

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Lorna Thwaites

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DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Monday 1st November 2021

Members of the Public in Attendance: 3

Questions RECEIVED from the Public: None Received.

Members in Attendance: Cllrs Greenish (Vice-Chair and presiding Chair for the meeting) Collum, Minch, Hannay, Shaw, Constantinou, and Borton.

District Cllr Galley (arrived 7.30pm) and Lorna Thwaites, Clerk and RFO.

339. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence as reported at the meeting were ACCEPTED from Cllr Rothery and Cllr Kerwood.

340. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No Declarations of Interest were received in respect of items on the agenda, as required by the Members Code of Conduct.

341. MINUTES

The Council RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of Fletching Parish Council held on 4th October 2021 were a correct record and were duly signed by the Presiding Chair.

342. REPORTS

i. A report from the District and County Councillor Roy Galley was RECEIVED: Work on the Wealden Local Plan is the main focus; Cllr Galley is hoping for a dramatic change in planning policy with Michael Gove's review of the government's planning reform proposals.

The planning application for Little Barkham Farm has been refused.

Cllr Galley visited Barkham Manor trees works; Cllr Galley believes this to be tree management to trees on private land where there are no tree preservation orders.

The Council asked a question regarding the conditions imposed for the use of the car park at Sheffield Park Gardens - the definition of 60 days and if cars are allowed to park overnight? the Clerk was asked to contact the Planning Officer.

Members of Fletching Parish Council thanked Cllr Galley for all his efforts on having the abandoned cars removed from the Fletching car park.

343. WORKING GROUPS AND COMMITTEES

1. PARKING WORKING GROUP

i. An update was RECEIVED: Due to members being unable to attend, the meeting has not yet been held and will be re-scheduled.

344. MATTERS ARISING

i. Cllr Kerwood to sign the Code of Conduct in the presence of the Council. DEFERRED

ii. Plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations starting 3rd June 2022 were discussed and the following AGREED: Celebrations in the Parish of Fletching are to be planned for Sunday 5th June; an application needs to be made to close the High Street on Sunday 5th June 2022 (between Splaynes Green and the Church); Cllr Collum offered to help fund and organise the fireworks; Peter Rowe has pencilled in a firework display for the Parish on Sunday 5th June; the Clerk was asked to advertise for volunteers to organise the celebrations on the FPC website and Facebook page.

iii. The location for Fletching Primary School to install a Clothes Recycling Bin was not yet agreed: A discussion was had regarding possible locations; Cllr Hannay AGREED to investigate the recycling area in Chestnut Cottages.

iv. Information and costs for an East Sussex Highways Feasibility Appraisal for traffic calming measures near Fletching Primary School were RECEIVED: The Council AGREED the speed survey needs to be done in the Spring/Summer term time; the Clerk was asked to find out the process for briefing a survey.

v. A quote for replacement bollards for Splaynes Green was RECEIVED from Cllr Constantinou: the quote is for the replacement of all 60 bollards; the Council AGREED that Cllr Constantinou should gain a revised quote from JAKK to replace only the rotten bollards and the Clerk was asked to gain 2 further quotes.

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vi. The Council RESOLVED to request from the PCC a link to the calendar on the Fletching Parish Church website.

vii. The Council AGREED to review and update the COVID information on the FPC website.

viii. To RESOLVE to purchase a 'Lest We Forget' statue - Cllr Kerwood: in the absence of Cllr Kerwood the Council DEFERRED to agree any contribution to the cost of the statue to the next meeting; the Council RESOLVED to place the statue on the green by the Fletching sign.

345. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Actions AGREED:

i. The Council NOTED that the Ashdown Forest Vision was on the FPC website: Cllr Minch updated the Council on her attendance at the Conservators meeting in Nutley; the Clerk was asked to publicise the consultation.

ii. Environmental Permitting Regulations PC7-21: Cllr Hannay AGREED to respond to the consultation.

iii. Appeal under Section 174 - Sale Lodge (Moons Farm Barn): NOTED

346. FINANCE

i. Payments for November were AUTHORISED, and the bank reconciliation RECEIVED.

ii. Projects and significant spends for financial year 2022- 2023 were considered in preparation for the setting of the precept and budget: A provisional budget for the Queen's Jubilee of £5k; Land Registration work £1k; the allocated funds for the Pump House project to be carried forward.

347. BURIAL GROUND

i. An update on the Badger deterrent work was RECEIVED from Cllr Hannay: The work is underway and will soon be complete.

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

348. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

i. The Griffin Inn: No further update has been received; the Clerk will follow up.

ii. Little Barkham Farm: A case has been opened but no update has yet been received.

iii. Barkham Manor (works to trees): this matter was discussed under agenda item 4:i, and no further action was agreed.

349. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

1. Comments for the following applications and any others that arrive before the meeting were AGREED:

i. WD/2021/2286/F HEATHSIDE, BARKHAM LANE, PILTDOWN, TN22 3XE CONVERSION OF GARAGE TO PROVIDE ANNEXED ACCOMMODATION (Expiry date for comments: 02 Nov 2021)

Fletching Parish Council RESOLVED to support the application but subject to the annexed accommodation remaining ancillary and subordinate to the main house.

ii. 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 (Expiry date for comments: 15 Nov 2021) ERECTION OF SINGLE DWELLING AT NORTHALL CPC SHOOTING CLUB FOR SECURITY PURPOSES: Cllr Constantinou advised the application has been withdrawn.

350. PLANNING DECISIONS

Planning decisions RECEIVED from Wealden District Council:

i. WD/2021/0520/F THE OLD DAIRY, SLIDERS LANE, FURNERS GREEN, TN22 3RT - STEEL FRAME BUILDING FOR THE HOUSING OF 6000 FREE RANGE HENS FOR FREE RANGE EGG PRODUCTION WITH ASSOCIATED FEED TOWER AND PARKING/TURNING AREA - APPROVED by WDC on 4 October 2021.

ii. WD/2021/1409/F DENNIKER FARM SHOP, RUSTON BRIDGE ROAD, FLETCHING, TN22 3SH - PROPOSED SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION TO EXISTING FARM SHOP AND ERECTION OF BUILDING TO BE USED AS A COVERED EXTERNAL SEATING AREA - APPROVED by WDC on 5 October 2021. Response to Parish Council:

The support of the Parish Council is noted. In relation to the specific comments raised the potential for relocation of the covered seating area was discussed with the agent who pointed out that the building would be within the curtilage of the original horticultural nursery premises. Conditions are imposed with regard to use and operating as a single business entity. Restricting operating hours on this application to expand

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existing facilities would not be reasonable having regard to the fact that no such controls were imposed on the original planning permissions for the shop and café.

ii. **WD/2021/1602/F 2 NASEBY COTTAGES, HIGH STREET, FLETCHING, TN22 3TB** - FIRST FLOOR REAR EXTENSION AND PROPOSED SWIMMING POOL - APPROVED by WDC on 8 October 2021. Response to Parish Council – The Design and Access Statement has been part superseded by the revised proposed plans received 23/09/21 to remove the first-floor side extension.

iii. **WD/2017/1812/MAJ USE OF AGRICULTURAL LAND FOR OVERFLOW PARKING FOR UP TO 60 DAYS A YEAR SHEFFIELD PARK GARDEN, SHEFFIELD PARK, TN22 3QX** - APPROVED by WDC on 8 October 2021. The comments of the Parish Council are noted. No objection is raised by Historic England who consider that the application meets the requirements of the NPPF. The proposal causes less than substantial harm to the Registered Landscape but is in the least sensitive site currently available. In these circumstances we are content for your authority to balance the public benefits of providing this facility against the harm caused as set out in the NPPF paragraph 134. There are clearly public benefits in providing this facility and some of those are also heritage benefits, in that more people are able to appreciate the historic park and therefore support its future conservation. So saying, it is accepted that the visual impact from car park causes some less than substantial harm to the Park and "management of visitor facilities for the long term is clearly desirable". In light of that a temporary planning permission is granted.

iv. **WD/2021/2001/MFA LAND SOUTH OF COPWOOD FARM AND TO THE WEST OF THE A22, UCKFIELD BYPASS, UCKFIELD, TN22 3PT** VARIATION OF CONDITIONS 10 AND 11 OF WD/2020/1244/MAJ (PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A SOLAR ELECTRIC FORECOURT®, COMPRISING 24 CORE ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING POINTS, A SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV) FARM OF UP TO 5.5MW AND ENERGY STORAGE. THE HUB BUILDING WILL CONTAIN A MIX OF ANCILLARY DWELL FACILITIES INCLUDING WCS, COFFEE SHOP, RETAIL, SEATING AREA, MEETING ROOMS/ WORKSPACE AND A DISPLAY AREA. PROVISION OF CAR PARKING, HARD AND SOFT LANDSCAPING AND ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS OFF THE COPWOOD ROUNDABOUT. DIVERSION OF PUBLIC FOOTPATH) IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT PRIOR TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MAIN VEHICLE ACCESS AND COMPLETION OF A SECTION 278 AGREEMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE ACCESS FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE COPWOOD ROUNDABOUT IMPROVEMENTS - APPROVED by WDC on 28 October 2021.

v. **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.

351. PLANNING DEVELOPMENT

i. The revised principles of development for the Parish of Fletching were RECEIVED from Cllr Shaw: The Council discussed the inclusion of commercial premises development; amends to the wording were AGREED and Council deferred the adoption of the principles to the next meeting.

352. PROJECTS

1. LAND REGISTRATION

i. No further update has been received from Surrey Hills Solicitors; the Council AGREED that Cllr Greenish should investigate the title to Splaynes Green.

2. FINGERPOSTS

i. Cllr Constantinou advised the Splaynes Green fingerpost will be in place by mid-November.

ii. The Council RESOLVED the next Fingerpost to be refurbished will be Shortbridge Road/Buckham Hill.

3. PUMP HOUSE

i. An update on the grant givers talk attended by Cllr Minch was RECEIVED: Cllr Minch highlighted grant givers that are interested in supporting projects that may be of interest to Fletching Parish Council.

ii. An update on the grant application for the restoration of the Pump House and revised restoration quotations were RECEIVED: Cllr Minch has completed the grant application with the support of a volunteer from the Parish; revised quotes have been received - one supplier has withdrawn and one has significantly increased its quote; the Council RESOLVED to accept the quote from Complete Building Solutions (£4340.00);

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the Council expressed thanks to the children of Fletching Primary School who have produced a video; the Council will enquire if this can be placed on the FPC website.

4. SPLAYNES GREEN PHONE BOX

i. To RECEIVE information regarding making a claim for the stolen telephone box door and to RESOLVE whether to make a claim: DEFERRED to the next meeting after a further update has been received.

353. TO AGREE ITEMS FOR THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MAGAZINE: The agreed date for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations and the request for volunteers; Ashdown Forest car parking consultation.

354. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

To confirm that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media may be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted: RESOLVED.

355. STAFF RECRUITMENT

i. An update on applications was RECEIVED and the timescales for the recruitment process were shared.

356. AGENDA ITEMS PROPOSED FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL:

Plans to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

To RESOLVE to ADOPT the Planning Principles of Fletching Parish Council

Update from the first meeting of the Parking working group

357. THE TIME AND DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL was RECEIVED: 06 December 2021.

Before the meeting closed, Members of the Parish Council expressed their thanks to Lorna Thwaites, Parish Clerk and RFO for the work she has undertaken for the Council.

358. THE MEETING CLOSED at 20.40