

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

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The minutes of the meeting of Fletching Parish Council held at Fletching Parish Church on **Monday 5th February 2018 at 7pm.**

Item	Description	Responsible
212.	Members present: Cllr P. Roundell (Chairman), Cllr B. Dickens, Cllr M. McGowan, Cllr N. Collum, Cllr S. Sainsbury, Cllr S. Bone Also present: Liz Bennett (Clerk), Cllr Roy Galley (ESCC and WDC), 5 members of the public.	
213.	Apologies for absence. Apologies were accepted from Cllr C. Rothery, Cllr T. Elbrick, Cllr D. Kerwood.	
214.	Declarations of interest. None received.	
215.	Questions from the public. The Council was asked for an update on the possible planning and environmental breaches at Woolpack Farm, that were raised at the last meeting. It was agreed to bring the item forward on the agenda	
216.	Update on Woolpack Farm. The Clerk reported that a man called to say that he heard that defamatory remarks were made about him during the discussion on Woolpack Farm at the last Parish Council meeting. The Clerk referred him to the minutes and has heard nothing more. The Clerk will circulate a note on defamation, just so that Councillors are clear on their position as Councillors which does offer qualified privilege. The Clerk has spoken to the enforcement officer at Wealden District Council who believes there are several buildings at the site which were built without planning consent and that there is some commercial equestrian activity. The Environment Agency has also found contamination at the site. WDC have begun enforcement activity. It was agreed that whilst there is nothing more that the Parish Council can do, the Clerk will ask for updates and will pass these to the member of the public present at the meeting.	Clerk
217.	Report from County and District Councillors. Roy Galley reported that ESCC, WDC and the Police and Crime Commissioner are all implementing tax rises this year which will mean an overall increase of around 5% per household. ESCC will ring fence 3% of its rise to adult social care. East Sussex has an aging population and adult social care takes a significant proportion of its overall budget. They are working with the health service to try and ensure that people are cared for in their own homes where possible. This is usually better	

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	<p>for the patient and a cheaper alternative to care homes.</p> <p>WDC has agreed not to introduce civil parking enforcement and pay and display but will put pressure on the police to carry out their statutory duty by enforcing parking restrictions.</p> <p>Roy Galley was asked why the Ashdown Forest is advertised as a tourist destination attracting thousands of motorists, when strict planning regulations are in place to reduce car journeys by preventing new development. This means that low cost housing cannot be built for young people in the area.</p> <p>Roy Galley and Cllr Roundell replied that it is a complex issue and that the restrictions relating to the Ashdown Forest are legal ones which override planning policies. WDC are still waiting for advice from Natural England before publishing their Local Plan. Depending on the advice, it is possible that there may be some more flexibility for local buildings.</p> <p>This issue is not one that the Parish Council can solve and WDC has its hands tied to some extent by the legislative framework. It is something that could be taken up with the local MP, once Natural England have given their advice.</p>	
218.	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2018.</p> <p>It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on the 8th January 2018 as a true record and they were signed by the Chairman.</p>	
219.	<p>Planning applications.</p> <p>- WD/2017/2934/F Flitteridge Farm, Daleham Lane, Fletching. Remove three buildings and erect two detached dwellings. The Parish Council object to this planning application for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - this is a full planning application and not permitted development and should be refused as new builds in isolated, rural locations are contrary to planning policy. - the proposed development is in an unsustainable location. - the plans show that the access to the farm will be removed, but the application does not address alternative access. - the traffic report appears to show inaccurate historical figures that do not reflect the current level of traffic movements nor the relocation of the dirty water lagoon. - if permission were to be granted then it should be conditional on an environmental impact assessment of the existing dirty water lagoon included in the application curtilage, as well as enforcement of the illegal occupation of caravans and an agricultural occupation. <p>-WD/2017/2875/F Kalmia, Sheffield Park, Uckfield. Extensions and alterations to existing dwelling. The meeting was closed to allow the applicant to describe the proposal. It was resolved to recommend this application for approval.</p> <p>- WD/2017/2881/F Ketches Farm, Ketches Lane, Sheffield Park. Proposed agricultural general-purpose building. It was resolved to recommend this application for approval.</p> <p>- WD/2017/2955/F Wilmshurst, Fletching, Uckfield. Proposed single storey barn extension, replacement garage, new driveway and courtyard. It was resolved to recommend this application for approval.</p>	
220.	<p>Planning decisions.</p> <p>The following decisions were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WD/2017/2368/F Conversion of stable building to ancillary residential accommodation and relocation of driveway to incorporate extension to residential curtilage. Taylors Barn, Shortbridge Road, Piltdown. Approved. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WD/2017/2713/LDE Stationing of a mobile home for residential occupation/use, use of associated land as domestic garden. Little Moses, Goldbridge Road, Piltown. Lawful development certificate issued. - WD/2017/1815/LB and WD/2017/1814/F Replacement of existing porch on street front with new, removal of porch on south front and replacement with window. Remodeling of the east and south elevations of the single storey service wing to include new steps and porch. Removal of modern partitions on ground floor and restoration of southern chimney breast and fireplaces. Alterations to bathrooms at first floor level. Remove bathroom at second floor level and form new bathroom in another room. Clinton Lodge, High Street, Fletching. Approved. - WD/2017/1556/F Proposed surrender of lawful recreational use of land, demolition of buildings, removal of mobile home and construction of a single storey 2 bed dwelling house. Land at Copwood Pool, Rocks Road, Uckfield. Approved. 	
221.	Administration. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Payments and note bank reconciliation. The Clerk distributed the financial report showing the payments for approval, receipts in January and the bank reconciliation. It was resolved to approve the payments and the report was signed by the Chairman and is attached to these minutes. - Memorial applications. It was resolved that an exception to the burial ground regulations will be made so that a memorial stone 43 inches in height can be installed for the Hayllars. 	
222.	Street cleaning. WDC will be asked to carry out the street clean on the morning of 23 rd March, after 9:30am. This will cover the High Street from Atheralls Farm to the recreation ground and along Mill Lane as far as the first house on the right. Notices and letters will ask that residents remove their cars. There is no need for a road closure.	Clerk
223.	Footpath volunteers. The Parish Council has been asked if it could create a group of volunteers to help maintain the local footpaths. ESCC, who are responsible for footpath maintenance run a scheme to support volunteer groups. The Clerk was asked to pass on this information to the enquirer.	
224.	Repairs required to pump house and bus shelter. A small repair is needed to replace some missing oak at the pump house. Cllr Sainsbury agreed to speak to someone who may be able to help in return for a small advertising notice. The bus shelter roof and bench also need repair. The Clerk will report it to ESCC.	S. Sainsbury Clerk
225.	Appointment of internal auditor. It was resolved to appoint Peter Frost as the internal auditor again this year. The scope of his work was agreed.	
226.	Fletching Recreation Ground project. Cllr McGowan reported that meetings are planned with community groups to agree appropriate representation at the Visioning Meeting with Action in Rural Sussex.	
227.	Monthly taxi service from Fletching to Uckfield. It was agreed that no changes will be made to this service.	
228.	General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) from May 2018. The Clerk circulated a note on the likely implications of the new regulations. NALC will be issuing a "toolkit" once they have received full advice from the ICO. It is clear that data should not be held any longer than it is needed. The Clerk will	Clerk

[illegible]