



**Notes of the Feering Parish Council Planning Working Group
held virtually on Monday 24 July 2023 at 09.30 am
via Teams (Meeting ID 342 682 560 411)**

In Attendance: Cllr Katherine Evans Cllr Paul Lees
Cllr Nathaniel Warwick Lisa Collins – Clerk
Members of the Public: 0

1) DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS

a) Colchester City Centre Masterplan Supplementary Planning Document

Comments by Councillors: No comments to make.

Delegated response: No response to be submitted.

b) 23/01670/TPO – The Bungalow, London Road, Feering

Comments by Councillors: Defer to the tree wardens' comments.

Delegated response: Following discussion with our Tree Warden, Feering Parish Council have no comment to make. Our tree warden has informed us that the yews will take any amount of pruning.

c) National Grid Consultation

Comments by Councillors: Discussion was held around the fact that the company building the offshore element has ceased operation. It was also discussed that National Grid should not use the old-style pylons, they should use the new style, however it was discussed that it may be more noticeable using the new style. It was also discussed that we cannot have renewable energy without the infrastructure.

Delegated response: Defer response to the next meeting.

d) Essex Electric Vehicle Charge Point Strategy

Comments by Councillors: Some of the aspirations is very good. Very little substance in terms of solving problems. Concern over the emphasis on using the private sector to deliver the vast majority of the infrastructure because the deprived rural Essex areas would not pay for a charge point in the middle of nowhere. A concern as to how electric charge points are going to be delivered in areas where no off-street parking or frontage parking. This is not just an urban issue. This should be obligatory on planning permissions to prevent retrospective fitting. Should be particularly in affordable housing areas. Would like to see Parish Councils able to supply EV charging points. Digital Demand Responsive transport – can this be extended to all areas of Braintree. (Pg36). Survey is very much aimed at individuals rather than businesses or Parish Councils. An email to be drafted and submitted on behalf of the Parish Council.

Delegated response: Feering Parish Council have reviewed this strategy and looked at the survey. The survey is very much aimed at individuals rather than businesses or Parish Council's being able to respond, hence the need to send an email. Feering Parish Council are concerned about the emphasis on using the private sector to deliver the vast majority of infrastructure, particularly in the deprived rural Essex areas (which Essex have identified, eg rural Braintree) as they would not pay for infrastructure to be installed in the rural areas, even though those living in those areas will want to be

able purchase electric vehicles. There is a large proportion of properties (eg terraced properties, older properties) with no off-street parking or frontage parking, somewhere street lights are against houses so it would not be possible to put the infrastructure in place and therefore the Parish Council is again concerned as to how these charge points are going to be delivered. This is not just an urban issue but also on new housing estates and in rural areas.

The Parish Council also feel that the EV charging points should be statutory in all new build homes and must be made statutory in all upcoming planning applications for all districts so that there is no need to retrofit. This should particularly be for affordable homes or homes without garages.

Feering Parish Council would also like to see support for Parish/Town Councils to be able to deliver EV charging points in rural areas.

We also understand that Essex County Council would like to reduce the amount of car journeys being undertaken. This will not be possible in areas such as Feering as the public transport system is simply not good enough. Braintree has recently introduced a Digital Demand Responsive Transport system but this is purely for north Braintree and does not cover our area. Therefore, this needs to be extended to all areas of Braintree to improve the public transport network.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of the next meeting Monday 14 August 2023 at 10.00 am via Teams.