

**FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL**

**Clerk: Liz Bennett**

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The minutes of the meeting of Fletching Parish Council held at Fletching Village Hall on Monday 3rd July 2017 at 7pm.

| **Item** | **Description** | **Responsible** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Members present:** Cllr P. Roundell (Chairman), Cllr B. Dickens, Cllr D. Kerwood, Cllr C. Rothery, Cllr N. Collum, Cllr S. Sainsbury, Cllr S. Bone  **Also present:** Liz Bennett (Clerk), County Councillor Roy Galley, John Shaw |  |
|  | **Apologies for absence.** Apologies were accepted from Cllr T. Elbrick. |  |
|  | **Declarations of interest.** Cllr B. Dickens declared that his grandson is occasionally contracted to work for one of the companies quoting for work at the burial ground. |  |
|  | **Questions from the public.** None received. |  |
|  | **Report from County and District Councillors.** R. Galley reported that East Sussex County Council is transferring several countryside sites to other countryside bodies for management. This includes areas such as Weir Wood Reservoir and Seven Sisters Country Park.  The latest update regarding superfast broadband is that it should be delivered to houses in postcode TN22 3XG and TN22 3XA by the end of September.  The Chairman reported that the Wealden Local Plan cannot progress until the full evidence base is received including the full report on the nitrogen impact on the Ashdown Forest. | P. Roundell R. Galley |
|  | **Minutes of the meetings held on 5th June 2017.** It was **resolved** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 5th June 2017 as a true record and they were signed by the Chairman. | P. Roundell |
|  | **Grant application from Fletching Recreation Ground Charity.** It was agreed to rearrange the order of the agenda and this item was brought forward.  The Chairman allowed Mr Shaw to speak, who stated that the Cricket Club members have been working hard at the pavilion and have done some painting and other internal works. He is now applying for a grant of £740 to replace two windows. The Parish Council agreed in principle to give the grant but requested that two other quotes are obtained first.   It was also agreed that the Parish Council is willing to assist for occasional capital projects but it cannot provide ongoing maintenance support.  Mr Shaw was asked to submit future grant requests by October of the previous year, so that it can be considered when the Parish Council budget is set. |  |
|  | **Planning applications.**  **a. WD/2017/1035/F Fairhazel Farmhouse, Piltdown. Two storey extension to house and extension and provision of pitched roof to outbuilding.** No objection.  **b. WD/2017/1012/LB Sheffield Park Garden, Sheffield Park, Uckfield. Extension of existing servery requiring part demolition of internal wall.** The Parish Council has no influence over Listed Building applications and so this application was noted.  **c. WD/2017/1231/F Bull Cottage, Ketches Lane, Sheffield Park. Remove external timber stair, extend the rear of the existing garage in matching materials to enclose new access stair. Use of existing loft as ancillary sleeping accommodation.** No objection.  **d. WD/2017/0606/F Flitteridge Farm, Daleham Lane, Fletching. Remove three buildings and erect three detached dwellings and car ports. (amended plans).**  It was resolved to object to this application for the same reasons that the Parish Council objected to the original application. The Parish Council wish to emphasize their view that this is not permitted development and is a new build outside development boundaries. The objections, as shown in the response to the original application are:   * The Parish Council understands that the application is for three new large residents and is not being made under Class MB Q Permitted Development, (although much mention of endeavouring to meet those conditions is made in the Design Statement and in many respects are not met anyway e.g. not built on the same footprint, footprint of buildings larger than would be permitted as is height and therefore size of buildings), and therefore the application should be considered as three new large builds, whereas the Parish Council would like to see smaller affordable homes. * Bearing in mind the new builds, the Parish Council would question whether further damage would be done to the Ashdown Forest by resultant additional traffic movements across the Forest and is concerned that the traffic report indicates that the current daily traffic movements from that site are 41; 28 for the small industrial unit, 3 for the caravans and 10 for the dirty water movements. The 28 movements for the small industrial unit seems very high. The report states that the total movements will reduce from 41 to 18. However, under the terms of the application the 10 dirty water movements will continue, so the new movements should be at least 28 and not 18 as stated because 8 movements for 3 new dwellings must be too low. * The highways report states that there is a regular bus route through Splaynes Green. This is a weekly, not daily bus service. * The 3 barns are to be replaced with 3 new dwellings. Flitteridge Farm has planning permission for a large new grain store and a silage clamp. It seems the farm buildings are effectively being moved from their current location to an area a small distance away from the current farm in the middle of a field and instead 3 buildings are being built in the area of the original farm buildings. * The conclusion to the report states that the reason for the planning is to “enhance the setting of the area”. The dirty waste water lagoon is currently out of the planning area, although the plans have the lagoon being filled in and so it should be part of the site area. The Parish Council is concerned about contamination in the lagoon. Concerns have been expressed before to Wealden’s Enforcement officers, and the Planning Agent reported that this lagoon has not had any environmental survey done for the purposes of this application. Being so close to the gardens of the new builds, this should be undertaken. * The Parish Council is concerned about the number of apparent mobile homes present on the site, and whilst it appreciates that there is an understanding to remove these, the Parish Council believe these mobile homes could breach current planning conditions, and should the development not go ahead, enforcement should remove these.   Also, at the meeting the Parish Council reiterated their concerns about the enforcement issues.  **e. WD/2017/1146/F North Lodge, Bell Lane, Fletching. Garden room to rear of property.** No objection. |  |
|  | **Planning decisions.** The following decision was noted:   * WD/2017/0884/F Erection of side first floor extension, rear dormer window, replacement of existing conservatory with garden room, alterations to front entrance with replacement garage. The Mill, Clapwater Lane. Approved. |  |
|  | **Purchase of a Sussex Flag.** It was agreed that a Sussex Flag should be purchased to fly on Sussex Day, 16th June, at a cost of £7.99 plus postage. Cllr Dickens will talk to the Church and the Recreation Ground committee to agree where it should be flown. | Clerk |
|  | **Tree and hedge work at the burial ground.** Three quotes were obtained for removing the large cherry tree in the burial ground. The roots are extensive and interfere with grave spaces. It was **resolved** to appoint Global Care to remove the tree, provided that the quote includes grinding the stump. The species and location of a replacement tree in the burial ground will be considered once the tree has been removed.  Three quotes were also obtained for clearing the yew hedge of elder and ivy. It was **resolved** to appoint Global Care for this work. | Clerk |
|  | **Weed killing.** Not all the quotes have been obtained and so this item will be carried forward to the next agenda. | B. Dickens |
|  | **Follow up communication from Ashdown Forest meeting.** The Clerk was asked to invite the Ashdown Forest conservators to the September Parish Council so that the proposal for contributing to the conservators can be considered in time for the budget setting for next year. | Clerk |
|  | **Standing orders including new delegation scheme.** Cllrs Roundell, Dickens and Sainsbury met with the Clerk and proposed some changes to the standing orders. The Clerk talked through these including a proposal for delegation. Two Councillors had not been able to read through the standing orders in time for the meeting and so it was agreed that this item will be carried forward to the next meeting. | Clerk |
|  | **Progress on the installation of superfast broadband in the parish.** Mr Galley provided an update as part of his County Council report. | R. Galley |
|  | **Increment pay increase for Clerk.** The Clerk left the room for the discussion. It was **resolved** to pay one increment increase backdated to April 2017. |  |
|  | **Reports from meetings and training attended.** Cllr Dickens, Rothery and Bone met with the Ouse Valley conservation project to see the river restoration work.  Cllrs Roundell and Dickens were invited to the opening of the Walk Wood trail at Sheffield Park.  Cllrs Sainsbury and Bone met with Roy Galley and Ian Johnston to discuss the speeding issues on Shortrbridge Road and Golf Club Lane. It was agreed that some new signage would be appropriate to alert drivers to the hazards including ducks, deer and users of the golf course. Ian Johnson will draw up a plan for consideration.  **Attendance at training/events.** None attended. |  |
|  | **Administration.**   * **Finances.** The reports showing the payments for approval, receipts in June and the bank reconciliation was approved and is appended to these minutes. The Clerk also presented a report showing receipts and payments for the financial year to date against budget, which was noted. * **Memorial applications (Witham and Hughes).** These were noted. |  |
|  | **Information for noting or including on a future agenda.** The ends of the fingers on the new fingerpost opposite the Church have not been painted. The Clerk will contact the contractor.  The Clerk was asked to put the replacement gate at the burial ground on the agenda of the next meeting.  Complaints have been received regarding the possible occupation of caravans at Malling Farm. The Clerk will ask planning enforcement at Wealden District Council to investigate. | Clerk  Clerk  Clerk |
|  | **Close of meeting** Meeting closed. |  |
|  | **Date of next meetings.**  A meeting will be held only if there are urgent planning applications to consider on Thursday 20th July at 8pm.  The next full Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 7th August at 7pm. |  |

**Fletching Parish Council Finances 3rd July 2017**

**Payments for approval**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Ref** | **Method** | **To** | **For** | **Amount** |
| 22 | BACS | CPRE | Subscription | 29.00 |
| 23 | BACS | Katherine Rumble | Microsoft subscription | 59.99 |
| 24 | BACS | Fletching Parish Church | Hire of church for meeting | 10.00 |
| 25 | Chq 227 | Barry Dickens | Expenses | 20.70 |
| 26 | BACS | Elizabeth Bennett | Expenses | 36.41 |
| 27 | BACS | East Sussex Pension Fund | Clerk’s pension | 171.37 |
| 28 | BACS | Elizabeth Bennett | Salary | 477.99 |

**Receipts in June, for noting.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **From** | **For** | **Amount** |
| Dawson Hart | Memorial | 65.00 |
| Coral Streader | Memorials | 130.00 |
| HSBC | Savings account interest | 2.66 |
| HSBC | War memorial account interest | 0.04 |
| HSBC | Mayon Wilson account, interest | 0.05 |

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| **Fletching Parish Council Bank Reconciliation 30th June 2017** | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Balance per bank statements as at 30th June 2017** | | |  | **Cashbook** |  |
| FPC Current Account | 7310.10 |  |  | Opening balance | 30267.51 |
| FPC Festival Account | 74.97 |  |  | Add receipts in year | 15997.25 |
| FPC Savings Account | 33554.68 |  |  | Less payments in year | -6763.88 |
| FPC War Memorial Account | 421.35 |  |  |  |  |
| FPC Maryon-Wilson Account | 498.18 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Less unpresented cheques |  |  |  |  |  |
| Art Group | -50 |  |  |  |  |
| Nice n Tidy | -650 |  |  |  |  |
| Nice n Tidy | -650 |  |  |  |  |
| Nice n Tidy | -650 |  |  |  |  |
| HMRC | -358.4 |  |  |  |  |
| **Net Balance** | **39500.88** |  |  | **Balance** | **39500.88** |

**Signed, Chairman of meeting 3rd July 2017**