

Ferring Parish Council - Chairman's Report 2024

As we come to the end of another Council year, I would firstly like to thank my fellow Councillors for their continued commitment and dedication in working to deliver the best outcomes for the village and to be the representatives of our vibrant community. Without the huge efforts put in by individual Councillors the day-to-day business simply could not be carried out.

In addition, the Clerk and Administrative Assistant have maintained that key link between the Council and the Community. They are the public face of the council and provide a huge range of support and guidance/help to residents

The Parish Council and its Committees have managed to deliver on a number of fronts and also develop plans for potential future enhancements and improvements to the village.

The Parish Council continue to engage and build relationships with the various organisations in the village to work together for the benefit of the community. Some of the key achievements and challenges are as follows:

Just a few achievements for the past 12 months to mention...

Public Conveniences – The Parish Council is engaging with ADC to work in collaboration on projects to refurbish and improve the public conveniences on the Village Green as part of their capital investment programme for this financial year. The provisional start date for the works is 2nd September.

Gated Play Area on the Village Green – The Parish Council has worked in conjunction with Arun District Council on a project to enhance the gate play area on the Village Green. The new play area is now open and consists of various equipment including 'inclusive' play equipment, new fencing and benches.

New Flagpole - Ferring Parish Council has installed a new flagpole at War Memorial Site. The flagpole is Single Piece Glassfibre Flagpole (7m) with an anti-vandalism Internal Halyard.

Village Sign – The Village Sign was damaged in a storm in 2022. The Parish Council has arranged for the sign to be fully refurbished and installed at a new site, on the left as you enter Rife Way next to the Old School House.

Gateway Signs – The Parish Council have installed 3 new gateway signs into the village; A259 east entrance into Ferring opposite Highdown, Goring Way opposite entrance to Singleton Crescent and Marine Drive at entrance into Ferring on the seafront.

Ferring Village Clock to mark The Coronation Of King Charles III - To mark the Coronation of King Charles III, the Parish council installed a commemorative Clock and Plaque at the front of the Ferring Village Hall. The Clock has been fitted on a roof apex of the Village Hall as the most convenient position for required electrical connections and that the clock can be seen from various angles whilst traveling through the heart of the village. The associated Plaque has been placed in a position below the clock, on the wall and reads 'Ferring Village Clock to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles III on 6th

May 2023' . The Parish Council held a short ceremony on 31st July 2023 and welcomed the Duchess of Norfolk who attended to unveil the Plaque.

Warren Pond – The Parish Council & Conservation Group continue their work to enhance warren pond including new fencing on the north side to allow full visual aspect of the pond from the road and a professional survey to establish the wildlife within the pond.

Warren Pond Information Board – The Parish Council in conjunction with The Conservation Group have installed an Illustration board which shows the site with plants, birds, pond life, animals, moths and butterflies.

Tennis Court Fencing – The Parish Council is pleased to advise residents that the village tennis courts have had new fencing surrounding the courts installed. In the last few years, the tennis courts have been resurfaced, cleaned and repainted as part of their continuous maintenance. The tennis courts are located on the Glebelands Recreation Ground, Greystoke Road. There is a Ferring Tennis Club and the courts are open for public use.

Beach Litter - Much work has been done engaging with Arun District Council (ADC) to ensure there are sufficient litter/dog waste bins along the Patterson's Walk. ADC continue to provide extra bins and collections especially during the warmer months.

Fun with the Out and About Project – Due to the success of the 'out and about' project over many years, Ferring Parish Council has arranged for Freedom Leisure to return to the village with the project this summer. The project provides free weekly activities for youngsters on the village green including face painting, art and craft, general games and a bouncy castle subject to the weather conditions. The sessions will be every Tuesday morning through the school summer holiday.

Parish Council Events - Both the Remembrance Day Service and Christmas Event (in conjunction with the Village Hall Committee) were well attended by the community.

Moving forward...

The Parish Council will also be reviewing other potential projects and engaging with residents and businesses to understand the needs and desires of the community in enhancing the amenities.

The Parish Council has vacancies for three councillors. This shortage of Councillors can make it very difficult for the Parish Council to take on the projects that improve and enhance our village.

It is a very rewarding and worthwhile role that ensures the community you live in is kept clean, the local environment is protected and enhanced and popular events such as the Christmas lights switch on actually take place.

Chairman, Councillor Clare Royal