

Fletching Parish Council



Annual Parish Meeting
30th May 2023

Agenda



1. Introduction and Welcome by the Chairman
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 17th May 2022
4. Report from the County Councillor Roy Galley
5. Report from the District Councillor Christina Coleman
6. Questions for County & District Councillors
7. Past Chairman's Report - Highlights of the past year
8. Parish Objectives 2023/24
 - a. Neighbourhood Plan
 - b. Roads, Speeding & Parking
 - c. Parish Councillor vacancies
9. Questions from the Public
10. Close of Meeting

Agenda Item 1: Introduction from the Chairman



- Richard Hannay (Chairman)
- Damian Greenish (Vice-Chairman)
- Lady Noel Collum
- Wes Constantinou
- Kate Minch
- Amanda Abraham
- Leighton Snelgrove

- Gabriella Paterson-Griggs, Clerk and RFO

...to represent the community and work constructively

...to secure better social, economic and environmental outcomes for all

...to achieve best value for our residents and maintain public confidence in this authority

Working Groups and Councillor Responsibilities (1)



Burial Ground and Green Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burial Ground / Commons Grass Cutting Street Cleaning 	Cllr Richard Hannay Cllr Kate Minch Cllr Noel Collum
Community Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road Safety/Speed Watch Emergency Services FPC Emergency Plan 	Cllr Kate Minch Cllr Amanda Abraham
Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget / Precept Grants / Insurance 	Cllr Richard Hannay
Health and Community Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS / Adult Social Care / Activities for the elderly Transport 	Cllr Kate Minch
Highways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roads / Potholes / Verges / Pavements / Flooding / Drainage / Signs / Footpaths / Fingerposts 	Cllr Wes Constantinou Cllr Amanda Abrahams Cllr Leighton Snelgrove
Planning Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning applications received from Wealden District Council for comment 	Cllr Noel Collum Cllr Damian Greenish Cllr Wes Constantinou
Neighbourhood Plan Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting up the Neighbourhood Plan process for the parish 	All Councillors
Fletching Historical Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership between the Church, Parish Council and School 	Cllr Noel Collum Gabriella Paterson-Griggs

Working Groups and Councillor Responsibilities (2)



Parking Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement to parking issues in the village of Fletching 	<p>Cllr Wes Constantinou Cllr Amanda Abraham</p>
Ashdown Forest Conservators Parish Liaison Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership meeting between Conservators and parish councils 	<p>Cllr Kate Minch Cllr Leighton Snelgrove</p>
Community Safety Action Group (Uckfield Cluster)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership meeting between Police and Parish/Town Councils 	<p>Cllr Kate Minch</p>
East Sussex Association of Local Councils (ESALC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Association of Town and Parish Councils in East Sussex 	<p>Cllr Richard Hannay Gabiella Paterson-Griggs</p>
Fletching Recreation Ground Committee (FPC is Sole Trustee of the FRC Charity)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The running of the Fletching recreation ground and children's play area 	<p>Cllr Richard Hannay Chris Rothery</p>
Fletching Village Hall Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The running of the Village Hall through the Fletching Village Hall Charity 	<p>Cllr Kate Minch (one representative only)</p>
Leches and Smith Charity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charity for the benefit of those in need in Fletching and Danehill 	<p>Andrew Shaw (one representative only)</p>
Parish in Bloom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual competition run by South-East in Bloom 	<p>Cllr Kate Minch</p>
Wealden District Association of Local Councils (WDALC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership meeting between District / County and Parish Councils 	<p>Cllr Richard Hannay (one representative only)</p>
Wealden Parish Cluster Group (Central West)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing meeting between Wealden District Council Planning and parish councils 	<p>Cllr Richard Hannay (one representative only)</p>



Agenda Item 2:
Apologies for absence received

Agenda Item 3:
Approval of the Minutes of the Annual
Parish Meeting of 17th May 2022



Agenda Item 4:

Report from County Councillor Roy Galley



Agenda Item 5:

Report from District Councillor Christina Coleman



Agenda Item 6:

Questions for Roy Galley & Christina Coleman



Agenda Item 7: Outgoing Chairman's Report

Income: April 2022 – Mar 2023



Income:	Actual	Budget
Precept	£32,000	£32,000
Burial fees	£1,528	£2,000
Fingerpost match-fund	£541.30	£1,200
Interest	£147.62	£5
TOTAL	£33,994	£35,205

Expenditure: April 2022 – Mar 2023



Expenditure:	Actual	Budget
Employees/Training	£14,460	£14,962
Administration	£952	£1,810
Maintenance	£8,503	£12,100
Grants	£1,475	£1,500
Section 137	£3,663	£2,625
Prof. fees/Services	£2,354	£2,130
TOTAL	£31,407	£35,127

Grants and S137 Funds Awarded 2022-2023



Fletching CE Primary School	£1000
• Smart Board	
Wealden Citizens' Advice Bureau	£275
• Towards new laptop for manager	
Tunbridge Wells & District Samaritans	£250
• Towards new training facilities for volunteers	
Fletching Recreation Ground Charity	£650
• Defibrillator	
Fletching Parochial Church Council	£765
• Grass cutting and churchyard maintenance	
Royal British Legion	£100
• Poppy wreath donation	
Legal Advice	£2000
• Ashdown Business Park – validity of application	

Parish Reserves - 2022



• Allocated reserves (£):	
– Flagpole	22
– Historical archive	1,500
– Land registration	1,551
– Parking Working Group	500
– Pump House Renovation	4,351
– Platinum Jubilee	730
• Unallocated reserves at year end (£):	32,283
• Earmarked receipts (CIL) (£):	2,930

Precept 2023-2024



- The Council resolved, given inflationary pressures on much of our budget, to increase the precept for 2023-2024 by 5.9%
- Inflation impacts our clerk's salary and many of our bought in professional services in particular

Highlights of the past year



- Planning:
 - Ashdown Business Park, Downlands Farm, Owlsbury
 - 6 new builds in the Parish approved in last 12 months
 - Plan to work more closely with neighbouring Parish and Town Councils
- Platinum Jubilee and Coronation celebrations:
 - Beacon lighting
 - Fireworks
 - Street parties
- Recreation Ground Pavilion: water leak and potential refurbishment
- Fingerposts: ongoing repairs
- Phone box: Splaynes Green
- Parking Working Group and Neighbourhood Plan

Planning Applications 2022/23



- The Parish Council was consulted by Wealden District Council on **38** planning applications over the last 12 months
- Councillors were only able to visit 16 sites but submitted comments back to WDC on all the applications.
- The applications included new builds, house extensions, garage extensions and swimming pools.
- There were a number of new build applications during the last 12 months including at Acorn Garage and on the A272 near the Piltdown petrol station.
- Councillors represented the Parish at meetings with Wealden District Council to reflect the parish views on the proposed Local Plan and SHELAA sites.

Agenda Item 8: Parish Objectives 2023-24



- To continue as an efficient & effective Parish Council with trained, knowledgeable Councillors and a qualified Clerk
- To update Parishioners as to the developments of the WDC Local Plan and associated planning implications
- To work towards having a parking solution agreed for Fletching High Street
- To effectively manage Fletching Recreation Ground
- To provide a well-run Burial Ground for the Parish
- To complete the restoration of Fingerposts in the Parish
- To continue to support local community groups, charities and the residents of Fletching Parish

Agenda Item 8: Parish Objectives 2023-24



- Neighbourhood Plan
 - Structure
 - Programme
 - Budget
- Roads, speeding & parking
 - ESCC website
 - Speedwatch and '20's plenty'
 - Parking Working Group
- Parish Councillor vacancies
 - 2 vacancies for further co-optees



Agenda Item 9: Questions from the Public



Agenda Item 10: Close of Meeting