

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Gabriella Paterson-Griggs

E-mail: clerk@fletching-pc.org

Website www.fletching-pc.org



MINUTES of a meeting of **FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL** held on Monday 10th January 2022 in the Village Hall, High Street, Fletching (7 - 8.30pm).

PRESENT: Councillors C Rothery (Chairman), D Greenish (Vice-Chair) R Borton, N Collum, W Constantinou, R Hannay, D Kerwood and A Shaw.

Also in attendance: Gabriella Paterson-Griggs (Clerk and RFO).

Members of the Public in Attendance: 0

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from Councillors K Minch and R Galley (ESCC and WDC)

22/1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest RECEIVED in respect of items on the agenda, as required by the Members' Code of Conduct:

Minute 22/15 ii - Councillor Collum as the owner of Clinton Lodge

Minute 22/15 iii - Councillors Greenish and Hannay as friends of the owners of the property, Black Ven Farm.

Minute 22/15 iv - Councillor Collum as owner of the land adjoining the application site, Mill House.

In accordance with the FPC Code of Conduct, the councillors did not participate in any discussion or vote on the matters.

22/2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 6th December 2021 were a correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

22/3. MATTERS ARISING

- i. *Code of Conduct:* Councillor D Kerwood signed the Code of Conduct in the presence of the Council
- ii. *Bollards at Splaynes Green:* Councillor Constantinou reported that there were approximately 20 wooden bollards that needed to be replaced at Splaynes Green. He recommended that when the bollards are replaced, they are spaced out further apart than the existing ones. This would mean that fewer would ultimately need to be replaced. A quote had been received for the replacement bollards at a cost of £25 per bollard. Councillors considered this to be an acceptable figure and agreed that, in this instance, a further quote was not necessary as the contractor was already working for the Council replacing the fingerposts and Members were very pleased with the results.

It was RESOLVED that the 20 replacement bollards be ordered through JAKK and that they be spaced further apart when installed.

22/4. REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Members noted the report circulated by Councillor Galley in his absence setting out the progress being made by WDC in producing the new Local Plan and the stance that WDC was taking in respect of housing numbers.

It was AGREED to ask Councillor Galley what housing numbers WDC considered to be acceptable given that the government's figure of 1221 was being rejected.

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22/5. STRENGTHENING LOCAL RELATIONSHIPS (SLR) MEETINGS

The Clerk reported that ESCC had confirmed that SLR meetings could be re-established and take place twice a year. It was noted that these were currently conducted via Zoom. The main issues to be raised being the drainage issues in Church Street and potholes.

It was agreed that the Clerk contact Cllr Galley in the first instance to ascertain a date for a pre-meeting prior to setting a date for the SLR meeting with ESCC. Cllr Constantinou to be the Council's representative at the SLR and pre-meetings with Cllr Galley.

RESOLVED that a pre-meeting be set up by the Clerk with Cllr Galley and Cllr Constantinou followed by a formal SLR meeting.

22/6. WDC SHELAA SITES

Councillors agreed that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council be held in order to consult with parishioners prior to submitting any comments to Wealden District Council in respect of the Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) submissions for the parish of Fletching. It was noted that there was a further parish cluster meeting due to be held on 16 February 2022 that may clarify the current status of the SHELAA submissions.

It was RESOLVED that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council be held on Wednesday 23 February 2022 at 7pm to be held in the Church.

22/7. OVER-DEVELOPMENT IN WEALDEN

The communication received from Chiddingly Parish Council was considered. The Clerk updated councillors on the contents of an email received that day setting out the latest developments since the original email. It was also noted that the Chairman had also been invited to a meeting of northern parishes to discuss the issues raised. It was not certain whether the central parishes were also arranging a meeting.

It was AGREED that a response be sent to Chiddingly supporting the proposed meeting and that the Chairman attend the meeting being organised for the northern parishes.

22/8. 20's PLENTY CAMPAIGN

The request from the 20s Plenty Campaign for the Council to support a motion to ask ESCC to reduce the speed limit to 20 and the associated information was discussed. It was agreed that the campaign should be supported

It was RESOLVED to support the motion as set out below.

Fletching Parish Council:

1. Supports the 20's Plenty for East Sussex campaign;
2. Calls on East Sussex County Council to implement 20mph in the Fletching Parish; and
3. Will write to East Sussex County Council to request that the county:
 - a) makes 20mph the default speed limit on streets throughout East Sussex in places where people live, work, shop, play or learn, leaving 30mph as the exception on those roads, where full consideration of the needs of vulnerable road users allows a higher limit; and
 - b) allocates a ring-fenced amount from public health, sustainability and transport budgets to enable 20mph to be implemented county-wide within 5 years.

22/9. WORKING GROUPS AND COMMITTEES

- i. *Parking Working Group*: It was noted that there was no further update at this time but that the issues raised would be taken up with Councillor Galley at the SLR pre-meeting.

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22/10. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

It was noted that there had been no correspondence received since the last meeting.

22/11. FINANCE

- i. It was RESOLVED that the s137 Grant to FPCC be increased by £275 to £1025 for 2021/22 to cover the increased number of cuts required this year.
- ii. The invoices and payments for January 2022 were AUTHORISED and the Council's current financial position was noted.
- iii. The sale of the printer to Firle Parish Council was APPROVED for the sum of £30.
- iv. It was RESOLVED to adopt the Level 1 Allowances as recommended by the Report of the Wealden Parish Independent Remuneration Panel.
- v. The Council RESOLVED to approve the budget and precept level for 2022/23. The precept level being increased by £1k to £32,000 for 2022/23.
- vi. The Chairman signed the precept request which was due to be submitted to WDC by 14 January 2022.

22/12. PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR 2022/23

The proposed meeting dates for the ordinary meetings of the Parish Council were agreed. It was noted that Annual Parish Meeting's date was yet to be fixed but that it would likely take place on a Wednesday in mid-May.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council continue to meet on the first Monday of the month (except where that day is a bank holiday when it would be the second Monday) at 7pm in the Village Hall. There would be no meeting in August.

22/13. BURIAL GROUND

It was noted that there had been no applications for purchasing plots.

A memorial request had been received for the grave of L Peck and this was APPROVED by the Council.

22/14. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

- i. *The Griffin*: It was noted that the Environmental Health Department had confirmed that there were no current cases open in respect of the lighting at The Griffin. It was AGREED that the clerk write to the resident that had raised the issue to let them know the procedure for raising any issues with Environmental Health in the future.

22/15. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - RECEIVED

It was RESOLVED to make the comments as set out after each application in respect of the following:

- i. **WD/2021/2586/F Unit 4, No 1 Vigoes Cottage, Sheffield Green, Sheffield Park TN22 3RB**
Change of use of one existing holiday accommodation unit to caretaker/office/cleaner live-in accommodation (unrestricted).
Fletching Parish Council SUPPORTS this application
- ii. **WD/2021/2892/LB Clinton Lodge, High Street, Fletching TN22 3ST**
The removal of a modern timber stud and plasterboard wall linings to first floor landing and replacement by lime plaster. Removal of redundant skylight above landing.
Fletching Parish Council had NO COMMENTS to make on this Listed Building application
- iii. **WD/2021/2433/F and WD/2021/2577/LB Black Ven Farm, Down Street, Nutley TN22 3EH**

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Proposed repair/reinstatement. Existing defective boundary wall to listed farmhouse.

Fletching Parish Council SUPPORTS these applications

iv. **WD/2021/2964/F Mill House, Mill Lane, Fletching TN22 3PX**

Additional residential use within approved ancillary accommodation.

Fletching Parish Council SUPPORTS this application. However, if the existing patio doors were to be replaced with glass the Parish Council would be concerned given how visible the doors are from the road especially with the property being on the AONB boundary.

22/16. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - DECISIONS

It was noted that there had been no planning application decisions received from WDC since the last meeting.

22/17. QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

The events planned for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee were discussed. It was noted that the resident that had offered to help was still willing to but was not able to commit the time needed to project manage. The following items were AGREED:

- Beacon Lighting - Thursday 2 June at 9.45pm as part of national event
- Street Party - Sunday 5 June 2022 daytime
- Music and Fireworks - Sunday 5 June 2022 evening (Cllr Constantinou to contact Johnny Mack to ascertain his availability)
- Queen's Canopy - a commemorative oak tree be planted on land at Splaynes Green
- Article for the Parish Magazine asking for input
- Street Closure - Clerk to contact WDC

22/18. LAND REGISTRATION

Councillor Greenish confirmed that there was no further update at this time.

22/19. FINGERPOSTS

It was noted that there were two fingerposts still to be replaced (Buckham Hill and Shortbridge Road) and that these had been ordered. The Clerk confirmed that the match funding from ESCC had been requested and that she would be enquiring as to whether further match funding could be sought for the two remaining sites.

It was AGREED that a letter of thanks be sent to JAKK for the work in replacing the fingerposts to date, in particular, the one at Splaynes Green which was not an easy installation.

22/20. PUMP HOUSE

Due to the absence of Councillor Minch this item was deferred to the next meeting.

22/21. SPLAYNES GREEN PHONE BOX

Councillors agreed that an insurance claim would not be made for the stolen door given the excess that the Parish Council would have to pay.

The Chairman reported that discussions were ongoing with the resident who had offered to split the cost of the replacement door with the Council. It was noted that it may be possible to obtain a refurbished door, but it was agreed that in the meantime a quote be requested from JAKK for a replacement door.

RESOLVED that an insurance claim not be made but that a quote be requested from JAKK for a new door.

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22/22. ITEMS FOR THE PARISH MAGAZINE

It was AGREED that the following articles be submitted by the Clerk for the next edition of the Parish Magazine:

- Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on 23 February 2022
- Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations

22/23. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

It was requested that the following item be included as an item for the next meeting:

- Replacement flagpole

22/24. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is due to be held on Monday 7th February 2022 at 7pm in the Village Hall.