

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lorna Thwaites

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Website www.fletching-pc.org



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Monday 5th July 2021

Members of the Public in Attendance: 0

Questions RECEIVED from the Public: None

Members in Attendance: Cllrs Collum, Minch, Hannay, Shaw (arrived 19.08), Constantinou and Borton
District Cllr Galley and Lorna Thwaites, Clerk and RFO. This meeting was recorded.

279. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence as reported at the meeting and ACCEPTED: Cllr Rothery and Cllr Greenish.

The Council RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Hannay to Chair the meeting in the absence of Cllr Rothery (Chair) and Cllr Greenish (Vice-Chair); the Council RECEIVED apologies from Cllr Kerwood by way of Cllr Constantinou.

280. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

No Declarations of Interest in respect of items on the agenda, as required by the Members Code of Conduct were received.

281. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of Fletching Parish Council held on 7th June 2021 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

282. REPORTS

i. A report from the District and County Councillor Roy Galley was RECEIVED: local cllrs have met MPs and expressed concerns on housing numbers; the Environment Bill is currently going through Parliament; one objective is to provide consistent collections for recycling across the country; WDC is opposed to free garden waste collection due to it being expensive to operate; there is concern about the suggestion of statutory food waste collections - this would result in increased costs and more bins outside each property; food waste in East Sussex doesn't go into landfill; with regard to cars parked illegally in Fletching Car Park, legal action is being taken and cars are to be removed.

The Council raised questions over housing development numbers - the Ridgewood Farm development has currently been delayed; broadband in Piltdown, the signal is currently poor - there is a new contract in place but no further update as yet.

283. WORKING GROUPS AND COMMITTEES

i. The Council RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Constantinou to join the Parking Working Group.

ii. The Council AGREED to promote the working group again in the Parish Magazine, on the Parish Council website and Facebook page to attract volunteer members; the Clerk was asked to contact parishioners who had contacted the Council with parking concerns; the AGREED deadline for responses is Monday 16th August.

iii. Council Members RESOLVED to set up a working party for a Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and to appoint members at the meeting in September.

284. MATTERS ARISING

i. Cllr Constantinou signed the Code of Conduct in the presence of the Council.

ii. The Council RESOLVED to send a letter to MPs sharing concerns about the development of housing in the local area; it was AGREED that Cllr Rothery would write the letter.

iii. The decision of the final Elected Council Member to receive ALL, PART, WAIVE-ALL or PART of their Councillor Allowance was RECEIVED by the Clerk.

iv. The Clerk's request for leave request was AGREED.

285. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

i. '20's plenty': the reply received to the past correspondence was RECEIVED; the Council NOTED that the correspondent was not able to run the campaign to lower the speed limit.

ii. Defibrillator at Fletching Recreation Ground: the Council AGREED that an award could be considered subject to the receipt of a grant application.

iii. Cemetery of the Year: the Council AGREED to enter the competition.

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- iv. Garden Trail: the Council NOTED that the Garden Trail was well supported and that improved parking and traffic management plans have already been arranged for next year; the Clerk advised she hadn't received any negative feedback about the parking issues or traffic generated by the event.
- v. Memorabilia: the Clerk was asked to contact the Armadillos via Cllr Greenish with regards to the programme and brochure offered to the Council.
- vi. Meetings in the Autumn: the Council AGREED to meet in the Church for their November and December meetings so the Choir could use the village hall.
- vii. CSAG request for information: the Clerk was asked to gain clarity on the Uckfield Group vs the Crowborough group for Fletching Parish Council.
- viii. Funds Available to plant a hedge in your community: the Clerk was asked to investigate further and to establish what land the hedge can be planted on.
- ix. PCSO Contact for the area: the Council AGREED to publicise the PCSO in the parish magazine; the Clerk was asked to request PCSO Matt Jarvis to attend the next parish council meeting and to notify him of the parking working group.

286. FINANCE

- i. Payments for July were AUTHORISED and the bank reconciliation RECEIVED.
- ii. A quarterly budget update was RECEIVED.

287. BURIAL GROUND

- i. Comparative rates were RECEIVED by the Council: the Council NOTED that Fletching Burial Ground was charging significantly less than other comparative burial grounds; a discussion was held regarding the appropriate pricing levels for the Burial Ground and the Clerk was asked to prepare prices based on £200 for a single plot purchase for 50 years; the following AGREEMENTS were made - exclusive right of burial would only be for 50 years and not 75 years; the in parish rate would apply to parishioners who had been on the electoral register for the Parish, prior to moving to a care home in advance of their death; the Council AGREED in principle to charge x5 for the non-parishioner rate.
- ii. An update on the Memorial Safety Inspection Risk Assessment (hand-test) was RECEIVED from Cllr Hannay: all memorials are currently stable and no further checks are currently required.
- iii. The additional design added to a memorial headstone for a previously granted permit was APPROVED.
- iv. Cllr Hannay advised that the license has been granted for the badger deterrent work which will start at the end of July, early August.

288. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1. Comments AGREED for applications reviewed by Cllrs with delegated planning responsibility:
WD/2021/0885/LB SNUG COTTAGE, DOWN STREET, NUTLEY, TN22 3EH (expiry for comments 5 July 21)
REPLACE ON A LIKE FOR LIKE BASIS TWO SEVERELY DEGRADED WINDOWS AT THE FRONT OF THE PROPERTY (WF1 AND WG1). REPLACE DEGRADED WEATHERBOARDING PLANKS ON ALL ELEVATIONS WHERE THEY CANNOT BE REPAIRED. PAINT THE WEATHERBOARDING ON THE NEWER EXTENSION BLACK TO MATCH THE ORIGINAL HOUSE AND ADJOINING PROPERTY "PAX COTTAGE" PAINT ALL EXTERNAL WINDOW TIMBER "FARROW & BALL FRENCH GREY NO. 18 EGG SHELL" TO MATCH ADJOINING PROPERTY "PAX COTTAGE".
Fletching Parish Council AGREED to SUPPORT this application.
WD/2021/0931/F POND COTTAGE, NORTH HALL LANE, FLETCHING (expiry for comments 6th July 2021)
DEMOLITION OF EXISTING GARAGE AND STORE, ERECTION OF NEW GARAGE AND STORE WITH ACCOMMODATION IN THE ROOF VOID. NEW LINK FROM GARAGE TO HOUSE. NEW GARDEN WALL.
Comments AGREED by Fletching Parish Council:
The planning application replaces the previous application to build a large garage and extension above the conservatory. The aesthetic appearance of the new application fits in better with the house than the previous application for a new double garage. The new accommodation above the garage would replace the need for the additional accommodation in the previous planning application for an upstairs extension.

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Fletching Parish Council are concerned about the pitch height of the new garage and accommodation - it is higher in an area very visible from the road. The house is in a conservation area. Fletching Parish Council AGREED to SUPPORT this application.

Cllr Galley left the meeting at 20.13.

2. Comments AGREED by Fletching Parish Council for the following applications and any others that arrive before the meeting:

WD/2021/0965/F LITTLE FERRERS, BATTS BRIDGE ROAD, PILTDOWN, TN22 3XR (expiry for comments: 7 July 2021) TWO STOREY SIDE EXTENSION WITH ATTACHED 2 CAR GARAGE

Comments AGREED by FPC: this application is to join the garage and the house with an extension.

Fletching Parish Council AGREED to SUPPORT this application.

WD/2021/1332/F THE RED COTTAGE, NEWICK HILL, FLETCHING COMMON, NEWICK, BN8 4QS (expiry date for comments: 7 July 2021) SINGLE STOREY TIMBER ORANGERY TO REPLACE EXISTING EXTENSION

Fletching Parish Council AGREED to SUPPORT this application.

289. PLANNING DECISIONS

To RECEIVE planning decisions from Wealden District Council

i. **WD/2021/7002/ADP** EXTENSION TO EXISTING AGRICULTURAL TRACK LAND AT RUSTON BROOK, FLETCHING TN22 3SH - WDC decided on 28 April 21 **PRIOR APPROVAL REQUIRED**.

ii. **WD/2021/0811/F WILLOW COTTAGE, 1 CHURCH FARM BUNGALOWS, CHURCH STREET, FLETCHING, TN22 3SG** - **APPROVED** by WDC on 9 June 2021. REPLACEMENT CONSERVATORY WITH SINGLE STOREY FLAT ROOF EXTENSION TO INCLUDE LINK TO EXISTING GARAGE. ALTERATIONS TO PART OF EXISTING GARAGE TO FORM HABITABLE SPACE. REMOVAL OF CHIMNEY STACK, INSERTION OF 2 ROOFLIGHTS AND A NEW DORMER TO REPLACE EXISTING ROOFLIGHTS.

iii. **WD/2021/0674/F RUSTON BROOK, DALEHAM LANE, FLETCHING, TN22 3XY** - **APPROVED** by WDC on 4 May 2021. PROPOSED FRONT PORCH. Response to Parish Council: The Parish Council comments are noted. The velux windows are not part of this application as they are permitted development.

iv. **WD/2021/0279/F THE GRANARY, MILL LANE, FLETCHING, TN22 3SR** - **APPROVED** by WDC on 15th June 2021. CONVERSION OF DETACHED GARAGE TO CREATE ANNEXE AND CONSTRUCTION OF LINK TO MAIN HOUSE CONTAINING UTILITY ROOM. CONSTRUCTION OF 10M X 5M SWIMMING POOL IN BACK GARDEN.

v. **WD/2021/1112/PDAA DENNIKER FARMHOUSE, RUSTON BRIDGE ROAD, FLETCHING, TN22 3SH** - WDC decided **PRIOR APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED**. PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF FIRST FLOOR ABOVE PRINCIPAL PART OF EXISTING DWELLING. THE MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF THE ADDITIONAL STOREY IS 3M RESULTING IN TOTAL OVERALL HEIGHT OF 9.3M.

vi. **WD/2020/2425/F FAIRHAZEL FARM, FAIRHAZEL ROAD, PILTDOWN, TN22 3YE** - **APPROVED** by WDC on 12 May 2021. DEMOLITION OF EXISTING WORKSHOP, STORE AND OTHER OUTBUILDINGS. NEW WORKSHOP, STORE AND ANNEX Response to Parish Council: The position of the proposed building was wholly within the 15m buffer zone of the adjacent Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, and therefore unacceptable in line with Forestry Commission and Natural England guidance, as well as BS 5837:2012. Negotiations have resulted in a smaller building repositioned to be closer to the existing dwelling and outside the 15m buffer zone and the root protection areas of the preserved trees on the west boundary of the application site. A planning condition will be attached to any consent to ensure that it remains as an ancillary building to Fairhazel Farm.

vii. **WD/2021/0410/F 14 CHERRY COTTAGES, FLETCHING, TN22 3SY** - **APPROVED** by WDC on 12 May 2021. PROPOSED TWO STOREY SIDE EXTENSION AND NEW BAY WINDOW ON FRONT ELEVATION. Response to Parish Council: The Parish Council's comments are noted. Whilst the size of the extension is fairly large, it is considered to be proportionate to the main dwelling, whilst the position of the application site is such that it can be accommodated with minimal impact on neighbouring properties in terms of overshadowing, overlooking or overbearing effect. The Case Officer personally put up two site notices at this property on 14/04/21, one on the front gate and one on the fence to the side of the property. It may have been that the Parish Council's meeting took place prior to the Case Officer's site visit.

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viii. **WD/2020/0570/FR SHEFFIELD PARK FARM, SHEFFIELD PARK, UCKFIELD TN22 3QR** - APPROVED by WDC on 17 May 2021. RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION FOR INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ALTERATIONS TO BUILDING WITH PREVIOUSLY APPROVED USE AS ANCILLARY ACCOMMODATION AND PROPOSED CHANGE OF USE TO HOLIDAY LET. Noted; agreed that the buildings should remain within the curtilage of the farmhouse.

ix. **WD/2021/0766/F EAST PARK FARM, HIGH STREET, FLETCHING, TN22 3SS** - APPROVED by WDC 18 May 21. DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BARN AND REPLACEMENT WITH NEW CATTLE BARN. EAST PARK FARM, HIGH STREET, FLETCHING, TN22 3SS.

290. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

Updates RECEIVED on the following enquiries made to Planning Enforcement:

i. Mallings Farm: the Council NOTED that Planning Enforcement have provided clarity on this planning situation and have responded directly to the correspondent.

291. PROJECTS

1. LAND REGISTRATION

i. To RECEIVE an update from Cllr Greenish on the progress of the land registration work and discussion with Jonathan Pritchard: no further update received at this point.

ii. To AGREE any actions for the registration of land: none agreed.

2. PARISHES IN BLOOM

i. An update was RECEIVED from Cllr Minch: the judge has visited the Parish and had a tour of the churchyard and garden trail; no decision has yet been received.

3. FINGERPOSTS

i. An update on the work undertaken to the Fingerpost at Splaynes Green was RECEIVED from Cllr Constantinou: part of the rotten fingerpost has broken off and remains inside the brickwork; this is preventing the new post being inserted; the Council AGREED to gain a quote to remove the broken fingerpost and insert the new post; Cllr Constantinou was asked to contact Royal Mail for their confirmation on proceeding with any works.

ii. Cllr Constantinou advised the Council that all fingerposts are equally in need of restoration; the Clerk was asked to circulate the list previously prepared so a Fingerpost could be selected for a match-funding application.

4. PARISH WALKS

i. An update was RECEIVED from Cllr Minch who will send revised walks to the Clerk in advance of the next parish council meeting in September.

5. PUMP HOUSE

i. An update on grant applications was RECEIVED from Cllrs Minch and Shaw: an application has been submitted to the National Lottery; a contractor for the work is to be appointed by the Council from the quotes received and once a response on grant funding has been received.

292. **ITEMS AGREED FOR THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MAGAZINE:** parking working group volunteers; introduction to PCSO Matt Jarvis; the proposed Marks and Spencer's Food Store on the Ashdown Business Park; grant applications.

293. **AGENDA ITEMS AGREED FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL:** Marks and Spencer Planning Application; to receive an update on the badger deterrent work.

294. **THE TIME AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL was RECEIVED:** Monday 6th September 7pm in Fletching Village Hall.

295. **THE MEETING CLOSED at 20.46**