



**MINUTES of the VIRTUAL MEETING of FEERING PARISH COUNCIL
held virtually on Tuesday 20 October 2020 at 7.30 pm
via Zoom (Meeting ID 893 0417 6271)**

Present: Cllr P Lees (Chair) Cllr C Dobson Cllr S Reed
Cllr L Blackburn Cllr K Evans
Lisa Collins – Clerk to the Council Cllr R Mitchell (ECC) Cllr J Sandum (BDC)
Members of the Public: 0

156/2020 Chairman Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

157/2020 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Bonner and Cllr Carpenter. It was **resolved** to accept the apologies of Cllr Carpenter.

158/2020 Declaration of Interest

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

No pecuniary interests were declared.

159/2020 To approve the Minutes of the last meeting of Feering Parish Council

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on 15 September 2020 be approved and signed as a correct record.

160/2020 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 public in attendance.

161/2020 Report from District / County Councillor

Cllr Sandum gave an update on the Government planning white paper consultation and the Braintree District Council Scheme of Delegation. Braintree District Council (“BDC”) held a members briefing on the white paper for planning for the future, lots of concerns raised and a draft response prepared which was discussed at Full Council meeting. A copy of the response will be provided to the Parish Council. The review of the scheme of delegation was discussed at planning committee. Several concerns were raised by James Abbott about the scheme and the impact on Parishes. A 3-week consultation will commence on 26 October. Covid support group – people still buddied up and still a large number of volunteers available if needed further. BDC are also asking for volunteers to record a clip for the Volunteers Voice initiative giving an insight into the volunteering which took place during the pandemic. A large number of fly tipping have been reported recently. A BDC CCTV camera is being placed in the village at various locations. Another option suggested to help with the fly tipping issue is for the Council to purchase a CCTV camera for the village and BDC will monitor it. The Incinerator judicial review cannot proceed any further. Environment Agency will be removing the fallen Willow into the river from Feering land and they will be carrying out routine weed removal in the river.

Cllr Thorogood had sent an email to the clerk to inform the Council that he had raised the issue of the Site Wide Strategies to BDC Full Council but had yet to receive a response but it is being worked on.

Cllr Mitchell gave an update on the planning consultation from Essex County Council ("ECC"). Proposed plan disenfranchises the smaller builders. CIL and S106 being removed which is a concern. A comprehensive response will be sent to Government on behalf of ECC. North Essex Parking Partnership survey has not yet been progressed in relation to the parking permits. Kelvedon and Feering Health Centre – concerns have been raised over the meetings. A12 preferred route meeting to be held with ECC and Highways England on Wednesday 21 October to discuss the junction at Feering.

Coronavirus Tier 2 entry has been the main topic of conversation over the last week. A comprehensive briefing has been given and the decision was taken by all leaders of all Councils in the county. Cllr Lees raised the issue of a brown sign for the Bell pub in Feering which was discussed.

162/2020 Clerks Report

The Clerks report was circulated before the meeting and noted. Cllr Evans raised the issue of the signs on the Rafted Path being removed which was discussed. It was noted that congratulations should be given to Rebecca Saunders on her BEM in the Queen's Honours List for work in the village during the pandemic.

163/2020 Finance

- i *To approve the bank reconciliation as at 30 September 2020 and 2020/21 budget account (circulated before the meeting)*

After discussion the bank reconciliation was **approved**.

- ii *Councillors to agree payments for October 2020 (circulated to Councillors before the meeting)*

After discussion it was **agreed** that all October payments be made.

- iii *To inform Council of transfer to Nationwide Account to comply with FSCS Guarantee and to agree that the RFO can transfer sufficient funds across all accounts without bringing to Council meetings to ensure finances are protected under the FSCS Guarantee and sufficient funds are within the accounts held by Council.*

After discussion it was **agreed** authority be given to the Clerk to ensure that the finances are protected and sufficient funds are kept within the accounts held by Council. Proposed by Cllr Dobson, seconded by Cllr Blackburn.

- iv To confirm payment of £500 to the Scouts Group for the agreed donation to mark Skip Papworth's services to the village with youth services, following installation of a campfire area. Donation previously agreed at minute ref 146/2019(v)

After discussion it was **agreed** that this payment should be made.

164/2020 Councillors

- i To consider any application for co-option

The member of the public sent her apologies for the meeting. However, the Council decided to discuss the application. After discussion it was **agreed** to defer the co-option until the next meeting.

165/2020 Planning Matters

Cllr Evans gave an update on the meeting held on 14 September 2020 where 2 applications were discussed relating to Land West of Kelvedon Station and Prested Hall. The Parish Council responses to the Draft Local Plan for North Essex Authorities, Consultation on changes to the Current Planning System and Planning for the future were deferred to the next meeting

Cllr Evans gave an update on the meeting held on 29 September 2020 where 2 applications were discussed relating to Wood Cottage and Cherry Tree Cottage. Bloor Homes Street Lights was discussed and the Parish Council response to the Government Consultation on changes to the current planning system was agreed. Discussion was held around the Government Consultation on Planning for the Future and the Draft Local Plan was deferred.

Cllr Evans gave a further update on the meeting held on 7 October 2020 where the Draft Local Plan and 2018-based Household Projection response were agreed.

166/2020 Highways & Transport

- i VTAG report from Cllr M Bonner

No report received.

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

A meeting is being held between ECC and Highways England on Wednesday 21 October. A meeting has also been arranged with MottMac regarding the A12 concrete repairs which be undertaken shortly.

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

The Clerk gave an update on the parking issue at New Lane and asked Cllr Mitchell whether there was anything ECC could do with regard to parking on the grass verge on the A12 slip. It was discussed that wilding could take place on the land to prevent parking.

- iv Village Speeding Issues and Cycle routes for the village

No update.

167/2020 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 was received as a catch-up meeting had been held with the Chairman, Clerk and FCC. Feering Community Association AGM to sign off accounts and transfer of all accounts to the Feering Community Centre will be held on 23 November. It was noted that congratulations should be given to Tom Atkinson who ran 100 miles to raise funds for the FCC.

- ii Neighbourhood Plan Committee from Cllr L Blackburn

The report was noted. It was **agreed** that the Parish Council would invite Crown Estates to a site wide meeting if no response had been received.

- iii PRoW & Cycleway Committee from Cllr M Bonner

No report received. A meeting will be held after the A12 consultation meeting on Wednesday 21 October.

iv Feering Environmental Working Party from Cllr C Dobson

The report was noted. It was also noted that Perrywoods had agreed to donate some trees, stakes and water butt. It was further noted that King's Seed had agreed to donate the seeds for the Bridge Meadow area.

168/2020 Neighbourhood Plan request to upgrade DropBox

After discussion it was **agreed** that the Parish Council would upgrade the Microsoft Exchange account to include SharePoint at a cost of £1.90 per month to enable sharing with the Neighbourhood Plan Committee for access to documents.

169/2020 Approval of Standing Orders

After discussion it was **agreed** that the Standing Orders be adopted.

170/2020 Parking Permit Zone

Cllr Mitchell gave an update on this during his County Councillor Update.

171/2020 Tree Survey Work

- i To discuss the remaining tree work to be carried out following the survey undertaken
Due to no further quotations being received this item could not be progressed.
- ii To agree to the removal of the willow tree and works to be undertaken at Bridge Meadow and confirm quotation

The willow is to be removed by the Environment Agency therefore this no longer needs to be removed so further quotes would need to be obtained to make use of the fallen tree. It was **agreed** that the work to be undertaken around 8 Bridge Meadows should be completed.

172/2020 Water Refill Point

After discussion it was **agreed** that further information would be obtained and would bring this item back to the next meeting.

Cllr Mitchell left the meeting at 21.10.

173/2020 FCC Electric Board Grant

After discussion, it was **agreed** that due to the fact that the Parish Council is responsible for the fabric of the community centre building the Parish Council should put aside £900 for this work to be undertaken as a matter of urgency and undertake the work.

174/2020 Website Compliance WCAG 2.1

Discussion was held around the regulations for making the website WCAG 2.1 compliant and how we continue to be compliant going forward. It was **agreed** that quotations would be received to get the site up to compliancy and future proof the website.

175/2020 Christmas Tree and Lighting

The Clerk has chased the village green owners for the licence but has not yet received a response. No tree has been sourced yet. It was **agreed** that lights would be put up on the trees on the Green rather than a Christmas tree this year. It was further agreed that the Parish Council would ask residents to decorate their street for the title of best Feering Street Decorations.

Cllr Blackburn left the meeting at 21.36.

176/2020 Items for Next Agenda

- i Support of the Plastic Free Community
- ii Water refill point
- iii Website Compliance
- iv Christmas Tree and Lighting
- v Precept Approval
- vi Tree Survey work – Clematis and Willow Pollarding

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 21.43 pm and thanked everyone for attending.

Signed

17 November 2020

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Paul Lees