

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 27th March 2023** the Village Hall. The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Present:

Parish Councillors: Councillor Clare Royal (Chairman), Councillors, Lesley Young, Terry Jackson, Roger Elkins & John Tero,

West Sussex County Councillor: Councillor Roger Elkins

Arun District Councillors: Councillor Roger Elkins

Residents: There were four residents in attendance

Councillor Clare Royal, Chairman, welcomed all present to the meeting and commenced the formal proceedings.

01-03-2023 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Ruth Arnold & Stephen Abbott. The apologies were accepted.

02-03-2023 Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

03-03-2023 Public Questions

A resident referred to the Ferring Festival asking where the alcohol license is obtained.

Councillor Clare Royal advised that the Parish Council has no involvement with the Ferring Festival. Another resident advised that ADC is responsible to permit an events alcohol license.

04-03-2023 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 16th January 2023 were approved by Council. The minutes were signed by the Chairman presiding as a correct record.

05-03-2023 Actions update from the last meeting

There was nothing to mention.

06-03-2023 To receive and consider reports from Committees – Relevant minutes have been circulated with no further comments or questions.

a. Parish Facilities & projects Committee (PFP) Councillor Lesley Young, meeting held 23rd January & 6th March 2023

Councillor Roger Elkins referred to the minutes on 6th March, minute item 7 provision of dropped kerbs and clarified that there is a mapping document available and each crossing point will be looked at, to identify if it meets the required criteria. The first location to be looked at will be the crossing at Langbury Lane just north of the railway gates.

Councillor Lesley Young asked if the Highways Manager could update the office when a location is identified not to meet the criteria. Councillor Roger Elkins will revert back to WSCC to ask this.

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- a. **Ferring Festival** – Councillors have previously received a paper (V.2.0) prepared by the Ferring Festival Events Coordinator to consider the Parish Council's involvement including financial contribution and administrative support.

Councillors raised a number of concerns including, request for the parish council to advertise the event, format of the event, additional cost incurred for the administrative support including the road closure contractor and the transparency and inclusion of all village organisations/businesses having viewed the social media post.

Council also felt that, due to the impending Elections in May, that the timing to make any such commitment could be inappropriate.

Council unanimously voted against the approval of the Ferring Festival request for FPC contribution (V.2.0 (15.02.23) paper) which included both financial contribution and any administrative support.

The Council will however, be pleased to have a further discussion with the Ferring Festival Committee.

The above was **RESOLVED** by Full Council

- b. **Council Blessing following the Election 2023** – The Parish Office is liaising with St Andrews Church for a suitable date in July 2023.

- c. **King Charles III Coronation Commemorative Clock** – Council noted that it has been agreed that the Parish Council will not arrange an event for the Coronation, however, they have agreed to install an external 'village clock' at the Village Hall as a memorial to mark the occasion.

Council was advised that the clock and associated plaque have now been ordered and awaiting delivery in four – six weeks.

Council thanked Councillor Terry Jackson for managing this project.

- b. **Planning & Licensing Committee** – Councillor Stephen Abbott, meeting held 6th & 27th March 2023.

There was nothing further to report

- c. **Neighbourhood Development Plan Committee** – no meeting held
 - a. **ADC's Town and Parish Council's Briefing** – Council noted the slides received from the briefing in relation to NPPF National Planning Policy Framework and CIL.
 - b. **CIL Light Touch Update Consultation March 2023** – Council agreed that there are no projects in an advanced position to complete the form at this stage.

- d. **General Parish Issues Committee (GPI)** – Councillor Clare Royal, meeting held 27th February 2023

- a. **Tree at Rife Way** – Council noted that watering two trees in Rife Way planted by WSCC will be added Village Maintenance Contract

- b. **Henty Public House** – Council has been asked, due to the installation of a pergola, if the Henty can remove the complete hedge on parish land that runs adjacent to the Henty Public House.

After a brief discussion, Council agreed not to give permission to remove the bush. However, Council will request that maintaining the bush to fence level will be added to the Village Maintenance Contractor. It was also suggested that the area could be

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enhanced by the village maintenance contractor and could incorporate further suitable planting.

The above was **RESOLVED** by Full Council

07-03-2023 Financial Report (including the authorisation of orders of payments)

- a. **Accounts and Finance** - Income and Expenditure January & February 2023 - approved
- b. **FPC Financial Regulations** – Council approved the revised Financial Regulations 2023 with the intent to adopt at the Annual Statutory Council Meeting 15th May.
- c. **Parish Office** – Council noted the damp issue at the parish office and approved the maintenance contractor's quotation to repair damage. The quotation is subject to what is found when the plasterboard boxing is removed and any further necessary works.

The above was **RESOLVED** by Full Council

08-03-2023 FPC Committee Restructure – Council noted the progress in relation to the FPC Committee Restructure and review of the SWOT analysis. The next informal meeting will be held 3rd April.

09-03-2023 Ferring Parish Council Councillor Allowance - After a brief discussion Council agreed the format and content of the Councillor Allowance Policy 2023, however it was felt that further consideration is needed with regards to the allowance amount. Councillor Allowances will be an agenda item at the next Full Council Meeting, Annual Statutory Council Meeting 15th May for approval and adoption.

10-03-2023 Appoint Internal Auditor – RS Hall & Co was appointed as the Internal Auditor for 2022 – 2023.

11-03-2023 Ferring Village Hall – Parish Council liaison (*Councillor Ruth Arnold*) Councillor Clare Royal, in the absence of Councillor Ruth Arnold referred to Full Council Meeting 18th July 2022, minute item 06-07-2022 Council approved in principle a donation of £10k towards the installation of Solar Panels and Battery Storage for the Village Hall subject to confirmation that the roof is structurally sound to support the panels. Council noted the written confirmation received from the Village Hall Committee and that the donation is included in the forthcoming Precept 2023 – 2024 therefore the funds can now be released.

The above was **RESOLVED** by Full Council

12-03-2023 Reports from District and County Councillors

Arun District Councillor Roger Elkins advised the following:

- ADC has agreed a £5 per month increase in their 2023 – 2024 budget and has used money from its reserves fund in year 2022 - 2023.
- There are additional proposals to support with the cost of living crisis.

WSSC County Councillor Roger Elkins advised the following:

- WSSC has increase their 2023 – 2024 budget by 4.99%, 3% Council Tax & 2 Adult Social Care.
- WSSC has spent 1.86 Billion pounds with a large proportion of expenditure is for Children Services & Adult Social Care and no reserves fund have been used 2022 - 2023.

