

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Gabriella Paterson-Griggs

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MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of **FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL** held on Monday 6th March 2023 in the Village Hall, High Street, Fletching (7 – 8pm).

PRESENT: Councillors D Greenish (Vice-Chair in the Chair), R Borton, N Collum, R Hannay, K Minch, A Shaw and W Constantinou.

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

Members of the Public in Attendance: 1

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Kerwood and C Rothery and ESCC/District Councillor R Galley

23/44. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

23/45. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meetings held on 6th February and 2nd March 2023 were a correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

23/46. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

23/47. REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Councillor Galley had given his apologies but asked that it be noted that he had contacted the agent for the Ashdown Business Park application, WD/2022/3319/MOA, and requested that it be withdrawn. He was due to meet with the agent in the coming week. The Clerk also reported that Councillor Galley would be holding a village meeting on Thursday 9th March 2023 at 6.30pm in The Griffin that Parish Council members may wish to attend.

23/48. WORKING GROUPS / EXTERNAL GROUPS

Updates were given by the Clerk/Councillors who attended the following external groups:

- i. *Uckfield Cluster CSAG*: the notes of the January Cluster meeting, circulated prior to the meeting, were noted.
- ii. *Fletching Historical Exhibition*: The Clerk reported that the historical exhibition held on the 25 and 26 February had been very well attended and that the Fletching School PTA had raised £204 for its funds through donations for the cake and refreshments being served. It was noted that further discussions would be taking place with Rev. David Knight as to the next steps in the digitisation project as it was looking less likely that the original plan of using Ardingly College students was going to be possible.

23/49. FEASIBILITY APPRAISAL

The feasibility appraisal into High Street/Church Street Parking Improvements carried out by ESCC was circulated to all members following the parish council meeting in February. However, due to time having been taken up with the response to the Ashdown Business Park application not all councillors had been able to give the study its due consideration.

Accordingly, it was **AGREED** that the study be considered in detail by the Parking Working Group which would report back to the next meeting. It was noted that Cllr Constantinou would contact the ESCC officer who had conducted the survey for further information and request a meeting onsite to discuss the options in more depth. It was also **AGREED** that a poll could be carried out at the annual parish meeting in May on which options parishioners would favour.

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23/50. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

It was **AGREED to defer** any further discussion on the neighbourhood plan, including the setting up of a steering group, until after the May 2023 parish council election.

23/51. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- i. *Hadlow Down Parish Council – letter to all parishes:* Members considered the request by Hadlow Down Parish Council for support for collective action against East Sussex County Council Highways. It was **AGREED** to send a response stating that the Parish Council was happy to support other councils on matters of local interest.

23/52. FINANCE AND HR

- i. The invoices and payments for March 2023 were **AUTHORISED** and the Council's current financial position and bank reconciliation were noted.

23/53. POLICIES

The Clerk reported that she had not had time to re-draft either of the policies so these would be **DEFERRED** to the next meeting of the parish council.

23/54. BURIAL GROUND

- i. There had been no requests or permit applications made since the last meeting.
- ii. It was noted that the works had begun to cut the laurel hedge in the burial ground.
- iii. It was **AGREED** that the noticeboard be re-sited to next to the wall by the tap as that was where the Parish Council owned burial ground started.

23/55. ENFORCEMENT – PLANNING AND DRAINAGE

- i. *Flitteridge Farm:* It was noted that the current proposal from the owner was to get the site cleared but that Wealden DC would continue with the enforcement process until such time as the appropriate paperwork was received.

23/56. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - RECEIVED

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

ii. **WD/2023/0139/F Sheffield Park Garden, Sheffield Park TN22 3QX**

Creation of a new garden within part of Sheffield Park garden, the erection of a garden shelter, the installation of decking platforms, new paths and resurfacing of existing path.

The Parish Council has NO COMMENTS to make on this application.

iii. **WD/2023/0279/FR East Bridge, North Hall Lane, Fletching TN22 3SA**

Retrospective application for the replacement of an agricultural barn on the same site as existing barn.

A site visit to be arranged with the Agent and comments to be delegated to the Planning Group before the deadline of 16 March 2023.

23/57. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - DECISIONS

Planning decisions **RECEIVED** from Wealden District Council since the last meeting:

Applications Approved – None since the last meeting

Applications Refused – None since the last meeting

Applications Withdrawn – None since the last meeting

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23/58. KINGS CORONATION

The Clerk reported that the road closure application had been submitted to Wealden DC and that a grant application had been made to the National Awards for All fund. She also gave an update on the planning application for the flagpole.

23/59. ITEMS FOR THE PARISH MAGAZINE

It was agreed that the following items be included for the next edition of the Parish Magazine:

- Ashdown Business Park application – ongoing action
- Kings Coronation timetable

23/60. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The following items to be included on the agenda for the next meeting:

- Report back from the Parking Working Group
- Social Media Policy
- Grant Awarding Policy

It was requested that Councillors contact the Clerk with any other items they wish to be considered at the next meeting.

23/61. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is due to be held on:

Monday 3rd April 2023 at 7pm in the Village Hall.