



MINUTES of the MEETING of FEERING PARISH COUNCIL
held at Feering Community Centre on Tuesday 23 May 2023 at 8.00 pm

In attendance: Cllr P Lees (Chair) Cllr K Evans Cllr H Marks
Cllr P Carlaw Cllr S Taylor Cllr N Warwick joined the meeting at 20.01

Also Present: Lisa Collins – Clerk Cllr P Thorogood (ECC and BDC)
Members of the Public: 1

097/2023 Chair's Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

098/2023 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Cllr B McCarthy. It was **resolved** to accept the apologies.

099/2023 Declaration of Interest

To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the agenda.

Cllr Evans declared a non-pecuniary interest as Chairman of the FCC in items 108/2023

100/2023 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Feering Parish Council

After discussion, the minutes of the meeting on 18 April 2023 were **agreed**. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Evans.

101/2023 Public Participation Session

The Chairman will invite questions and observations from members of the public present. A maximum time of 15 minutes will be allowed.

A member of the public, as a trustee of the FCC made comment on the Community Living Room and the use of the Community Centre and hopes that FCC and FPC can have a method of coming together.

102/2023 Finance

- i *To approve the bank reconciliation as at 30 April 2023 and 2022/23 budget account (circulated before the meeting)*

After discussion the bank reconciliation was **approved**. Proposed by Cllr Marks, seconded by Cllr Lees.

- ii *To agree payments for May 2023 (to be circulated prior to the meeting)*

After discussion it was **agreed** that all May payments be made. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Evans. It was noted that the change of signatories has been actioned by Unity Trust Bank and that the Councillors should have their logon details by the end of the week in order to be able to process the payments before the end of the month.

- iii *To receive internal auditors report from Heelis & Lodge and note recommendations*

The Council noted the internal auditor's recommendations and confirmed that general reserves would be increased year on year.

- iv *To consider, approve and sign section 1 – Annual Governance Statement of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2022/23*

After discussion it was **resolved** that Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2022/23 be signed. Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Carlaw.

- v *To consider, approve and sign section 2 – Accounting Statement 2022/23 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2022/23*

After discussion it was **resolved** that Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2022/23 be signed. Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Carlaw.

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for their hard work on the financial year end and the Audit.

- vi *To consider and approve the request to pay Ricoh by direct debit going forward*

After discussion it was **agreed** to pay Ricoh by direct debit. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Evans.

103/2023 Report from District / County Councillor

This item was deferred until Cllr Thorogood and Cllr Finch arrived at 9.22 pm

Cllr Warwick left the meeting at 21.32 and returned at 21.34

Cllr Thorogood submitted a report before the meeting and updated on the following:

Braintree District Council ("BDC") – Cllr Thorogood gave an update on the issue of the signs throughout the village which are damaged.

Essex County Council ("ECC") – Cllr Thorogood's report gave an update Speed Surveys where the Local Highways Panel ("LHP") are updating the guidance document; "Tru-Cam" automated speed checking device and the cost to members will be circulated to the panel shortly; Damaged and outdated directional signs – BDC are looking at the damaged obscured and out of date signs across the district. A sum of money has been allocated to investigate a proactive approach towards the replacement and maintenance of signs. Cllr Thorogood has requested FPC to provide details of the damaged, missing or out-of-date signs by the next meeting; the LHP Scheme for London Road which needs to be looked at further. The Council has previously been told that a road safety audit had to be conducted before anything would be done to the Coggeshall Road junction so this should be requested again under the traffic calming measures for validation It was also discussed that the Inworth Road pavement which was removed from the LHP agenda should be resurrected; Rivenhall Incinerator – pre-application received for 65 hectares of Greenhouses and application to remove condition 66 for the provision of a paper pulping facility, bio food waste, composting and MTB recycling facility.

Questions were asked of Cllr Thorogood regarding the state of the Inworth Road already following the resurfacing as it is starting to wear again. Discussion was also held around the Bradwell Quarry Liaison Committee and whether the Parish Council should be part of that committee. Cllr Thorogood agreed to send the link to the meeting to Cllr Evans and the Clerk to attend the meeting on 24 May.

Cllr Thorogood and Cllr Finch left the meeting at 21.46.

104/2023 Clerks Report

The report had been circulated previously and was noted. The clerk updated on an incident at Bridge Meadow and also comments received by the handyman contractor regarding the condition of the bin liners which were rotten. Discussion was also held

again around the parking issue by the Blue Anchor junction and the issue of residents being unable to walk on the pavement with prams and the owner of the showroom not taking any action to help.

105/2023 Planning Matters

i Electoral Division in Essex

After discussion it was **agreed** to submit a comment that in view of the increasing population, we believe there should be more than 2 additional councillors added. The make-up of constituencies should be looked at and being able to represent them and maintain the integrity of communities.

ii 23/00816/OUT – Land at Cranes Lane, Kelvedon

After discussion it was **agreed** that the Parish Council would object to this application. We support Kelvedon Parish Council in their objection. The development is outside the village envelope, it is not in BDC's local plan. The applicant is proposing 3 accesses, an in and out of the business area and proposing to subsume the lower end of Cranes Lane to make that the entrance to the 100 residential home which is straight onto a 60mph speed limit exit slip road from the A12. Clarification is sought on land ownership for the access to the business court area as we believe that the applicant does not own the grass which is proposed to cross. The proposed business court accesses are in a complicated road geometry are with access to both the on and off A12 slips so there will be issues with cutting across the white line markings across a 60 mph slip road from/to the A12.

iii 23/01079/TPO – 8 Barnfield, Feering

After discussion it was **agreed** that this application be referred to the BDC tree warden.

iv 23/01078/TPOCON – 7 Barnfield, Feering

After discussion it was **agreed** that this application be referred to the BDC tree warden.

v 23/01099/HH – The Tree House, London Road, Feering

After discussion it was **agreed** that this application be deferred to the planning working group meeting.

106/2023 Highways & Transport

i VTAG report

No meeting held.

ii A12 to A120 widening - A12 Highways England Statutory Consultation

Next deadline is 10th June for the next submission. Cllr Evans intends to submit a submission on behalf of the Parish Council. Discussion was held around the road through Prested Hall drive.

iii Councillors to discuss any issues to report regarding Transport / Refuse to BDC and/or ECC

Manned Refuse was well used again this month.

iv Village Speeding Issues and Cycle routes for the village

Cllr Lees commented that the A12 cycle path is dangerous as there is grass growing through the path and the brambles.

107/2023 Committee and Representatives Report

To receive a report, consider and agree any actions arising from the report on the following:

i FCC Trustees Meeting from Cllr K Evans

Report was circulated before the meeting and noted. Discussion was held around the trustee representation of the Parish Council and the number of trustees to be appointed. Further discussion needs to be held around this. Discussion was also held around the lack of confidence that the Parish Council has in the FCC running the community centre particularly in relation to the finances and the perceived loss due to be made again this year, the cleanliness of the centre and decoration. We want to work with the Community Centre to ensure that the legal requirements are being met to ensure that the centre runs effectively. It was agreed that further discussion needs to be held around this and a meeting should be held between the FCC and FPC.

ii PRow & Cycleway Committee

No report received.

iii Playing Field Management Working Party from Cllr P Lees

No report received.

iv Feering Environmental Working Party from Cllr C Dobson

No report received.

v Braintree Association of Local Councils / Essex Association of Local Councils from Cllr P Lees

Report was circulated before to the meeting and noted.

vi IWMF Rivenhall Airfield Site Liaison Committee

No report received. Cllr Evans updated on the pre-application for the greenhouses and removal of Condition 66.

108/2023 Community Centre Maintenance

i *To discuss the Community Centre Maintenance and agree any remedial actions to be taken*

Discussion was held around the exterior doors for the Changing Rooms and boiler room. It was **agreed** that quote 3 for UPVC doors be accepted. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Carlaw.

ii *To discuss and agree the setting up of a maintenance committee for Feering Community Centre*

After discussion it was **agreed** that this be deferred to the next meeting.

iii *To discuss and agree future arrangements of Community Living Room*

It was confirmed that the Community Living Room will be held on a Monday at the Cricket Club rather than the Community Centre and the Wednesday session will remain at the Community Centre.

109/2023 Annual Report

After discussion it was **agreed** that the Annual Report should have an addendum added to the finance section in relation to the questions raised at the APA. This will then be sent

to the printers and distributed throughout the village. Proposed by Cllr Lees Seconded by Cllr Marks

110/2023 Grant Applications

- i *To update on grant applications*

The Clerk informed the council about the Community Ownership Fund which was circulated by the SLCC. It was **agreed** that the expression of interest be submitted.

Discussion was held around the loft insulation.

111/2023 Feering Master Planning

- i *To update on the Kelvedon and Feering Health care provision*

Nothing to update.

- ii *S106 Monies for Allotments*

Nothing further heard from National Association of Allotments. Clerk to chase.

- iii *Lady Meadow*

Nothing to update.

112/2023 Village Green

The clerk informed Councillors that the contact at Eastlight had confirmed that the title plan had been sent to their solicitors and we are waiting for this to be received by our solicitors. Once this has been received the Transfer form can be signed.

113/2023 Items for Next Agenda

- i Flood Alleviation Scheme Report
- ii Feering Master Planning

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 22.18 and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed

20 June 2023

Paul Lees