

# FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lorna Thwaites

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## ORDINARY MEETING OF FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020

2 members of the public were in attendance. No questions were received.

Council Members in Attendance: Cllrs Rothery, Minch, Greenish, Collum, Hannay, Constantinou, Shaw and Borton.

District and County Cllr Galley and L. Thwaites, Clerk and RFO

## MINUTES

### 38. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence as reported at the meeting: Cllr Kerwood due to a personal matter.

### 39. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Declarations of Interest in respect of items on the Agenda, as required by the Members Code of Conduct.

**RECEIVED:** Agenda item 7: planning applications (WD/1102/F & 1103/LB) - Cllr Collum believes land she owns adjoins the dwelling in the application; agenda item 10 i) grant application for Fletching Primary Schools - Cllr Hannay is a Parent Governor at Fletching Primary School and is a parent of a child attending the school; agenda item 6 i) ii) and iii) - Cllr Rothery is involved in a shoot which purchases wheat from the owner of Moon's Farm.

### 40. MINUTES

The minutes of the ordinary meeting of Fletching Parish Council held on 01 June 2020, as circulated on the Agenda, were **RESOLVED** as a correct record, and signed by the Chair.

### 41. REPORTS

A report from the District and County Councillor Roy Galley was **RECEIVED:** East Sussex continues to see a comparatively low number of cases of Covid-19; East Sussex 1505 confirmed cases of Covid 19, a cumulative rate of 271 rate per 100k of population (compares to 442 per 100k of the national population); E Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust registered 90 deaths; Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust registered 18 deaths; Brighton & Sussex University Hospital Trust registered 146 deaths.

In Wealden, £38m has now been paid out in Business Grants with an additional £1m from the discretionary Grant scheme; the discretionary scheme still has funds available and applications can be made up to July 27<sup>th</sup> by small businesses in shared units, market traders, bed and breakfast businesses who pay Council Tax, and Charity properties; £14.7m of Business Rates Relief has been provided to 2,200 businesses.

Progress has been made on local highways schemes: All works on Daleham Lane have been completed satisfactorily; drainage works at Splaynes Green are complete; ESH have assured Ruston Bridge Road is in the programme for repair.

At the request of a cllr, Cllr Galley reported he had no update to provide regarding enforcement concerns at Flitteridge Farm.

### 42. MATTERS ARISING SINCE THE LAST MEETING

i. The letter from James Harris, Asst. Director Economy (broadband speed within the Parish) was **RECEIVED:** Cllr Borton advised the esussex website (esussex.org) has now been updated to reflect the correct situation of access to broadband in the parish.

ii. The possibility of installing a flagpole on the grass near the village hall was discussed:-The Council **AGREED** Cllrs Rothery and Constantinou would assess locations for a flagpole so that the Parish Council could raise a flag on necessary state occasions.

iii. An update on the Annual Return (AGAR) was **RECEIVED:** The Council have been selected for an intermediate review and the Clerk has submitted all information required.

iv. The latest government advice on the re-opening of playgrounds was **RECEIVED:** The Council **AGREED** the following actions; Cllrs Shaw and Minch would prepare a risk assessment for the playground; the Clerk would advise parishioners that the playground would currently remain closed via the Parish Council website; a member of the recreation ground committee would confirm requirements of the insurance policy and also advised some equipment that has recently been renovated may need to be restricted.

### 43. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

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The following correspondence and any other correspondence received before the meeting was **RECEIVED** and actions **AGREED**:

i. Emails from a parishioner entitled 'Damage to trees, Moons Farm, Sharpsbridge Lane, Piltdown' were **RECEIVED**: In accordance with the Fletching Parish Council Complaints Policy and guidance from the Monitoring Officer, Wealden District Council, the Council **RESOLVED** to invite the parishioner to a meeting with the full council.

*Cllr Shaw left the meeting.*

ii. The email from Piltdown Residents Association - Solar Farm and Moons Farm was **RECEIVED**: The Council were appreciative of the comments sent regarding the Solar Farm and **AGREED** to take them into consideration when an application for the Solar Farm was received; the Council **AGREED** the Clerk would respond in writing.

*Cllr Galley left the meeting at 20.30*

iii. The email from a parishioner entitled 'Matters for FPC meeting 06 July 2020' was **RECEIVED**: The Council **AGREED** to invite the parishioner to a meeting to discuss his concerns.

iv. The email received from parishioners regarding the A275 speed limit by Sheffield Green was **RECEIVED**: The Council **AGREED** that matter would be discussed further at the next SLR meeting and the Clerk would respond with details of the cost of surveys.

v. The email received from a parishioner regarding the bench at Cherry Tree Cottages was **RECEIVED**.

vi. The email received requesting information regarding services being offered by FPC for COVID-19 support was **RECEIVED**: The Council **AGREED** to continue its COVID-19 support and Cllr Hannay would respond to the email.

## 44. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1. Comments for applications reviewed by Cllrs with delegated planning responsibility were **RECEIVED**:

### i. WD/2020/0956/LB: SHEFFIELD MILL FARM

This is a grade 2 listed building, associated with the grade 2 starred building Sheffield Mill. Therefore, it's Heritage significance to the local area is important. It dates from late 16<sup>th</sup> century therefore the roof must not be altered. It is essential that only reclaimed tiles are used if extras are required and that the ridge tiles are anchored with lime mortar. It is essential that considerable ventilation is maintained to avoid deterioration of names or timbers. Therefore, insulation should only be applied at ceiling level to allow full flow of air around the timbers and nails. With these conditions the council **SUPPORT** the application.

2. Comments for the following applications and any others that arrive before the meeting were **AGREED**:

### i. TPO/2020 0020 Land adj. to Barn at Moons Farm, Sharpsbridge Lane, Piltdown, TN22 3XG (deadline for comments 17 July 2020)

Comments **AGREED**: FPC **SUPPORT** the TPO and would like to request that any damaged trees can be saved. FPC also requests that any trees damaged beyond repair or removed should be replaced like for like.

Cllr Collum has been requested by a parishioner to look at the damage to the trees in that area and trees on the other side of the road that might also need protecting. The Council **AGREED** that Cllr Collum should visit the area.

### ii. WD/2020/1102/F & 1103/LB THE ROSE AND CROWN, HIGH STREET, FLETCHING, TN22 3ST (deadline for comments: 22 July 2020) CHANGE OF USE FROM PUBLIC HOUSE TO SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING. DEMOLITION OF 2 SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSIONS.

Cllr Greenish declared a personal interest in that he knows the owners of the public house.

The applicant was in attendance and the Council **AGREED** that she could speak at the meeting. She advised the council of the difficulties of running the pub profitably; limitations arising from the building being a Grade II Listed building; the impact of the current pandemic as well as their ideas for keeping the pub open.

The Council **RESOLVED** to hold an extra-ordinary meeting on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July to agree comments and to discuss nominating the property as an Asset of Community Value.

## 45. PLANNING DECISIONS

Planning decisions from Wealden District Council were **RECEIVED**:

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i. **WD/2019/1088/F LITTLE BARKHAM FARM, GOLDBRIDGE ROAD, PILTDOWN, TN22 3XL**  
PROPOSED CONVERSION OF EXISTING FORMER STABLES BUILDING WITH THE ADDITION OF A SMALL EXTENSION TO FORM A THREE BEDROOMED SINGLE STOREY DWELLING. THE REPLACEMENT OF TWO EXISTING WOODEN BUILDINGS BY A SINGLE BUILDING TO BE USED FOR STORAGE PURPOSES INCIDENTAL TO THE MAIN DWELLING - **APPROVED.**

ii. **WD/2018/2666/F -4 WHITES COTTAGES, CHURCH STREET, FLETCHING TN22 3SP**  
PROPOSED SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION - **REFUSED.**

## 46. FINANCE

i. Payments for July were **AUTHORISED**, and the bank reconciliation **RECEIVED**.

ii. The Risk Assessment of Fletching Parish Council for 2020/2021 was **AGREED**.

## 47. GRANTS

i. A grant application from Fletching CE Primary School for the grant previously agreed in principle was **RECEIVED** from Cllr Hannay, as a Parent Governor of Fletching CE Primary School: Cllr Hannay explained the proposal to rejuvenate the front playground of the school to benefit pupils and to make the school more attractive to potential families wishing to send their children to the school.

Cllr Hannay provided an update on the current situation of the school: 11 new pupils have been registered to start in Reception in Sept 2020; 11 new pupils joined the school during the 2019/2020 school year; enquiries for 2021 are positive; currently targeting 90 pupils for school year 2020/21 with 75 on roll in Sept 2020 and more pupils are forecast to join during the school year as housing development in Ridgewood is completed.

The Council **RESOLVED** to make the decision regarding at the end of meeting after Cllr Hannay had left.

The Council **AGREED** to request additional supporting information in writing from the school governors explaining the rationale behind the specific items and the benefit to the school and its pupils to support the grant application. *This resolution was made after Cllr Hannay had left the meeting.*

## 48. BURIAL GROUND

i. A permit for a memorial headstone was **APPROVED**; the Clerk advised of an impending interment and the Council **AGREED** there was no limit on numbers attending the interment, but social distancing should be observed.

ii. An update on the repair of the broken headstone for Mary Swaffer was **RECEIVED** and thanks were expressed to Richard Green FS for making these repairs.

iii. The score from the Cemetery of the Year Award was **RECEIVED**.

## 49. GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

i. Quotes for the 3-year grounds maintenance contract were **RECEIVED**: Cllr Constantinou declared a personal interest with V.Cottingham - he has a knowledge of Mr Cottingham and has met him previous occasions.

ii. The Council **RESOLVED** not to award the 3-year grounds maintenance contract to one of the contractors at this meeting but to seek further information from the contractors and to defer the decision to the next parish council meeting.

## 50. ONLINE COMMUNICATION

i. To RECEIVE the Clerks recommendation regarding a parish council Facebook page: DEFERRED to the next meeting.

ii. To RESOLVE to develop a Fletching Parish Council Facebook page: DEFERRED to the next meeting.

iii. To AGREE the FPC Social Media Policy: DEFERRED to the next meeting.

iv. The FPC Website Accessibility Policy was **AGREED**.

## 51. HIGHWAYS

i. To RECEIVE an update on the drainage works at Daleham Lane. DEFERRED to the next meeting.

ii. To AGREE items for the SLR meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2020: The Clerk was asked to request a remote meeting as the previous face to face meeting had been cancelled. It was **AGREED** to email items to the Clerk.

## 52. PROJECTS

### 1. FLETCHING RECREATION GROUND

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i. The Council **AGREED** to appoint Members of Fletching Parish Council to the Recreation Ground Committee as follows: Cllrs Rothery, Greenish and Kerwood.

ii. The Terms of Reference for the Recreation Ground Committee were **AGREED**.

## 2. LAND REGISTRATION

i. Cllr Greenish had no update to make on the progress of the land registration work.

## 3. FINGERPOSTS

i. A progress update on the Splaynes Green Fingerpost was **RECEIVED** - Cllr Constantinou advised work has started on the new fingerpost by JAKK.

ii. Cllr Constantinou recommended the next Fingerpost for refurbishment was Golf Course Lane Triangle and the Council **AGREED** to instruct JAKK to start this work.

## 4. PUMP HOUSE

i. To **AGREE** the key items to repair on the pump house including the removal of the door and surround - Cllrs Minch/Shaw/Collum: **DEFERRED** to the next meeting.

ii. To **AGREE** to contact Jo Tucker, Snr Heritage Office to establish if any formal paperwork is required to repair the Pump House: **DEFERRED** to the next meeting.

iii. To **AGREE** to prepare a building specification: **DEFERRED** to the next meeting.

## 5. PARISH WALKS

i. To **RECEIVE** an update from Cllr Minch with regards to a volunteer producing a booklet of walks: **DEFERRED** to the next meeting.

## 6. SPLAYNES GREEN PHONE BOX

i. A brief update on the refurbishment project was **RECEIVED**: A volunteer from Splaynes Green is soon to start work on the project.

## 53. ADMINISTRATION

i. In the absence of the annual meeting of the Parish Council, the current allocation of cllr responsibilities were **CONFIRMED**. The Council **AGREED** that Cllr Constantinou would join the working group with planning responsibility.

ii. Leave dates for the Clerk were **AGREED**.

54. **ITEMS FOR THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MAGAZINE**: Continuation of FPC COVID Support; playground assessment for re-opening.

55. **NO AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL** were proposed at the meeting.

56. **TO RECEIVE THE TIME AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL**: Extra-Ordinary meeting 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020; FPC Ordinary meeting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 7pm remotely or 7.30pm in the village hall subject to government guidance.

*Cllr Hannay left the meeting to discuss and resolve the grant application for the school.*

57. **THE MEETING CLOSED at 21.53.**