

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the meeting of Fletching Parish Council held at Fletching Village Hall on Monday 9th January 2017 at 7pm.

Item	Description	Responsible
42223	Members present: Cllr P. Roundell (Chairman), Cllr B. Dickens, Cllr I. Setford, Cllr C. Rothery, Cllr S. Sainsbury, Cllr Lady Collum, Cllr S. Bone. Also present: Liz Bennett (Clerk), 1 member of the public, Faith Lee and Theo Parfitt from First Responders.	
42224	Apologies for absence. Apologies were accepted from Cllr D. Kerwood and Cllr T. Elbrick.	
42225	Declarations of interest. No declarations were made.	
42226	Questions from the public. The Council was asked what action it is taking regarding the slippery footpath at the recreation ground. Someone recently fell there. The Council is not responsible for the footpath at the recreation ground but has raised it with the recreation ground committee. It will raise the matter with them again. The Council was asked whether there was any progress regarding the sale of the Rose and Crown in Fletching. The Council has not received any more information since the last meeting. Presentation from First Responders. This item was delayed due to Theo Parfitt being stuck in traffic.	
42227	Reports of District and County Councillors. Roy Galley sent his apologies to the meeting. The Chairman provided an update on County and District matters including the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Highways have started to send out a newsletter. This initiative was welcomed.- Wealden DC are promoting smart meters and have a presentation in Isfield Village Hall on 17th January from 5pm-9pm- 137 new council houses are to be built around the district by 2020.- The Local Plan should be out for consultation in February or March.- Wealden are increasing their share of Council tax by an average of £5 per household per annum.- There will be a reduction in central government funding 2next year of £800k, this is on top of the reduction this year of £1.3m.- A spring clean is planned for 3rd March.	Cllr Roundell

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42228	<p>Presentation from First Responders. The meeting was closed to enable the representatives from First Responders to speak. They provided an overview of their role:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Volunteers work a minimum of 4-5 hours a week, but usually more. This includes the time when they are on-call, but also time attending events and fund raising. - Volunteers are initially trained in basic life support including cardiac arrest and choking. They go on to be trained in other procedures, but they would not attend situations involving car accidents, drugs, alcohol, violence, trauma or maternity. - The uniform and kit bag for each responder costs £1500 to £1800. This is usually raised from grants or fundraising. - In a rural area, volunteers respond to situations within a 5 mile radius of their house. They are provided with a phone and the ambulance computer system can detect the nearest on-call responders. The responder would have direct communication with the ambulance that is also travelling to the scene. - First Responder teams currently exist in Uckfield and Heathfield. Team members live in nearby areas including Newick, Fairwarp and Isfield. - Any volunteers recruited locally could be attached to an existing team with a new team being established if 5 or 6 people could be recruited. <p>It was agreed that the Parish Council will first gauge interest locally by putting something in the parish magazine. Cllr Bone will attend an introductory training session later this month and is happy to be the point of contact for any potential volunteers. The First Responders were thanked for their time. Meeting re-opened.</p>	Cllr Bone
42229	<p>Minutes of the meetings held on Monday 5th December 2016.</p> <p>It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.</p>	
42230	<p>To consider any planning applications received prior to the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WD/2016/2947/F 2 Vigoes Cottages, Sheffield Green, Sheffield Park. Single storey rear extension. - WD/2017/0014/F and WD/2016/3023/LB Black Ven Farm, Down Street, Nutley. Replacement/repairs to failing agricultural storage barn (hovel) and use as part farm office, part farm storage and part farm worker welfare. - WD/2016/2916/LB 1 Robins Cross, High Street, Fletching. Proposed installation of gas central heating. <p>It was agreed that there was insufficient time to visit the above sites and so they will be considered at the Parish Council meeting for planning on 26th January at 8pm in Fletching Village Hall.</p>	
42231	<p>Planning decisions:</p> <p>The following decisions were noted:</p> <p>Application No. WD/2016/2171/F Erection of single storey side extension comprising new kitchen and living Room with master bedroom and ensuite in roof space over. Includes Demolition of redundant outbuildings/stores and the replacement timber Garage of two substandard garage buildings. Star Cottage, Down Street, Piltdown. Approved.</p> <p>Application No. WD/2016/2406/F</p>	

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	<p>Construction of a new double garage/outbuilding with office within the roof Space, sited adjacent to but separate from the existing dwelling. Along with new entrance wall and gates. Moses Farm Cottage, Goldbridge Road, Piltdown. Approved.</p> <p>Application No. WD/2016/2693/F Proposed provision of a new prefabricated reception/office building, with Associated access ramp/steps, and the provision of a new prefabricated staff mess room, with associated access steps and deck (amendment to WD/2016/1812/F comprising repositioning of the proposed reception/office building). Acorn Garage, Bell Lane, Splaynes Green, Fletching. Approved.</p> <p>WD/2016/0697/MAO Use of the land known as 'the slips' for car parking. Sheffield Park Garden, Sheffield Park. Application withdrawn.</p>	
42232	<p>Budget and precept for 2017/2018. The Parish Council general reserves have fallen below the level recommended by the National Association of Local Councils. The Clerk had circulated a paper showing the impact on the average household and reserves of various precept increases. The Council needs to take account of the fact that there is increasing pressure for parish councils to fund services previously provided at District or County level and also that the government may introduce precept capping to parish councils. After some discussion it was resolved to increase the precept to £28999. This will increase the cost per average household from £47.16 per annum to £51.88 per annum and will enable the reserves to stay within the NALC guidelines. Councillors asked for the vote to be recorded. Cllr Dickens opposed the increase believing it to be too high, Cllr Bone opposed the increase believing it to be too low and Cllr Lady Collum abstained.</p>	
42233	<p>Management and future management of the recreation ground. There is nothing to report since the last meeting and so the item will be carried forward to the next meeting.</p>	
42234	<p>Options for parking in Fletching. East Sussex Highways suggested placing signs at the perimeter of the village informing people that there is free parking in the centre of the village, to encourage people to use the car park rather than the street. Cllr Sainsbury reported that the signs cost £400 each. It was agreed that the cost of the signs cannot be justified and that they are unlikely to have much effect.</p>	
42235	<p>Fingerpost refurbishment and replacement. The Clerk was asked to apply for match funding for the replacement of the fingerpost that was removed from the corner by Fletching church and also the refurbishment of the fingerpost in Piltdown.</p>	Clerk
42236	<p>Update on Community Speed Watch. Cllr Setford has handed over responsibility for Community Speed Watch to Cllr Sainsbury. She will provide an update at the next meeting.</p>	Cllr Sainsbury
42237	<p>Update on the speed limit reductions on Shortbridge Lane and Golf Club Lane. The match funding application for this initiative has been submitted to Highways today.</p>	

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42238	Options for upgrading the website. It was agreed that the website should be developed with Hugo Fox who provide free websites to community groups. The Clerk will proceed with this as soon as possible.	Clerk																																								
42239	Reports from meetings and training attended. Cllr Roundell and Cllr Bone attended an event organised by Action in Rural Sussex. Cllr Sainsbury, Cllr Dickens and the Clerk attended the SLR meeting with Highways. The report log has been updated and many of the issues have now been dealt with. Councillors discussed the signs placed by the junction by Trading Boundaries. Some people find them difficult to see over. Councillors agreed to drive past and have a look and report back at the next meeting. Cllr Dickens provided a brief report from his attendance at the Wealden Parish Conference	All.																																								
42240	Administration, to authorise payments and note bank reconciliation. The bank reconciliation was noted and it was resolved to make the following payments: <table><tr><td>S. Young</td><td>Yew trees in burial ground</td><td>Cheque 217</td><td>2350.00</td></tr><tr><td>Wealden DC</td><td>Parish Conference</td><td>BACS</td><td>60.00</td></tr><tr><td>Mid Sussex websites</td><td>Updates</td><td>BACS</td><td>25.00</td></tr><tr><td>Nice n Tidy</td><td>Grass cutting and street clean</td><td>Cheque 218</td><td>930.00</td></tr><tr><td>Wealden DC</td><td>Dog Bins</td><td>BACS</td><td>216.00</td></tr><tr><td>NJR Kay</td><td>Festival reimbursement</td><td>BACS Festival acct.</td><td>50.00</td></tr><tr><td>Monica Borton</td><td>Festival – cheque written in August, but not authorised at time</td><td>Festival acct. Cheque 05</td><td>260.00</td></tr><tr><td>Elizabeth Bennett</td><td>Salary</td><td>BACS</td><td>473.49</td></tr><tr><td>ES Pension Fund</td><td>Clerk pension</td><td>BACS</td><td>166.55</td></tr><tr><td>Elizabeth Bennett</td><td>Expenses</td><td>BACS</td><td>13.38</td></tr></table>	S. Young	Yew trees in burial ground	Cheque 217	2350.00	Wealden DC	Parish Conference	BACS	60.00	Mid Sussex websites	Updates	BACS	25.00	Nice n Tidy	Grass cutting and street clean	Cheque 218	930.00	Wealden DC	Dog Bins	BACS	216.00	NJR Kay	Festival reimbursement	BACS Festival acct.	50.00	Monica Borton	Festival – cheque written in August, but not authorised at time	Festival acct. Cheque 05	260.00	Elizabeth Bennett	Salary	BACS	473.49	ES Pension Fund	Clerk pension	BACS	166.55	Elizabeth Bennett	Expenses	BACS	13.38	
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42241	Information for noting or including on a future agenda. The Clerk was asked to cancel the Mole Man from visiting the burial ground. Cllr. Rothery reported that he is holding a community resilience meeting this week and will provide an update at the next meeting. The Clerk was asked to add the work being carried out at the Golf Course to the next agenda. The Clerk was asked to include the precept rise in the parish magazine. Cllr Bone will write something about First Responders.	Clerk Cllr Rothery Clerk Clerk Cllr Bone																																								
42242	Close of meeting																																									
42243	Date of next meeting Thursday 26 th January 2017 at 8pm in Fletching Village Hall to discuss planning applications. Monday 6 th February 2017 at 7pm Fletching Village Hall.																																									