

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lorna Thwaites

E-mail: clerk@fletching-pc.org

Website www.fletching-pc.org



The minutes of the meeting of Fletching Parish Council held at **Fletching Village Hall** on **Monday 07 October 2019 at 7.30pm**. *The clerk reported the meeting would be recorded*

PUBLIC SESSION - Questions and comments received from the public:

- The work of East Sussex County Council (ESCC) at Daleham Lane was praised along with the determination of the Parish Council to get this work undertaken. The Council **NOTED** the comment that signs are not always removed by ESCC after they have been put up and the request to the Parish Council to remind ESCC Highways of this.
- The matter of traffic speeding on the High Street was raised and the Council was requested to ask ESCC to lower the speed to 20mph on the High Street. The Council advised this was a matter for East Sussex Highways but **NOTED** the request to raise this issue with them.
- Concerns were raised regarding speeding traffic at Splaynes Green (believed to be a result of the speed de-restriction sign). The Council were requested to send a letter to ESCC. The Council **NOTED** this request.
- The Chair highlighted the Speedwatch campaign run by volunteers in the Parish. A member of public stated that the Speedwatch team needed volunteers for an hour a month and were currently short of volunteers. Interested people should contact Maggie Kay/Tricia Blewitt.

Item	Description	Responsible
108.	Members Present: Cllr Rothery (Chairman), Cllr Collum, Cllr Minch, Cllr Shaw (arrived 19.48), Cllr Hannay, Cllr Borton, Cllr Greenish, Cllr Kerwood. Also present: District Cllr Galley, Lorna Thwaites (Clerk and RFO) and 28 members of the public. Apologies for absence: Were accepted from Cllr Sainsbury.	Chairman
109.	Declarations of interest in respect of matters to be discussed: Cllr Hannay declared he is a school governor for Fletching Primary School.	Full Council
110.	Report from the District Councillor: <i>East Sussex County Council (ESCC)</i> The Government's 1-year comprehensive spending announcement indicates that no further cuts in services will be required for the next year, although full details haven't yet been received. This was a 1-year review and next year further savings shouldn't have to be achieved. The subsidy for meals on wheels is likely to be reduced to target those in greatest need. Cllr Galley spoke on the matter of the proposed closure of Fletching Primary School and advised that in his conversations he has detected a slight willingness of the lead member and officers to be more flexible if numbers at the school are increased. However, no commitment has been made. Cllr Galley has written to Karl Taylor to congratulate him on the excellent piece of work ESCC Highways have done on Daleham Lane. Splaynes Green is the next objective to achieve. Cllr Galley raised the issue of the speed of traffic, which is an issue everywhere. He advised that ESCC officers measure the average speed over a week which often doesn't lead to a case for speed reduction. Latest evidence suggests 20mph limits don't really work however there is a programme to role-out near to schools. Digital signs seem to be a good initiative - Parish Councils pay a contribution towards their installation which needs to be moved periodically. <i>Wealden District Council (WDC)</i> The new waste contract with Biffa is working more smoothly than with the previous contractor. There has been a slight issue over the supply of brown garden bins. Cllr Galley discussed Planning Permission for barns. New regulations came into force a couple of years ago whereby converting agriculture buildings into residential developments was considered	District Cllr Galley

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lorna Thwaites

E-mail: clerk@fletching-pc.org

Website www.fletching-pc.org



Item	Description	Responsible
	Permitted Development. However, this is more likely to be granted if the building is a substantial, permanent structure but temporary, less substantial structures are less likely to qualify.	
111.	<p>Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 04th September 2019. The council RESOLVED to accept the minutes as an accurate record and they were signed by the Chairman.</p>	Chairman
112.	<p>Proposed closure of Fletching Church of England Primary School: <i>Cllr Shaw arrived during this agenda item at 19.48</i></p> <p>i) The Chair stated how impressed he was with the work the School Governors and the 'Save Fletching School' group had undertaken and the resulting funds that had been raised. The Council RECEIVED and NOTED the update that had been sent by Cllr Hannay. Cllr Hannay brought to the attention of the Council that the greatest problem currently facing the school is the lack of children, which impacts the budget. Two major pieces of work have been undertaken to generate a greater awareness of the school and to increase applications to the school. Cllr Hannay expressed a view that ESCC has not sufficiently considered the house building developments in the local area and the lack of spaces that will exist in schools in the area over the next 3 years. There are currently 72 children on roll at Fletching Primary School in Oct 2019. The school is currently in deficit by £7k but this has now been met by the school PTA through their routine fund raising. The projected deficit for the next financial year is just over £50k and fund raising has resulted in £40k being raised to-date. There is currently a short fall of £10k for financial year 2020/2021. The projected number of children on role in Oct 2020 is 78 and a net deficit of £30k forecast for financial year 2021/2022. The school's Governing body have set a target of achieving financial self-sufficiency over the next 3 years. The Chair agreed to take questions and comments from the public and sentiments of commitment and passion for keeping Fletching Primary School open was NOTED by the Council.</p> <p>ii) The Council RESOLVED by unanimous vote to commit up to £10k in Grant awards to the school for forthcoming applications for learning materials and capital projects (but not running costs/charges) for financial year 2020/2021. The Council RESOLVED to write a response to East Sussex County Council to support keeping the Fletching Primary School open. <i>Cllr Hannay did not vote due to his declared interest but remained in the room while the vote was taken.</i></p>	<p>Cllr Hannay</p> <p>Full Council</p> <p>Full Council</p>
113.	<p>Finance/Administration:</p> <p>1. Finance</p> <p>i) Payments for October were AUTHORISED and the bank reconciliation NOTED.</p> <p>ii) The quarterly Budget update was RECEIVED and it was NOTED that 48% of payments and 51% of receipts had been realised to-date.</p> <p>iii) The Notice of Conclusion of Audit was RECEIVED and the Council NOTED that the External Auditor found Sections 1 & 2 to be completed in accordance with Proper Practices.</p> <p>iv) The Council RESOLVED to accept the increase in charges for financial year 2020/21 submitted by Simon Goacher (Payroll Services).</p> <p>v) The Council RESOLVED to order a poppy wreath for Remembrance Sunday from Peter Negus with a contribution of £50 to be made towards the Poppy Appeal.</p>	<p>Chairman</p> <p>Full Council</p> <p>Full Council</p> <p>Full Council</p> <p>Full Council</p> <p>Full Council</p>

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lorna Thwaites

E-mail: clerk@fletching-pc.org

Website www.fletching-pc.org



Item	Description	Responsible
	vi) The Clerk updated the Council that their Financial Regulations were already in accordance with the NALC model regulations and no changes were required.	
	2. Burial Ground	Full Council
	i) The Council RESOLVED to adopt the Form of Indemnity BG8 proposed by the Clerk.	Full Council
	ii) Permits to add an additional inscription to two headstones were AGREED by the Council.	Cllr Greenish
	iii) The Council RECEIVED an update on the Land Registration of the Burial Ground from Cllr Greenish. There are currently some areas of the Burial Ground which are not registered to the Parish Council. The Council AGREED that Cllr Greenish would review current papers held by the Parish Council and make recommendations at the next Parish Council meeting.	Cllr Greenish
	iv) The Council RESOLVED that there is no un-consecrated land available for the purchase of graves. Documentation held by the Council confirms the final area of the Burial Ground was consecrated in 2001. If further land was acquired by the Parish Council for the Burial Ground, the Council could consider leaving an area of the land un-consecrated.	Full Council
	v) A report on the Grass Cutting specification with Tim Jordan was RECEIVED by the Council. Cllr Hannay has reviewed the specification that Tim Jordan is currently contracted to. Tim Jordan has been asked to provide quotes for some additional pieces of work and to provide an itemised price for one element of the current specification. These costs will be considered by the Council at the next meeting.	Cllr Hannay
	vi) An update on the meeting with Brook Hart regarding Yew tree and hedge work in the Burial ground was RECEIVED by the Council. Cllr Hannay explained the additional items he had asked Brook Hart to quote on and the Council considered the estimate. The Council RESOLVED to ask Brooke Hart to undertake items 1 and 2 of the quote received.	Full Council
	<i>Cllr Galley left the meeting 20.58</i>	Cllr Hannay/ Cllr Collum
	vii) The Council RECEIVED quotes on mole removal from the Clerk and RESOLVED that no contractor would currently be appointed due to the likelihood of the moles returning. The Council AGREED to re-consider at a later stage.	Full Council
	viii) Cllr Hannay provided an update his discussion with the PCC regarding the Commonwealth War Graves - the PCC has completed the application and designated the sign to be sited on the Church noticeboard on the East of the Lych-gate.	Cllr Hannay
	3. Grants	Full Council
	i) Three applications for small grants with Fletching Parish Council were RECEIVED .	
	Royal British Legion. The Council RESOLVED to support this application and a grant of £250 was awarded. This is to contribute towards the purchase of a new Banner pole and to produce an updated booklet.	Full Council
	<i>Cllr Hannay declared an interest in this item and didn't vote.</i>	
	Fletching Primary School - After School Forest School Bursary. The Council RESOLVED to support this application and a grant of £496.95 was awarded. This is to cover the cost of two students attending the after-school Forest School club for two terms and to purchase two items of equipment (a Kelly Kettle Kit and a 5m x 5m shelter).	Full Council
	<i>Cllr Hannay declared an interest in this item and didn't vote but remained in the room while the vote was taken.</i>	
	Fletching Primary School - A grant request for £1440 was received for a bursary to run Forest School lessons during the school day for two terms. The Council felt they needed further information to reach a decision on this application. The Clerk was asked to clarify which terms the	Clerk

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lorna Thwaites

E-mail: clerk@fletching-pc.org

Website www.fletching-pc.org



Item	Description	Responsible
	school sessions would run. The Council AGREED to review this application at the next Parish Council meeting, once further information had been received.	
114.	<p>Planning applications: To note comments made by delegation to the following applications: <u>WD/2018/0818/F</u> (expiry date for comments: 26 September 2019) BARKHAM FARM, GOLDBRIDGE ROAD, PILTDOWN, TN22 3XL DEMOLITION OF EXISTING CANADIAN STEEL BARN AND CONSTRUCTION OF REPLACEMENT DWELLING, ACCESS, PARKING AND RESIDENTIAL CURTILAGE (SUBSEQUENT TO PRIOR NOTIFICATION CONSENTS WD/2016/1028/P04 AND WD/2018/2701/P04 FOR CHANGE OF USE OF AGRICULTURAL BUILDING TO CLASS C3 DWELLING) Plans received 23rd July in-regards to a Non-Material Amendment application (revised window arrangements) <i>Comments from FPC:</i> The Council have no comments regarding these revised window arrangements</p> <p><u>WD/2019/1831/PO</u> (Planning Obligation) (Expiry date for comments: 3 October 2019) FLITTERIDGE FARM, SPLAYNES GREEN, FLETCHING TN22 3TQ DISCHARGE OF SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS DATED 26 FEBRUARY 2002 AND 5 SEPTEMBER 2018 ATTACHED TO WD/1999/1317/F (EXTENSION TO FARM DWELLING TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL BEDROOMS AND FARM OFFICE AND CHANGE OF USE FROM AGRICULTURAL TO EXTENDED RESIDENTIAL CURTILAGE) AND WD/2018/1352/PO (MODIFICATION OF SECTION 106 AGREEMENT DATED 26 FEBRUARY 2002 ATTACHED TO WD/1999/1317/JF). <i>Comments from FPC:</i> In 2002 the occupation was limited to an agricultural or farm worker and subject to the 106 agreement not to sever the farm dwelling from the farm. Permission has been granted to build 2 cottages in the farmyard. Obviously, they need to lift the 106 agreement for the farmyard. However, we do not find the supporting statement is adequate justification for lifting it on the house.</p> <p>To consider the following applications and any others that arrive before the meeting: <u>WD/2019/2000/FR</u> (Expiry date for comments: 16 October 2019) 3 TRICKLANDS COTTAGES, SHEFFIELD PARK, TN22 3QN PART RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION FOR A PROPOSED TWOSTOREY SIDE EXTENSION AND ORANGERY <i>Comments from FPC:</i> Alteration to an earlier planning application. The Council RESOLVED to SUPPORT this application</p> <p><u>WD/2019/1226/F</u> (expiry date for comments: 15 October 2019) MAPLE PARK LODGE, GOLF CLUB LANE, PILTDOWN, UCKFIELD, TN22 3XB REMOVE EXISTING ROOF, REPLACE WITH SINGLE SPAN ROOF INCLUDING DORMER WINDOWS. <i>Comments from FPC:</i> The North side is overlooked closely by another house. The Council RESOLVED to SUPPORT the application subject to no bedroom windows being included on the North side</p> <p><u>WD/2019/1955/F</u> (Expiry date for comments: 16 October 2019) HIGHFIELD, DOWN STREET, PILTDOWN, TN22 3XX MOBILE TIMBER DWELLING TO PROVIDE LIVE/WORK UNIT <i>Comments from FPC:</i> The Council AGREED that they needed to establish if the area is in the High Weald AONB and therefore decided to delegate to cllrs with planning responsibility.</p>	<p>Cllrs with delegated Planning responsibility</p> <p>Cllrs with delegated Planning responsibility</p> <p>Full Council</p>

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lorna Thwaites

E-mail: clerk@fletching-pc.org

Website www.fletching-pc.org



Item	Description	Responsible
115.	<p>To receive the following planning decisions from Wealden District Council (WDC)</p> <p>1 CHESTNUT COTTAGES, CHURCH STREET, FLETCHING, TN22 3SN</p> <p>TWO STOREY EXTENSION TO SIDE AND REPLACEMENT TIMBER GARAGE AND CARPORT</p> <p>WDC APPROVED the above application on 20 September 2019.</p> <p>Comments from WDC: The Parish comments are noted. The scale of the garage would present a dominant form in the street-scene which will have an adverse impact on the street-scene, particularly with the cumulative impact of the two-storey extension to the side of the dwelling. Officer concerns relate to the overall scale, form and design and the impact the scheme will have on the street-scene as well as the Conservation Area, and Grade II listed building which is adjacent to the site. A revised scheme is sought.</p> <p>WD/2019/1209/F & 1210/LB</p> <p>THE FORGE, SHORTBRIDGE ROAD, PILTDOWN, TN22 3XA</p> <p>DEMOLITION OF CEILING AND FORMATION OF WARM ROOF OVER LOUNGE WITH ASSOCIATED REPAIRS TO EXISTING TIMBER FRAME.</p> <p>WDC APPROVED the above application on 4 October 2019.</p>	WDC
116.	<p>SLR meeting with East Sussex Highways</p> <p>i) Update from the SLR meeting of 4th Sept 2019 - the Clerk advised she had received the minutes from Cllr Sainsbury and would circulate to the Council.</p> <p>ii) The Clerk reported to the Council that a grit bin for Splaynes Green had been ordered and a location provided by Cllr Sainsbury.</p>	Clerk Clerk
117.	<p>Correspondence Received:</p> <p>i) The Council AGREED that they didn't have any strategic or un-resolved topics at this present time to send for the Sussex bi-annual meeting with Giles York, Chief Constable of Sussex Police.</p> <p>ii) The Clerk notified the Council that the Parish of Fletching had won a Bronze Award for its participation of the Parish of Fletching in Parishes in Bloom.</p>	Full Council Clerk
118.	<p>To discuss reports of deer shooting within the Parish, any action taken and agree anything that the council could/should do.</p> <p>Cllr Rothery provided an update on the current situation which has been reported to the Police. The Council AGREED this was a matter for the Police and not the Parish Council. A new metal gate had been put up on the footpath. A concern was expressed by a member of the Public that the footpath might be blocked. Cllrs who have already visited the footpath didn't find it blocked but AGREED to revisit the path if it was reported as blocked.</p>	Full Council
119.	<p>To receive updates on the following items:</p> <p>i) Pump House restoration project - 3 builders have visited the Pump House and requested a schedule of works before they are able to quote. The Council AGREED to move this discussion to the next meeting of the Parish Council.</p> <p>ii) An update on the recent renovation of two Fingerposts was RECEIVED by the Council - Cllr Kerwood and Mr Constantinou met with JAKK and discussed concerns over the work undertaken. These have now been satisfactorily remedied and checked by the Council. The Clerk advised the invoice had now been paid.</p> <p>iv) Splaynes Green Phone Box restoration - Cllr Rothery advised the Council that this is an ongoing project and a further update would be received at the next meeting.</p> <p>v) Recreation Ground - members of the Parish Council Recreation Ground Working Group met with Maresfield Parish Council to understand how the recreation ground is operated in Maresfield. It was NOTED that administrative provisions can be altered without going through the</p>	Cllr Minch Cllrs Rothery Cllr Rothery

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lorna Thwaites

E-mail: clerk@fletching-pc.org

Website www.fletching-pc.org



Item	Description	Responsible
	Charities Commission and the grounds could continue to be run as a charity. The Parish Council could become the Sole Trustee rather than the Custodian Trustee. The Council AGREED to carry forward this item to the next agenda. v) Village Gateways under consideration by the PRA - an estimate of £2610 has been provided for gateways which are to be funded by the Piltdown Residents Association. Cllr Borton advised that the Parish Council needs to apply for a license from ESCC (Michael Higgs) and the Clerk was asked to investigate this further.	Cllr Rothery/Cllr Greenish Cllr Borton Clerk
120.	Content for the next Parish Magazine: Confirmation of the Council support to keep the Fletching Primary School open; Parishes in Bloom; Request for volunteers to check the state of footpaths.	Full Council
121.	Staffing Matters: i) The variation of contract was signed by the Chairman and Clerk. ii) The dates of pay implementation was AGREED in accordance with the Clerk's contract and the Chair signed letters to this effect.	Clerk/Chair Full Council Chairman
122.	Attendance at training/events - Parish Conference Hailsham Civic Community Hall - 6 November 2019 - Cllr Sainsbury	Full Council
123.	Items for the next parish council meeting: To discuss strategic aims & first cut budget 2020/21; To RESOLVE to renovate the Splaynes Green Fingerpost	Full Council
124.	Close of meeting at 21.53	
125.	Date of Next Meeting: Monday 4 th November 2019 - 7.30pm, Fletching Village Hall	Full Council