

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 20th January 2025** at the Village Hall. The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Present:

Parish Councillors: Councillor Ruth Arnold (Vice Chairman), Councillors, Lesley Young, Roger Elkins, Andy Walker, John Tero, Marlon Foakes, Graham Bootle, Simon Ash & Stuart Davies.

West Sussex County Councillor: Councillor Roger Elkins

Arun District Councillor: Councillor Roger Elkins

Residents: There were three residents in attendance

Councillor Ruth Arnold, Vice Chairman, welcomed all present to the meeting and commenced the formal proceedings.

01-01-2025 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Clare Royal & Simon Bromley & Arun District Councillor Mark Turner. The apologies were accepted.

02-01-2025 Declarations of interest

Councillor Lesley Young declared an interest in agenda item 13 Ferring Village Hall.

03-01-2025 Public Questions

A resident referred to the previous minutes on 2nd December 2024, minute item 06-12-2024 d, a. *(A TRO application would require support from local residents. In the first instance Councillor Clare Royal and the Clerk have produced a questionnaire with a view to being delivered to residents in Langbury Lane. Council agreed the proposed questionnaire with the addition of a deadline date to respond and subject to the responses, to pursue with the TRO application)* and asked if the letter drop could be extended to all properties north of the railway line.

The Clerk & Councillor Roger Elkins explained that at this time the letter drop is to gain feedback from the immediate properties so that the Parish Council can establish if a TRO is a practical option. Should the TRO application be pursued, there will be a public consultation providing residents the opportunity to submit their comments.

04-01-2025 Minutes of the Full Council 2nd December 2024

The Minutes of the Full Council 2nd December 2024 was approved by Council. The minutes were signed by the Vice Chairman presiding as a correct record.

05-01-2025 Actions update from the last meeting

There was nothing to mention.

06-01-2025 To receive and consider reports from Committees including the authorisation of orders for payment: – Relevant minutes have been circulated with no further comments or questions.

a. **Environment Liaison Committee** - Councillor John Tero, meeting held 16th December

a. **New Projects** - The Environment Liaison Committee agreed to explore three new projects, hanging baskets, Blue Boat area refurbishment and Plaques to publicise Parish Council

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projects. Councillors John Tero & Andy Walker will lead on these projects with support from other Councillors.

b. **Bench Plaques** – The Parish Office has informed the Environment Liaison Committee that there are three benches along Patterson's Walk that do not have a plaque and that the office has received several requests for memorial plaques. Council agreed that the first three people on the list will be invited to position a plaque on each the empty benches. It was also agreed that there will be a timeline for each plaque to be positioned within three months and that the Parish Office will provide a plaque specification.

c. **Metal Bus Shelters** – The Clerk advised that the installation of the three new metal bus shelters is now complete, however, she raised a concern regarding the finishing and holes in the ground at the shelter by Link Hope Chairty Shop. After a brief discussion, Council agreed that they are happy with the tarmac finish but instructed the Clerk to request that the Bus Shelter Contractor return to cut off old frame legs to below ground level. fill in hollow frame sections & top with cold lay tarmac.

The above was **RESOLVED** by Full Council

b.**Planning & Licensing Committee** – Councillor Ruth Arnold, meetings held 2nd December & 20th January 2025

Councillor Ruth Arnold advised that reference to Notification of a Planning Committee Meeting Committee 15th January 2025, FG/92/24/PL Land to the rear of 1 Sea Drive Ferring and written submission. Approved.

c.**Neighbourhood Development Plan Committee** – No meeting held
There was nothing to mention.

d.**Roads, Community & Sports Committee** - Councillor Clare Royal, no meeting held

a. Council agreed to commit to the Parish Council organising the event in Partnership with the Village Hall Trustees.

b.Council agreed VE Day precept proposal of £3000.

The VE Day Event will be discussed at the Roads, Community & Sports Committee (Councillors Lesley Young, Ruth Arnold and the Parish Office to lead) and details reported to Full Council.

The above was **RESOLVED** by Full Council.

Council noted that the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) yellow lines has been implemented at the junction of Church Lane & Ferringham Lane, corners of the Baptist Church and corners or Glebelands Centre.

e.**Finance & General Purposes Committee** (including the authorisation of orders of payments and recommendations from the Committee). Councillor Lesley Young, meeting held 14th October

a. **Accounts and Finance** - Income and Expenditure November 2024 - *Approved*

b. **Bus Shelter Professional Advertisement Boards** – to agree the purchase.

Council has previously approved to purchase lockable noticeboards to be fitted at three of the bus shelters, two at Village Green and one at south end of Ocean Drive and the remaining two shelters will have a notice to advise that any advertisements will be removed. The project budget is £1500.

After a brief discussion, Council agreed to purchase 8 No. 42cm x 59.4cm lockable noticeboards in brown with blue felt cloth. Total cost at £1048.00 excluding fitting an VAT.

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All of the above was **RESOLVED** by Full Council.

07-01-2025 Council noted payments made under dispensation for expenditure.

(Environment Liaison Committee 16th December 2024)

Graffiti Removal Wipes - EcoTech Graffiti Wipes for £13.66.

08-01-2025 Public Conveniences – Village Green Project – Completion of project & Release funds

Council noted that the Public Conveniences at the Village Green are now open following the extensive refurbishment and that the FPC approved contribution at £50,611.68 will be released to ADC when requested.

09-01-2025 Devolution Paper – Council to note the Devolution Paper

Council noted the Devolution Paper published 16th December 2024

The paper outlines the move from for two-tier areas to Unitary Authority as Mayoral Strategic Authorities.

The government is committed to resetting the relationship with local and regional government, empowering local leaders and Mayors to make the right decisions for their communities, and working together to grow an inclusive economy, reform public services and secure better outcomes.

Mayors will have strong new powers over housing, planning, transport, energy, skills, employment support and more, backed up with integrated and consolidated funding.

Proposed list of areas of competence:

1. Transport and local infrastructure
2. Skills and employment support
3. Housing and strategic planning
4. Economic development and regeneration
5. Environment and climate change
6. Health, wellbeing and public service reform
7. Public safety

Key dates:

- WSCC Cabinet is asked to consider the report and its recommendations to determine the County Council's position in relation to the recent White Paper published by the Government at their meeting 9th January 2025
- WSCC decision to be submitted to Government 10th January 2025.
- Local Elections in 2025 will be delayed by 1 year.
- Mayors Elections will take place 2026.
- Proposed delivery date 2028.

10-01-2025 FPC Precept 2025 – 2026 – Council to approve the draft Precept

The Clerk presented the 2025 – 2026 Precept with 0% increase and the set precept amount for 2025 – 2026 will remain at £93,184.00.

Council resolved precept at £93,184.00 with 0% increase for 2025 – 2026.

The above was **RESOLVED** by Full Council

11-01-2025 Council Structure & Meeting Dates 2025 – Structure & Meeting dates

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The Clerk provided Councillors with a hard copy of the Council Structure & Meeting dates 2025.

12-01-2025 Draft Transport Strategy Consultation

Council noted the consultation and agreed there were no comments.

13-01-2025 Ferring Village Hall Parish Council Liaison (*Councillor Ruth Arnold*)

Attended the Ferring Village Hall Trustees meeting last week with the main focus being VE Day Event as discussed under minute item 06-01-2025 d, a & b.

It was noted that the new wall surrounding the village hall site is progressing well.

14-01-2025 Reports from District and County Councillors.

Arun District Councillor Roger Elkins advised the following:

- ADC 2025 – 2026 Budget Consultations finishes 26th January.
- ADC Planning Policy Meeting next week is expected to delay any decisions regarding moving forward with the Local Plan for now due to the uncertainties following the release of the Devolution Paper.
- Following an extensive refurbishment, the Public Convenances on the Village Green are now open

WSCC County Councillor Roger Elkins advised the following:

- The Scrutiny Committee is considering the 2025 – 2026 budget. It is expected an increase of 4.99% increase, 2.99% council tax and 2% adult social care.

15-01-2025 Urgent matters arising, since the preparation of this Agenda & Items to be referred to next agenda.

There was nothing to mention.

The next meeting date is 3rd March 2025

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.50pm

Mrs Nadine Phibbs,
Clerk to Ferring Parish Council

Minutes approved

Chairman **Date**