the committee with an update. Councillor Ruth Sims raised a concern about the ground being levelled due to the water course/duct. Amanda to clarify this with Councillor Stephen Abbott and advise Committee. b) Benches – ADC have confirmed that they already use recycled benches and will continue to look at opportunities for benches where appropriate. If FPC would be interested in supporting the initiative further, they can contact ADC. c) Crossing Shelter – This project is complete.</p>	PO
7	<p>Items to be addressed a. Shingle bed area, Pattersons Walk (concerns raised by Tricia Hall)</p>	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Litter bin – The condition of the litter bin has been reported to ADC. Tricia Hall requested that it should be moved away from the seating area and the bin changed for a non-front opening door. 2. Wooden sleepers at the back are starting to splinter, it was agreed that this is not urgent and can wait until FPC has recruited a new maintenance person. 3. It was reported that the alleyway between Ocean Drive and the sea has two major hazards, path in a poor state and wall crumbling. It was agreed that Amanda will write to ADC as a matter of urgency, Councillor Clare Royal agreed to draft the letter. <p>b. Rubbish at the beach The resident in attendance has recently written to Councillor Clare Royal raising concerns regarding the amount of rubbish on the beach and gave a suggestion that The Bluebird Café could ask their customers to bring their own cup, however it was noted that this is not possible during the pandemic. The resident also suggested that signs could be erected near the bins asking people to take their rubbish home and she asked if a meeting could be arranged with The Bluebird Cafe and Kingston Parish Council to discuss the rubbish in the Kingston area. It was acknowledged that ADC have positioned extra bins by The Bluebird Café and the Clerk has spoken to The Bluebird Café who confirmed that they have 10 bins that are checked on an hourly basis. The Committee asked Amanda to speak with the Clerk regarding this.</p>	<p>PO / CR</p> <p>PO</p>
8	<p>War Memorial</p> <p>a. Paving and jet wash - The Committee agreed that this is not urgent and will address at a later date.</p> <p>b. Flag Pole – The Committee were advised that the flag pole is looking a bit worn. Councillor Ruth Sims suggested swapping the Village Green pole with the one at the memorial. The Committee agreed that this is not urgent and will address at a later date.</p> <p>c. Permanent structure – The Committee asked Amanda to get quotes for large Poppies and a statue. This information will be circulated at the next meeting.</p>	<p>PO</p>
9	<p>Warren Pond Further to the recent Warren pond clearance, it was noticed that fencing on the north/west side of the pond needs to be replaced and vegetation needs to be removed.</p> <p>a. Replacement fencing. b. Cutting back – branches overhanging the pond and remove debris in pond.</p> <p>Tricia Hall from the Conservation Group said that a local resident was happy to put two new fence panels in supplied by The Conservation Group and to cut back the vegetation. He might need a skip. The Committee acknowledged that FPC owns Warren Pond and that any arrangements and quotations must be recommended to F&GP Committee and approved by Council prior to any work being carried out. The Committee asked Amanda to contact Councillor Alex Juniper to meet fencing companies on site to obtain a quotation. Tricia Hall will provide a fencing company contact and photo's to establish which panels are in question.</p>	<p>PO / TH</p>

10	<p>Allotment Charges Reference to the allotment fees, FPC has previously agreed to review the charges for the allotments every two years. The Committee agreed to a small increase of £2 per year. This is recommended to go to F&GP Committee in January.</p>	
11	<p>New Projects</p> <p>a) Covid snake plaque - The Committee were advised, as part of the crossing shelter/bench project at the side of the Parish office, the covid snake has been cemented into the bench surrounding. It has been suggested to put a small plaque explaining the reason for the snake. Councillor Ruth Sims suggested the plaque could go on the bench. It was agreed that Ruth would provide the wording and Amanda would obtain quotations.</p> <p>b) Patterson’s Walk - Councillor Elizabeth Perry produced a detailed plan for a platform on the beach. Councillor Ruth Sims suggested that permission would be required from ADC and The Environment Agency and she offered to provide funding information. Councillor Elizabeth Perry will explore the funding, permissions and costing and present her findings at the next Committee meeting.</p> <p>c) Rampion fund- This item will remain on the agenda.</p> <p>d) Christmas lights on new shelter - No further action. Councillor Ruth Sims advised that no councillor had volunteered to erect the Nativity scene.</p> <p>e) Village Green play Equipment - This item will be removed from the agenda.</p> <p>f) Other Projects - Tricia Hall from The Conservation Group said that the Conservation Group want to support Countryfile’s appeal to plant 750,000 native trees this year but they need help on finding where to plant. The Conservation Group acknowledged that if they wish to plant on WSCC land, it will be via the ‘Plant a Tree scheme’ with a cost of £150.00 per tree. Tricia Hall asked if the Parish office could ask WSCC where trees have died along Sea Lane if they could replace these but not as part of the plant a tree scheme. Another suggestion was for residents to allow planting in their gardens, a possibility that this could go on Facebook.</p>	<p>RS / PO</p> <p>EP</p> <p>PO</p>
12	<p>Environment Precept 2021 – 2022 Councillor Clare Royal advised the committee that following a conversation with the clerk the recommended Environment precept for 2021-2022 will be recommended to F&GP Committee early January.</p>	
13	<p>Parish Clerk Report – including Financial Report: Amanda confirmed amounts left to pay and that we are currently on budget</p>	
14	<p>Tree Matters: Phillip Ellis was not present at the meeting</p>	
15	<p>FRSA: The FRSA don’t currently have a representative.</p>	
16	<p>Conservation Group Update: Tricia Hall</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shingle beds tidied but more sleepers at the back need replacement. • Sea Lane boat tidied and grass cuttings raked to improve wild flower growth. • Community Orchard tidied and bulbs planted. Two replacement apple trees after Christmas. • Village Green herb bed and shrubs tidied. • Rife trees: maintenance work carried out and a few new trees planted. • Nest boxes cleared in November. All but one occupied. • Information board on Patterson’s Walk: New artwork by Jenny Hawksley and new Perspex cover and wood maintenance by Graham Tuppen. Similarly, Goring Gap board in conjunction with Ilex Group. • Meeting with Country Centre to offer any help they needed as we had rather lost touch. We suggested tree planting on east bank of Rife but this has been turned down. We raised issue of screening around hideous new sub station and this may be addressed. Also pointed out the removal of significant Hawthorn tree by bridge. EA have said they will repair bridge at some time. Also, road access unsafe as speed bump before bridge too flat. • Bench on Rife has rotten slats and can’t be used any more. • Onslow Drive: grass verge damage. Problem already raised by David? The Committee asked the Parish office to report this to WSCC. • Although we have had no meetings, we have attempted to keep our membership informed by regular emails and the web site. We did have two very successful socially distanced walks in October. Is there anyone on the PC who is not a member? About 650 renewed their membership down from 950 but donations made up for that. • We sold 2000 Christmas cards from my doorstep and have sent a cheque for £450 to the Chestnut Tree House Hospice. 	PO
17	<p>Urgent matters arising, since the preparation of this Agenda & Items to be referred to next Agenda</p> <p>Clare Royal advised the Committee that the progress to appoint a new maintenance person is going well with the hope that they will start early in the new year.</p>	
18	<p>Date of Next Meeting – Monday 22nd March 2021</p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 8.39pm</p>	