

Clerk - Feering Parish Council

From: Feering Parish Council <clerk@feeringparishcouncil.gov.uk>
Sent: 14 September 2020 20:17
To: Clerk - Feering Parish Council
Subject: Feering Parish Council Newsletter September 2020



Feering Parish Council Update - September 2020

September is here already and with it the return to school for many of our younger members of the community. It's great to see so many of them back, especially as some have not been into a classroom for six months.

While we, like many of you, had hoped that COVID-19 would be a distant memory by now, sadly it is still with us. From today it will be illegal for people to meet in groups larger than six, both inside and outside. This includes meeting on our playing field and park. You may see organised sports groups meeting on the playing field; this is allowed under the new restrictions, provided they have shown us their COVID-19 risk assessment and have been granted permission by Feering Parish Council. If you are an organised sports team and would like to use our playing field or MUGA, please contact the Clerk by emailing clerk@feeringparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Although we are unsure as to what will happen over the next few months, please be

assured the support that was provided to residents over the last few months will remain in place for as long as is needed. If you are vulnerable or shielding and would like some support with shopping etc please do get in touch by calling or emailing the Clerk.

Parish Councillor Vacancies

Have you been spending more time within the village during the lockdown period and thought about making a difference to the community you live in? Would you like to be involved in making decisions about the local community and local issues and make a significant contribution to the area in which you live or work? Would you like to provide a voice for the residents of Feering?

Feering Parish Council currently has three vacancies to join the Parish Council. If you want to make a positive difference to your community then please apply.

You must be aged 18 and over, eligible to vote and have lived or work in Feering within three miles of it for 12 months or more. You must also be able to commit time to monthly meetings, mainly held on the third Tuesday of the month, and other committee meetings held during the week.

If you would like to be considered, please contact our clerk, Lisa Collins, at clerk@feeringparishcouncil.gov.uk or call 01376 572882.



Speed Watch Volunteers

Following last month's update, we are pleased to say that we have reached the required minimum 10 volunteers to run a village speed watch scheme, but we would like to get even more if possible. Unfortunately, due to the restrictions imposed due to COVID-19, the start of this scheme has been delayed until next year. We will be in touch with all those who have volunteered as soon as we have a start date. If you are interested in finding out more information, please contact our Clerk, Lisa Collins, at clerk@feeringparishcouncil.gov.uk or 01376 572882.



Climate Emergency

Feering Parish Council have declared a climate emergency and will be working with the Feering Parish Council Environmental Working Party to reduce the carbon footprint of the village. It has been agreed that the Parish Council will take environmental and sustainability issues into account when making decisions for the village and our Standing Orders will be amended to take these changes into account.

Planned Footpath Closure

Essex County Council has sent us advanced warning of a closure to one of our footpaths. Footpath 18, near Threshelfords, will be closed from 5th October 2020 until work in the area is completed. At the moment we do not know when this will be but have been advised that there will be a pedestrian diversion / alternative route in place.

Join the Great British September Clean

The Feering Parish Council Environmental Working Party is taking part in the Great British September Clean 11th - 27th September and we would like to invite residents to join in with a community litter pick on Sunday 20th September at 11am. Due to the new rules that came into force today regarding group meetings, we are encouraging residents to come along to the playingfield on Sunday to collect their equipment and then go litter picking around Feering either as individuals or as small groups (maximum of six people).



Residents can also sign up to Braintree District Council's Green Heart Scheme and commit to keeping their own street litter free with a regular litter pick. More information on the Greet Heart Scheme is available [here](#).

Planning System Reform Consultation

Last month the Government announced a number of planned changes to the planning process which are intended to speed up the planning process and make it easier for development to take place. The Government is asking for responses to this consultation and you can have your say by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future>. The consultation closes on 29th October 2020.

Full Council virtual meeting held on 18 August 2020 at 7.30 pm

The Full Council meeting was held on Tuesday 18 August 2020 virtually via Zoom. It was agreed at the previous meeting that this would be a limited agenda. Copies of the full minutes can be found on the Parish Council Website once they have been agreed at the following Full Council Meeting.

During the meeting, the following items were discussed:

- District Councillor updates – update was given by District Councillor Jenny Sandum to include the new planning legislation which will shortly come into effect and setting out Braintree District Council's ("BDC") concerns around these regulations, in particular, the lack of requirement for renewables being built into the scheme.
- County Councillor update – update was given by County Councillor Robert Mitchell. Essex County Council have been busy with the Safer, Greener, Healthier Schemes in Colchester where the scheme is being rolled out. An update was given on parking issues which have continued to be a problem because of the 1-hour restriction. It was discussed that the restrictions are not effective, and discussion was held around changing the restriction to a permit zone. Consultation would need to be held with the residents of the village.
- Woodland Area Proposal –It was agreed that the initial stages of this project could commence as soon as possible, subject to the sign off for the risk assessments.
- Fly Tipping – The issue of fly tipping in the village was raised. The issues continue to be reported to BDC by the Clerk, however a resident has suggested that signs should be put on the bin to state that CCTV cameras are in operation. The Council discussed this but was agreed that this is not a deterrent and that we would continue to report the issues to BDC for prosecution of anyone found committing an offence.

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