Ringmer Parish Council Newsletter – July 2023

Skate Park

We were pleased that the planning application for the skate park in Fingerpost Field was approved by Lewes District Council at their June planning meeting. However, there are certain conditions that have to be met before construction can proceed. We are hoping that these will be dealt with as quickly as possible, but cannot at the present time provide a start date. We are working under the time constraints imposed by having to wait for LDC approval for the conditions. We have requested an updated quote from the supplier and have allocated the necessary funding.

Swimming Pool

Johnny Denis, LDC and ESCC Councillor, provided an update on the pool. Lewes District Council have agreed a Capital Funding Plan and East Sussex County Council have been asked to identify a Revenue Funding Plan to allow the pool to operate until it becomes self-sustaining financially. Councillor Denis will keep the Parish Council updated "on this glacial project" as he, and many residents are keen to have it back in action as soon as possible.

Young Person's Play Areas

The Parish Council has allocated funds to provide new play equipment and seating at Fingerpost Field and have had discussions with Lewes District Council about improvements at Broyle Close.

A quote has been accepted to provide new social seating on the Village Green between the shopping precinct and Delves House.

The Almond Field

A piece of land behind Field House in Vicarage Way and adjacent to the new cemetery is to be gifted to The Parish Council. The family of Bill Almond would like it to be known as 'The Almond Field'.

Improving the Natural Environment in Ringmer

Recently biodiversity experts from the South Downs National Park Authority visited Ringmer looking at The Almond Field, the Village Green and finally Fingerpost Field offering suggestions on how our natural environment might be improved and being encouraged by work done by existing volunteer groups like Wildflower Ringmer. They suggested that The Almond Field would be an ideal location for a re-wilding project. This suggestion was also in line with ideas that the family had. RPC voted unanimously to accept the suggestion and agreed that some exploratory work be completed. We will continue to encourage residents to engage with small scale projects of their own.

Parish Council

We have four vacancies for any residents who may be interested in becoming a Parish Councillor. Younger residents of the village are particularly underrepresented on the council. Please contact the Clerk for more information.

We had a pleasing number of residents come along to the 'Meet the Parish Council' gathering on Thursday 15th June 2023. Those residents were able to chat informally to both Parish and District Councillors and offer their ideas on a wide range of topics about the village and how it might develop over the next few years. Many thanks for attending.