

From: ses.wright@gmail.com
Subject: New Rother Valley Farmers Group
Date: 20 November 2018 at 12:40
To: clerk@stedhamwithiping-pc.gov.uk



Dear Ms. Birch,

I have looked online to obtain your contact email address from the Stedham and Iping Parish Council website. I am contacting local parish councils along the Rother Valley to introduce the new Rother Valley Farmers Group (RVFG), a key aim of which is to help foster and improve informed engagement between the farming sector and local town councils and community groups. The group is hosted by the Arun & Rother Rivers Trust, a local conservation charity aimed at improving rivers and wetlands within the Rother valley and wider Arun & Western Streams catchment. ARRT were successful in applying for some funding for the group from Natural England, the Government's nature conservation agency, which is available for three years (2018-2021) under the Cluster Farm Facilitation programme.

We are planning a short farm walk event in mid-January 2019 and would like to invite interested councillors from your Parish Council along to explain our aims. We have 34 farm members so far located along the Rother valley, with farm members within your parish or nearby. We are looking to deliver multi-farm conservation benefits from the project as well as bringing interested local communities together to show what the RVFG is trying to achieve and how developing a network of farmers should enable groups to liaise and contact them more easily. The event is envisaged to last up to 3 hours with hot refreshments available to help keep people warm.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes, Ses Wright (Mrs.),
ARRT Project Officer,
& Co-Facilitator for the RVFG
Tel: [07854 721902](tel:07854721902)