



Notes of the Feering Parish Council Planning Working Group
held virtually on Wednesday 9 July 2025 at 2.30 pm
via Teams

In Attendance: Cllr Katherine Evans Cllr Ian Giles
Cllr Bob Palmer
Lisa Collins – Clerk

Member of Public 0

1 DISCUSSION OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS

a) 25/01383/TPOCON – 40 Feering Hill, Feering

Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area: Removal of the copper beach tree to the front of the property.

Comments by Councillors: Power line looks like it goes through the tree and the supply authority will want that removing or cutting round the power line. If it does not come down, then it must be pollarded. Utility company could be advised that the tree is interwoven. Note that the householder has applied and there is no indication that a professional tree surgeon has looked at the tree. Tree warden said that pollarding / pruning can be done successfully in the winter preferably and we would like to see that.

Delegated response: Feering Parish Council notes that the applicant is the householder and that no supporting arboricultural report from a qualified tree specialist appears to have been submitted with the application.

Our Tree Warden has advised that appropriate pollarding or pruning can be undertaken successfully, ideally during the winter months to reduce stress on the tree. However, in accordance with the precautionary approach outlined in Feering Neighbourhood Plan Objective E3, we would defer to the professional assessment and recommendation of Braintree District Council's Tree Officer on this matter.

b) 25/01393/TPOCON – 38 Feering Hill, Feering

Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area: 1No. Ash Tree, approx. 15 m height – reduce by half removing upper branches and leaving only the upright trunk

Comments by Councillors: Previously passed with no conditions. If you only leave the upright trunk you are going to end up with a dead tree as there will be no leaves to photosynthesise. Householder application again, no professional report. Not sufficient information as to what they have done.

Delegated response: Feering Parish Council notes that the applicant is the householder and that no arboricultural report or assessment by a qualified tree specialist appears to have been submitted in support of this application. We further note that the scope and extent of the proposed works are not clearly defined, and it is unclear whether the remaining tree structure post-works would be viable for long-term survival.

Our Tree Warden has advised that the presence of numerous dead branches may indicate Ash Dieback, a progressive disease which is likely to result in the eventual loss of the tree. While reducing the tree's canopy may mitigate short-term safety risks, the tree may ultimately require full removal in the coming years. In line with the precautionary approach set out in

Objective E3 of the Feering Neighbourhood Plan, which seeks to conserve and enhance the natural environment, we would ask that Braintree District Council's Tree Officer carry out an assessment and provide expert advice before any works are approved.

c) **25/01447/PLD – Wood Cottage, Rye Mill Lane, Feering**

Application for a proposed lawful development certificate – proposed 3No. dormer windows to front elevation.

Comments by Councillors: We note for information only and does not overlook any other resident property.

Delegated response: Feering Parish Council note that this application has been received for information only. As the proposed works do not appear to impact the amenity of neighbouring residential properties, we have no comments to make at this time.

d) **25/00035/REF and APP/Z1510/W/25/3365443 – Prested Hall, Prested Hall Chase, Feering CO5 9EE**

Appeal under Section 78 – Removal of existing marquee and erection of a replacement marquee in a new location. Response to email received from Agent

Comments by Councillors: Discussion was held around the insulation and acoustic material to be used on the marquee and the noise contour map.

Delegated response: Consideration was given to the email from the agent and no further action to be taken at this time.

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UPDATE ON APPLICATIONS APPROVED / REFUSED

Applications approved:

25/00775/HH – Cherry Tree House, Coggeshall Road, Feering. It was noted that conditions had been made in relation to the hours of work allowed.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

TBC