

FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Gabriella Paterson-Griggs

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Website: www.fletching-pc.gov.uk



MINUTES of the Meeting of **FLETCHING PARISH COUNCIL** held on Monday 13th October 2025 in the Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Church Street, Fletching from 6.30 – 7.40pm

PRESENT: Councillors R Hannay (Chairman), R Borton, N Collum, G Garland, K Minch and L Schofield.

Also in attendance: Gabriella Paterson-Griggs (Clerk and RFO) and Councillors C Coleman (WDC) and R Galley (ESCC).

Members of the Public in Attendance: 3

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from Councillor D Greenish.

25/155. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR

One application had been received for the casual vacancies for Parish Councillor. Councillors considered the application and asked questions of the applicant.

It was **RESOLVED** that Grace Garland be co-opted to the role of Parish Councillor.

Grace Garland signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was witnessed by the Clerk as the Proper Officer.

25/156. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

25/157. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting held on 8th September 2025 were a correct record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

25/158. MATTERS ARISING

The Actions List as prepared and circulated by the Clerk was noted.

25/159. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Councillor Galley reported that the County Council had submitted the proposal for One East Sussex, which was supported by all parties, to MHCLG. It was noted that there would be a further submission to the government at the end of October in respect of the Strategic Mayoral Authority.

With regards to the road safety issue along the A275 near Trading Boundaries Councillor Galley stated that he had contacted the ESCC Road Safety Team asking for a meeting and was waiting to hear back. He had visited the site and confirmed that the main issue was southbound traffic as the signage was hardly visible and vehicles, in particular lorries, did not have enough time to slow down before the speed limit reduces. It was agreed that setting up a speed watch for the area would be explored by the local residents and that a speed survey could be commissioned by the Parish Council at a future date if required.

25/160. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Councillor Coleman reported that Wealden District Council had not supported the One East Sussex proposal for local government reorganisation and had reported back to the Secretary of State that the council did not support any of the three proposals as all would likely mean higher council taxes with diminished services for residents. However, the Council was taking the opportunity to build a lasting legacy for Wealden and making the maximum difference it could for residents with a number of initiatives achieved.

It was noted that Cllr Coleman was holding a Community Forum in Isfield on 28 October covering local government reorganisation, funding opportunities and citizen science water monitoring.

25/161. WORKING GROUPS / EXTERNAL GROUPS

- i. *Neighbourhood Plan:* Nothing further to report.

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- ii. *Fletching Recreation Ground Committee (FRGC)*: The Clerk reported that the AGM was due to be held on 3rd November 2025 and a grant had been received via the Wealden DC Councillor Ward Fund for a new noticeboard and bench in the playground.
- iii. *Village Hall Committee of Management*: Cllr Hannay reported that work was continuing to make the cottage habitable with re-wiring taking place. The new caretaker had been working very hard clearing out old items in the village hall, polishing the floor etc and has already attracted a number of bookings. An application would be made to the CLIF grant for a complete refurbishment of the hall. A grant had also been received from the Councillor Ward Fund for new window dressings for the hall.

25/162. RESILIENCE PLAN

Councillor Minch reported that she had received agreement from all parties that they were happy to be involved in the resilience plan which would now be updated and circulated for approval at the next meeting.

25/163. CORRESPONDENCE / CONSULTATIONS RECEIVED

There had been no correspondence or consultations received since the last meeting.

25/164. FINANCE AND ASSETS

- i. The invoices and payments for October 2025 were **AUTHORISED** and the Council's current financial position and bank reconciliation were noted.

25/165. BURIAL GROUND

- i. The following items were **NOTED**:
 - a. Burial – Joan Bellingham

25/166. ENFORCEMENT – PLANNING AND DRAINAGE

- i. *Flitteridge Farm*: Cllr Coleman reported that a case number had been allocated to the burning of waste and tyres taking place at Flitteridge Farm. Any further information/incidences should be reported to the pollution team at Wealden/Rother and cc'd to Cllr Coleman.
- ii. *Wilderlands*: an update to be requested from Wealden DC in respect of possible planning breaches at Wilderlands.

25/167. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - RECEIVED

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

- i. **WD/2024/1594/F + WD/2024/2098/LB Knabbs Farm, High Street, Fletching TN22 3SX**

Conversion of redundant barn to create ancillary accommodation to host property. Change of use of land to residential to include remaining part of barn. Full Amended Plans.

*It was **AGREED** that the Planning Working Group be asked to provide comments on this application direct to Wealden DC.*

- ii. **WD/2025/1984/LB Sheffield Park House, Sheffield Park TN22 3QZ**

Installation of emergency lighting, fire safety signage and adaptations to fire doors.

The Parish Council has no comments to make on this Listed Building application.

- iii. **WD/2025/2037/F The Wattles, Goldbridge Road, Piltdown TN22 3XL**

Erection of self-build detached three-bedroom dwelling, detached double garage and associated landscaping.

*The Parish Council **OBJECTS** to this application (full details in Appendix to these minutes).*

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25/168. PLANNING APPLICATIONS – APPEALS

It was **RESOLVED** not to withdraw the original comments made on the following applications that have now gone to appeal:

i. **WD/2025/0767/F 1 Oak Cottages, High Street, Fletching TN22 3TD**

Removal of existing single storey projection and construction of two-storey side/rear extension and alterations. (Application supported by the Parish Council)

ii. **WD/2025/0698/F Oak Tree Cottage, High Street, Fletching TN22 3TD**

Erection of a single storey side extension, incorporating study, utility ground floor WC and living room. (Application supported by the Parish Council)

Note: Councillor Coleman left the meeting at 7.30pm during the discussion of this item.

25/169. PLANNING APPLICATIONS - DECISIONS

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

Applications Approved

i. **WD/2025/1462/LDE Shortbridge Lodge, Mill Hill, Shortbridge, Piltdown TN22 3YH**

Use of land as garden and for other ancillary residential purposes. (CERTIFICATE ISSUED 22 September 2025)

ii. **WD/2025/1782/LDE 1 Bonswick Cottage, Mill Lane, Fletching TN22 3PY**

Use of land for purposes incidental and ancillary to the residential occupation of 1 Bonswick Cottage. (CERTIFICATE ISSUED 12 September 2025)

iii. **WD/2025/1919/LDE Moses Farm, Goldbridge Road, Piltdown TN22 3XN**

Evidence of commencement works to WD/2020/2290/F. (CERTIFICATE ISSUED 26 September 2025)

Applications Refused

i. **WD/2025/1153/F Old Spot Farm, Goldbridge Road, Piltdown TN22 3XN**

Demolition of existing farm shop and outbuildings and phased application for the erection of six semi-detached dwellings and one detached self-build dwelling with associated landscaping and infrastructure. (REFUSED 29 September 2025)

Applications Withdrawn

i. **WD/2023/1857/F Maple Lodge, Golf Club Lane, Piltdown TN22 3XB**

Single storey rear addition. (WITHDRAWN 30 September 2025)

25/170. ITEMS FOR THE PARISH MAGAZINE

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

- Appointment of new councillor and casual vacancy still remaining

25/171. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

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

25/172. TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Parish Council is due to be held on Monday 10th November 2025 at 6.30pm.