



FERRING ROADS SCHEME ASSOCIATION - 2024 Annual General Meeting

10.00am on Saturday 1st June 2024 in Retirement Club, 201 Greystoke Road, Ferring.

1. **Chairman's Welcome:**

Jackie Ring welcomed all to the meeting. It should be noted that there were fifteen members present for the meeting.

2. **Apologies:**

Apologies were received from Simon Thompson, Stuart Salter, Clive Butcher, Betty McCann, Caroline & Udo Wolf, and Colonel MND Turner MBE

3. **Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20th May 2023.**

The minutes were unanimously approved as a true and accurate record and signed accordingly by Chairman Jackie Ring. They are available to view on our website www.frsa.uk.

4. **Reports**

Roads Manager – Graham Groom

During the year there appears to have been unprecedented level of building work that has resulted in large volumes of heavy lorry movements taking a toll on our roads. Additionally, there has been major works undertaken by the Gas Company and frequent visits by Openreach.

The annual road sweeping took place over two days in January 2023. Once again a huge amount of debris was collected. In some areas the work was hampered by the considerable number of parked trades vehicles and ongoing works of the Utility Companies. During 2023 a large length of Florida Road, areas of Clover Lane and Annisters Road were resurfaced, along with repair work to a number of potholes and road edging throughout the village. The extent and timing of the road works were delayed by the ongoing utility works. The Contractor also undertook work on lifting and levelling gully grids along Beehive Lane. The FRSA are of the opinion that no further major resurfacing work is likely to be required for a few years - only localised repair work as and when necessary.

During 2023 the extreme weather conditions with elevated levels of rainfall overwhelmed many of the road drains. It should be noted that most of the road drainage throughout the village relies on 'soakaways' designed to release water over a period of time. Whilst substantial investment has been made in recent years in ensuring that the drains, gullies, and soakaways are fully functional, clearly the extreme nature of the rainfall has shown that more investment is still required. Additional factors such as root ingress, aging drain system, non-permeable surfaces for driveways are all contributing to localised flooding.

At the end of 2023, the FRSA identified several key areas that should be prioritised for 2024:-

Contractor to be appointed to refresh white lines at all junctions on FRSA roads.

Contractor to be appointed to undertake gully pot clearance at 300 + locations. An inventory of gully pot locations and record on a bespoke mapping/database is underway, allowing FRSA to prioritise problem areas including GEM garage site and Malcolm Close.

Points/questions raised :

1. The committee were asked for an update on the 20mph speed limit suggestion for village. Following 2023 AGM the FRSA did contact Parish Council regarding this matter. The Parish Council organised independent speed tests and it was concluded that there was not sufficient evidence to implement any further speed restrictions in village. Rodney Hart an attendee at the meeting was able to provide invaluable background information regarding the introduction of the current 30mph speed limit in the village. Speed awareness/information signs, printed in an advisory capacity may be another option to consider. He agreed to share this information with Chairman Jackie Ring so that the matter could be rediscussed at the next FRSA meeting.
2. Problems of parking/congestion was also raised with the committee. It should be noted that the FRSA have no authority over such matters. The FRSA network of roads are public highways, privately maintained and unless subject to TRO's, restrictions cannot be implemented.
3. Concerns were raised by resident of Brook Lane re flooding around Gem Garage site. Graham Groom explained the many difficulties with the drainage around this site and confirmed that this site is top of the priority list for the FRSA to try and rectify. In May 2023 work was undertaken at this site at a cost of £5000. Unfortunately, this did not resolve the matter, so further expenditure has been budgeted for in 2024 with a contractor soon to be appointed.
4. Resident of Sea Lane Close also reported issues with flooding. The FRSA were also aware of this as a gully near entrance to Goring Road needs attention.
5. Query was raised regarding parking outside the Co-op in village. It was stated that parking is not within the FRSA remit and should be referred onto the Parish Council.

Garden Manager- report prepared by Simon Thompson and can be found on our website.

It was reported that overall spend for 2023 was under £3,000 – which was less than half spent in 2022: being viewed in the context that it was the first year of a transitional period of switching from bi-annual planting-up of bedding plants to replanting with

perennials. A local professional gardener and resident, David Saunders, was engaged to undertake the regular maintenance and tidying of the sites at Ocean Drive, Langbury Lane and The Grove.

In addition to this, the following has taken place:

Ocean Drive – Most established shrubs and plants were left in place and in November 2023 around fifty perennials and eighty bulbs were added. A list of the new plants may be found on the website in the November 2023 report.

Langbury Lane – The old Barrel planter was replaced, with the existing Cordyline replanted in it. For 2024 a planting of a new bed is being considered along with either replacement of, or repairs to the bench.

Highdown Way – A new Barrel planter was purchased and planted up.

Clover Lane – Focus for 2024 will be on how the site may be enhanced.

In conclusion, Simon wanted to thank David Saunders for all his hard work and suggestions for the FRSA garden sites.

Treasurer-Sue Samuel

2023 saw the highest payment of membership fees and received £5203 as contributions towards the garden funds. The FRSA wanted to thank all scheme members who contributed to this fund. It was also noted that in 2023 we collected £1645 in membership fee arrears from 2022.

For 2024, recognising increasing inflation cost of repairs, the committee agreed it was necessary to increase this year's annual road fee to £90, which includes the maintenance of the roads, drains and gardens in the village. The treasurer stated how appreciative the committee were of everyone who pays their road fees as without this financial support, repair works could not be undertaken. So far this year we have collected £1680 in arrears from 2022-2023.

As an organisation we are encouraging as many members as possible to move to email communication, currently having seven hundred email addresses and with an aim for 2024 to increase to seven hundred and fifty.

The accounts for 2023 were formally accepted at the meeting and the Chairman was able to confirm that Martin Newman had been appointed as the Honorary Auditor for 2024. **(Points 5 and 9 on the agenda)**

Chairman's Report – Jackie Ring

Jackie Ring expressed her thanks to all those attending this AGM. She took over the role of Chairman in January 2024 after Trevor Martin decided to fully embrace his retirement. Thanks were expressed to Trevor for his past work on the FRSA committee.

As a committee the FRSA continues to review, improve and streamline the processes where necessary.

For 2024 the following improvements have been introduced:

Roads Sub-Committee – Due to the scale of the work required with the roads and drainage, we have now reinstated a Roads sub-committee consisting of Jackie Ring, Graham Groom, Clive Butcher (appointed in March 2024) and David Champ: all current committee members.

Reporting an Issue – Via the website there is a process in place for reporting an issue with road or drainage. There is also a section within the site that details a list of issues the FRSA are already aware of and actively working to install solutions.

ID badges – The FRSA committee now have ID badges, enabling all our contractors and scheme members to clearly identify who is on the committee.

6. Election of members of Executive Committee 2024

Chairman – Jackie Ring and **Roads Liaison – Clive Butcher**. No objections to the appointments were heard so they were unanimously approved as elected.

7. Re-election of members of Executive Committee for 2024

Roads Warden- Nikki Hall, Gardens Manager- Simon Thompson and **IT Manager – David Champ**. These committee members were prepared to stand for a second term of office of three years. No objections to the appointments were heard so they were unanimously approved as elected.

These posts had been filled and approved in accordance with the FRSA constitution documents.

8. Committee post vacancy – Publicity

Stuart Salter has decided to stand down from a second term of office. The Committee expressed their thanks for his contributions to the efficient running of the FRSA. A job description for the role has been prepared and will be posted on web site and relevant social media sites.

10. Any Other Business

Any questions raised have been documented in the minutes within the appropriate section.

11. Close of meeting

Jackie Ring wanted to thank all the committee members for their continued support throughout 2023 along with all scheme members who have paid their roads fee. The meeting closed at 10.45am.