

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

FERRING PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of FERRING PARISH COUNCIL held on **Monday 24th January 2022** the Village Hall. The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Present:

Parish Councillors: Councillor Peter Coe (Chairman), Councillor Clare Royal (Vice Chairman), Councillors, Ruth Arnold, John Tero, Stephen Abbott, Mark Stacey, Lesley Young & Roger Elkins.

West Sussex County Councillor: Councillor Roger Elkins

Arun District Councillors: Councillor Roger Elkins & Colin Oliver-Redgate

Residents: There were two residents in attendance

Councillor Peter Coe, Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting and commenced the formal proceedings.

Tony Cooper

Tony Cooper, a former Parish Councillor, sadly passed away on the 1st of January. Councillor Terry Jackson, was unable to attend tonight, and contributed the following tribute.

Tony was a Parish Councillor for around 15 years and also served as Chairman. When I joined the Council, he had just come out the Chair and I found him to be an extremely forthright Councillor who really cared about what happened in the Parish. He was outspoken, fair and would always listen to different points of view.

I worked with him also for a number of the years in the Police Office where he thoroughly enjoyed helping residents.

He will be sadly missed

Councillors Roger Elkins and Stephen Abbott paid their own personal respects and Members observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect to Tony.

01-01-2022 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Alex Juniper & Terry Jackson. The apologies were accepted.

02-01-2022 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

03-01-2022 Public Questions

A resident thanked the Parish Council for the yellow lines installed along South Drive and West Drive.

04-01-2022 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 6th December 2021 were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman presiding as a correct record.

05-01-2022 Vacant Council Positions

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The Chairman advised the Council that there are currently two vacancies for Councillors and we have received one application. The Chairman welcomed Paul Moss (the applicant) to the meeting and asked him to make a short presentation about himself, his interests in the Parish Council and his reasons for wishing to become a Councillor. Following the presentations, Councillors were given the opportunity to ask any questions to the applicant.

The result of the ballot **RESOLVED** to co-opt Paul Moss to serve as a Councillor until the next ordinary election.

Paul Moss read out his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and signed the Declaration Form and Dispensation to participate in budget/precept setting debates form. The Clerk issued the newly co-opted Councillor with further documentation to complete including Code of Conduct and Register of Interest.

Prior to moving to the Committee reports, Councillor Stephen Abbott referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting minutes regarding the funding of proposals at item 6 and that these were not recommendations by the Committee, but confirmation that the funding is available.

06-01-2022 To receive and consider reports from Committees including the authorisation of orders for payment:

a) Environment, Footpaths and Amenities, Meeting held 20th December

a. Dog Issues - dog owner code of practice signs

Following the Environment Committee Meeting in October 2021 re dog control, Councillor Peter Coe volunteered to look at the potential locations of dog owner code of practice signs and has walked around all the "hot spots" including the village green to identify types and locations of signs and obtained a quotation.

The Environment Committee at their meeting 20th December 2021 agreed to pursue and recommend for Full Council consideration.

Before discussing the proposal, the Chairman clarified the following:

The Parish Council does not have the authority to impose enforceable restrictions in relation to dogs and/or their owners. This is the responsibility of ADC through Public Space Protection Orders which must go through formal consultation, and then have to be reviewed every three years. The last review was in 2020 and the Parish Council made no comment.

Arun currently has two PSPOs (sealed 3 Nov 2020) that apply to "*any land which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access within the Arun District, with the exception of land used for agriculture or forestry*" in respect of:

Dog Fouling, which makes it an offence to fail to remove faeces from the land forthwith.

Dogs on leads by Direction; which makes it an offence if "*a person does not, when asked by an authorised officer, put or keep his or her dog on a lead*". The officer may only give a direction if it is reasonably necessary to prevent a nuisance or behaviour by the dog which is likely to cause annoyance or disturbance to any other person, animal or bird.

There are also 2 PSPOs relating to exclusion and dogs on leads in specified places.

After a lengthy debate, it was unanimously agreed that this item should be passed back to the Environment Committee for further consideration and to discuss the proposed signage

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with ADC in relation to publicising the PSPOs and ensuring that it is clear that enforcement lies with Arun District Council and NOT the Parish Council.

Councillor Clare Royal thanked the Council for their positive feedback.

b. Queens Canopy tree

The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a unique tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites people from across the United Kingdom to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee".

Councillor Clare Royal has been to Arundel Arboretum and has been quoted £65.00 for a 6-foot tree, £20.00 to plant it and £7.50 for a stake. She will contact Arundel Arboretum and ADC Parks to discuss if the village green is a suitable location for the tree/s.

Council agreed to pursue with the project in principle subject to confirmed location of the tree/s with a budget of up to £250.

The above was **RESOLVED** by Full Council

c. Replacement Benches for beach

All councillors have seen the paper circulated with the agenda. The principle of replacing benches with recycled plastic benches was raised at Environment Committee in December 2020 and ADC responded that they would welcome support for this initiative. F&GP Committee has confirmed the availability of funding for the proposal.

It was unanimously agreed to purchase 15 x 2m long KBS 5 Slat (Grey Frame Brown Slats) recycled plastic seats with a budget of up to £7000 for installation by Arun District Council on the viewing platform either side of the pill Box on Patterson's Walk.

The above was **RESOLVED** by Full Council

Council Roger Elkins suggested that the two cast iron benches could be relocated.

d. Council noted the payment to P Hall (Conservation Group) for the bird boxes to be located at Warren Pond.

b) **Highways & Community, Meeting , no meeting held**

Councillor Peter Coe advised the following:

a. TRO – Lines were painted on the 18th January and the time limit signs installed on the 21st. The TRO will now be sealed by WSCC to formally implement the TRO. WSCC have provided the contact details for enforcement by ADC and these will be posted on the Parish Web Site. Thanks were given to FRSA with their support to install the yellow lines.

b. Queens Platinum Jubilee – A briefing note was sent to all councillors and planning by the coordination committee is going well. Acts have been booked for the Friday Night Music on the Green. There will be opportunities for individual councillors to help in the build-up and on the day if they so wish. There are also opportunities for clubs from around the village to do a show and tell to promote their activities. Councillor Peter Coe commented that if the Parish Council wanted to have a stand on the Village Green on the Saturday it would have to be manned by Councillors.

c. **Neighbourhood Development Plan Committee, no meeting held**

Councillor Peter Coe advised the following:

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a. Meeting with Little Paddocks Freeholders – At the request of the Little Paddocks Freeholders, Councillor John Tero and myself gave a short presentation on the Neighbourhood Development Plan in general and in particular on the various designations, such as Areas of Character that may be applicable to their area. It was well received and they are going to consider the requirements and implications in discussion with residents and will discuss any requirements with the NDP committee in due course.

d. Planning Committee, Meeting held 17th January

Councillor Stephen Abbott advised that there will be two planning related items mentioned under agenda item 11 Urgent matters arising, since the preparation of this Agenda & Items to be referred to next agenda.

e. Communications Working Group, no meeting held

There was nothing to report

f. Finance & General Purposes Meeting held 17th January

Councillor Lesley Young advised the minutes have been circulated.

Questions on reported items and approval of the report including:

- a. Schedule of payments for November & December were approved.
- b. Circulation of Full Council Documentation – Full Council documentation is currently sent via the post to Councillors. Five Councillors stated that they wished to continue to receive via the post, with the remaining Councillors to receive via email
- c. Online Banking & New Bank Account
 - Online Banking - The Clerk confirmed that there is no limit to the amount of bulk financial transactions and a limit for each individual item listed as an expenditure unless Parish Council requests a limit. It was **RESOLVED** to open the Bankline facility.
 - New Bank Account – Council **RESOLVED** to open a Unity Trust Bank account subject and requested that the Parish Clerk approach Mulberry and Co. (WSALC) to determine whether they would provide written endorsement, prior to final confirmation by councillors electronically.
- d. Council **RESOLVED** one off supplier payment to be paid using online facilities for 2 x invoices at £55 excluding VAT.

The above was **RESOLVED** by Full Council

07-01-2022 FPC Precept 2022 – 2023

The Clerk presented the 2022 – 2023 Precept with 0% increase and the set precept amount for 2022 – 2023 will remain at £93,184.00.

In monetary terms the Band D Council Tax contribution for the year 2022 - 2023 will reduce from £38.68. to £38.60.

Councillor Roger Elkins suggested that for future Precepts, that Committees set their own Precept.

The Clerk advised that during the preparation of the Precept, Committee Chairs are consulted and advise the Clerk of the proposed funding requirements for their Committee projects for the next financial Year.

08-01-2022 Memorial bench in Sea Lane – to approve the License for new memorial bench.

WSCC has now issued the license to be signed by FPC which has been circulated to Councillors.

Council unanimously agreed not to sign the license raising concerns with regards to two of the clauses.

The above was **RESOLVED** by Full Council

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09-01-2022 Ferring Village Hall – Parish Council liaison (Councillor Ruth Arnold)

- The notice board has been replaced and the old one has been moved to the rear of the hall for when the parish council decide what they wish to do with it.
- The only other relevant point is hire pricing. Due to some pretty high fuel and other bills they are going to review and possibly add a “surcharge” from Sep to the end of the year. prices for hire from January 2023 will be £2 p/h for main hall. £1.50p/h for club room and £1p/h for Griffin room.

10-01-2022 Reports from District and County Councillors

Arun District Councillor Colin Oliver-Redgate advised the following:

- Acknowledged the Persimmon Appeal - Land north of Goring Station & advised that there are further proposed developments that will come to light very soon.

Arun District Councillor Roger Elkins advised the following:

- ADC proposed budget for 2022 – 2023 financial year is expected to include an increase of 2%.
- The 123 waste collection trial has received a good response from householders with a 85% satisfaction rating. The trial has been extended through to 2023. Councillor Peter Coe asked whether this was an extension of time or an expansion of the Scheme. Councillor Elkins was uncertain.
- ADC are proposing to work in partnerships to plant 33000 trees over the next 10 years.

WSCC County Councillor Roger Elkins advised the following:

- In relation to 2021 – 2022 budget proposal, a press release is available. Proposed is an increase of 2.99% which includes 1% for adult social care. This equates to an average cost increase based on Band D £45.87.
- WSCC are looking to work in partnership to provide electric vehicle charging points.

11-01-2022 Urgent matters arising, since the preparation of this Agenda & Items to be referred to next agenda.

Councillor Stephen Abbott advised regarding Planning matters

- Persimmon Appeal - Land north of Goring Station
At the virtual appeal, there is an opportunity for the public to speak later this week. A representative from Ferring Conservation Group/History Group has secured a space to speak.
It was noted that the Parish Council has been involved with the action group and proposed that the Parish Council adds their support to the statement submitted jointly with Ferring Conservation Group & History Groups.

The above was agreed by Council.

- **Landsdown Nursery Consultation**

Council noted the consultation documents relating to a proposed housing development on the existing nursery site north of the A259 which has previously been circulated. Councillor Stephen Abbott proposed that the Parish Council send a response acknowledging receipt of the details of the consultation. The Parish Council note that the application is contrary to the Ferring Neighbourhood Plan.

The above was agreed by Council.

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- **Letter received from the Retirement Club**

The contents of the letter were noted and it was agreed that Councillor Peter Coe will circulate a draft response for Councillors to comment prior to approval at the next Full Council meeting.

This was agreed by Council.

The next meeting date is 7th March 2022

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.25pm

Mrs Nadine Phibbs,
Clerk to Ferring Parish Council

Minutes approved

Chairman **Date**