## **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 6th October 2021

Present	Councillors	Clare Royal (Chair)
		Stephen Abbott
		Ruth Arnold
		Mark Stacey
	Conservation Group	Tricia Hall
	Tree Warden	Philip Ellis

1	Apologies for Absence Apologies received from Alex Juniper; his apologies were accepted.	
2	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations made.	
3	Public Question Time There were no members of the public present.	
4	To confirm the Minutes of the last Meeting held Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2021 The minutes were agreed as the correct record and signed by the Chairman.	
5	Matters Arising from the minutes of the last meeting Nothing to mention.	
6	Information Items a. Covid 19 snake pebbles –Councillor Clare Royal will take them to the Blue boat area on Patterson's walk. b. Business Owners re rubbish – Councillor Clare Royal confirmed that this would be published in the flyer. c. Tree Surgeon Works  • Warren Pond branches & tree removal completed. • Pantiles crown and make safe (ADC planning application submitted) • Henty tree cutting is due to be completed shortly d. War Memorial Paving and wall repairs – Scheduled for 8th October. e. FPC Maintenance contractor works – Pantiles bench slat and Warren Pond fencing completed. f. Benches - All benches along Patterson's Walk have been reviewed by ADC. Works orders have been raised for 7 benches.	CR

	Councillor Stephen Abbott requested that we get the bench repaired at Sea Lane Gardens which has been on the FPC Maintenance list for some time.	РО
7	<b>AED Unit</b> - Chairman Clare Royal advised that this was discussed at the Finance & General Purposes Committee (F&GP) meeting, details can be found in the minutes on the website. F&GP Committee recommendation to Full Council is to purchase a new cabinet, fitting & necessary electrical work.  The AED has been removed and the cabinet has been taped up out of order and FPC will inform residents via the Flyer, Website and All About Ferring. Secamb have been advised.  Councillor Stephen Abbott suggested the new unit should be Polycarbonate.	РО
8	Community-based renewables - The SDNPA is preparing a Technical Advice Note (TAN) on community-based renewable energy proposals and would welcome the input of parish and town councils.  Councillor Stephen Abbott suggested that we keep a view of this and monitor it. The committee agreed that they have no comments at this time.	AT
9	<b>FPC Maintenance contractor works</b> - Chairman Clare Royal explained that the F&GP Committee agreed that in the first instance, to contact the previous maintenance contractor.  Dependant of the outcome of the above, the F&GP Committee recommended the following: 1. that a task group is formed to agree best way to recruit a new maintenance contractor. 2. Agree an Interim solution. The Above will be recommended to Full Council.	
10	War Memorial Enhancement Project - Councillor Clare Royal asked Councillor Stephen Abbott what the outcome is regarding moving the Village Green Flag pole over to the War Memorial.  Councillor Stephen Abbott explained that the Flag Poles are fitted differently and therefore this was not good solution. Councillor Stephen Abbott asked if the office could email the contractor who is doing the War Memorial work on the 8 <sup>th</sup> October to give us a quote to remove the Village Green Flag Pole.  The War memorial Flag Pole needs painting, Councillor Stephen Abbott suggested buying a new Flag Pole, he will source prices for the next meeting.  Councillor Clare Royal informed the committee that it is the Centenary of the Poppy and that the Clerk had found some metal poppies which could be put out for Remembrance Day, Councillor Stephen Abbott suggested the office email all Councillors for their opinion. Committee suggested buying 10 to give a good impact and in line with the centenary.	PO SA PO
11	Dog Issues – A poster was sent out to all committee members; advisory signage for people to keep dogs on leads and under control in certain areas and to ensure they pick up.  The Committee Chairman Clare Royal will speak to FPC Chairman Peter Coe to ask how posters are produced and where they are recommended to go.	CR

12	<b>Temporary Bins Patterson's Walk</b> - Chairman Clare Royal explained that the temporary bins were installed at the time of lockdown and excess visitors to the beach. These have now been removed and it was agreed that the committee would monitor and review the situation and reinstate if necessary.	
13	<b>Allotment plot –</b> Admin Amanda Thomas updated the committee with an issue at the allotments regarding an allotment holder.  After a brief discussion it was noted that allotment plot is in good order and well established and it was agreed with the recommendation that notice of 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2022 to coincide with the annual allotment payments will be given.	РО
14	<ul> <li>New Projects</li> <li>a) Pattersons Walk – Councillor Ruth Arnold confirmed that she had given some information to the Clerk. The committee agreed to discuss item e) and put this item on hold for the time being.</li> <li>b) Widening Patterson's Walk and Sea Lane – Admin Amanda Thomas asked the committee if they wish to open communication with WSCC &amp; ADC to widen the pathways. The committee agreed that the paths were wide enough and did not want to encourage bike riding.</li> <li>c) Gateway sign x 3 – Councillor Stephen Abbott explained that this had been looked at before and that the dangerous corner of Sea Lane entering the village had nowhere suitable for a gateway sign. Councillor Ruth Arnold pointed out that there are actually 4 entrances to the village. The committee agreed to remove this item for now.</li> <li>d) Warren Pond Nature Reserve - Chairman Clare Royal looked into the legislation for this and it is quite complicated and would require a platform for viewing. Councillor Stephen Abbott explained that the pond was in place as a soakaway and for drainage. He suggested that Councillors attend the annual work day on the 30th October to help and discuss options for the area. It was suggested that Tricia Hall from The Conservation Group send a form.</li> <li>e) Pill box wheelchair ramp – Councillor Ruth Arnold came up with the idea of putting a ramp onto the pill box area on Pattersons walk for wheelchair/pushchair access. Councillor Stephen Abbott suggested Ruth speak to Ed Miller &amp; Chris Headon. Further to that; Rampion and ADC. This is viewed as an alternative to a) above.</li> <li>f) Scouts bulb planting – Councillor Stephen Abbott updated the committee regarding the Village Green frontage and that he was arranging a meeting to finish the areas that had not been done. He said he would ask ADC to supply the bulbs as originally agreed for the Scouts to plant.</li> <li>g) Dog Bin at bus shelter in Langbury Lane – the committee agreed to put a dog waste bin on the south side of Langbury lane nea</li></ul>	AT RA SA/ PO TH

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	<ul> <li>will contact Environment Agency for permission to position on the west side of the Rife.</li> <li>i) Proposed shelf for the South Drive Bus Shelter – the committee agreed this was not a good idea in respect to health &amp; safety, however, they would be open to other ideas of book swapping in the village.</li> </ul>	РО
15	Parish Clerk Report – AT provided the Committee with a financial update.	
16	<b>Tree Matters</b> - Phillip Ellis Philip updated the committee on various tree planning applications.	
	<b>Tree at Scotch Dyke</b> - Philip confirmed that he had a look at the tree outside Scotch Dyke and it is not dying, dead branches drop from the tree and a large branch is overhanging a garage and garden. The Committee suggested that the resident contacts Scotch Dyke.	РО
	<b>The Ilex Avenue</b> - runs from Sea Lane Goring to Sea Lane Ferring is only protected as far as the district boundary as a Conservation Area. Historically Worthing maintain the whole avenue but are concerned about damage by way of pruning by properties backing onto avenue.	
	Is there any hope of persuading ADC to either make a Conservation Area or place a Tree Preservation Area on the Avenue? Worthing have recently placed a number of TPO's on groups of trees around the area due to damage that can be acted on more effectively. The committee asked Philip to contact Worthing Borough Council to write to FPC.	
	Councillor Stephen Abbott wanted to thank Philip Ellis the Tree Warden for his excellent reports which make such a difference when considering tree planning applications. Councillor Clare Royal suggested that he write a piece for 'All about Ferring' explaining his role and other tree information for the public.	РО
17.	Conservation Group update: Tricia Hall	
	<ol> <li>Rife benches. Both solid oak benches installed on the Ferring side of the Rife         <ul> <li>one near Clover Lane path and other near Brook Lane path. Paid for by             FCG, but one has since been paid for by a member as a memorial. Many             positive comments about them and being well used. We are expecting             another "expensive memorial bench" to be installed further north near the             Brook Lane caravan park, but nothing to do with us.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	
	<ol> <li>Beach cleans – all cleans now completed for the year. Not a lot of litter locally thankfully, but appears residents are regularly picking up items as they see them, plus groups such as the Scouts are organising cleans.</li> </ol>	
	<ol> <li>Sea Lane grass raking – should have taken place Monday of this week, with the Good Gym.</li> </ol>	

	4.	Warren Pond – suggest the annual work day is Saturday 30 October starting at 10am. FPC to organise a small skip.	РО
	5.	Community Orchard – reasonable crop of apples this year (not so good for plums, cherries or pears). People are helping themselves – at the moment thankfully not stripping trees prematurely. Arun have been asked to cut grass there, and when done hopefully soon, we'll organise a grass rake there and people can pick apples as a reward.	
	6.	WSCC issues – Two relevant ones purely for Ferring – parking of vehicles incl large motorhome on grass verge at top of Sea Lane near school, but WSCC not interested as they say it's not illegal (despite damage to verge) - and also many dead or dying trees in Rife Way – WSCC have counted 10 and have reported to trees team for possible action.	
	7.	Greystoke Road tree – WSCC need to be reminded to replace dead tree that they failed to do last year – Amanda confirmed that the tree is being planted between Nov – Feb.	
	8.	Great Big Green Week - just finished and FCG had display at library and now at playgroup, and then at school. Main message from us is for residents to create more wildlife friendly gardens, and not cut down trees/ hedges, or pave over gardens, or put down plastic grass etc etc which seems to be current fashion. We'll continue nagging on this.	
	9.	On similar vein, we're objecting to recent TPO planning applications to cut down or cut back large trees in Sea Lane Close, and 2 separate ones in Grange Park.	
	10	Ferring Country Centre are lining the entrance to the centre with Horn beam, 8/10 feet high.	
	11	.FCG had the first meeting since Feb 2020. Now have 937 members.	
	12	. The wild flowers at the Twitten and Village Green may benefit from a different seed mix, FCG to contact Arun for these.	
18.		nt matters arising, since the preparation of this Agenda & items to be ed to next Agenda	
	Councillor Stephen Abbott asked if FPC were going to do anything about the Green Canopy, this is The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) and is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. Chairman Clare Royal is looking into this and it will need to go to Full Council due to timing.		CR
19.	Date o	of Next Meeting – Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	
	Meetii	ng closed at 9.15pm	