

# Fletching Parish Council



Annual Parish Meeting  
8<sup>th</sup> May 2025

# Agenda



1. Introduction and Welcome by the Chairman
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024
4. Report from the District Councillor Christina Coleman
5. Questions for District Councillor
6. Chairman's Report - Highlights of the past year
7. Parish Objectives 2025/26
8. Questions from the Public
9. Close of Meeting

# Agenda Item 1: Introduction from the Chairman



Richard Hannay  
Damian Greenish  
Lady Noel Collum  
Wes Constantinou  
Kate Minch  
Amanda Abraham  
Dave Woollven  
Ross Borton  
**Vacancy**

Chairman  
Vice-Chairman

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)



Assets	All assets owned by the Parish Council: Pump House, Splaynes Green & High Street Phone Boxes, Benches, War Memorial	Clr Damian Greenish
Burial Ground and Green Spaces	Burial Ground / Commons Grass Cutting Street Cleaning	Clr Dave Woollven Clr Kate Minch Clr Noel Collum
Community Safety	Road Safety/Speed Watch Emergency Services FPC Emergency Plan	Clr Kate Minch Clr Amanda Abraham
Finance	Budget / Precept Grants / Insurance	Clr Richard Hannay
Health and Community Services	NHS / Adult Social Care / Activities for the elderly Transport	Clr Kate Minch
Highways	Roads / Potholes / Verges / Pavements / Flooding / Drainage / Signs / Footpaths / Fingerposts	Clr Amanda Abraham
Planning Group	Planning applications received from Wealden District Council for comment	Clr Noel Collum Clr Damian Greenish Clr Ross Borton Mark Creamer
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Gp	Developing a Neighbourhood Plan for Fletching Parish	Clr Richard Hannay Clr Damian Greenish Sally De St Croix Mark Creamer Hugh Bullock

# Working Groups and Councillor Responsibilities (2)



Fletching Historical Group	Partnership between the Church, Parish Council and School	Cllr Noel Collum Gabriella Paterson-Griggs
Ashdown Forest Conservators Parish Liaison Group	Partnership meeting between Conservators and parish councils	Cllr Kate Minch
East Sussex Association of Local Councils (ESALC)	Association of Town and Parish Councils in East Sussex	Cllr Richard Hannay Gabriella Paterson-Griggs
Fletching Recreation Ground Committee (FPC is Sole Trustee of the FRC Charity)	The running of the Fletching recreation ground and children's play area	Cllr Richard Hannay Chris Rothery Vacancy
Fletching Village Hall Committee	The running of the Village Hall through the Fletching Village Hall Charity	Cllr Kate Minch (one representative only)
Leches and Smith Charity	Charity for the benefit of those in need in Fletching and Danehill	Andrew Shaw Rebekah Walker
Parish in Bloom	Annual competition run by South-East in Bloom	Cllr Kate Minch Gabriella Paterson-Griggs
Wealden District Association of Local Councils (WDALC)	Partnership meeting between District / County and Parish Councils	Cllr Richard Hannay (one representative only)
Wealden Parish Cluster Group (Central West)	Information sharing meeting between Wealden District Council Planning and parish councils	Cllr Richard Hannay (one representative only)

Agenda Item 2:  
Apologies for absence received

Agenda Item 3:  
Approval of the Minutes of the Annual  
Parish Meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024

# Agenda Item 4:

## Report from District Councillor Christina Coleman

# Agenda Item 5:

## Questions for Christina Coleman

# Agenda Item 6: Chairman's Report

# Income: April 2024 – Mar 2025



Income:	Actual	Budget
Precept	£34,615	£34,615
Burial fees	£1,575	£2,000
Fingerpost match-fund	£0	£600
Grant funding (NP)	£9,998	£9,998
Bank Interest	£1,162	£450
CIL	£23,610	£23,610
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£70,960</b>	<b>£71,273</b>

# Expenditure: April 2024 – Mar 2025



	Actual	Budget
Employees/Training	£18,900	£19,082
Administration	£965	£1,775
Maintenance	£8,815	£9,400
Grants	£850	£1,500
Section 137	£1,114	£2,600
Prof. fees/Services	£13,078	£12,806
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£43,722</b>	<b>£47,163</b>

Neighbourhood plan consultancy fees paid from grant

# Grants & CIL: 2024-2025



## Grants

### Citizens Advice Bureau

- IT equipment £350

### Fletching Bonfire Society

- Fire Safety and First Aid equipment £500

## Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

- Replacement Waste Bins £5,437
- Replacement Handrail £296

# Parish Reserves as at 31 Mar 2025



Allocated reserves spent(£):	£0
Neighbourhood plan covered by grant	
Reserves at year end (excluding CIL):	£39,021
Earmarked receipts (CIL):	£33,875

# Budget 2025-2026



## Income

	25/26 Budget	24/25 Actual
Bank Interest	£500	£1,162
Burial Ground	£2,000	£1,575
Precept	£36,453	£34,615
Total	£38,953	£37,352

## Expenditure

Administration	£1,805	£965
Employees & training	£20,082	£18,900
Grants	£1,500	£850
Maintenance	£8,850	£8,815
Professional fees & Services	£3,175	£3,080
S137 grants	£2,600	£1,114
Total	£38,012	£33,724
Surplus	£941	£3,628

# Last Year's Objectives



- To continue as an efficient & effective Parish Council with trained, knowledgeable Councillors and a competent Clerk
- To update Parishioners as to the developments of the WDC Local Plan and associated planning implications & continue to engage actively with the emerging Local Plan
- To continue development of a Neighbourhood Plan
- To manage Fletching Recreation Ground effectively
- To provide a well-run Burial Ground for the Parish
- To continue to support local community groups, charities and the residents of Fletching Parish

# Highlights of the past year



- Planning:
  - NPPF & Local Plan
  - Local Government Reform
- Neighbourhood Plan development continued
- Parish in Bloom: Gold Award and Winning Parish
- Replacement Waste Bins
- New Handrail by the village hall
- Repair of the burial ground kissing gate



# Planning Applications 2024/25



- Vast majority of applications were for extensions to existing properties, most of which we supported
- Continued to object to new build applications in Piltdown, supported by further appeal decisions
  - Old Spot Farm: 7 houses – application withdrawn
  - Moses Farm: 2 houses – application withdrawn
- Many thanks for considerable support from Hugh Bullock

# Agenda Item 7: Parish Objectives 2025-26



- Get Neighbourhood Plan past Reg 14 Stage
  - Complete current consultation by 31<sup>st</sup> May
  - Complete draft plan incorporating responses to consultation
  - Submit to Wealden for environmental & habitats regulation assessments
  - Reg 14 consultation
- Robustly respond to Owlsbury & Newick Planning Applications
- Continue to engage actively on Local Plan development
- Engage with Local Government Reform

# Agenda Item 8: Questions from the Public

# Agenda Item 9: Close of Meeting