



**MINUTES of the MEETING of FEERING PARISH COUNCIL**  
**held at Feering Community Centre on Tuesday 17 June 2025 at 7.30 pm**

**In attendance:** Cllr K Evans (Chair)      Cllr J Spencer      Cllr B Palmer  
Cllr I Giles      Cllr E Mitchell      Cllr N Warwick

**Also Present:** Lisa Collins –Clerk

Members of the Public: 0

**125/2025 Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**126/2025 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received from Cllr P Carlaw. It was **agreed** that these apologies be accepted. Proposed Cllr E Mitchell, seconded Cllr I Giles

**127/2025 Declaration of Interest**

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

No declarations of interest were received.

**128/2025 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Feering Parish Council**

After discussion, the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting and Full Council Meeting held on 20 May 2025 were **agreed**. Proposed Cllr B Palmer, seconded Cllr J Spencer

**129/2025 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 members of the public present.

**130/2025 Finance**

- i *To approve the bank reconciliation as at 31 May 2025 and 2025/26 budget account (circulated before the meeting)*

After discussion the bank reconciliation and budget account for May 2025 was **approved** subject to the amendment of the bank reconciliation statement for the current account. Proposed by Cllr B Palmer, seconded by Cllr E Mitchell

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

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

- iii *To receive internal Auditors report from Heelis & Lodge and note any recommendations*

The Council noted the internal auditors report and recommendations. Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Palmer

- iv To undertake a review of effectiveness of Internal Audit and consider Statement on Internal Controls

After discussion the Audit Plan was completed and **approved**. Proposed by Cllr Palmer, seconded Cllr Mitchell. It was further **agreed** that the Statement on Internal Controls, subject to the amendments, be approved. Proposed by Cllr Palmer, seconded by Cllr Mitchell

- v To consider, approve and sign section 1 – Annual Governance Statement of the Annual Governance Accountability Report for 2024/2025

After discussion it was **resolved** that Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Report for 2024/2025 be signed. Proposed by Cllr Palmer, seconded by Cllr Evans

- vi To consider, approve and sign section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/2025 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2024/2025

After discussion it was **resolved** that Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Report for 2024/2025 be signed. Proposed by Cllr Mitchell, seconded by Cllr Palmer

- vii To agree to continued use of Heelis & Lodge as Internal Auditor for 2025/2026 financial year end

After discussion it was **agreed** that Heelis & Lodge be confirmed as Internal Auditor for 2025/2026 financial year. Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Palmer

#### 131/2025 Report from District / County Councillor

Cllr Finch and Cllr Thorogood gave apologies for the meeting. Cllr Thorogood submitted a report before the meeting which was noted.

Essex County Council (“ECC”) Update – Rivenhall Waste Incinerator - the incinerator will start test burning in August 2025. There is to be a “steam blowing” exercise of the boiler system between 12 July and 28 July which could be noisy and last for 20 minutes at a time between 7 am and 7 pm. There have been more planning applications out for consultation which seeks to put off building any of the recycling elements previously agreed and could increase impacts on local communities and the environment; Greenhouses application linked to incinerator site – an application for 40 hectares of greenhouses at the Rivenhall Airfield has also been submitted. The public consultation has ended but submissions can still be sent in. The greenhouses plan has some merit, up to 300 jobs, use of about 6-10% of CO2 captured from the incinerator and the production of about 6% of the UK’s tomatoes. The negatives are extra traffic on the A120 and continued industrialisation of the site which was previously earmarked for restoration to farmland and natural habitat; Local Highways Panel – The LHPs are to be revived after they were suspended in March and Braintree’s first one will take place on 26 June. With the dissolution of ECC in 2028, and the creation of a mayor for Essex, ECC have said only easily deliverable schemes will progress forward;

Braintree District Council (“BDC”) Update – Waste collection - BDC have agreed to change how waste is collected in the district, following a public consultation. Recycling calendars are to be reinstated as the new collection arrangements will be more complicated. Green waste will remain the same, once a fortnight, paid for subscription, grey/black bins will move to once every three weeks, food waste will stay the same – weekly in the caddies. Recycling will no longer be in clear sacks but instead in two new wheelie bins collected alternate fortnightly – paper and card in one bin and all other recycling in the other, including glass; Local Plan – Meetings are being held throughout June to decide which of

the more than 300 sites submitted to the Local Plan Review are selected to go forward into the new Draft Plan. The decision on smaller sites of less than 500 homes in Feering resulted in no new housing sites for the village. Larger strategic sites for homes of 500 plus will be considered at meetings in September and October.

#### 132/2025 Clerks Report

The report had been circulated previously and was noted following discussion.

#### 133/2025 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 22 May and 2 June 2025.

At the 22 May meeting the following applications were discussed: ESS/23/25/BTE, ESS/39/23/13/BTE and ESS/24/25/BTE - Various applications for Land at Rivenhall Airfield; 25/01065/TPOCON – Rivers House, Threshelfords Business Park, Inworth Road; 25/01055/HH – 1 Hall Farm Close, Feering.

At the 2 June meeting the following applications were discussed: 25/00439/FUL – Police Houses, London Road; BDC Local Plan.

Cllr Evans circulated a report and discussion was held.

#### 134/2025 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*

It was **agreed** that a call for volunteers to man the speedwatch would be put in the Parish Magazine.

#### 135/2025 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 Evans*  
No report received.
- iii *Playing Field Working Group*

A report was circulated before the meeting. It was noted that thanks should be given to Simon Gibbs for agreeing to undertake the vertidrainage. It was discussed that we should have a further look at the trees on the field as one appears to have revived. Following recommendation from the Playing Field Working Group it was **agreed** that a survey should be sent to residents regarding play equipment this will be aimed for September. It was **agreed** to get a further quote for a maintenance inspection of the play equipment. After

discussion it was **agreed** that the recommendations for the repairs should be undertaken. Proposed by Cllr Palmer, seconded by Cllr Mitchell.

**136/2025 Grant Applications**

- i Update on grant applications

The Clerk confirmed that the signed agreement from Enovert for the front doors had been received and the spur fuse had been fitted ahead of the doors being fitted during the summer holidays

**137/2025 Handyman / Grass Cutting Contract**

This was discussed as part of the Clerk's report. It was **agreed** that Cllr Evans should attend the next meeting on 24 June with Think!

**138/2025 Feering Master Planning**

- i *To update on Crown Master Planning (if available)*

Cllr Evans gave an update on the BDC members forum meeting on 20 May.

**139/2025 Essex Devolution**

A letter from the Government had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was discussed that we would speak to BDC and ECC to ask about land to be given to the Parish Council. It was proposed that we would ask for the Allotments, Greenways, Watermill and the land opposite Sun Inn. Proposed by Cllr Warwick seconded by Cllr Giles.

**140/2025 Housing Needs Survey**

After discussion it was **agreed** that subject to amendment of the covering letter the survey is agreed and should be progressed. Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Spencer

**141/2025 Tree Works**

The clerk informed the council that there had been a branch fall from one of the trees in the car park over the weekend. The tree surgeon was called and they came and made the area safe and returned on Monday to remove the branch. It was also discussed that we would ask the tree surgeons to have a look at the tree in the corner of the playing field.

**142/2025 Village Green**

After discussion it was **agreed** that the clerk would contact Eastlight for further information on the options for posts and get some further quotes for the costs.

**143/2025 Items for Next Agenda**

- i Tender for Handyman and Grass Cutting Contract
- ii Village green
- iii Cancellation of August meeting

**144/2025 Close of Meeting**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 21.39 and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed

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**Katherine Evans**

15 July 2025