Clerk: Lorna Thwaites

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The minutes of the meeting of Fletching Parish Council held at *Fletching Village Hall* on **Monday 6th January 2020 at 7.30pm.** *The clerk reported the meeting would be recorded*

PUBLIC SESSION - Questions and comments received from the public: None Received

Item	Description	Responsible
156.	Members Present: Cllr Rothery (Chairman), Cllr Collum, Cllr Minch, Cllr Hannay, Cllr Borton, Cllr Shaw, Cllr Kerwood, Cllr Greenish. Also present: District Cllr Galley, Lorna Thwaites (Clerk and RFO) and 1 member of the public. Apologies for absence: None Received.	Chairman
157.	The resignation of Cllr Sainsbury was RECEIVED by the Council. The Council expressed their thanks for the contribution that Cllr Sainsbury had made to the Council during her years as a councillor and felt her resignation was a loss to the Council.	Full Council
158.	Declarations of interest in respect of matters to be discussed: Cllr Collum declared her interest in agenda item 8 - WD/2019/2434/LB - Clinton Lodge, High Street, Fletching, TN22 3ST.	Full Council
159.	Report from the District Councillor: The end of the year saw two positive outcomes for the parish of Fletching - a formal decision was made to halt the process of consulting to close the school and Fletching Village Stores is now open. The Council acknowledged all the hard work of those involved in the campaign to keep the school open particularly the work of the school governors. East Sussex County: The current indication on the Local Government settlement is as expected. The Chief Executive of East Sussex is to be Joint Chief Executive of East and West Sussex. Wealden County Council: Draft Wealden Local Plan - the conclusions of the Planning Inspector have been received and the	District Cllr Galley
160.	Plan is unable to proceed. Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 2 nd December 2020: The council RESOLVED to accept the minutes as an accurate record, and they were signed by the Chairman.	Chairman
161.	The Council AGREED the following roles within the Council: i) Vice-Chair: To appoint a member to this role at the start of the new council year. ii) Highways Working Group Member: Cllr Hannay & Cllr Minch to join this working group. iii) Health and Community Services Member: To be reviewed at the start of the new council year. iv) Cllr representation for Fingerposts and Splaynes Green Phone Box: These roles to be moved into the Highways working group.	Full Council
162.	Finance/Administration: 1.Finance i) Payments for January were AUTHORISED, and the bank reconciliation NOTED. ii) Cllr Shaw VERIFIED the bank reconciliations since June 2019. iii) The budget for 2020/21 was APPROVED and the Council RESOLVED to set a precept of £31k. iv) The Precept form was SIGNED by the Chair and Clerk. 2. Burial Ground	Chairman Cllr Shaw Full Council Chair/Clerk Full Council

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	i) An update on update on activity was RECEIVED and an application for a memorial headstone	
	was APPROVED.	Full Council
	ii) The letter of instruction to appoint Ian Davison of Surrey Hill Solicitors for the registration of	
	land at the Burial Ground was APPROVED. The Council AGREED to also include the registration of	
	title for the Village Hall and the Recreation Ground.	Clerk/Cllr
	iii) No costs on the additional items to the Grass Cutting specification have been received from Tim Jordan.	Hannay Clerk
	iv) An update on the works authorised with Brook Hart in the Burial Ground was RECEIVED - all	
	work was undertaken as per the brief and budget and to the satisfaction of the Council.	Full Council
	3. Grants	
	i) An application for a small grant with Fletching Parish Council was RECEIVED from the	
	Conservators of Ashdown Forest application for Finance year 2020/2021: The Council AGREED to	
	invite the Conservators to come to the Annual Parish Meeting to discuss their request and work.	
	4. Website	Clerk/Cllr
	i) Additions to the website to increase traffic and usage were discussed. The Clerk will investigate	Greenish
	further and report back to the Council.	
	Cllr Minch left the meeting 20.30	
163.	Planning applications:	
	To note comments made by Fletching Parish Council:	Full Council
	WD/2019/2434/LB (Expiry date for comments: 07 Jan 2020)	
	CLINTON LODGE, HIGH STREET, FLETCHING, TN22 3ST	
	INSTALL NEW BATHROOM IN EXISTING BEDROOM. FORM A NEW ACCESS AND STAIR BETWEEN	
	EXISTING BEDROOM AND NEW BATHROOM.	
	Comments from FPC: On the basis of the information available to-date, Fletching Parish Council do not wish to make	
	any comments and suggests views are sought from the specialist conservation advisor.	Full Council
	WD/2019/2495/FA (Expiry date for comments: 8 January 2020)	
	LAND ADJACENT TO LAWRENCES, NORTH HALL LANE, FLETCHING TN22 3TJ	
	MINOR MATERIAL AMENDMENT TO APPLICATION WD/2017/2429/F	
	(DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILDING AND ERECTION OF NEW DETACHED DWELLING WITH	
	ASSOCIATED NEW ACCESS AND PARKING AND TURNING AREA) INVOLVING A VARIATION OF	
	CONDITION 17 IN ORDER TO ENLARGE THE DWELLING AND ALTER THE DESIGN.	
	Comments from FPC:	
	The minor material amendment makes the dwelling larger than the building approved in the	
	original application. However, it is now considered aesthetically more appealing.	
164.	To receive the following planning decisions from Wealden District Council:	WDC
	WD/2019/1955/F - MOBILE TIMBER DWELLING TO PROVIDE LIVE/WORK UNIT	
	HIGHFIELD, DOWN STREET, PILTDOWN, TN22 3XX	
	Approved by WDC on 29 Nov 2019	
	RESPONSE FROM WDC TO FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL: While it would not be conditioned to	
	restrict permanent residential occupation, this is due to the fact a condition requiring occupation	
	only when dogs are kept at the site would be difficult to enforce. Suitably worded conditions	
	would be imposed though to restrict occupation to an employee of the Hydrotherapy Centre, and	

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	the unit would need to be removed if the business relocated or ceased to operate from the site. A three-year temporary period would be recommended. WD/2019/2238/F - USE OF UPPER LEVEL FLAT AS A SEPARATE RESIDENTIAL UNIT OF ACCOMMODATION, INDEPENDENT FROM THE GROUND FLOOR SHOP. FLETCHING STORES, HIGH STREET, FLETCHING, TN22 3SS Approved by WDC on 13 Dec 2019 WD/2019/2277/F - DEMOLITION OF EXISTING GARAGES, PROPOSED SINGLE-STOREY SIDE EXTENSION AND REPLACEMENT GARAGE. FOXLEASE, SHORTBRIDGE ROAD, PILTDOWN, TN22 3XD Approved by WDC on 18 Dec 2019 Application No. WD/2019/1598/FA REMOVAL OF CONDITION 3 (AGRICULTURAL OCCUPANCY CONDITION) OF APPLICATION T/62/243 (ERECTION OF FARM COTTAGE) EAST PARK FARM COTTAGE, HIGH STREET, FLETCHING, TN22 3SS Refused by WDC on 24 December 2019. RESPONSE FROM WDC TO FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL: The application was submitted only 5 months of becoming vacant, with no marketing exercise carried out or evidence submitted that there are no other agricultural or forestry workers who could benefit from the tied dwelling. The application does not contain any information on letting it to a local family, only its retail value. The extent of the information submitted with the application to justify the proposed removal of the agricultural occupancy condition is limited, and is neither sufficiently robust nor adequate in demonstrating the lack of need for this AOC dwelling to meet the housing needs for local agricultural or forestry workers. With no marketing exercise or assessment of the achievability of agricultural workers being able to access the property, it is not considered appropriate to lift the agricultural occupancy condition.	
165.	An update from Wealden Planning Enforcement on Planning Enforcement matters raised by Fletching Parish Council was RECEIVED. WD/2016/2406/F - based on current information there doesn't appear to be any evidence of a breach of planning control. WD/2018/7037/AD - at the time of the visit of the planning enforcement officer, there was no evidence apparent that a material change-of-use had occurred away from a primarily agricultural one.	Full Council
166.	Highways Matters: i) An update on the Splaynes Green Flood test was RECEIVED: Further to the flood test undertaken East Sussex Highways (ESH) are currently investigating the best solution. The Clerk is to continue to pursue the matter with ESH. ii) An update on the Splaynes Green grit bin installation was RECEIVED: The grit bin has not yet been installed. The Clerk was requested to continue to chase ESH on the matter. iii) Correspondence regarding potholes and flooding in the Parish was RECEIVED. The Council NOTED the following: flooding and potholes are the responsibility of ESH; temporary flood signs are put out by East Sussex Highways on Mill Lane; there is a water level gauge on Mill Lane but the Council felt this was not sufficiently visible to help motorists; recent flooding coincided with works on the A272 which may have caused more traffic to use Mill Lane. The Council AGREED to raise these matters at the next SLR meeting.	Full Council Clerk Highways Working Group

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	Cllr Galley left the meeting 21.07	
167.	Correspondence: RECEIVED and actions AGREED for the following matters:	
	i) E-Sussex Broadband Project: Clerk to request parishioner feedback via the Parish Magazine.	Clerk
	ii) Request for a seat/bench under the Cherry trees near Cherry Tree Cottages: Clerk to investigate	
	suppliers/costings.	Clerk
	iii) Offer of voluntary Tree Warden services: The Council were pleased to receive this offer and the	
	Clerk was asked to discuss further with the volunteer.	Clerk
	iv) IRP Parish Renumeration Report was RECEIVED and NOTED .	
	v) VE Day 75 events - Cllrs to contact the following bodies to see if they have any plans to	Full Council
	commemorate this occasion; Cllr Hannay - Fletching Primary School; Cllr Collum - Fletching Bell	Cllr Hannay,
	Ringers; Cllr Rothery - Fletching pubs and shop. The Clerk was asked to include details in the Parish	Cllr Rothery,
	Magazine.	Cllr Collum
	vi) Clinton Lodge Fete 2020: Cllr Collum advised this would be held towards the end of the year.	
		Cllr Collum
168.	Projects:	
	1. RECREATION GROUND:	Cllr
	i) The AiRS consultancy service was discussed regarding trustee changes and the Council AGREED	Rothery/Cllr
	to request a quote from AiRS. The decision to appoint either AiRS or Surrey Hills Solicitors was	Greenish/Cllr
	delegated to the recreation ground working group members of the parish council.	Kerwood
	ii) The letter of instruction to appoint Ian Davison of Surrey Hill Solicitors was postponed until the	
	decision to appoint was made. 2. PILTDOWN VILLAGE GATEWAYS:	Clic Double
	i) An update from the PRA was RECEIVED : The implementation date has been delayed until the	Cllr Borton
	start of the new year due to the ill health of the contractor. A further update will be provided at	
	the next meeting.	
	3. PARISH WALKS:	Cllr Minch
	i) An update on the parish walks undertaken RECEIVED: Cllr Minch has now undertaken 4 walks	CIII IVIIIICII
	and more are planned. A further update will be provided at the next meeting.	
169.	Items AGREED for the next Parish Magazine: resignation of Cllr Sainsbury; parish council vacancy;	Full Council
	broadband speed; VE75 Day.	
170.	Items AGREED for the next Parish Council meeting:	Full Council
	To progress the Casual Vacancy for a member of Fletching Parish Council	
	To receive an update on the Climate Emergency declared by Wealden District Council	
	To receive an update on 5G in the Parish	
	To receive an update on VE 75day plans and agree any actions of the Parish Council	
	To agree a date for the Annual Parish Meeting between March and June 2020	
	To agree the next Fingerpost for restoration and to appoint a contractor to undertake the work	
	To receive an update on the Pump House restoration project and agree next steps	
	To appoint an internal auditor	
171.	Close of meeting 21.36	
172.	Date of Next Meeting: Monday 3 rd February 2020 - 7.30pm, Fletching Village Hall	Full Council