

FECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 18 December at 7:30pm

Present	Councillors:	J. Matthews (Chairman) J. Roundell T. Smith J. James A. Henson P. Lincoln-Lewis J Hooker
In Attendance		S Mullins
Apologies and reasons		Cllr Henson will be late due to work committments

12/07/01 **Declaration of Interest**
None

12/07/02 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**
The approval of the 22 November Meeting Minutes was proposed by Cllr James. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Roundell and passed unanimously.

12/07/03 **County Councillor Report**
None

12/07/04 **Borough Councillor Report**
None

PARISH PLAN WORKING PARTY REPORTS

12/07/05 **Flood Prevention:** The Clerk posted letters to W Garrard (Environment Agency, J Biggs (SPT, WCC), J Hobbs (WCC) & C Wilson (RBC) on 26 November requesting a meeting be organized to walk the village and inspect main areas of flooding. The possible dates are 13 December or 10 January. A response from J Hobbs dated 29 November stated that J Biggs has been asked to represent WCC at the meeting. Additionally, an email from R Clewer (WCC) stating that he would attend a meeting instead of J Biggs was received on 7 December.
ACTION: Clerk to post letters to C Wilson & R Clewer inviting them to a 10:00am meeting on 10 January.
ACTION: Clerk to call W Garrard and invite him to the 10 January meeting.

12/07/06 **Speeding/Traffic/Parking:** There have been no further meetings. D Deggs of WCC has failed to respond to emails. S Mullins advised that incidents need to be reported through WORCS HUB. Chairman Matthews pointed out that the working party wants to organize a meeting, not report an incident.
An advertised as for sale car is parked on the pavement near the High St & Droitwich Road intersection. Cllr Lincoln-Lewis will report incident to the Community Officer.

12/07/07 **Village Shop:**
-Outline business plan in place.
-Paperwork to organize governing body has arrived.
-Group had a meeting with RBC Planning. It is likely that a conservatory or other temporary structure will house the shop.
-The name Feckinshop has been proposed. Several Councillors thought this name was not appropriate.

PROGRESS REPORTS

- 12/07/08 **Britain in Bloom:** K Fisher enquired as to what is involved. Cllrs Hooker and Lincoln-Lewis to make further enquiries.
- 12/07/09 **Parish Council Notice Board:** See Current Agenda Items.
- 12/07/10 **Library Services Review:** No update
- 12/07/11 **Affordable Housing Scheme:**
It would seem that qualification process has entered into option 4. S Mullins will enquire as to the progress of the qualification process.
- 12/07/12 **Review of Standing Orders:** Cllrs Henson & Roundell met. **The Working Party intends to complete the Standing Orders and make recommendations at the January Meeting.**
- 12/07/13 **Clerk's Contract:** **Item for January Agenda**
- 12/07/14 **Lengthsman:** Cllrs Matthews, Henson, Roundell, Hooker & Smith – No update
- 12/07/15 **Standard's Committee:** The Clerk spoke with S Mullins on two occasions. The first conversation confirmed that the Standards Committee meets in the evening, not during the day as previously believed. It was suggested that in most cases only one representative of FPC need attend meetings of the Standards Committee. The second conversation confirmed that the Feckenham Parish representatives for the Standards Committee must be Council Members.
ACTION: Chairman Matthews volunteered to be the second FPC representative on the Standards Committee.
- 12/07/16 **Banking Powers of Clerk:** The Clerk has obtained permission to transfer funds via the telephone (but not in person) without becoming a bank mandate signatory. The Clerk has also arranged for statements of account to be posted to his address. Matter resolved – for now.
- 12/07/17 **WCC Invite to attend workshop of W Midlands Regional Assembly:** The invitation has yet to be located. To date, Chairman Matthews volunteered to attend the workshop on Wed 30 January in Alvechurch.
- 12/07/18 **Register of Interests:** Forms are currently circulating. **Councillors will complete their registers and send directly to S Mullins. The Clerk will hold all remaining blank forms.**

CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

- 12/07/19 **BUDGET/PRECEPT**
Cllr Hooker expressed concern that the By Elections budget may not be enough to include referendums. Members of the Council agreed that there is a certain amount of exposure, but keeping the precept below £8,000 was a priority. After agreeing on a budget, Cllr Henson proposed that the Council set the precept at £7990. Cllr James seconded the proposal and the motion was carried unanimously.
ACTION: Clerk will edit budget and email copies to Councillors.
ACTION: Clerk will contact T Kristunas, Head of Finance - RBC, and make a precept request of £7,990.
- 12/07/20 **DISCUSSION ON THE PROGRESSION OF JANUARY NEWSLETTER**
Chairman Matthews will organize the layout of the Newsletter over the Christmas break. He would like ~500 words by 28 December at the very latest from:
Cllr Lincoln-Lewis – parking/traffic/speeding
Cllr Smith – Flooding
Chairman Matthews – shop.
Chairman Matthews will draft the introduction and other reports such as Lengthsman, organization of Council, Clerk, budget & precept, invite to Meetings & website.

Cllr Smith will obtain a printing quotation. This item will be included in the January Agenda.

12/07/21 **DISCUSSION CONCERNING PARISH NOTICEBOARD**

Options to be explored are:

1. Using notice board at head of footpath near village hall
2. Sharing notice board on village square
3. Making temporary board on village hall permanent

Discussion deferred to January Meeting.

12/07/22 **ADOPTION OF COUNCILLOR REIMBURSEMENT AMOUNTS FOR COUNCILLORS EXPENSES INCURRED WHILE ON COUNCIL BUSINESS**

The Independent Remuneration Panel recommendations are as follows:

-Chairman Allowance £100 (Council budgeted for £50 in 2007/08): Chairman to submit invoices for reimbursement

-40 pence per mile

-Lunch Maximum Allowance £10

-Evening Meal Maximum Allowance £15

-All other expenses as per invoice

-All expenses must be agreed in advance by the Council.

The Council agreed to the above recommendations.

ACTION: The Clerk to post agreed recommendations.

CLERK'S UPDATE

12/07/23 **Schedule of Correspondence Received** (not otherwise noted) – available at Meeting

WCC – J Hobbs: response to request to attend inspection of flooding areas in village

RBC – December RBC Meeting Agenda

RBC: Electoral Register

Community First Newsletter

12/07/24 **Schedule of Correspondence Sent** (not otherwise noted)

WCC – J Hobbs & J Biggs: request to attend inspection of flooding areas in village

RBC – C Wilson: request to attend inspection of flooding areas in village

Environment Agency - W Garrard: request to attend inspection of flooding areas in village

J Matthews: Planning applications 2007/458/LBC & 2007/461/FUL

Note: An order of correspondence delivery was agreed: Clerk – Chairman Matthews – Cllr Hooker – Cllr Roundell – Cllr Henson – Cllr Smith – Cllr James – Cllr Lincoln-Lewis – Chairman Matthews - Clerk

PLANNING MATTERS

12/07/25 **Parish Council Consideration**

2007/451/FUL Old Cottage Cruisehill Lane Ham Green

2007/458/LBC 46 High Street Replacement of bathroom windows

2007/461/FUL Stoners Barn Kitchen extension, internal refurbishment, new flue & relocation of driveway

12/07/26 **Approvals**

2007/295/FUL Church Cottages

2007/253/LBC Brickhouse Farm Barns – LB2

2007/254/FUL Brickhouse Farm Barns

2007/294/LBC Church Cottages – LB2

12/07/27 **Refusals**

None

12/07/28 **Pending**

2007/335/LBC Stoners Farmhouse: NO OBJECTION - LB2

2007/301/LBC Perry Mill Farm – LB3

2007/308/LBC Old Court House – LB2

2007/061/FUL Astwood Farm (not in Parish): Clerk emailed M Chalk on 5 December and requested an update on this application. A reply from T Buckley stated that the application went before the Planning Committee on 4 December and it was deferred pending a Member site visit.

2007/417/FUL Land Adjacent to Priory Barn.

COUNCIL OBJECTS FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

1. Proximity of manege to footpath
2. Building material: introducing recycled plastics adjoining a conservation area.
3. Accuracy of map: planning proposal inaccurate because the position of the manege on map is inaccurate
4. Footpath not re-instated properly
5. The proposed development visually impinges on open countryside from footpath.
6. The Council is concerned about the piecemeal approach to the development of site. The size of the site and related buildings appears to be more substantial than the claimed personal use.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

12/07/29 Schedule of Invoices

Clerk Stipend & Expenses Nov £306.20 (LGA 1972 s112)

*Financial Report included as an addendum to the Minutes – previously emailed.

*Approved 2008/09 Budget included as an addendum to the Minutes – previously emailed.

COUNCILLOR REPORTS & Future Agenda Items

12/07/30 Newsletter
Tubs
Clerk's Contract
Lengthsman
Standing Orders
Notice Board

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

12/07/31 **7:30 on 17 January 2008 at the Feckenham Village Hall**

The Meeting closed at 9:45pm

Signed
Chairman

Date

NOTES OF OPEN FORUM

12/07/32 None