

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

**FERRING PARISH COUNCIL  
FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE  
(Advisory Powers Only)**

**Minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held at 7.30pm  
on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at the Village Hall**

Present	Councillors	Lesley Young (Chairman)
		Terry Jackson (Vice Chairman)
		Roger Elkins
		Clare Royal
		Graham Bootle
		John Tero
		Ruth Arnold
		Andy Walker

1	<p><b>Apologies for absence</b> There were no apologies. Councillor Simon Bromley was absent from the meeting but no apologies had been received.</p>	
2	<p><b>Declarations of interest</b> Councillor Lesley Young in her capacity as a Village Hall Trustee declared an interest in agenda item 6, Approach &amp; Presentation by Village Hall Trustees</p>	
3	<p><b>Public Question Time</b> There were no public questions.</p>	
4	<p><b>To confirm the Minutes of the Finance &amp; General Purposes Committee held 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023.</b> The Minutes of the Finance &amp; General Purposes Committee Meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023 were approved by the Committee as a correct record and signed by the Chairman</p>	
5	<p><b>Actions update from the last meeting</b> There was nothing to mention.</p>	
6	<p><b>Approach &amp; Presentation by Village Hall Trustees – Presentation from Simon Cornish</b></p> <p>As Councillors may be aware, Ferring Village Hall celebrates its centenary in 2024. The hall is hoping to use that as a springboard to fundraise to replace the boundary wall across the front and down the side of the Village</p>	

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

	<p>Hall plot to address issues which require attention but also to ensure that these are addressed by providing a new wall that is in keeping with the distinctive character of the Village Hall.</p> <p>The Village Hall Trustees are seeking the support of Ferring Parish Council to support them with a financial grant as a springboard to their fundraising target, leaving the Trustees of Ferring Village Hall to raise the remaining funds.</p> <p>Councillors asked a number of questions in relation to materials considered, foundations, building survey, professional assessment, quotations obtained and the overall project itself.</p> <p>For Council to be able to make an informed decision, the Committee asked that the Village Hall Trustees seek a building surveyor's specialist advice in relation to the construction of the wall and requested details of three quotations for the suggested works.</p> <p>The Village Hall Trustees were invited to resubmit their grant request accompanied with the above requested information at the next Finance &amp; General Purposes Committee meeting 13<sup>th</sup> November, if the information gathered in the offered time. If there is not sufficient time to gather the requested information, this will be included on the following meeting agenda 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2023.</p>	
7	<p><b>Accounts and Finance</b></p> <p>The income and expenditure schedule for August 2023 were reviewed and will be recommended for Full Council approval.</p> <p>The above is recommended for Full Council approval.</p> <p>In relation to bank interest rates, Councillor Roger Elkins advised that there are bank accounts that are offering a 6% interest rate for a fixed term account.</p>	
8	<p><b>Council noted payments made under dispensation for expenditure for Committee minuted instruction.</b></p> <p>(Environment Liaison 25<sup>th</sup> September)</p> <p>a. Warren Pond Tree works £400.00 - The Clerk advised that due to misinterpretation of the quotation, a revised quotation will be obtained and taken forward to Full Council on 16<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p>b. Village Green Tree works £220.00</p>	
9	<p><b>Parish Clerk Report including Financial Matters</b></p> <p>a. <b>Parish Events</b></p> <p>The Clerk provided an update in relation to the preparations for the Parish</p>	

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

	<p>Council Events (Remembrance Day 12<sup>th</sup> November &amp; Christmas light switch on 2<sup>nd</sup> December) and asked for Councillor availability</p> <p><b>b. Parish Committees</b> Now that the Council has more Councillors, the Clerk will circulate an email to all to ask what Committees they wish to be members of.</p> <p>Ful Council &amp; NDP - all Councillors</p> <p>All committees require an absolute minimum of four Councillors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning &amp; Licensing</li> <li>• Finance &amp; General Purposes</li> <li>• Roads, Community &amp; Sports</li> <li>• Environment Liaison</li> </ul> <p>If Councillors could please respond to the email to advise which committees they wish to be a member of by COB 10<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p><b>c. Parish Precept</b> In preparation for the Precept 2024 – 2025, the Clerk will arrange to meet the Chair of each committee that holds an annual budget to discuss the committee requirements. (<i>Environment Liaison &amp; Roads, Community &amp; Sports Committees</i>)</p> <p>Councillor Roger Elkins suggested that the Neighbourhood Development Plan Committee may benefit from having its own budget for any assistance from external organisations.</p>	<p>CLERK</p> <p>CLERK</p> <p>Councillors</p> <p>CLERK</p>
<p>10</p>	<p><b>Environment Liaison Committee</b> – Councillor John Tero</p> <p><b>a. Pantiles Trees</b> – Committee agreed the quotation of £500.00 to cut the trees at the Pantiles. The Parish Office will submit a TPO application to ADC.</p> <p>The above is recommended for Full Council approval.</p> <p><b>b. Kingston Parish Council request</b> Kingston Parish Council are looking to instal three signs aiming to protect nesting birds on the west side of Ferring Rife. (Polite notice - no enforcement) The proposed sign will be approx. 30 cm Square.</p> <p>The proposal is for the signs to be read at entry points to the lagoons/west side of the Rife. The landowners (ADC &amp; EA) have approved the installation.</p> <p>The Conservation Group will look to install the same on the Ferring side.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to the installation of signage in principle, however, whilst the signage will have no association with Ferring Parish Council, the committee felt that some clarity was needed. It was agreed that Councillor</p>	<p>TJ</p>

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

	<p>Terry Jackson will write to the Conservation Group to clarify what birds are being affected and is there any evidence that nests have been damaged, or likely to be damaged. Also, is this a new occurrence or has it been ongoing for many years but only recently been reported.</p> <p>Full Council will be informed of the response received.</p>	
11	<p><b>Play Area Village Green</b> – Committee to consider the need and purchase of additional benches Following the installation of the new play equipment on the village green, it has been suggested that there is a need for additional benches within the children’s play area.</p> <p>In addition, there is a distinct lack of rubbish bins on the actual green near the picnic benches.</p> <p>The Clerk has provided an initial quotation for new benches and ADC will obtain the cost for a new bin.</p> <p>The Committee noted, that due to overrunning works by UK Power Networks at the site earlier this summer, UK Power Networks paid £500 to ADC in way of compensation. These funds will be fed back into the play area project and can be used the enhance the area as outlined above.</p> <p>The Clerk will seek further quotations for benches and speak with ADC to agree in principle, to working together to provide additional benches and rubbish bins.</p> <p>This information will be obtained with a view to consideration and agreement at Full Council on 16<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p>Councillor Terry Jackson referred to the refurbished crocodile in the play area and suggested that the local school children may wish to design and decorate the crocodile to mark the 150-year anniversary of the school. Councillor Lesley Young will approach the school headteacher with this suggestion.</p>	<p>CLERK</p> <p>LY</p>
12	<p><b>Grant Requests</b> – Committee to consider Grant Request (<i>attached for Councillors</i>)</p> <p>a. Arun Counselling Centre £150.00 b. St Barnabas House £260.88</p> <p>The above is recommended for Full Council approval.</p>	
13	<p><b>Ferring Village Hall Open Day Expo</b> – Council has agreed to attend the event on Saturday 28th October.</p> <p>The Committee agreed the suggested format and draft literature that the</p>	

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

	<p>Clerk has previously circulated to Committee members.</p> <p>The above is recommended for Full Council approval.</p>	
14	<p><b>Rampion 2</b> – Committee to note letter received Council noted the letter received in relation to Rampion 2 with no further comments.</p>	
15	<p><b>Country Centre approach</b> – Committee to discuss future involvement. The Clerk advised that she has received a visit from the newly appointed Head of Support at the Country Centre who would like for the centre to get more involved with the village and its organisations.</p> <p>The Clerk will suggest that the Country Centre could consider arranging to have a stall at the Ferring Village Hall Open Day Expo on 28<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p>All Councillors, depending on availability, would like to accept the invitation for a tour of the centre and to discuss how we can perhaps work together.</p> <p>The Clerk will keep Councillors informed of available dates.</p>	CLERK
16	<p><b>All about Ferring Magazine</b> The Committee noted that the Clerk has already submitted articles for the All About Ferring magazine.</p>	CLERK
17	<p><b>Urgent matters arising, since the preparation of this Agenda &amp; Items to be referred to next Agenda</b> There was nothing to mention.</p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 8.50pm.</p>	
	<p>Date of next meeting Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023</p>	
	<p><b>Minutes approved</b></p> <p><b>Chairman</b> ..... <b>Date</b> .....</p>	