

FLITTON AND GREENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Mrs D Lawson
Tel no: 01525 860377
clerk@flittongreenfield.org.uk

The Church Hall
Brook Lane
Flitton
MK45 5EJ

16 January 2019

You are hereby invited to attend a **Meeting** of the **Flitton and Greenfield Parish Council** to be held on **Wednesday 23 January 2019** commencing at **19.30h** at the **Church Hall Flitton**

Deborah Lawson

Deborah Lawson, Clerk to the Council

A 15-minute public open forum (when the Council meeting will be suspended and re-opened), will be held at approximately 19.35h

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive apologies for absence (Cllrs Gates and Rishton) and any specific declarations of interest or requests for Dispensations

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.

To confirm the Minutes of the Council meeting **held on 14 November 2018** (copy attached) and consider matters arising for information only

3. UNITARY COUNCIL AND POLICE MATTERS.

4. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Notes of meeting held on 9 January 2019 attached
- Agreeing the 2019/2020 precept
- Communication item from Cllr Arthur from local resident

5. SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS

To consider any issues and make decisions relating to the following Sub Committees

Allotment(s)

Planning (including Neighbourhood Plan)

- Neighbourhood Plan
 - Update and discussion on content/progress
- To consider current planning application(s) below and note any new decisions/Appeals.
Any new applications which will not admit of delay will be added to the agenda if received before the meeting
- Learning from the Planning Committee and recent Appeals

Application Number:		CB/18/04560/FULL (click for more details)
Application registered	Consultation period	Awaiting decision
Registration Date:	10 / 01 / 2019	
Parish Name:	Flitton/Greenfield	
Location:	Hollington House, Flitton Hill, Flitton, Bedford, MK45 2BE	
Statutory Class:	Change of Use	
Proposal:	Change of use from garage to residential annexe	
Case Officer:	Tomos Chenery	
Application Number:		CB/18/04709/FULL (click for more details)
Application registered	Consultation period	Awaiting decision
Registration Date:	19 / 12 / 2018	
Parish Name:	Flitton/Greenfield	
Location:	3 Bramley Gardens, Greenfield, Bedford, MK45 5FG	
Statutory Class:	Householder developments	
Proposal:	Erection of single storey rear extension, front porch and creation of additional car parking space.	
Case Officer:	Tomos Chenery	

Playing Field**Cemetery****MUGA****Highways/Cycle ways/Footpaths/Grass-cutting****6. CLERKS REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE****7. Date of Next Meeting Weds 13 March 2019**

A schedule of future meetings is available at

<https://flittongreenfield.bedsparishes.gov.uk/parish-council-meetings/>

8. AOB for information only

FLITTON AND GREENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Church Hall, Flitton, on Wednesday 14th November 2018

Present: Councillors M Gates (Chairman), N Thompson (Vice- Chairman), N Arthur, P Woodland, G. Ellis, J Fisher, B Rishton, M Lowe, R Stokes and CBC Councillor J Jamieson

Also, Present: D Lawson (Clerk)

Residents Janette Foote, Robert Davison, Phil and Beryl Mitchell, Becky Ballinger, Paul and Tracey Masters. Sue and John Franklin, Chris Ward and Jacqui Stevenson

2727 APOLOGIES AND SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Apologies: Cllrs T King

Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest

Before the meeting started the Chairman welcomed and invited comments from members of the public, all of whom were present to discuss the planning application at land adjacent to 30 Flitton Road, Greenfield, for a development of up to 10 bungalows with all matters reserved except access.

The Chairman outlined the context to the application which has been the subject of several planning applications and an Appeal dismissal last year.

It is also the site where the old orchard trees and hedgerow were deliberately removed earlier in the year and for which the landowner has now been served a Hedgerow Replacement Notice and is being taken to Court in December for his actions, although he does have a 28 day right to Appeal. The planners are aware of this background, but it could be mentioned in any response to the application. The Chairman also noted that the site next door is currently subject to an Appeal by the same land owner and that decision is due at any time. This will be important as both sites form the important open space between villages as designated in the emerging CBC Local Plan.

The following comments were made

- A resident asked if there was any limit to the amount of times an application can be made for the same site or the decision Appealed and the answer was that there is no limit and each application must be considered individually and on its own merits. Therefore, it is important for any comments to be made over and over as they are not carried forward from any earlier applications
- The process mentioned above was endorsed by another resident who commented that it has meant a reduction in numbers and type of properties being proposed and can lead to modification of a scheme, so on-going individuals' comments are very helpful.
- There was a query about whether existing infra-structure particularly water and sewage capacity is capable of accepting additional properties in this area and the village in general as there has not been any upgrading for over 40 years. It was explained that all infra-structure service providers are consulted on every planning application at the detail stage and they can specify upgrades if they feel they are necessary. Most of this application is for outline consent, so details will not be considered yet.
- It was hoped that the dwelling type of bungalows would not be more than one storey to avoid overlooking the existing bungalows in Holmewood Road.
- The position of the access to the site was being dealt with as a non- reserved matter and therefore the Hedgerow Replacement Notice may have an impact on where any hedge is replaced with regard to access. There was also a concern that the two sites adjacent to each other may become one overall estate and therefore again access is important.
- Cllr Jamieson pointed out that with a good 5 years plus land supply and a Local Plan waiting for approval, CBC is in a much better position to fend off predatory planning applications in the rural area now: and is currently winning about 80% of all Appeals (including Sand Road in Flitton)

	DL
2730 FINANCE COMMITTEE	
<p>The minutes of the meeting held on 17 October were received and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted the first 'Flitton Flick's had been held and a message of thanks had been received from the Organiser for the grant enabling blinds to be fitted. The inaugural sessions made £177 turnover and despite a fairly low turn-out, various schemes to promote the next showings mean the organisers are pretty hopeful that December will see a better audience. The telephone allowance of £9.99 per month which was discussed at the last meeting was agreed The Vice Chairman mentioned communication issues and the fact that residents were unaware of activities and planning matters in the area, despite these being publicised on the website, in Flit'n'More and on notice boards. It was noted that some very useful comments were being added to the Community Facebook page unofficially by a resident and these were prompting some response. However, in general it was agreed that every effort was already being made to keep residents informed and the Clerk and Cllrs were thanked for their efforts in keeping the website and notice boards up to date. <p>There was a discussion about trying to get more people interested in the Parish Council prior to the Election next May and it was agreed to discuss this in more details nearer the time.</p> <p>The Finance Committee Chairman urged all Councillors to let the Clerk have any ideas for funding next year to be included in the budget preparations</p> <p>The next meeting is being held on Weds 9th January and not 11th.</p>	DL
AGREED that a telephone allowance of £9.99 monthly should be paid to the Clerk	ALL
2731 SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS	
Allotments:	
<p>Cllr Stokes commented that despite adverts earlier in the year on the notice boards and website, there had not been any interest in the vacant allotment plots. The Clerk agreed to re-advertise on the website</p> <p>It was felt that one reason may be the lack of a water supply and Cllr Stokes agreed to follow this up again with CBC</p> <p>The two vacant plots nearest to the River were discussed as a potential community orchard and may be a project to be funded in the next budget, although it was known that there was another potential site being considered in the Parish</p>	DL RS
Planning including Neighbourhood Plan	
<p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllrs updated following the recent meeting and confirmed that most of the information was now available including an outline draft written by the Consultant, who hoped to present a first rough draft of the Plan at the NP meeting in November. It was envisaged this may mean submission for approval (following consultation and the referendum) by Spring 2019 There was discussion about a resident's request for data from the Housing Needs survey and how it should be handled. The Clerk explained that the Chair of the NP meeting had asked for it to be considered at the next meeting and all views expressed by Cllrs could be taken into account then. 	
The following planning issues were considered and it was agreed as below	
Appeal CB/17/04201/OUT - Land off Sand Road, Flitton, MK45 5DT	
It was noted that the Appeal for 10 dwellings at Land off Sand Road, Flitton had been dismissed	
Application CB/18/0304/FULL 11 Silsoe Road Flitton proposed car port	
According to the CBC planning portal an Appeal has been lodged although there has not yet been any official notification of this	
Application CB/18/04018/OUT Land adjacent to 30 Flitton Road, Greenfield, MK45 5DJ Outline application: Development of up to 10 bungalows with all matters reserved except access	

<p>The new planning application for 10 bungalows had already been discussed in the open session and It was agreed to object on the grounds already submitted in the past, mentioned at this meeting and as set out in the recent Appeal dismissal. This will be circulated in advance of submission especially as the Chairman had made a number of notes on the application documents which should be included</p>	
<p>AGREED that an objection be lodged based on the grounds set out above</p>	DL
<p>Playing Field Sub Committee</p>	
<p>The notes of the last subcommittee meeting were considered and the following points made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three new unexplained litter bins had appeared in the field during the same week that an insurance claim was agreed and two new bins purchased to replace the burnt ones. The Clerk had established that the new bins had been provided by CBC (without any notice) as a result of earlier discussion with them about a bag problem being experienced by the volunteers. It was assumed no charge would be made for them and a key to unlock two of them had been requested, because they cannot be emptied at the moment. The volunteers had been asked if they would be prepared to empty all 5 bins if the new ones are also located in the playing field and they had agreed to this, but preferred the wheelie bin to be moved closer to the new pedestrian gate. This had been agreed and Cllr Lowe agreed to let the Village Hall representative who puts the bins out, know this. The Clerk agreed to get the two new bins sited as agreed • The position for the School football shed had been agreed with all concerned, but has not yet been constructed. The large football goals will be moved further along the fence line so they are out of the way. • The storage compound will be built once the school shed has been built • The old pedestrian gate had been locked and there had not been any comments about this. • The new gate is now up and a self-closing device was fitted yesterday. There was some discussion about separating the new paved path from the Village Hall carpark with a fence or sleepers, but it was agreed not to do anything about this for now • It was noted that a representative of the Gala Committee had been approached about a contribution towards the work on the vehicular gates, but the Chairman of the Committee (Cllr Lowe) asked for a formal request to be made to her and the Clerk agreed to this. • Painting of the remaining play equipment had been completed today • The Clerk had spoken to the team at CBC responsible for administering Dog Control Orders and was told that these only apply if a children's play area is completely fenced off and therefore are not applicable to the whole Playing Field. It was noted that the PC could apply for a bye-law, but would need to pay for this quite costly process and be in a position to enforce so approval was unlikely. There was discussion about fencing off a smaller area to enclose the play equipment and changing the wording on the sign, but it was agreed to leave the situation as it is and see if the dog warden is able to help with any education and publicity with this in the future and on Gala day. 	<p>ML DL DL DL DL/ML</p>
<p>Cemetery Sub Committee</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any outstanding actions for Cllr King which would be carried forward to the next meeting • Cllr Arthur noted that he was slightly concerned about the angle of one of the older headstones although it felt fairly firm and a Cllr Lowe agreed to look at this 	<p>TK ML</p>
<p>MUGA Sub Committee</p>	
<p>A number of issues had been considered recently and a brief site meeting held with the maintenance contractor. A broken tennis net had been mended and clearing the moss would soon be tackled shortly.</p>	

FLITTON AND GREENFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance Committee held at the Church Hall, Flitton
on Wednesday 9th January 2019 at 18.30h

Present: Cllrs N Arthur (Chair), M Gates, G Ellis, T King, P Woodland and D Lawson (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES AND SPECIFIC DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr N Thompson sent apologies

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2018 were received and signed as a true record by the Chair There were no outstanding matters

3.. BUDGET 2018/19 QUARTER 3 ACCOUNTS REPORT AND BANK RECONCILIATION

The Clerk presented the Q3 accounts, these were accepted, and the quarterly reconciliation was noted to show a correct balance.

4. BUDGET 2019/20

The proposed figures were considered and the Chairman explained that out the options he deemed a 2.2% increase (same rate as CPI) the most appropriate approach, however this was up for discussion at the meeting.
This increase covered all the annual ongoing costs plus some one-off costs and allowed enough flexibility to keep the contingency and MUGA/Playing Field funds at an appropriate level. This also took into account the fact that the MUGA re-surfacing would need to be considered in the next few years.

Cllr Ellis queried whether the budget in future could ring fence any Solar Farm Community funding so that it did not become part of the everyday base budget and this was agreed. The Clerk would set this up accordingly.

Cllr Arthur proposed the 2.2% increase and Cllr Gates seconded this

DL

RESOLVED that a 2.2% increase in precept be recommended to Council on 23rd January to raise the sum of £46,400

5. GRANT APPLICATION

The grant application for £650 on behalf of the Friends of Flitton Moor was considered and it was noted that the figures added up to £670. Everyone agreed that the Friends do an excellent job on the Moor and agreed to fund the full £670

RESOLVED that a grant of £670 be paid to the Friends

DL

6. RISK ASSESSMENT REGISTERS

The Risk Registers were discussed and it was noted that all had been updated on the website in January 2019.

RESOLVED the Risk Assessment Registers were adopted for 2019-20

7 BEDFORDSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY (FRA) BUDGET 2019/20

The budget consultation was considered and all agreed that they could answer the first question affirmatively, however the other questions were very difficult to take a corporate view as no-one had sufficient information upon which to base a response. The Clerk agreed to respond accordingly and Cllrs would make their personal views known if they wanted to respond in this way

DL

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

There were no items to note

9. NEXT MEETING

Weds 10th April 2019

The meeting ended at 19.10h

Signed

Chairman 10th April 2019

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Clerks Report

Items for Discussion/Information

1. Great British Spring Clean between 22nd March and 23rd April 2019.

We are invited to take place in this event in 2019. This year, the Organisers are using the 'three bags full' approach, asking 'Litter-Heroes' to separate what is collected into three separate bags; one for plastic bottles, one for aluminium cans and one for general waste. More details will be made available shortly, but we should make a decision in principle this year.

2. Elections May 2nd 2019

On 2nd May 2019, there will be Local Government Elections to decide upon new Councillors for Central Beds Council (CBC) and all the Town and Parish Councils in this area including Flitton and Greenfield. Here in this Parish we have 10 Councillors, 5 for Flitton including Wardhedges and 5 for Greenfield and we need to make sure we continue to have 10 willing representatives after 2nd May. An article on what it means to be a Councillor has been submitted by the Chair to the Spring edition of Flit'n'More and information on the website will start nearer the time

At Parish level, there is a formal nominations process, where all candidates need to be proposed and seconded by two people (signatories must be registered electors in the parish). The nomination papers will be available from the Clerk after 18 March and the closing date for receipt of nominations is 4pm on 3 April 2019. Unfortunately, this period falls between any parish meetings.