



MINUTES of the MEETING of FEERING PARISH COUNCIL
held at Feering Community Centre on Tuesday 27 February 2024 at 7.30 pm

In attendance: Cllr P Lees (Chair) Cllr P Carlaw Cllr S Taylor
 Cllr E Mitchell Cllr K Evans Cllr N Warwick

Also Present: Lisa Collins – Clerk Cllr P Thorogood (ECC/BDC)
Members of the Public: 2

033/2024 Chair's Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

034/2024 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr B McCartney were noted.

035/2024 Declaration of Interest

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

No declarations of interest were received.

036/2024 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Feering Parish Council

After discussion, the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 16 January 2024 were **agreed**. Proposed by Cllr Mitchell, seconded by Cllr Taylor. It was further resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 30 January 2024 were **agreed**. Proposed by Cllr Mitchell, seconded by Cllr Taylor

037/2024 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 stated that they were interested in the items on Think! and also the Community Centre. A second member of the public asked whether there were allotments within the village. It was responded that there are currently 4 which are all allocated with a waiting list but it was hoped that there would be more allotments coming when the development of the village takes place.

038/2024 Finance

- i *To approve the bank reconciliation as at 31 January 2024 and 2023/24 budget account (circulated before the meeting)*

After discussion the bank reconcilliation for January 2024 was **approved**. Proposed by Cllr Carlaw, seconded by Cllr Evans.

- ii *To agree payments for February 2024 (to be circulated prior to the meeting)*

After discussion it was **agreed** that all February payments be made. Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Carlaw.

039/2024 Report from District / County Councillor

Cllr Thorogood submitted a report before the meeting:

Braintree District Council ("BDC") – Cllr Thorogood updated on Crown Estates meet and greet on 9 March from 10.30 – 4 pm at Feering Community Centre; grants – Cllr Thorogood has £950 available, it was discussed that this could be used towards the steps at Taylors to change to a ramp.

Essex County Council ("ECC") – Cllr Thorogood gave an update on the Minerals Local Plan Review, seven sites in his division, A7 already in the plan which is near the Rivenhall Incinerator, A47 Monks Farm which could well be used as this does not current have any reds against the site in the report. A48 Grange Farm is meant to be a joint scheme with the Environment Agency for a flood alleviation scheme which Priti Patel has informed CRAQ was still possibly going to come forward. A94 at High Field Lane is another which may affect Feering residents; EIA scoping opinion request has been received for the greenhouses at the Rivenhall Incinerator site; update was also given on the air quality equipment funding at Rivenhall IWMF which will be asked of by PAIN from Indaver.

Questions were asked of Cllr Thorogood as follows: it was asked whether there would be councillor grants available for the coming financial year. Cllr Thorogood said that there would be funds available from BDC and discussion was held around ECC grant funding.

040/2024 Clerks Report

The report had been circulated previously and was noted. Discussion was held with the District Councillor around the correspondence received regarding the Braintree Community Transport Scheme. Cllr Thorogood said that it has been raised but due to the lack of volunteers they are unable to go out of the area. It was **agreed** that the Clerk could attend the Treasury Management and Investments Training proposed by Cllr Lees and seconded by Cllr Carlaw. The clerk informed council that the P3 Service level agreement has been received and will be signed. The funds will also be increased for this year. It was also noted that there is a planning introduction training session in May and this should be attended. It was also noted that the amenity vehicle charges have been sent out and there is an increase of 7% but this was budgeted for at 10% increase.

041/2024 Planning Matters

- i All decisions have been made by Delegated Authority by the clerk in conjunction with discussions with the Planning Working Group and these will be ratified at the next face to face meeting. Cllr Evans updated on the following applications discussed at 14 February Working Group meeting: 24/00148/PLD - 46 Feering Hill; 23/03022/FUL – Rivers House, Threshelfords; 24/00250/TPOCON – Bridge Cottage, Coggeshall Road; Replacement Minerals Local Plan Review 2025-2040; 24/00251/DAC – Land Adjacent to Cockerells Farm, Skye Green Road; 24/00198/HH – Greenacre, Rye Mill Lane.

- ii *To consider the Essex County Council Replacement Minerals Plan Review 2025-2040*

After discussion it was **agreed** Cllr Carlaw and the clerk work on a response following the receipt of the Kelvedon Parish Council submission which can be finalised at the next Planning Committee Working Group meeting. Councillors thanked Cllr Carlaw for her hard work on the production of the report.

042/2024 Highways & Transport

- i *VTAG report . To consider Council's position regarding the VTAG Group*
Nothing to update.
- ii *A12 to A120 widening - A12 Highways England Statutory Consultation*
Nothing to report.
- iii *Councillors to discuss any issues to report regarding Transport / Refuse to BDC and/or ECC*
Nothing raised.
- iv *Village Speeding Issues and Cycle routes for the village*
Nothing to update. SID will shortly be working again.

043/2024 Committee and Representatives Report

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

- i *FCC Trustees Meeting*
No report received. The Clerk updated that following the Health and Safety Audit work has started to rectify issues which were raised.
- ii *PRoW & Cycleway Committee*
No report received. It was noted that the rafted path (footpath 17) has been temporarily closed due to the recent weather.
- iii *Braintree Association of Local Councils / Essex Association of Local Councils from Cllr P Lees*
Report was circulated before the meeting and noted. It was discussed that a CIF emergency application should be applied for in relation to the hall ceiling and lights.
- iv *IWMF Rivenhall Airfield Site Liaison Committee*
No report received.
- v *Greenway North Essex Cycleway – Cllr Evans*
No report received.

044/2024 Feering Community Centre CIO

An update was given on the current position as to where the Trustees and Parish Council are with regard to the Parish Council becoming the sole trustee of the charity.

045/2024 Handyman / Grass Cutting Contract

It was discussed that there had not been any comments about the current state of the village. Discussion was held around the up growth of the pavements.

046/2024 Environmental Working Party

After discussion it was **agreed** to postpone the agenda item.

047/2024 Feering Master Planning

- i *Bloor Homes – Attenuation Basin*
Nothing to update.
- ii *Bloor Homes – Hemlock Issue*

Nothing to update.

048/2024 Annual Assembly / Annual Report

After discussion it was noted that Dan Gascoyne, CEO of Braintree District Council, had agreed to be our speaker for the event and would present the Community Awards. Discussion was held around the annual award nominations by end of March.

It was **agreed** that all reports for the 2023/2024 report would be provided to the Clerk by Friday 28 March in order for the Clerk to prepare the report and get it produced before the Annual Assembly if possible.

Paul Thorogood and members of the public left the meeting at 21.26

049/2024 Policy Review

i *To review and agree the Financial Regulations*

After discussion the amendments to the Financial Regulations were noted and it was agreed that the Financial Regulations be adopted. Proposed Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Carlaw

ii *To review and agree the Standing Orders*

After discussion the amendments to the Standing Orders were noted and it was agreed that the Financial Regulations be adopted. Proposed Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Taylor

iii *To review and agree the Risk Assessment for 2023-2024*

After discussion it was agreed that the Risk Assessment be adopted for 2023-2024. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Taylor.

050/2024 Village Green

i *Update on Village Green transfer*

The costs issue has been agreed and we are now in a position to proceed with the transfer. The Clerk is waiting for confirmation of when this will be done. The Councillors thanked the clerk for her hard work in getting to this point.

051/2024 D-Day 80 Celebrations

After discussion it was **agreed** to discuss this item with Feering School and see if they are working on any projects around this event. It was also agreed to speak to the Kelvedon Feering and Coggeshall Royal British Legion to see if they are planning any events.

052/2024 Items for Next Agenda

- i Essex Police representative attending
- ii Asset Register Review
- iii Consider improvements to the Village Green

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 22.08 and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed

19 March 2024

Paul Lees