



Also Present: Lisa Collins –Clerk Cllr P Thorogood (ECC and BDC Councillor)

217/2024 Chair's Welcome

218/2024 Apologies for Absence

219/2024 Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were declared

220/2024 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Feering Parish Council

221/2024 Public Participation Session

No questions from the members of the public.

222/2024 Finance

- i To approve the bank reconciliation as at 31 October 2024 and 2024/25 budget account (circulated before the meeting)

After discussion the bank reconciliation and budget account for October 2024 was **approved**. Proposed by Cllr Palmer, seconded by Cllr Carlaw.

- ii *To agree payments for November 2024 (circulated before the meeting)*

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

223/2024 Co-option of Councillors

After discussion it was **agreed** to co-opt Ian Giles to the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Palmer seconded by Cllr Carlaw. Cllr Giles signed the declaration of acceptance of office and joined the meeting as a Parish Councillor.

224/2024 Report from District / County Councillor

Braintree District Council ("BDC") Update – Local Plan – meetings to discuss which sites will go forward; planning public forum for Skye Green solar panel farm Cllr Evans asked that it be discussed how they were going to link across to the Coggeshall Substation there is not a definitive route yet, but they would like to go directly.

Essex County Council ("ECC") Update – IWMF – ECC has decided to send all waste to the incinerator from April next year even though the incinerator will not be operational until May 2026. Cllr Thorogood has submitted written questions to Cllr Schwier to ask for explanations, there is a site liaison meeting in 2 weeks' time; Members scheme for Highways smaller success the bridge between Feering and Kelvedon is meant to have been repaired. Also Sherwood Way footway; Devolution – government white paper – there has been an article in the Times that ECC will cease and there will be devolution to unitary authorities, there is talk that elections could be delayed to get this through.

Cllr Evans and Cllr Lees had attended a meeting with KPC regarding the homes at London Road. BDW are of the view that the A12 is dead in the water. The plan currently shows a doctors surgery with room for extension. BDW have said that the extension is only for Kelvedon and not Feering for the Crown Estates sites. Discussion was held around this and the A12.

Cllr Thorogood left the meeting at 20.03.

225/2024 Clerks Report

The report had been circulated previously and was noted. It was **agreed** that the purchase of a computer for the Clerk be approved. It was discussed that the IT company should be contacted to discuss the potential for an improved version to get better value and longevity. Proposed that a budget of £900 be agreed. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Mitchell. It was also agreed that the main hall doors should be replaced subject to a disability review by Braintree officers. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Carlaw.

226/2024 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. Meetings have been held on 4 November 2024.

At the meeting the following applications were discussed: Presentation by Barratt David Wilson in relation to the 300 homes at London Road; 24/02228/TPOCON – Walberswick House, The Street, Feering; 24/02193/HH – Harkstead, Rye Mill Lane; 24/02257/HH – 19 Packe Close; 24/00814/SCO – Crown Scoping Opinion Request; Footpath 18 Feering – informal consultation.

The next meeting to be held on 5 December at 10 am.

227/2024 Highways & Transport

- i *VTAG report . To consider Council's position regarding the VTAG Group*
No report received.
- ii *A12 to A120 widening - A12 Highways England Statutory Consultation*

Nothing to report. It was noted that the next consultation review has been postponed from February.

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

It was raised about parking at Willow Gardens near the corner. The road is still not adopted by Essex County Council and is still under the ownership of Bloor. There was also discussion about the parking on the corner of Inworth Road and London Road by the car dealership.

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

Cllr Taylor raised the issue of the SID not working and asked about speed surveys as we do not receive any reports. It was discussed that we should look at purchasing a new SID. It was also discussed about speedwatch.

228/2024 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. There is now a new chairman of EALC.

- 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*

No report received.

- vi *Blackwater / Pant Fluvial Workshop*

The report was circulated before the meeting and noted. It was discussed that we would get in touch with the Essex Wildlife Trust to find out what was happening with the Weir replacement.

- vii *Playing Field Committee*

It was discussed that Feering Falcons will potentially need a new ground and they have asked if we can accommodate them. An update was given on the meeting held.

- viii *Feering and Kelvedon Local History Museum 2024 AGM – Cllr K Evans*

The report was circulated before the meeting and noted.

229/2024 Consultation enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings

After discussion it was **agreed** that the Clerk should submit the response on behalf of the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Carlaw.

230/2024 Christmas Flags

After discussion it was **agreed** that the winners would be notified to the School and banners and posters produced asap.

231/2024 Council Meeting Dates 2025

After discussion it was **agreed** that the meeting date schedule be agreed. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded Cllr Taylor.

232/2024 Health & Safety Audit

After discussion it was **agreed** that the report was overall positive and that the fire risk assessment should be conducted as a matter of urgency and also staff training for working at heights.

233/2024 Braintree District Council – Potential Open Space Improvements

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

234/2024 Braintree Planning Policy – Feering Calls for Sites

After discussion it was **agreed** to discuss this matter at the next Planning Working Group Meeting and a draft response should be prepared for circulation to Councillors

235/2024 Braintree District Council Design Code Consultation

After discussion it was **agreed** that a response should be submitted.

236/2024 Grant Applications

i Update on Grant Applications

It was confirmed that the grant application to Braintree District Council for Community Gardens and open spaces funding had not been successful in relation to Bridge Meadow.

237/2024 Handyman / Grass Cutting Contract

This has been discussed under the Clerk's report. Meeting with them on Thursday.

238/2024 Feering Master Planning

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

Next event is on 3 December 2024 at the Community Centre at 7.00 pm.

ii *To update on meeting with Crown Estates re Master Planning*

A meeting has been requested. Dates are needed to be given to Crown Estate for the week of 16 December.

iii *To update on members forum meeting with BDC re master planning*

This item to be removed.

iv *Bloor Homes – Attenuation Basin*

Nothing to update.

v Bloor Homes – Hemlock Issue

Nothing to update.

239/2024 Tree Works

The clerk confirmed that she has contacted the Tree Warden and is waiting for a response in relation to the appropriate trees. Once this has been received contact will then be made with the residents.

Discussion was held regarding the offer from a local organisation to put a tree onto either the village green or Taylors.

240/2024 Items for Next Agenda in January

- i Precept
- ii Contact LHP for discussion around Frame Farm Bend speed reduction
- iii SID purchase
- iv Health and Safety report update.

241/2024 Close of Meeting

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 21.25 and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed

10 December 2024

Paul Lees