Clerk: Gabriella Paterson-Griggs

E-mail: clerk@fletching-pc.org Website www.fletching-pc.org



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Monday 5th December 2021

Members of the Public in Attendance: 0

Questions RECEIVED from the Public: None Received.

Members in Attendance: Cllrs Rothery (Chairman), Greenish (Vice-Chair) Borton, Collum, Constantinou, Hannay and Minch

District and County Cllr Galley and Gabriella Paterson-Griggs, Clerk and RFO.

364. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence as reported at the meeting was ACCEPTED from Cllr Shaw.

365. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest RECEIVED in respect of items on the agenda, as required by the Members' Code of Conduct: Agenda Item 8i Finance – Payments for December Councillor Hannay due to the company carrying out the badger deterrent work is known to him. Agenda Item 10iii Clapwater Farm – Councillors Hannay and Rothery as the applicant is known to them. In accordance with the FPC Code of Conduct, the councillors did not participate in any discussion or vote on the matters.

366. MINUTES

The Council RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of Fletching Parish Council held on 1st November 2021 and the extra-ordinary meeting held on 23rd November 2021 were a correct record and were duly signed by the Chair.

367. REPORTS

i. A report from the District and County Councillor Roy Galley was RECEIVED:

ESCC – a motion was being put forward to the Full County Council meeting the following day by the Green party to eliminate use of glyphosate herbicide formulation in ESCC/Highways' weed control. This was being opposed by the Lead Member for Transport and the Environment as there were very few substitutes that could be used. Cllr Galley also reported that there was an ongoing debate in respect of whether more funding should go towards maintaining the roads or repairing potholes.

WDC – The Cabinet is proposing a 2.55% increase in staff pay for 2022/23 (there was no increase this year) and a 2.5% increase in Council Tax. The annual climate change monitoring report sets out the progress made to date including partnership working for EV charging in the Council owned car parks followed by other sites within the District. The Local Plan is still ongoing.

In response to a question regarding the timescale of the publication of the Local Plan it was noted that there is nothing affecting the proposed timeline at present.

368. WORKING GROUPS AND COMMITTEES 1.PARKING WORKING GROUP

i. An update was RECEIVED: The notes of the Working Group meeting held on 25 November 2021 were circulated to all Councillors at the meeting. It was noted that a number of issues had been raised as the majority of the facilities within the village do not have associated parking eg. Church, school, recreation ground.

The main recommendations from the working group were to investigate further:

- a. To provide parking on the recreation ground which would be for the school staff to use during the weekdays and the cricket and football clubs at weekends. This would reduce the pressure on the parking outside the school making it safer for the children, some of whom have to walk in the road due to the pavements being blocked by parked cars.
- b. Installation of double yellow lines on one side of the street from The Griffin Inn up to Clinton Lodge. Concern was raised as to whether these would actually be enforced by the Police.
- c. Residents' Parking Scheme there was some support for a scheme but only if it were free of charge to the residents.

It was agreed that the next step would be to gather data to establish the extent of the issues including an estimate of the amount of additional parking required and that the Working Party be tasked with this. Cllr

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Galley also offered to make tentative enquiries with ESCC Highways, the Police and ESCC Children's Services to set up a meeting so that the issues could be discussed with the relevant parties.

The Council RESOLVED that in the first instance CIIr Galley approach the relevant parties to see whether a meeting could be set up to discuss the issues.

369. MATTERS ARISING

i. Cllr Kerwood to sign the Code of Conduct in the presence of the Council. DEFERRED as Councillor Kerwood was absent from the meeting.

ii. Cllr Hannay reported back that the proposed location for the Clothes Recycling Bin at Chestnut Cottages was not suitable. The Council therefore RESOLVED that as a suitable location could not be found NO FURTHER ACTION be taken.

iii. The process to be followed once the date for the speed survey had been determined was RECEIVED.
iv. Cllr Constantinou reported that he would be meeting the contractor on site at Splaynes Green and would be identifying those bollards that need to be replaced. It was noted that the Clerk was still to obtain additional quotes. The Council AGREED to revisit this item once the additional quotes had been received.
v. The response to the enquiry made to Wealden District Council in respect of the planning conditions relating to the use of the temporary car park at Sheffield Park Gardens was RECEIVED and NOTED by the Council.

370. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Actions AGREED:

i. Wealden Neighbourhood Policing Team Open Day: AGREED that any open day be combined with the Annual Parish Meeting. The Clerk to follow up.

ii. ACV17011 Rose and Crown Fletching: NOTED

iii. 2022 Parish in Bloom competition: AGREED that the parish be entered into the 2022 competition.

iv. Acorn Garage: NOTED that a planning application had been submitted to Wealden District Council v. NALC Funding and Grants Bulleting: NOTED

vi. Obstruction on the pavement: Dealt with by the Parking Working Group (see Minute 368 above).

vii. Pre-application request – Land at Piltdown: AGREED that the planning working group could attend rather than any individual councillors.

371. FINANCE

i. Payments for December were AUTHORISED, and the bank reconciliation RECEIVED. The amount being paid to the Poppy Appeal had been queried and it was AGREED that this be kept at £50 until the Clerk was able to investigate whether any increase had been previously approved by the Council.

ii. The first draft of the 2022/23 precept and budget was AGREED subject to a provisional budget of £5k for the Queen's Jubilee being included.

372. BURIAL GROUND

i. It was NOTED that the badger deterrent work had been completed.

ii. The request for the purchase of two cremation plots was APPROVED.

373. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

i. The Griffin Inn: Update received – not a planning issue; the Clerk will follow up with Environmental Health.ii. Little Barkham Farm: Update received – no further action.

iii. Clapwater Farm: Update received – a retrospective application to be submitted to WDC.

374. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

It was NOTED that no planning applications had been received since the last meeting.

375. PLANNING DECISIONS

Planning decisions RECEIVED from Wealden District Council:

i. WD/2021/1956/F LITTLE BARKHAM FARM, GOLDBRIDGE ROAD, PILTDOWN, TN22 3XL - CONSTRUCTION OF FOUR DETACHED DWELLINGS AND ACCESS ROAD WITH ASSOCIATED WORKS - REFUSED by WDC on 29 October 2021.

ii. **WD/2020/1546/F ASHGROVE, GOLDBRIDGE ROAD, PILTDOWN, TN22 3XN** CONSTRUCTION OF FAMILY HOME ON UNOCCUPIED FIELD ADJACENT TO ASHGROVE TO INCLUDE DETACHED GARAGE AND TREATMENT

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PLANT - APPROVED by WDC on 4 Nov 2021. *Response to Parish Council*: The Parish Council concerns are noted. Although there is a need for smaller dwellings in the district each application has to be considered on its merits. With small developments for infill dwellings, such as this, it would not be a sustainable reason to refuse development. The proposed dwelling would be in keeping with the scale of dwellings in the immediate vicinity. After careful consideration it is considered that this proposal, in the overall planning balance, should be allowed as an exception to the normally restrictive policies as the benefits of the scheme outweigh any potential harm. An appropriate condition can ensure that nature conservation interests are protected.

iii. WD/2021/1398/FR WOOLPACK FARM, BELL LANE, FLETCHING, TN22 3YB RETROSPECTIVE APPLICATION FOR CHANGE OF USE OF EXISTING RESIDENTIAL OUTBUILDING (USE CLASS C3) TO HAT HIRE BUSINESS (USE CLASS E) – APPROVED by WDC on 8 November 2021.

iv. WD/2021/2286/F BARKHAM LANE, PILTDOWN, TN22 3XE CONVERSION OF GARAGE TO PROVIDE ANNEXED ACCOMMODATION HEATHSIDE - APPROVED by WDC 11 November 2021.

v. WD/2021/2459/F LAND AT NORTHALL CPC, NORTH HALL LANE, FLETCHING, TN22 3SA ERECTION OF SINGLE DWELLING AT NORTHALL CPC SHOOTING CLUB FOR SECURITY PURPOSES - WITHDRAWN on 12 November 2021.

vi. WD/2021/2251/F 1 AND 2 ROSE COTTAGE, SPLAYNES GREEN, FLETCHING, UCKFIELD, TN22 3TG -CONVERSION OF TWO DWELLINGS TO A SINGLE DWELLING AND REPLACEMENT OF A GARAGE DOOR WITH A PAIR OF GLAZED DOORS - APPROVED by WDC on 15 November 2021.

vii. **WD/2020/1386/F & 1387/LB YEW TREE COTTAGE, FURNERS GREEN, SHEFFIELD PARK, TN22 3**RD CREATION OF A SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION WITH CELLAR TO CREATE ADDITIONAL LIVING ACCOMMODATION AND STORAGE - WITHDRAWN on 23 November 2021.

viii. <u>WD/2021/1128/F BULL COTTAGE, KETCHES LANE, SHEFFIELD PARK, TN22 3RY</u> MINOR ALTERATIONS TO EXISTING GARAGE REDUCING THE WIDTH OF THE EAVES AND ADDING A STAIRCASE TO THE REAR - APPROVED 30 November 2021

376. PLANNING DEVELOPMENT

i. The Council RESOLVED to ADOPT the principles of development.

ii. It was AGREED that Cllr Rothery report back to the Cluster Meeting that none of the greenfield sites in the SHELAA are suitable for development. The Parish Council also had considerable concerns about the developments to the east of the Parish in and around the Ashdown Business Park.

377. PROJECTS

1. QUEEN'S JUBILEE

i. It was noted that one member of the public had volunteered to help. The Council AGREED that Cllr Hannay approach the individual concerned to discuss further.

ii. The request from Chailey and District Young Farmers in respect of the Queen's Canopy was RECEIVED. The Clerk to investigate further.

iii. Lottery Jubilee Funding: Noted

2. LAND REGISTRATION

i. Cllr Greenish reported that the solicitor had met with the Diocese and agreed a way forward for registering the burial ground. An application would be submitted shortly. In respect of Splaynes Green it was noted that it had been registered as Common Land in 1967 which bestowed on the Parish Council the same rights as if it were the owner of the land. However, the 1965 Act was later amended and the relevant section repealed. The Council AGREED that it be investigated further to ascertain whether the 1967 registration of the land was still extant.

3.FINGERPOSTS

i. Cllr Constantinou advised the Splaynes Green fingerpost was being installed later that week and that a HIAB would be required.

ii. The Clerk to check the status of the match funding from ESCC in respect of the fingerposts still to be replaced.

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iii. The photos were received and the Council thanked the local resident who funded the restoration of the fingerpost.

4. PUMP HOUSE

Cllr Minch reported that the result of the grant application made for the Pump House had not yet been received.

5. SPLAYNES GREEN PHONE BOX

i. Cllr Rothery reported that a resident had kindly offered to fund 50% of the replacement cost of the door. The Council AGREED that Cllr Rothery contact the resident to enquire whether they had a cost for the replacement door. The Clerk to check the insurance excess prior to any decision being made on the match funding.

378. TO AGREE ITEMS FOR THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MAGAZINE: None at present.

- **379.** AGENDA ITEMS PROPOSED FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL: Reinstatement of SLR meetings
- **380.** THE TIME AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL was RECEIVED: 10 January 2022.
- 381. THE MEETING CLOSED at 20.25