

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

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The minutes of the meeting of Fletching Parish Council held at Fletching Parish Church on **Monday 8th January 2017 at 7pm.**

Item	Description	Action
191.	Members present: Cllr P. Roundell (Chairman), Cllr B. Dickens, Cllr D. Kerwood, Cllr N. Collum, Cllr S. Bone, Cllr T. Elbrick Also present: Liz Bennett (Clerk), Cllr Roy Galley (ESCC and WDC), 3 members of the public.	
192.	Apologies for absence. Apologies were accepted from Cllr M. McGowan, Cllr C. Rothery and Cllr S. Sainsbury.	
193.	Declarations of interest. None received.	
194.	Questions from the public. The Parish Council was asked to help with the possible environmental and planning breaches at Woolpack Farm, including new livery and waste pipes which flow onto neighbouring land. The Parish Council is aware of the situation and has asked Wealden DC Enforcement Officer to look into it. An email from the Enforcement Officer was read out. The Chairman agreed to try and give further assistance to get the situation resolved. The Parish Council was also asked to reconsider the decision not to remove the Chestnut Tree outside the village hall. The leaves are very slippery and if someone were to fall then the PC could be liable. The Chairman reported that the decision to raise the canopy rather than remove the tree cannot be revisited for 6 months.	P. Roundell
195.	Report from County and District Councillors. Roy Galley reported that after pressure from the Parish Council, ESCC will be replacing the barrier at Daleham Lane in the next financial year. There was a discussion regarding parking enforcement. The police do not enforce parking restrictions because they do not consider it a priority. In most of the country civil parking enforcement is in place which is run by local authorities. Wealden DC are considering introducing civil parking enforcement, but it must be self-financing and cannot be paid for from Council tax. This would mean introducing pay and display in the streets in the towns, although car parks are likely to remain free. The income from pay and display would pay for enforcement across the district. The PC generally felt that enforcement is not necessary and wish to ensure that public car parks in the towns remain free to support retail businesses.	

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	Cllr Galley was asked why Wealden DC has bought the shopping centre at Hailsham. He explained that central government is reducing local authority support grants and so WDC must find alternative income streams. The shopping centre will provide an income to the district and it was bought using a fixed low-cost loan. WDC have a policy of only investing in the district to support the local economy.	
196.	Minutes of the meetings held on 4th December 2017. It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 4 th December 2017 as a true record and they were signed by the Chairman.	P. Roundell
197.	Planning applications. The following application was noted: WD/2017/2713/LDE Little Moses, Goldbridge Road, Piltdown. Stationing of a mobile home for residential occupation/use. Use of associated land as a domestic garden.	
198.	Planning decisions: The following decision was noted: - WD/2017/2478/FA Removal of condition 3 (agricultural occupancy) of WD/1998/2222/F (Farmhouse to replace mobile home). Piltdown Poultry, Fairhazel, Piltdown. Approved.	
199.	Administration. - Payments, receipts and bank reconciliation. The Clerk distributed the financial report showing the payments for approval, the receipts 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. There were no memorial applications.	Clerk
200.	Proposal from Action in Rural Sussex for Fletching Recreation Ground project. This project is looking at ways to provide a better community facility on Fletching Recreation Ground. Action in Rural Sussex (AiRS) have produced a draft costing to take the project forward. A discussion took place which included the following points: - Wealden DC once suggested that a new development could only take place if travel credits could be used from other unused buildings. The Chairman confirmed that this had been the case but that the new Local Plan is due to be published in March. There may be greater flexibility than originally thought, especially if improvement of village facilities is a target in the plan. - The Village Hall should be included in the discussions because whatever happens will impact the hall. It was agreed that the village hall will need to be included in the discussions but a little further down the line. - There was concern at the amount of money required for Phase 1 of the project. The Clerk explained that £6k was the top end figure and that it is hoped that this figure can be brought down. Phase 1 is the most crucial phase because it will seek the support of the community and determine the way forward for the subsequent phases. It was agreed that AiRS will be engaged to support the Visioning Meeting as described in their proposal which will provide a clearer idea on direction and costs for the Parish Council to consider.	Clerk
201.	Budget and precept for 2018/2019. The Clerk had previously circulated the budget with precept options. She	

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	<p>pointed out that the draft budget only allowed £1000 for the Fletching Recreation Ground project which is likely to cost more than that. It was resolved that there will be no precept increase per household for the financial year 2018/19. The average Band D household will pay £51.88 per annum and the total precept will be £29037 plus £46 Council tax support grant.</p> <p>Any additional costs for Fletching Recreation Ground project can be paid for from reserves.</p>	Clerk
202.	<p>Raising the canopy of the Chestnut Tree outside the village hall. Two quotes were considered, and the Parish Council accepted the quote from Global Tree Care. Cllr Bone asked to be present when the work is carried out.</p>	Clerk/ S. Bone
203.	<p>Oak tree in the burial ground, to replace the cherry tree removed last year. It was agreed that a tree of approx. 2m in height will be purchased; the total cost including staking etc will be c£60.</p>	B. Dickens
204.	<p>Proposal from Piltdown Resident Association to install village gateways. Cllr Bone explained that PRA would like to install village gateways to provide a more defined village area, which can help with speeding and traffic issues. The gates will be wholly funded by PRA. ESCC Highways issue licenses for their installation which must be applied for by the Parish Council. The Parish Council agreed to support the initiative and will apply for the licenses on behalf of PRA.</p>	Clerk/ S. Bone
205.	<p>Report from the Independent Remuneration Panel re the level of allowances for elected members. The Parish Council agreed to accept the Independent Remuneration Panel recommendation of a 2% increase to Councillor allowances, making them £160 per annum for Councillors and £275 for the Chairman.</p>	Clerk
206.	<p>Provision of monthly taxi service from Fletching to Uckfield. This item will be carried forward to the next meeting.</p>	B. Dickens
207.	<p>Burial Ground Maintenance. There were no issues to discuss.</p>	
208.	<p>Reports from meetings and training attended. Cllr Bone and Cllr Dickens attended the Wealden DC conference which was very informative.</p> <p>Attendance at training/events. Cllr Bone and Cllr Dickens will attend the Wealden District Association of Local Councils meeting on Wednesday 10th January.</p>	S. Bone/ B. Dickens
209.	<p>Information for noting or including on a future agenda. Street cleaning will be added to the agenda for the next meeting. Roy Galley was asked if WDC or ESCC can do village street cleaning.</p>	Clerk/ R. Galley
210.	Close of meeting	
211.	<p>Date of next meeting. NB: The venue for the next two meetings has changed: - 5th February at 7pm at Fletching Parish Church - 5th March at 7pm at Fletching Parish Church</p>	

Fletching Parish Council Finances 8th January 2018

Payments for approval

Ref	Method	To	For	Amount
70	BACS	Wealden District Council	Attendance at conference	60.00
71	BACS	Wealden District Council	Dog bin emptying	216.00
72	BACS	Fletching PCC	Hire of church for meeting	10.00
73	BACS	Elizabeth Bennett	Salary	494.00
74	BACS	East Sussex Pension Fund	Clerk's pension	177.05
75	BACS	Elizabeth Bennett	Expenses	43.96

Receipts in December

From	For	Amount
Mrs Bignell	Memorial	65.00
HSBC	Interest Maryon Wilson acct	0.06
HSBC	Interest war memorial acct	0.05
HSBC	Interest savings acct	3.80

Fletching Parish Council Bank Reconciliation 31st December 2017

Balance per bank statements as at 31st December 2017		Cashbook	
FPC Current Account	12287.90	Opening balance	30267.51
FPC Festival Account	24.97	Add receipts in year	31861.27
FPC Savings Account	31561.50	Less payments in year	-17984.68
FPC War Memorial Account	421.44		
FPC Maryon-Wilson Account	498.29		
Less unpresented cheques			
Nice N Tidy Chq 08	-650		
Net Balance	44144.10	Balance	44144.10

Signed by Chairman of PC meeting 8/01/2018