



MINUTES of the MEETING of FEERING PARISH COUNCIL
held at Feering Community Centre on Tuesday 18 March 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
Cllr I Giles

Also Present: Lisa Collins –Clerk Cllr P Thorogood BDC/ECC
Members of the Public: 0

047/2025 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

048/2025 Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence have been received.

049/2025 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.

050/2025 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Feering Parish Council

After discussion, the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 18 February 2025 were **agreed** subject to the minor amendment to date. Proposed by Cllr Carlaw, seconded by Cllr Palmer.

051/2025 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.

052/2025 Finance

- i *To approve the bank reconciliation as at 28 February 2025 and 2024/25 budget account (circulated before the meeting)*

After discussion the bank reconciliation and budget account for February 2025 was **approved**. Proposed by Cllr Carlaw, seconded by Cllr Palmer.

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

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

- iii *To review and agree the Asset Register for 2024/2025*

After discussion it was **agreed** that, subject to the amendments to be made, the Asset Register for 2024/2025 be approved. Proposed by Cllr Carlaw, seconded by Cllr Palmer.

053/2025 Report from District / County Councillor

Cllr Thorogood submitted a report before the meeting which was noted.

Essex County Council ("ECC") Update – Devolution – Mayoral elections are aiming to be held in May 2026. There is currently a consultation on devolution which closes on 13 April; Local Government Reorganisation – All district, borough and city councils and Essex County Council have met to discuss preliminary proposals. Not thought there will be changes to town and parish councils in terms of elections; Rivenhall Waste Incinerator – Update on recent meeting, plans for greenhouse complex and CO2 capture, and condition change for invisible plume; National Grid Pylons Scheme – National Grid have tweaked the route away from some properties but nearer to others. Consultation currently running until 27th March.

Braintree District Council ("BDC") Update – Planning Application 24/02658/FUL – Proposed solar farm, land east of Littlebury – This is going before BDC's planning committee on 18 March. Solar Farm will be temporary for 40 years and returned to agricultural use at the end. BDC officer recommending approval.

Discussion was held around the meeting held at Braintree DC regarding there being no consultation around the Local Government Reorganisation. Discussion was also held around the pylons and the new consultations.

054/2025 Clerks Report

The report had been circulated previously and was noted.

The Clerk informed council that a quote had been received for the Fuse Spur which was £189 plus VAT. It was also discussed that there is an 8-10 week lead time so the doors need to be ordered ASAP to get them fitted over the May Half Term Holiday. It was agreed that the doors should be ordered as soon as possible subject to confirmation from Enovert that we will not jeopardise the FPC grant application. Proposed by Cllr Palmer, seconded by Cllr Mitchell.

The Clerk also informed Council that we have received the BDC Street Scene Partnership Agreement for 2025/26 which will be signed and returned.

055/2025 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. A meeting was held on 24 February 2025.

At the meeting the following applications were discussed: BDC Local Plan; 21/03579/OUT – Land South West of Coggeshall Road, Kelvedon – continued objection to this Parker Land application; Essex Air Quality Strategy and Bradwell with Pattiswick Parish Neighbourhood Plan Review and Update.

056/2025 Highways & Transport

- i *VTAG report*
No report received.
- ii *A12 to A120 widening - A12 Highways England Statutory Consultation*
Nothing to report. Discussion was held around the A120 speed reductions.

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

Councillors discussed the Traffic Regulation Order for the Bloor Estate. Discussion was also held around the village gateway signs with speed reminders at the entrance to the village and the speed survey which had taken place.

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

Nothing to report.

057/2025 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 *IWMF Rivenhall Airfield Site Liaison Committee – Cllr Carlaw*

Report was received before the meeting and noted. Discussion was held around the mission creep of the conditions.

- iii *Playing Field Committee*

No report received. It was noted that the play inspection report had been received, and this would be circulated to the Playing Field Committee

058/2025 Annual Assembly / Annual Report

After discussion it was agreed that Cllr Thorogood would ask a BDC Waste Officer to be our speaker for the event and present the Community Awards. Discussion was held around the annual awards, nominations by end of March.

It was **agreed** that all reports for the 2024/2025 report would be provided to the Clerk by 9 April in order for the Clerk to prepare the report and get it produced before the Annual Assembly if possible.

059/2025 Policy Review

- i To review and agree the Standing Orders

After discussion the amendments to the Standing Orders were noted. It was noted that there were only minor amendments to paragraph 3C and paragraph 18D. It was **agreed** that Standing Orders be adopted. Proposed by Cllr Carlaw, seconded by Cllr Mitchell.

- ii To review and agree the Risk Assessment Document

After discussion it was **agreed** that the Risk Assessment be adopted for 2024/2025 subject to the various amendments discussed. Proposed by Cllr Carlaw, seconded by Cllr Mitchell.

060/2025 Purchase of Speed Indicator Device

After discussion it was **agreed** that a new SID be purchased through Traffic Technology together with a spare battery. Proposed by Cllr Palmer, seconded by Cllr Mitchell.

061/2025 Section 106 Funds

After discussion it was **agreed** to defer this matter to the September meeting and seek further clarification around the allotment requirements from plot holders. It was also discussed that we seek confirmation of the title deeds for the allotments.

062/2025 Greater Essex Devolution Consultation

After discussion it was **agreed** a response be submitted to this consultation. A draft response to be circulated. Proposed by Cllr Carlaw, seconded by Cllr Spencer.

Cllr Thorogood left the meeting at 21.31.

063/2025 Feering Community Centre Maintenance

After discussion it was **agreed** that the parish Council instruct the structural engineer for a fee of £300 for a report to assess the changing rooms. Proposed by Cllr Palmer, seconded by Cllr Mitchell.

064/2025 Grant Applications

i Update on Grant Applications

The Clerk updated that a grant application has been submitted to Enovet to replace the Community Centre front doors. The outcome of this grant is expected mid-April. It was also discussed that if the application is not successful, we may be able to apply for a grant from Indaver.

065/2025 Action Plan / 5 Year Plan

After discussion it was **agreed** the document be amended further and further feedback given. To be brought back to the next meeting in order to adopt this document at the Annual Assembly.

066/2025 Handyman / Grass Cutting Contract

Discussed as part of the Clerk's report. Think! to be asked to clean the street name signs and further reduce the ivy growing into the tree and around the litter bin by footpath 16 / the entrance to the Playing Field on Rye Mill Lane.

067/2025 Feering Master Planning

To update on Crown Estates Design Review Panel Meeting

A report was circulated before the meeting which was noted. Thanks was given to Cllr Evans for producing the report.

068/2025 Tree Works

The Clerk updated that the tree surgeon has been instructed to remove the trees. It was also noted that one of the residents has confirmed that they would be happy with the Kentish Cob and Almond species of trees agreed. The resident has asked whether the trees will be young and how long they will take to mature. The Clerk has asked the tree surgeons to get a quote for the trees. It was also **agreed** that nearby residents will be asked to assist with watering the new trees.

069/2025 Items for Next Agenda

- i Action plan / 5 year plan.
- ii Community Awards / Annual Assembly / Annual Report
- iii Direct Debits/Standing order review.
- iv Tree works on Playing Field
- v Crown Master planning
- vi Village Green

070/2025 Close of Meeting

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 22.11 and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed

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Pam Carlaw

15 April 2025