



MINUTES of the MEETING of FEERING PARISH COUNCIL
held at Feering Community Centre on Tuesday 17 August 2021 at 7.30 pm

In attendance: Cllr P Lees (Chair) Cllr C Dobson Cllr S Reed

Cllr L Blackburn

Cllr K Evans

Also Present: Lisa Collins – Clerk

Cllr J Sandum (BDC)

Members of the Public: 0

123/2021 Chairman Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

124/2021 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Robert Carpenter. It was **resolved** to accept the apologies.

125/2021 Declaration of Interest

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

No disclosable interests were declared.

126/2021 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Feering Parish Council

After discussion, it was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2021 be approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Dobson, seconded by Cllr Lees.

127/2021 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 members of the public present.

128/2021 Finance

- i *To approve the bank reconciliation as at 31 July 2021 and 2020/21 budget account (circulated before the meeting)*

After discussion the bank reconciliation was **approved**. Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Blackburn.

- ii *To agree payments for August 2021 (to be circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting)*

After discussion it was **agreed** that all August payments be made including the CPRE Membership payment which was received just before the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Dobson, seconded by Cllr Evans.

129/2021 Report from District / County Councillor

Cllr Thorogood sent his apologies but sent a written report. Thanks was given to Cllr Thorogood for raising the members question regarding the traffic survey and congratulations should be given for being on the Climate Change Commission Committee. We look forward to seeing him at the next meeting.

Cllr Sandum gave an update on Braintree District Council issues as follows: Planning communication challenges: Members Forum – Cllr Sandum had asked when they will be started, a response had been received to say that preparatory work is being undertaken with a view to then working through the legal, governance and operation requirements to setting up the forum. An update will be shared in September to members. FPC Councillors raised concerns that the members forums had been voted through with no real thought as to how this would work, particularly as it works in favour of developers rather than the parish. Cllr Sandum had also raised the issue of the S106 Agreement with Bloor Homes where no communication had been received for 140 days from BDC. Emma Goodings confirmed that the case officer was in the process of writing to Bloor Homes and should be sent this week. Councillors queried why Bloor have been written to given that we had sent a request for information, but nothing had been received. Confirmation that BDC are happy to meet with FPC regarding master planning, but they have not been dealing with Crown Estates in terms of planning applications. BDC's Draft climate change action plan has been released following consultation. Will be a moving document. Consultation includes better waste management, wildflower planting, tree planting, subsidised water butts and sustainable checklists for planning. Green homes grant still open to 30 August. Eco grants available for businesses. New Community Support employment officer brought in at BDC who can be referred to by the Parish Council.

Cllr Sandum raised that she was meant to be getting an update on the Green Climate Scheme focussing on the Blackwater/Colne valley which includes Feering which will be a designated environmental improvement area and wanted further clarification on what needed to be asked. Cllr Lees responded that we want to know what BDC going to do in terms of supporting the area.

Cllr Evans asked where we are for amenity verges and a map from BDC. Cllr Dobson confirmed that she had gone through the map and summarised it previously.

Cllr Dobson asked if Cllr Sandum and Cllr Thorogood had discussed what could be done in terms of neighbourhood plans and the planning issues we are experiencing? Cllrs Sandum and Thorogood are going to try to get a meeting with Emma Goodings to discuss this. It was discussed that we could ask the MP Priti Patel to ask a question in the House of Commons regarding these issues to bring the issues into the spotlight.

130/2021 Clerks Report

The report had been circulated previously and was noted.

131/2021 Planning Matters

Cllr Evans informed the Council that all decisions which include Watering Farm, A12 Widening Consultation and Land rear of 1-1D Feering Hill had been made by Delegated Authority by the clerk in conjunction with the Planning Committee and these would be ratified at the next face to face meeting.

132/2021 Highways & Transport

i VTAG report

A12 consultation response to be circulated.

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

Discussion was held around the A12 widening consultations. The Clerk confirmed that the A12 Consultation response had been submitted on behalf of the Parish Council with thanks to Cllr Evans for her help. Cllr Evans requested that the response be put onto the website.

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

Elm Lane is very worn out and is being used as a rat run. It was agreed that this should be sent to the County Councillor to put forward to the Local Highways Panel for a traffic survey. LHP application for a permanent VAS at the beginning of the village and gates at the entrance to the village following proof of the traffic survey received from Cllr Thorogood. Request a road safety audit at junction of Coggeshall Road and London Road.

- iv Village Speeding Issues and Cycle routes for the village

No further information received regarding the speed watch.

133/2021

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

No report received.

- ii Neighbourhood Plan Committee from Cllr L Blackburn

The report was circulated before the meeting and noted.

- iii PRoW & Cycleway Committee

No report received. Two walks had taken place regarding the A12 consultation where a local landowner has joined the meeting. Discussion was held around footpaths and fingerposts. It was discussed that we could apply for P3 waymarkers. It was requested that it be minuted that thanks should be given to G G Adams for their hard work in clearing footpath 16.

- iv Feering Environmental Working Party from Cllr S Reed

No written report received. Cllr Reed updated on work which has been taking place on the tree trail. Trees are being numbered and a pdf has been produced together with a google map. Further iterations will be QR codes on the trees. Thanks was given to Kathryn Hopkins, the chair of the Kelvedon & Feering Wildlife Group

- v Employment Committee

No meeting held.

- vi Braintree Association of Local Councils / Essex Association of Local Councils from Cllr P Lees

No report given.

134/2021

Annual Report

A first draft has been received which will be circulated and comments have been made.

135/2021

Bloor Homes – S106 Agreement

A letter has been sent to Dominic Collins, Corporate Director of Growth at Braintree District Council, regarding the complaint as no information received from BDC.

136/2021

BDC Master Planning Meeting

Clerk confirmed an email was sent to BDC requesting a meeting on 14/15 September, but no response has been received yet.

- 137/2021 Christmas Tree for 2021 / Village Green**
Clerk confirmed that an email had been sent to Eastlight regarding the village green, but no response has been received.
- 138/2021 Tree Works**
The clerk notified the tree company about the pond fencing and the tree. This has now been dealt with and the fence re-erected. It was asked that ECC be chased about the dead tree on Feering Hill which has been previously reported.
- 139/2021 2021-2022 Development Plan**
This item to be deferred to next month. A discussion meeting to be arranged for September.
- 140/2021 FCC Webpage**
After discussion it was **agreed** we are happy to continue to host an information tab on our website with basic information to direct residents to the FCC. It was discussed that pricing and room sizes should be put onto the information tab. It was suggested that this should not be a long-term solution and that a dedicated website should be set up where the tab could link to the community centre's own website.
- 141/2021 Trees by Footpath 16**
After discussion it was **agreed** a letter should be sent to the school asking them to top the trees and to clear the light on the footpath 16.
- 142/2021 Lady Meadow Land**
The clerk informed the Council that a letter had been sent to the landowners for clarification, but no response has been received.
- 143/2021 Items for Next Agenda**
- i Rugby and Football Club
 - ii Feering Falcons Sponsorship
 - iii Handyman Contract – Maintenance Plan
 - iv Litter Pickers Annual Thank You
 - v Development Plan
 - vi Braintree Local Highways Panels Streets Improvement
 - vii Emergency Planning
 - viii Kelvedon and Feering Environmental Working Group

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 21.10 pm and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed _____

Paul Lees

20 September 2021