

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 28th September 2026 at 7.00pm at the Parish Office.

Present	Councillors	John Tero (Chairman)
		Andy Walker (Vice Chairman)
		Stuart Davies (<i>left the meeting at 7.45pm</i>)
		Jack Boyle
		Graham Bootle
		Simon Ash
	FRSA Gardens	Simon Thompson
	Conservation Group	David Bettiss
	Tree Warden	Mike Pellett

1	Apologies for Absence There were no apologies were received.	
2	Declarations of Interest There were no declarations of interest.	
3	Public Question Time No members of the public were present.	
4	To confirm the Minutes of the last Meeting held 23rd March 2026 The Minutes of the Environment Liaison Committee held on 23 rd March 2026 were approved by its Committee Members and signed by the Chairman presiding as a correct record.	
5	Actions update from the last meeting There was nothing to mention.	
6	Items for Information - a. Little Twitten Bins – Further to a resident complaint, Arun District Council has advised Ferring Parish Office the following: <i>Dog bins fall under the responsibility of our Cleansing team.</i> <i>Litter bins are emptied by either Biffa or Tivoli, depending on their location, and this can affect collection schedules. From discussions with colleagues across both Parks and Cleansing, it appears that this has been an exceptionally busy year for litter management, with increased visitor numbers generating higher levels of waste than usual.</i>	

	b. Footpath 2122 – A new ‘pick up dog mess’ sign has been erected at the south end of the footpath. Councillor John Tero offered to check whether a sign has been put up on the North end of the path.	JT
7	Environment & Amenities a. FPC Contractor – It was agreed at Full Council 21st September 2026, minute item 07-09-2026,a,c that two Councillors from the Environment Committee would interview the candidates to make a final recommendation to Full Council. Councillors John Tero and Andy Walker will undertake the interviews at the Parish Office. Dates and times to be confirmed. b. Community Noticeboard – Refurbishment of the noticeboard will be undertaken once the new FPC Contractor has been appointed. c. Noticeboards Office & Pantiles - Refurbishment of the noticeboards will be undertaken once the new FPC Contractor has been appointed. d. Warren Pond - David Bettiss reported that the tree work had been undertaken and the Conservation Group has had a working party to cut down brambles. He also confirmed that no skip is required this year. e. Boardwalk on Beach - Councillor Stuart Davies provided an update on progress. He has contacted the gentleman who has objected to the proposals, with a view to discussing his concerns and exploring whether a way forward can be found to progress the project. f. Unadopted Land - Amanda (Admin) informed the Committee that a resident had contacted the Parish Office regarding very tall trees at the rear of his garden. It was established that the land is unadopted and therefore the ownership was unclear. Councillor Jack Boyle suggested that the Parish Office prepare a standard response for residents explaining the position regarding unregistered land and the relevant legislation. Councillor Jack Boyle agreed to draft this. The Parish Office will continue to update the existing list of known unregistered and unadopted land within the parish for future reference. g. Community Area at Village Green - Councillor John Tero has looked at prices for a new planter. The Committee agreed to choose one at the next meeting and to agree this under dispensation in order to have it ready for spring planting next year. h. Sea Lane Grass Cutting – Members noted that the protected salsify area at Sea Lane, which has been left uncut under a long-standing arrangement since 2013, had been incorrectly cut in this year’s grass-cutting programme. WSCC has advised that no planting licence is recorded for the site and that it would not support continuing the previous arrangement. The Committee was asked to consider whether the Parish Council should take responsibility for the management of the area or whether it should return to WSCC’s normal grass-cutting programme. The Conservation Group has discussed the matter and expressed its disappointment with WSCC’s position. The Group agreed to contact County Councillor Roger Elkins to seek his support, with the support of Ferring Parish Council. Councillor John Tero also expressed his disappointment regarding the situation. i. Bus Stop Sign – Amanda informed the Committee that Compass Bus had suggested attaching a new bus timetable/sign to the telegraph pole at the rear of the library. The Committee did not support this proposal and it was agreed to advise Compass Bus accordingly. j. Hanging Baskets – The Committee agreed to recommend that the hanging baskets continue in 2027, with the possibility of removing one basket. The	PO/A W/JT SD PO/J B JT PO PO

	recommendation will be referred to the Finance & General Purposes Committee for consideration. k. Pattersons Walk Benches – Amanda informed the Committee that Arun District Council (ADC) had refurbished the benches along Pattersons Walk. It was noted that the benches did not initially look particularly good following the work; however, the Committee agreed that the improvements were acceptable and were generally pleased with the overall tidying of the area.	PO
11	Allotments a.Allotment Hose – The Committee agreed to purchase a new hose for the allotments, under dispensation, at a cost of approximately £50.00. 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.	PO
12	Environment Liaison Committee Finance report – Amanda Thomas updated the Committee members.	
13	To report Payments made by dispensation No previous payments to report.	
14	Reports from external representatives a.FRSA - Simon Thompson reported the following: Not a great deal to report on since the previous meeting. Our existing gardener for 3 of our sites left at the end of August when he relocated to Norfolk. Anticipating this move he had sourced a replacement who worked alongside him for a couple of months. I was away on holiday for the first 2 weeks of this month, but a visit around the gardens indicates that the handover has gone well. Ocean Drive The overgrown shrubs at the west corner have now been cut back significantly, providing improved sight-lines for drivers at that junction. In the last week I have spent considerable time visiting local garden centres to check stock range and prices of perennials that would be suitable for conditions at this site, in anticipation of planting in 6 or so weeks' time. The other sites continue without problems, although a few plants have suffered over the Summer due to lack of water e.g. the Cordyline in the barrel at Langbury Lane. Suitable replacements will be planted later in the year. b.Conservation Group – David Bettiss reported the following: National Emergency Briefing film (in partnership with Parish Council) - to be shown in Village Hall at 7pm Monday 26 Oct - free tickets still available from Parish Office. Discussion session after the film, and refreshments will be provided. Tree Preservation Orders – A TPO was recently made by Arun DC for 3 large Black Poplar trees in rear garden of the property - The Haystack, Sea Lane. We have also recently applied for a TPO on a large significant tree in the village which	

	we believe to be under threat. We are also working to proactively identify other such trees in our area before they become threatened. Rife bench - we've been in contact with the Environment Agency re them replacing the bench they've damaged after a long delay. Apparently their workforce is currently committed on urgent flood defence works, and the bench, which has been obtained, will be re-installed when staff available. Practical work - we've carried out 2 litter picks on roads across Goring Gap since the last meeting (one in partnership with Goring groups) and these were much needed with large amount of rubbish collected, including nitrous oxide canisters. A lot of this nuisance is associated with "boy racer" activity there at night time, which Goring Councillors and Sussex Police are attempting to deal with. Ferring residents are encouraged to report to the Police any such anti social driving including in Sea Lane. We've also carried out a work party, bramble bashing at Warren Pond, and another planned for the Village Green this week. Pill Box - it's been another successful year with open days attracting good numbers of visitors, and generous donations being used for more exhibit materials and banners etc. Seafront interpretation boards - Arun DC have now moved the Pill Box board nearer to the Patterson's Walk path to make it easier to read, plus they have now relocated the new Tamarisk board to the correct side of the path. c.Tree Warden – Mike Pellett informed the committee that he gives feedback regarding Planning, otherwise he had nothing to mention.	
15	All about Ferring Magazine –	
16	Urgent matters arising, since the preparation of this Agenda & Items to be referred to next Agenda – The Parish Council had been approached by St Andrew's Church to purchase a Christmas tree for their Christmas Tree Festival. The Committee agreed to regretfully decline the request, as Parish Office staff do not have the capacity or availability to undertake the additional arrangements required at this time.	PO
17	Date of Next Meeting – Monday 14th December 2026. Meeting closed at 8.30pm Mrs Amanda Thomas Administration Assistant	
	Chairman Date	