**FERRING PARISH COUNCIL**

**Environment Liaison Committee**

***(Advisory Powers only)***

**Minutes of the Environment Liaison Committee Meeting**

**held on Monday 17th March 2025 at 7.00pm at the Office.**

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| Present | Councillors | John Tero (Chairman) |
|  |  | Andy Walker (Vice Chairman) |
|  |  | Graham Bootle |
|  |  | Stuart Davies |
|  |  | Simon Ash |
|  | County Councillor | Roger Elkins |
|  | Conservation Group | David Bettiss |

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| 1 | **Apologies for Absence**  Apologies were received from Councillor Lesley Young, Marlon Foakes & Simon Thompson, FRSA. The apologies were accepted. |  | |
| 2 | **Declarations of Interest**  There were no declarations. |  | |
| 3 | **Public Question Time**  No members of the public were present. |  | |
| 4 | **To confirm the Minutes of the last Meeting held Monday 16h December 2024.**  The Minutes of the Environment Liaison Committee held on 16th December 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 –**  a. **Metal Bus Shelters** – The Committee was advised that the shelters had been installed. Concerns were raised regarding the holes that had not been filled at the one opposite the Village Green. Councillor John Tero asked Amanda Thomas to get the Maintenance man to fill the holes that have been left.  *(To note, Full Council 20th January 2025, minute item 06-01-2025, a, c, 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 Clerk has this in hand)*  b. **Love Clean Streets WSCC –** County Councillor Roger Elkins informed the Committee that West Sussex County Council are looking at new platforms for reporting issues within the village. Roger will send contact details to Amanda Thomas to discuss our requirements with the system.  County Councillor Roger Elkins opened the conversation with regards to parking in the village. The Committee noted that at Full Council 3rd March 2025, minute item 06-03-2025 d, c  c. **Parking in the village in General** –  Councillor Roger Elkins advised that at a recent resident open event; concerns raised included the general congestion and parking within the centre of the village and he asked that the FPC Roads, Community & Sports Committee consider looking at this matter.  It was noted that the Parish Council has reviewed parking matters over the years, including new design of the parking bays, limited parking and a proposal for a car park on the Glebelands.  Council agreed that Councillor Roger Elkins will liaise with WSCC Highways with a view to them visiting the village to complete a parking survey and suggest any parking solutions.  The above was **RESOLVED** by Full Council.  c. **Plaques on benches** – Amanda Thomas confirmed that the three remaining benches on the Pill Box area now have memorial plaques on them. | **RE** | |
| 7 | **Environment & Amenities**  a.**Warren Pond -**  David Bettiss, Conservation Group informed the Committee that they would like to purchase more plants and would the committee agree to purchase 10 plants for £46.80 and some oxygenating plants for £20.00. The Committee voted for this to come under dispensation.  This cost will come under dispensation for expenditure of up to £450.00 for minuted instructions as resolved at the Environment Liaison Committee Meeting 5th June 2023.  It was also noted that the finishing tree work has not been completed; Parish Office will follow this up with the Tree Surgeon.  b. **Hanging Baskets** - Councillor Andy Walker explained to the Committee that he has obtained a list of requirements for hanging baskets which is quite involved regarding health and safety. Councillor Roger Elkins suggested speaking to other villages for information. David Bettiss suggested that planters might be a better option and to replace the two that were at the noticeboard area at the village green.  c. **Blue Boat Project –** Councillor Stuart Davies produced photo’s, a plan and a quote for replacement sleepers. It was noted that due to the location and difficult access across the beach area, that ADC may be able to assist with the installation. It was agreed that Councillor John Tero will forward the details to the parish office who will liaise with ADC.  Councillor Andy Walker advised the Committee that the two benches also need replacing and that the Meaker Fencing benches could be an option.  d. **To Publicise Parish Council Projects/Plaques –** Councillor Andy Walker proposed that FPC install plaques informing the residents of projects that we have completed. Councillor Marlon Foakes has designed 8 plaques for consideration. The Committee voted for number 7 to be costed in two sizes. Councillor Andy Walker will contact Marlon to obtain quotations.  e. **Suggestion Box –** Councillor Andy Walker thought it would be a good idea for the office to have a suggestion box for residents. It was proposed that something could go on the flyer or facebook page.  f. **Councillor Social Events** – Councillor Andy Walker wanted to invite residents to meet the Council and asked the Committee for ideas. Councillor Simon Ash suggested that some councillors could attend SASPI – Sunday Afternoon Social Pop In, which is held on the first Sunday of every month.  Other suggestions were open evenings or surgeries where residents can speak to councillors.  g. **Board Walk** – The Committee noted the newly installed boardwalk in East Preston and agreed that it would be good to have something similar in Ferring. Councillor Stuart Davies is in contact with the instigator of the boardwalk in East Preston.  The Committee noted that the Conservation Group are currently exploring the possibility of funding for projects should the Rampion 2 be approved, (decision due 4th April)  County Councillor Roger Elkins left the meeting 8.25pm. | | **DB/PO**  **AW**  **JT/**  **PO**  **AW**  **SD** |
| 8 | **Environment Liaison Committee Finance report** – Amanda Thomas updated the Committee members. |  | |
| 9 | **To report Payments made by dispensation –**  There were no payments under dispensation. |  | |
| 10. | **Reports from external representatives**  a. **FRSA –** Simon Thompson was not present.  b.**Conservation Group –** David Bettiss reported the following:  Spring is arriving with good displays of crocus and daffodils on Village Green and elsewhere around village. Early bird migrants such as Chiffchaffs and Wheatears are starting to arrive. Recent video taken in the village of a badger walking around – first time we’ve ever heard of such a sighting within village, and attempting to find location of this.  Pill Box – The Pill Box will be opened for 6 days across the year with more artefacts for display. There are also discussions with ADC with a view to improve ground surface in front of noticeboard.  Warren Pond – recent work party cleared small beds to plant native wildflower plants (agreed to be purchased by FPC) and also general tidying up work. Tree surgeon also expected soon to cut back some trees and remove brambles at water edges to allow placing of oxygenating pond plants. Quote received from Licensing Great Crested Newt surveyor to carry out further survey, but agreed that too much at present and to be re-visited next year.  Monthly work parties have continued at other sites including Village Green and Community Orchard, as well as returning to Warren Pond for future ones. Also Rife Clean took place recently with 14 bags of rubbish collected in stretch up to and including Country Centre. 2 beach and 1 village centre cleans planned for Summer.  Rife water testing has continued monthly but this is likely to be wound up from May at end of 2 year programme as water quality appears stable. Western Sussex Rivers Trust are also testing we understand now.  The Wildflower Trail currently covering sites in Adur and Worthing have invited us to add our sites including Warren Pond to their map and website to connect these sites together.  Chatsmore Farm - we understand that the Planning Inspector decision is expected anytime.  c.**Tree Warden** – The Tree Warden was not present. |  | |
| 13 | **All about Ferring Magazine –** Nothing for this addition. |  | |
| 14 | **Urgent matters arising, since the preparation of this Agenda & Items to be referred to next Agenda** |  | |
| 14 | **Date of Next Meeting –** Monday 9th June 2025.  Meeting closed at 8.55pm.  Mrs Amanda Thomas  Administration Assistant |  | |
|  | **Minutes approved**  **Chairman ……………………………………………… Date ………………** |  | |