

FERRING PARISH COUNCIL

1 Elm Park, Ferring, West Sussex BN12 5RN
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Minutes of the meeting of **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** held on **Monday 18th May 2026** held at the village hall. The meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

Present:

Parish Councillors: Councillors Clare Royal, Ruth Arnold, Stuart Davies, Roger Elkins, Graham Bootle, Andy Walker & Simon Ash.

West Sussex County Councillor: Roger Elkins

Arun District Councillors: Roger Elkins & Mark Turner

Residents: one resident in attendance

The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting and commenced the formal proceedings.

A01-05-2026 Approval of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 19th May 2025

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 19th May 2025 were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

A02-05-2026 Annual Report from the Chairman of Ferring Parish Council

Councillor Clare Royal read the Chairman's Annual report.

A03-05-2026 To receive report from Arun District Councillors District Councillor Mark Turner reported:

Has been honoured to serve as a District Councillor for the past three years and thanked the Parish Council for their support.

- Arun District Council has introduced a new refuse collection system in the village aimed at improving waste management. While many residents have adapted well, there have been some initial teething problems, though the system is now largely in place. The new arrangement is expected to reduce costs to taxpayers and improve the area's environmental footprint. 25,000 residents have downloaded the related ADC app.
- Arun Flood Forum has met, but there has been limited action due to the dry winter. While there has been little work within the Ferring area, much of the activity has been concentrated in Bognor and Littlehampton.
- Ferring (Public Footpath No. 2113) Clappers Lane Crossing has now reopened. Network Rail has completed safety improvement works, including the installation of new Miniature Stop Lights (MSLs) to help pedestrians cross more safely.
- ADC Community Asset Transfer Policy is being actively pursued to benefit the community where assets can be transferred appropriately.
- A significant issue has been the Local Government Reorganisation. The Government is pressing ahead and despite input from Sussex Authorities may go in a different direction.

District Councillor Roger Elkins reported

Thanked the Parish Council for their support.

- A further consultation on the NPPF took place in March, with significant implications. Key areas include stronger national influence and a return to strategic planning.
- ADC planners are awaiting clarity regarding Local Government Reorganisation.
- ADC will begin work on a new Local Plan on 31st December 2026, which is expected to take around 30 months to complete.

**A04-05-2026 To receive report from West Sussex County Council Councillor
County Councillor Roger Elkins reported**

- The demands on children services and adult social care have increased significantly.
- There have been two independent reviews; adult social care has been rated as good by the Care Quality Commission, and Ofsted have advised that the children’s services have continued to improve.
- In relation to flooding, the Riparian Team are liaising with riparian owners to support them and ensure that they understand their responsibilities.
- All 36 libraries in the county are performing well, are well used, and offer a variety of facilities.
- An additional three million pounds has been allocated to highways for projects, and 42,000 potholes were filled in the county in 2025.
- WSCC were instrumental in the clearance of the container spill, removing contents that washed up on the beach.
- Following the recent elections, as there was no clear winner, it is expected that at the Full Council meeting this Friday a coalition will be formed.

A05-05-2026 Public Question Time

There were no resident questions.

Mrs Nadine Phibbs
Clerk to Ferring Parish Council

Signed by the Chairman

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