



MINUTES of the VIRTUAL MEETING of FEERING PARISH COUNCIL
held virtually on Tuesday 19 January 2021 at 7.30 pm
via Zoom (Meeting ID 840 6627 6463)

- Present:** Cllr P Lees (Chair) Cllr C Dobson Cllr S Reed
Cllr L Blackburn Cllr K Evans Cllr R Carpenter
Lisa Collins – Clerk Cllr R Mitchell (ECC) Cllr P Thorogood (BDC)
Members of the Public: 1
- 001/2021 Chairman Welcome**
The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 002/2021 Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were received from Cllr Miedziedz and Cllr Onno. It was **resolved** to accept the apologies.
- 003/2021 Declaration of Interest**
To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary, Pecuniary or non-Pecuniary Interest relating to items on the Agenda.
No Declarations of Interest were disclosed.
- 004/2021 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Feering Parish Council**
After discussion, it was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 8 December 2020 be approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Carpenter, seconded by Cllr Dobson.
- 005/2021 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 comments from the members of the public.
- 006/2021 Finance**
- i *To approve the bank reconciliation as at 31 December 2020 and 2020/21 budget account (circulated before the meeting)*
After discussion the bank reconciliation was **approved**. Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Carpenter. It was retrospectively **agreed** for the payments made to Essex Pensions Fund in December be made.
 - ii *Councillors to agree payments for January 2021 (circulated to Councillors before the meeting)*
After discussion it was **agreed** that all January payments be made. Proposed by Cllr Dobson, seconded by Cllr Lees.
 - iii To discuss and agree the precept request for 2021-2022 following receipt of the tax base from Braintree District Council
After discussion, it was **agreed** to accept the recommendation made by the RFO and request a precept of £65,372 an increase of 1.97%. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Blackburn.

007/2021

Report from District / County Councillor

Cllr Mitchell gave an update on County Council issues as following: flooding issues across the county; the rafted path repairs and re-repairs; the flood plain in the village; potholes are in the process of being fixed; County Council budget is being proposed as no increase on main budget but 1.5% on adult social care.

Cllr Thorogood gave an update on Braintree District Council issues as follows: Bloor Homes environmental offerings throughout the site were no longer being implemented by Bloor. Planning officer has received a reply to confirm Electric charging points will be going ahead and there will be a flue gas wastewater recovery system, but no solar panels; Greater Anglia meeting regarding the consultation for Kelvedon station; Timeline for section 2 of the local plan is still awaited; Following the implementation of the Brexit deal the Government are allowing a pesticide used on sugar beet which kills bees. BDC are trying to roll out wildflower planting and Cllr Thorogood will be asking BDC to ask local landowners whether they use the pesticide in question; Flooding – update given on the local development sites which may cause further issues for the village with run -off.

Cllr Evans asked if either councillor could let her know if they become aware of any farmers who will be getting the Environmental Land Management Scheme in Essex or East Anglia and will be participating in the pilot.

Cllr Dobson asked whether there was any further information on the Kings Dene sites.

008/2021

Clerks Report

The report had been circulated previously and was noted.

009/2021

Health and Well Being Working Group

i Presentation from Danielle Frost of EALC

Danielle gave a presentation on the health and wellbeing conference held on 26 November 2020 and the various provisions that EALC are providing on behalf of ECC.

Danielle left the meeting at 19.53.

ii To agree the members of the working group and the format of the group

After discussion it was **agreed** that Councillors would contact the clerk with their interest in the working group before setting up a meeting to engage with the community and ask for further input from the community.

010/2021

Planning Matters

Cllr Carpenter gave an update on the meeting held on 10 December 2020 where 4 applications were discussed relating to Cedar Cottages; The Quillet; Cobham Oak Cottage; Speedwell Cottage.

Cllr Carpenter also updated on the planning meeting held on 13 January 2021 where 7 applications were discussed, relating to 64 Feering Hill; Spindles, Worlds End Lane; Hanover House; Toadshole Cottage; and Coggeshall Hall Farm. An interim response was agreed in relating to Watering Farm, Kelvedon and that the Parish Council would write to the owners of 52 Feering Hill to advise of the need to seek planning permission.

011/2021

Highways & Transport

i VTAG report

Cllr Evans received a copy of the presentation which was attended by the Parish Council in November. A copy has now been received by the Parish Council. It was raised whether a

copy of the Kelvedon presentation could be obtained as this included the local access road between Witham and Kelvedon.

- ii A12 to A120 widening – A120 Routes – A120 Community Forum meeting update

No update received. Cllr Evans has received an email regarding Junction 24 and will circulate this to councillors and clerk.

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

The Clerk informed the council that the manned refuse collection has been suspended again due to lockdown.

- iv Village Speeding Issues and Cycle routes for the village

No update.

012/2021 **Committee and Representatives Report**

To receive a report, consider and agree any actions arising from the report on the following:

- i FCC Trustees Meeting from Cllr L Blackburn

Cllr Blackburn gave the report from the FCC.

- ii Neighbourhood Plan Committee from Cllr L Blackburn

The report was circulated before the meeting and noted.

- iii PRoW & Cycleway Committee

A meeting is to be held on 9 February at 8.00 pm. Asked the members to update the Walks around Feering booklet which is out of print. ECC has asked for volunteers to look at cross-field surveys which the Clerk has responded to confirm the PRoW Committee will undertake this.

- iv Feering Environmental Working Party from Cllr C Dobson

The report was circulated before the meeting and noted. Congratulations was made to Danielle and her husband on the birth of their son.

- v Employment Committee

A meeting was held on 13 January following up on the appraisal review in November. Main point was to prioritise issues which have been put on the back burner and that some issues may not be able to be responded to immediately.

013/2021 **Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16 Document**

After discussion, it was **agreed** that the Parish Council adopt the text version of the Draft Neighbourhood plan for regulation 16. It does not include the maps which need to be updated but have not yet been received from Braintree District Council. Proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Carpenter. Thanks was also given for the amount of work which has been undertaken on this document.

014/2021 **Bloor Homes Site Wide Strategy Response from Braintree District Council**

After discussion, it was **agreed** that the response from Cllr Evans on 8 December should be used to issue the complaint to Braintree District Council.

015/2021 **Local Open Spaces Action Plan**

After discussion, it was **agreed** Cllr Dobson would work on the additions for the Open Spaces action plan and we can then submit the response before 1 February. An extraordinary meeting would be called on 27 January to finalise the response.

016/2021 Greater Anglia Timetable Consultation

After discussion it was **agreed** that an official response should be submitted. Following a meeting with GA it was noted that the official consultation was incorrect and that the services during peak hours would not be reduced at Kelvedon Station. It was asked that the infrastructure issue be raised in our response and the need for 2 trains per hour on a Sunday, and the need for more flexible ticketing should also be mentioned. It was also discussed that we could mention that we welcome the fact that there is no reduction in service during peak hours, the increased number of homes being built in the villages and surrounding areas.

017/2021 CCTV Equipment

- i To agree to the purchase of a new monitor and DVR Recorder recommended by the CCTV company

After discussion, it was **agreed** that the equipment be purchased. Proposed by Cllr Dobson, seconded by Cllr Blackburn.

Cllr Mitchell left the meeting at 21.38.

- ii To discuss and agree the purchase of a wildlife camera to assist in the prevention of fly tipping around the village

After discussion it was **agreed** that a wildlife camera be purchased subject to it being insurable and the insurance excess costs. It was also **agreed** to ask the question of who would receive any money from fines.

018/2021 Tree Survey

After discussion it was **proposed** that Be Green Tree Surgery be instructed to undertake all high risk work up to the 12-month period of the report which should be completed before 1 March. The rest of the work should be proposed by Cllr Lees, seconded by Cllr Carpenter. 5 councillors for, 1 councillor abstention.

019/2021 Christmas Tree for 2021

After discussion, it was **agreed** that Cllr Dobson be allowed to plant the live tree, subject to confirmation from the landowner that they are agreeable to this being planted on their land. Should they not agree it was agreed that the tree would be planted on Taylors.

020/2021 Climate Change Conference – 28 January 2021

After discussion, it was **agreed** that Cllrs Lees would attend to present on behalf of the parish council and either Cllr Onno or Evans would attend the conference.

Cllr Lees proposed that the standing orders should be suspended to allow the meeting to continue. Cllr Dobson seconded.

021/2021 Plastic Free Feering

After discussion it was **agreed** that Feering Parish Council would pass a resolution to support the journey to plastic free community status, commit to plastic-free alternatives and plastic-free initiatives within the parish. It is also **agreed** that the council will lead by example and phase out single use plastic. Proposed by Cllr Dobson, seconded by Cllr Lees.

022/2021 Funding to make Public Buildings more energy efficient

Cllr Evans updated that the Council had been unsuccessful in its grant application for this initiative. Cllr Evans has been looking into other grant initiatives.

023/2021 Kelvedon & Feering Rugby Club

After discussion it was **agreed** to consider the proposal to be put forward by the KFRC at the next meeting.

024/2021 Items for Next Agenda

- i Kelvedon & Feering Rugby Club
- ii Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16
- iii Report back on climate change conference
- iv Christmas Tree
- v Community Centre Energy efficiency
- vi Health & Wellbeing working group formation
- vii Crown Estates meeting

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 22.44 pm and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed

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Paul Lees

16 February 2021