MINUTES of the MEETING of FEERING PARISH COUNCIL
held at Feering Community Centre on Tuesday 18 February 2025 at 7.30 pm

In attendance:	Cllr P Carlaw (Chair)	Cllr E Mitchell	Cllr B Palmer
	Cllr K Evans	Cllr N Warwick	Cllr J Spencer

Also Present: Lisa Collins –Clerk

Members of the Public: 0

023/2025 To elect a Chairman

After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Evans that Cllr Carlaw be elected Chairman. Seconded by Cllr Warwick, unanimously **agreed**. Cllr Carlaw signed the declaration of acceptance of office.

024/2025 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

025/2025 Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Cllr Ian Giles. It was **agreed** that these apologies be accepted. Proposed Cllr Mitchell, seconded Cllr Palmer

026/2025 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.

027/2025 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Feering Parish Council

After discussion, the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 21 January 2024 were **agreed**. Proposed by Cllr Carlaw, seconded by Cllr Mitchell.

028/2025 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.

029/2025 Finance

i *To approve the bank reconciliation as at 31 January 2025 and 2024/25 budget account (circulated before the meeting)*

After discussion the bank reconcilliation and budget account for January 2025 was **approved.** It was noted that the bank reconciliation was showing incorrect bank statement amount for Nationwide. Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Carlaw.

ii *To agree payments for February 2025 (circulated before the meeting)*

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

iii *To consider and agree further the grant application for 2025-2026*

After discussion it was **agreed** the grants for the Feering Parish Magazine for £250 should be given for 2025-2026. Proposed by Cllr Mitchell, seconded by Cllr Warwick.

030/2025 Report from District / County Councillor

Cllr Thorogood submitted a report before the meeting relating to the devolution of Essex County Council which was noted.

Discussion was held around the devolution scheme, particularly around parcels of land which are owned by BDC but leased to FPC and the importance of the BDC Local Plan response

031/2025 Clerks Report

The report had been circulated previously and was noted.

The Clerk informed council of the response received by Think! relating to issues which were raised at the meeting on 30 January. It was **agreed** that we need to find out whether we could put the bench and /or fencing on the green or whether we need permission to do so. It was discussed that the car park would be repaired. It was further **agreed** to look into the cost of a new mower.

032/2025 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 3 February 2025.

At the meeting the following applications were discussed: 24/02383/VAR – Land North of London Road Kelvedon; 25/00058/VAR – The Tree House, London Road, Feering.

033/2025 Highways & Transport

i *VTAG report*

No report received.

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 to report.

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

Nothing to report.

034/2025 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*

No report received.

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

No report received.

iv *Playing Field Committee – to consider and discuss request from Feering Falcons*

The report was circulated before the meeting and noted. After discussion it was **agreed** that the cone climber be repaired at a cost of £1,595. Proposed by Cllr Palmer seconded by Cllr Carlaw. It was **agreed** that the trees which have died on the playing field should be removed and not replaced, along with the cages. It was **agreed** to ask Jane Palmer to have a look at the trees before removing to ensure that they are unrevivable. Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Carlaw.

v *Planning Members Forum Update – London Road Kelvedon – Cllr P Carlaw*

The report was circulated before the meeting and noted.

035/2025 Committee / Working Group Memberships

Following the resignations of Cllr Paul Lees and Cllr Stephen Taylor there are vacancies on the various Committees, Working Groups and representatives. After discussion it was **agreed** that:

Vice Chairman – Katherine Evans Proposed by Cllr Carlaw, seconded by Cllr Palmer

Finance Committee – Cllr Carlaw and Cllr Evans be added

Internet / Cheque Signatories – Cllr Palmer be added

Employment Committee – Cllr Spencer added and Cllr Warwick confirmed as a member

Emergency Organisation – Cllr Carlaw be added

Playing Field Management Working Party – Cllr Evans, Cllr Mitchell be added

Removal of Strategic Growth Working Party;

BALC – Cllr Carlaw be added.

EALC – Removal as this is appointed by BALC.

036/2025 Clerk Training

After discussion it was **agreed** that the Clerk should attend both the Co-option Training Session and the A Council Year training session. Proposed by Cllr Carlaw, seconded by Cllr Palmer

037/2025 Feering Community Centre Maintenance

After discussion it was **agreed** that the quote from MPS Doors should be accepted and that automation of the doors should be included to ensure that all users, including those with disabilities have easy access. Also check whether the doors can be kept open for repeated journeys and the cost for the electrical spur. Proposed by Cllr Mitchell , seconded by Cllr Warwick.

038/2025 Purchase of Speed Indicator Device

After discussion it was **agreed** that further information should be sought in relation to the downloading of information and batteries and this will be discussed again at the next meeting.

039/2025 Section 106 Funds

After discussion it was **agreed** to defer this matter to the next meeting and seek further clarification around the allotment allocation.

Initial

040/2025 Braintree District Council Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy

After discussion it was **agreed** a response be submitted to this survey. Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Carlaw.

041/2025 Grant Applications

i **Update on Grant Applications**

The Clerk updated on the successful Grant Application from Cllr Finch as part of the Braintree Community Councillor Grants and the increased amount which has been applied. Thanks were given to Cllr Finch.

042/2025 Handyman / Grass Cutting Contract

Discussed as part of the Clerk's report.

043/2025 Feering Master Planning

To update on Crown Estates Community Panel Meeting re Master Planning

A report was circulated before the meeting which was noted. Cllr Evans also circulated a report in relation to questions posed to Crown Estate. It was **agreed** that a meeting with the NHS/ICB should be held to ask for further clarification as to the NHS facilities at London Road, as well as meetings with ECC Education, Feering Primary School and Sport England.

044/2025 Tree Works

After discussion it was **agreed** that a Kentish Cob and an almond tree would be an ideal replacement. This will be discussed with the local residents and a discussion with the Cinema Club who have offered to purchase a tree for the community.

045/2025 Items for Next Agenda in January

i SID purchase

ii Review of Standing Orders and Policies

iii Greater Essex Devolution Consultation

iv New mower

v Creation of Action Plan / 5 year plan.

vi Annual Assembly

046/2025 Close of Meeting

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 22.07 and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed .... 18 March 2025

Pam Carlaw