Ringmer Parish Council Newsletter – June 2023

Parish Council Elections

As only nine nominations were received for the thirteen seats on the Parish Council, those nine residents were elected unopposed to serve for the next 4 years. Full details may be found on the Parish Council website. Two new Councillors have been nominated, Linda Grange and Nic Chaloner. At the first meeting of the new council on Tuesday 9th May, Cllr Gordon Sims was elected Chair and Cllr Sarah Phillips Vice-Chair. There will be an opportunity for residents to meet members of the new council on Thursday 15th June at 6.30pm in the Parish Rooms. Parish Council meetings are open to residents and take place on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Parish Rooms. Residents are able to make a 3 minute address to the council at the start of the meeting on any matter of concern.

We obviously 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.

Young Person's Play Areas

A recent review of the play areas within the village was discussed. It was noted that facilities are not consistent across the parish with specific age ranges not being properly supported. It was agreed that the playground area on Fingerpost Field should be updated and that more 'social' seating designs should be used across the village to facilitate small groups rather than the current traditional benches. It is hoped that the council's planning application for the Fingerpost Field skate park will be discussed at the June Planning Committee meeting.

It was agreed to provide some social seating between the shopping precinct and Delves House.

Southern Water

Some Councillors met with three representatives of Southern Water on Friday 12th May to discuss on-going issues. Information about the role of different companies in dealing with excess surface water was received. It was also noted that some remedial work had been done on one of the sewers from the village to the Neaves Lane Water Treatment Plant.

Improving the Natural Environment in Ringmer

An informal group was set up to promote the Parish's involvement with the "Save our Wild Isles" campaign. The council will continue to support the work of existing volunteer groups, but will also encourage wider participation with small scale projects. Leaving areas to develop naturally, planting native wild species and doing less weeding will all support our pollinators. Using nesting boxes and creating small garden ponds will help other species and help compensate for the loss of green spaces within the village boundary.