

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

FERRING PARISH COUNCIL

Environment Liaison Committee (Advisory Powers only)

Minutes of the Environment Liaison Committee Meeting held on Monday 29th April 2024 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall

Present	Councillors	John Tero
		Lesley Young
		Graham Bootle
		Andy Walker
		Terry Jackson
	FRSA Garden	Simon Thompson
	Conservation Group	David Bettiss

1	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Tree Warden: Phillip Ellis. The apologies were accepted.	
2	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations.	
3	Public Question Time District Councillor Roger Elkins attended the meeting to inform the Committee about a proposal by Arun District Council for new beach huts along the sea front. The plans showed several stretches of beach, highlighting areas for the huts. The plans have been withdrawn and a consultation will go ahead, ADC will consult parishes and members.	
4	To confirm the Minutes of the last Meeting held Monday 15th January 2024. The Minutes of the Environment Liaison Committee held on 15 th January 2024 were approved by its Committee Members and signed by the Chairman presiding as a correct record.	
5	Actions update from the last meeting None	
6	Items for Information - <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Warren Pond – One padlock fitted – awaiting new gate for 2nd padlock.b. Warren Pond – Dragons teeth Complete.c. Warren Pond tree work – Completed, finishing works Aug/Sept.d. War Memorial – The Parish office have arranged for the War Memorial to be cleaned.	

	<p>e. Pantiles Tree Work – Complete.</p> <p>f. ADC – extra bins on beach for summer months confirmed.</p>	
7	<p>Environment & Amenities</p> <p>a. Warren Pond project update – New Fencing Councillor Andy Walker arranged for three quotations for new fencing. The Committee voted for R.J.Meaker Fencing Ltd, for the amount of £1,792.25. This is recommended to Finance and General Purposes and Full Council.</p> <p>b. Bus Shelters – Admin Assistant circulated three quotations for three replacement metal bus shelters. The Parish Office was thanked for the information and it was recommended by Councillor Terry Jackson that a Councillor takes this on as a project. Councillors John Tero and Andy Walker agreed to take on this project.</p> <p>c. Air Pollution Monitor – Councillor Terry Jackson explained that we could monitor the air pollution at the area near the railway crossing. The committee agreed this is a very good idea especially with the trains increasing and cars not turning off their engines. It was proposed that this project should go ahead, Councillor Terry Jackson agreed to find the correct monitor and Councillor Graham Bootle offered to help monitor wood fire burners also.</p> <p>d. Flood Update – ADC have resolved to set up a Flood Protection Group. The Committee will wait for further correspondence from ADC.</p> <p>e. Bus shelter rear of library & graffiti – Admin Assistant informed the Committee that a poster had been put up inside the bus shelter asking that rubbish is removed and that it was being monitored. This has improved and the FPC Contractor will stain the shelter. The Committee agreed to monitor this item.</p> <p>f. Flag for Ferring – At a previous meeting, Councillors discussed having a Ferring Flag. Councillor Terry Jackson pointed out that the village sign is very close to the flag pole with the village design on it, therefore the Committee voted for the Union Jack to fly in between important flag dates.</p> <p>g. Village Memorials – The Parish Office have been looking into ideas further to the last Full Council meeting, however, the Committee pointed out that this had already been discussed and rejected as a project. Councillor John Tero informed the Committee that he had visited the site at the blue boat and pointed out that benches would need removing to view plaques and that some sleepers need replacing. The Committee propose that this project does not go ahead, but some sleepers need replacing urgently.</p> <p>h. Sea Lane Boat – A resident contacted the Parish Office asking if he could plant and water the boat on Sea Lane. David Bettiss from the Conservation Group explained that they are responsible for the planting, and that it is scheduled in for early May.</p>	<p>PO</p> <p>A W/ JT</p> <p>TJ</p>
8	<p>Reports from external representatives</p> <p>FRSA Gardens – Simon Thompson reported the following: Item 8a - Langbury Lane –</p> <p>Firstly – thank you to Nadine and Amanda for information regarding ownership of the site. FRSA contacted WSCC via email – a response did eventually arrive, but not addressing the main query that had been put to them. Matter ongoing.</p>	

Notwithstanding the above, in early March the area in front of chain-link fence alongside the railway was weeded and much of the dead wood removed. A new bed has been dug, prepared and was planted-up on 5th April – one of the few pleasant days for weather after several inclement weeks.

The concrete frame of the bench seems to be in order, so we are obtaining costings for new slats to be fitted rather than the greater expense of a new bench.

Other FRSA matters –

FRSA have reminded their members of the WSCC Donate a Tree Scheme but have asked that they consider the ongoing effects on drainage and road maintenance requirements if planting on verges.

FRSA main priority and focus for this year will be on our Gully-pots and Soakaways. FRSA are liaising with an Engineer who specialises in water flow within construction, to research if present systems are fit for purpose in the long term.

Conservation Group –

David Bettiss reported the following:

Item 8b –

1. FCG has had a small committee change as Ed Miller stepped back. David will hopefully continue to represent at these meetings.
2. Warren Pond – 2 small trees and the wet area plants that FCG bought have been planted, and some light maintenance to keep pathways clearer. Great Crested Newt survey completed 25/4 – 7 definite GCNs recorded – short report from surveyor to follow, plus advice on removing terrapin. Also trail camera in place and recording when activated.
3. Monthly work parties continuing at various locations including Village Green and Community Orchard, and others.
4. Rife clean completed March. First beach clean of year 19th May, and first Village Centre clean the day after Ferring Festival. Still getting fishing gear washed up, and Arun have said they will collect off beach at times and if alerted, and anything left by bins.
5. Rife survey - being completed by Ouse and Adur Rivers Trust funded by EA and others, to investigate ways to improve the environment. FCG continuing to complete monthly water quality testing and involve St Oscar Romero students.
6. Rife dog signs – all 3 have now been installed by Kingston PC.
7. Wild flower beds – Arun Parks have recently rotovated and sown beds in all the previous locations in 3 parks, plus a new much larger one in NW corner of Glebelands.
8. Pill Box project – continuing, with information board already installed. Practical work to open up embrasure, install better ventilation and interior

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	<p>wooden steps planned for next couple of weeks, with grand opening on Tuesday 28th May at 11am.</p> <p>Councillor Terry Jackson noted the excellent work that the Conservation Group does for the village. On behalf of the Committee, Chairman John Tero thanked the Conservation Group.</p> <p>Item 8c - Tree Warden – Phillip was not present.</p>	
9	<p>Environment Liaison Committee Finance report – Amanda Thomas advised the Committee that 2023/2024 is up to date, we are now in the new financial year.</p>	
10	<p>To report Payments made by dispensation – None.</p>	
11	<p>All about Ferring Magazine – Nothing for this addition.</p>	
12	<p>Urgent matters arising, since the preparation of this Agenda & Items to be referred to next Agenda There was nothing to mention.</p>	
13	<p>Date of Next Meeting – Monday 12th August 2024. Meeting closed at 8.20pm.</p> <p>Mrs Amanda Thomas Administration Assistant</p>	
	<p>Minutes approved</p> <p>Chairman Date</p>	