



MINUTES of the MEETING of FEERING PARISH COUNCIL
held at Feering Community Centre on Tuesday 16 July 2024 at 7.30 pm

In attendance: Cllr P Lees (Chair) Cllr B Palmer Cllr K Evans
Cllr E Mitchell

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

147/2024 Chair's Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

148/2024 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence have been received from Cllr P Carlaw, and Cllr S Taylor. It was **resolved** to accept the apologies of Cllr Carlaw. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Mitchell.

149/2024 Declaration of Interest

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

No declarations of interest were declared

150/2024 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Feering Parish Council

After discussion, the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 18 June 2024 were **agreed**. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Palmer.

151/2024 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.

No questions from the members of the public.

152/2024 Finance

- i *To approve the bank reconciliation as at 30 June 2024 and 2024/25 budget account (circulated before the meeting)*

After discussion the bank reconciliation for June 2024 was **approved**. Proposed by Cllr Mitchell, seconded by Cllr Palmer.

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

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

153/2024 Report from District / County Councillor

Cllr Paul Thorogood submitted a report before the meeting.

Braintree District Council ("BDC") Update – BDC Local Plan review has commenced because the local plan will be considered out of date after 5 years. BDC asking for input from Parish Council's local residents and businesses. All very speculative at this stage.

Colchester also reviewing their local plan. Also discussion around the Andrewfields site near Stebbing with Uttlesford.

Essex County Council ("ECC") Update – Rivenhall Airfield IWMF – Indaver will not finance a third party air monitoring system and private funding of a scheme is going to be the most likely way forward; ECC Minerals Consultation for Site A83 is 24th July. Comments about policy and criteria used can still be made; Bradwell Quarry Liaison Committee meeting A47 was also raised here. It was agreed that they could work with National Grid. There was discussion around the fact that there could be pylons, quarry and then houses on the site. The flood alleviation scheme was also raised and the planning application will be going in shortly; Pylons consultation closes on 26th July; Attended a National Grid consultation as the pylons are going to go straight across the A47 site for quarries which the pylons would go in ahead of the quarry. Cllr Thorogood also raised St Peter's School in Coggeshall expansion.

Cllr Lees asked why the Local plan is being reviewed given the change in government and their changes to the planning policy. Cllr Evans asked about grant schemes for County and District and whether there is any funding for fire doors.

154/2024 Clerks Report

The report had been circulated previously and was noted. Discussion was held around Ragwort and Hemlock in the village.

155/2024 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.

No meeting has been held since the last meeting on 8 May 2024. Next meeting to be held on 17 July.

156/2024 Highways & Transport

- i *VTAG report . To consider Council's position regarding the VTAG Group*

Report circulated before the meeting and noted.

- ii *A12 to A120 widening - A12 Highways England Statutory Consultation*

Nothing to update.

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

Discussion was held around the traffic monitoring strips on the various roads around Feering. Report regarding the passenger transport meeting was circulated before the meeting and noted. Cllr Evans confirmed that she is happy to be the Bus Transport rep. Cllr Lees raised that there is a possibility of now getting a commercial waste recycling bin for £40 per year. Clerk to look into this.

- iv *Village Speeding Issues and Cycle routes for the village*

Nothing to update. However the Clerk has spoken to a member of the Speedwatch Team who has said that they may be able to reinvigorate this shortly.

157/2024 Committee and Representatives Report

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

i *PRoW & Cycleway Working Group*

No report received.

ii *Braintree Association of Local Councils / Essex Association of Local Councils from Cllr P Lees*

No report received. Cllr Lees has attended an EALC meeting. Foodbank money is still only half spent. Referrals by job centres have been stopped and those running the foodbanks can only have one grant application per year instead of the two previously allowed.

iii *Employment Committee from Cllr P Lees*

No report received.

iv *IWMF Rivenhall Airfield Site Liaison Committee – Cllr Carlaw*

No report received.

v *Greenway North Essex Cycleway – Cllr Evans*

Report circulated before the meeting and noted.

vi *Update on Packhorse Bridge Weir Repairs*

Nothing to update.

158/2024 Review of Financial Regulations

After discussion it was **agreed** that subject to the amendments made to the document these be approved. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Palmer.

159/2024 Grant Applications

i **Update on Grant Applications**

Cllr Evans and the Clerk confirmed that the Enovert application for solar panel batteries has been awarded. They also confirmed that pending final confirmation we are hopeful that the BDC grant for the Hall Ceiling repair will also be awarded.

ii **To consider and agree contractors for repair of the Hall Ceiling if the Braintree District Council grant application has been successful**

After discussion it was **agreed** that quote A with the Zentia Arena tiles is the preferred contractor and we would instruct them to undertake the work at the earliest possible date during the school holidays once the grant has been approved. Proposed by Cllr Palmer, seconded by Cllr Mitchell.

iii **To consider and agree contractors for the battery installation for solar panels if the Enovert Grant application has been successful**

After discussion it was **agreed** that the two preferred contractors with Quote 1 and Quote 3 would be asked to carry out a site visit to confirm where the batteries should be fitted and a decision would be made by the Clerk as to which contractor to instruct following that information being obtained. The budget limit of £7,000 plus VAT was **agreed**. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Palmer

160/2024 Feering Community Centre

To consider and agree the cost of replacing the fire doors to the Oak Room and possibly the Main Hall

After discussion it was **agreed** that Cllr Thorogood would put in a grant for the cost of the Oak Room doors and if unsuccessful the Parish Council will fund the doors for the Oak Room. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Palmer.

161/2024 Handyman / Grass Cutting Contract

This has been discussed under the Clerk's report.

162/2024 Feering Master Planning

- i *To consider and discuss the Crown Estates master planning event.*

The next Crown estate master planning event will be held on 23 July 2024 at the Community Centre.

- ii *To consider and discuss a meeting with BDC re master planning*

Nothing to update. Clerk to action.

- iii *Bloor Homes – Attenuation Basin*

Nothing to update. Cllr Thorogood to chase BDC.

- iv *Bloor Homes – Hemlock Issue*

Nothing to update.

163/2024 Village Green

- i *Update on Village Green transfer*

Nothing to update.

- ii *Consider improvements to the Village Green once transfer is complete*

Nothing to update.

164/2024 Tree Works

It was confirmed that the Poplar tree would be removed from the playing field on Thursday 18 July. A post will be put on the website and social media to inform residents.

Discussion was held around the crab apple trees on Taylors which have been damaged by moths and caterpillars. It was **agreed** that a quote for their removal would be sought together with a timescale for replacement and recommendation.

165/2024 Meeting Schedule

After discussion it was agreed that the meeting in August would be cancelled. The next meeting would therefore be 17 September. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Mitchell.

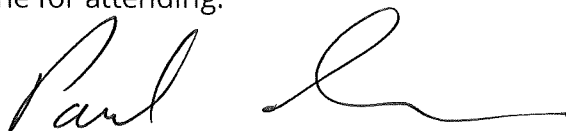
166/2024 Items for Next Agenda

- i Ragwort

167/2024 Close of Meeting

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 21.14 and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed



Paul Lees

17 September 2024