

FECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 15 November 2012 at 8:15pm

Present Councillors: Chair R Williams
 E Atkins
 K White
 P Eaton
 P Hawker

In Attendance I Bellion, P Mott & J Eaton

Apologies and reasons: Cllr Poole

10/12/01 **Declarations of Interest**

10/12/02 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Council resolved to approve the 20 September 2012 Minutes as an accurate record of events.

10/12/03 **County Councillor Report:** Cllr Gretton reported the following:

1. Community Shop featured in Chief Executive Report.
2. Airband awaiting EU grant approval, perhaps to be announced 20-11-12.
3. WCC tax freeze likely for next year.
4. 40% of trees in WORCS are Ash.
5. WCC will offer business rates incentive in new fiscal year.
6. Mill Lane footpath is in decent condition.

10/12/04 **Borough Cllr Report:** Cllr Chalk offered his apologies. Cllr Clayton reported the following:

1. Planning Application for 200+ houses at Webheath has been deferred by WCC Highways. This proposal is also a flooding concern for Feckenham.
2. FPC should keep an eye on any WDC development which may border Feckenham.
3. 1000 bulbs planted at corner of Astwood and Swansbrook Lanes with the help of Feckenham 1st School students. This area should not be used for parking.

Open Forum Notes at End of Minutes

PROGRESS REPORTS

10/12/05 **Landscaping at Swansbrook Lane & Astwood Lane:** Lengthsman to inspect hedge opposite junction, near farm. Headwall being built. Also see Minute 10/12/04

ACTION: Cllr Chalk to investigate hedge issue.

10/12/06 **Fig:** No update.

10/12/07 **Lengthsman:** Co Cllr Gretton forwarded details of Lengthsman jobs to the Clerk. Grass by sign at Astwood/Swansbrook Lanes was cleared.

10/12/08 **B4090:** No survey planned. Matter resolved.

10/12/09 **Bridle Path 451 Surface Improvement:** The Clerk contacted F Argyle on 26-9-12. Request clearing of area forwarded to P White. The Clerk emailed P White on 8-11-12 and requested an update. He reported that the area is not unduly wet given the weather. The area will continue to be monitored. Matter resolved.

10/12/10 **Flooding:** C Wilson has come back from retirement and is investigating ways to alleviate flooding. Junction at weir by D Checkley's house and bridge on Saltway are particular problems being investigated.

10/12/11 **Estate Gates: ACTION: Meeting to be organized between Chair Williams and WCC Highways Officer.**

10/12/12 **Wireless Broadband:** The preferred broadband supplier is Airband. They were the clear winner measured against the tender requirements for all three consortia. Although WCC cannot sign the contract until the state aid rules are relaxed (apparently agreement on this is imminent), Airband have already begun to develop their roll-out plans. At the 12-11-12 meeting it was revealed that Airband intends to begin work in January if all goes to plan. See below for details of packages.

Download speed	10Mb	10Mb	20Mb	30Mb
Monthly usage	1Gb	20Gb	40Gb	60GB
Monthly cost	£10	£17	£22	£30

It is also believed that all except the £10 package will receive free installation worth £99, three months service for free worth £66 and a free router.

10/12/13 **FNDP:** While the group doesn't believe developing an NDP is necessary, they are keen to track the development of the Local Plan and wish to meet again.

10/12/14 **30 mph Signs:** Co Cllr Gretton to investigate poor placement of 30 mph signs near Moors Lane. The Clerk reported the issue to R Fullee and mentioned it to Cllr Gretton at the September meeting. No update.

10/12/15 **Japanese Knotweed:** The Clerk reported Japanese Knotweed infestation on B4090 across from Shurnock Court on 11-9-12 to WCC (ref #5161902) and RBC (C Franklin 01527 64252 ext 3943). No update.

CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

10/12/16 **TO CONSIDER GRANTING A DISPENSATION UNTIL THE NEXT ORDINARY ELECTION TO ALL PARISH COUNCILLORS WHO LIVE WITHIN THE PARISH TO ENABLE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY DISCUSSION OR VOTE ON ANY MATTER CONCERNING THE SETTING OF THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET AND ANNUAL PRECEPT**

This Proposal is due to councillors who are liable to pay council tax have a DPI (Disclosable Pecuniary Interest) and any breach of the DPI provisions is a criminal offence. The Localism Act allows local authorities to grant dispensations and there are a number of statutory grounds which would be applicable to the proposed exemption:

- (a) That the number of persons disqualified will be so great a proportion as to impede the transaction of business;
- (b) The granting of the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the council's area; or
- (c) That it is otherwise appropriate to grant a dispensation.

Please note Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 provides that in the event of any council member being 2 months or more in arrears with Council Tax payments cannot participate in any Council meeting concerning the budget.

The Council resolved to grant dispensations to all who applied; those granted a dispensation include Cllr Eaton, Chair Williams & Cllr Hawker. The dispensations will expire on 1 May 2015. Cllr White and Atkins do not own property in the parish.

10/12/17 **TO CONSIDER RISK ASSESSMENT & 2013/14 BUDGET**
As The Secretary of State has not announced (6 December) the acceptable level of precept rise (thought to be 2.6%) or if parish councils will be exempt, the Councillors agreed to table the this item until the December meeting.

- 10/12/18 **TO CONSIDER CHURCH OF ST JOHN GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR A TOTAL OF £600**
£100 donation requested for the parish magazine and £500 for maintenance of churchyard and equipment. The Council resolved to donate £520 to the Church of St John. **ACTION: Clerk to include payment on December agenda.**

CLERK'S UPDATE

- 10/12/19 **Schedule of Correspondence Not Yet Replied To**
WCC: Minerals Local Plan Questionnaire due 11 January ACTION: Cllr White to review questionnaire and report back at December meeting
- 10/12/20 **Schedule of Correspondence Received** (not otherwise noted)
Newsline
Network Rail: Notice of Acceptance
WCC: FH-665 etc in Inkberrow Public Path Diversion
- 10/12/21 **Schedule of Correspondence Sent** (not otherwise noted)

PLANNING MATTERS

- 10/12/22 **FOR PARISH COUNCIL CONSIDERATION**
- 10/12/23 **RBC APPROVALS**
2012/188/FUL Shippen Barn 3 Elcocks Brook Farm Callow Hill: New access driveway
NO OBJECTIONS
2012/206/FUL Sillcott Farm, Callow Hill: Demolition of two barns and an outbuilding, construction of new stable block, extension to existing exercise barn and realignment of existing driveway NO OBJECTIONS
- 10/12/24 **RBC REFUSALS**
2012/199/FUL 14A High St: New double garage NO OBJECTIONS
- 10/12/25 **RBC PENDING**
2012/277/FUL & 279/LBC Pool Barn 14A High St: Single garage SUPPORT
2012/262/FUL White Cottage Bradley Green: Extension to existing utility room to rear, alterations to front porch and construction of new first floor dormer window NO OBJECTIONS
2012/270/RM Priest Bridge Farm Bradley Green: Reserved matters for an agriculturally restricted dwelling to replace the existing mobile home NO OBJECTIONS
2012/275/FUL The Little Manor Ham Green: Extend and refurbish garage for the purpose Bed & Breakfast accommodation NO OBJECTIONS
2012/211/LBC Shippen Barn 3 Elcocks Brook Farm Callow Hill: New access driveway NO OBJECTIONS
2012/200/LBC 14A High St: New double garage NO OBJECTIONS
2012/203/LBC Manor Farm Moors Lane: Single storey extension to rear of existing property. Minor alterations and demolition of existing later addition outbuildings NO COMMENT
2012/205/LBC 41 High Street: Listed Building Application – Renewal of the central heating system, refitting/alteration of bathrooms, conversion of a bedroom to a bathroom, installation of two roof lights, opening up a fire place and reformation of another fireplace NO OBJECTIONS
- 10/12/26 **APPEALS**
2011/183/FUL & 184/LBC Development of single dwelling with ancillary accommodation within reconstructed listed barns. **ORIGINAL COMMENTS - NO OBJECTIONS - COMMENTS TO BE FORWARDED TO INSPECTORATE**

10/12/26 After some confusion with the several NO COMMENT replies to planning consultations it was discovered the Clerk was in error. The Correct NO OBJECTIONS replies are to be minuted except for application 2012/203/LBC. There was a communication error on the part of the Clerk. To avoid repeating this error the process for planning consultations will be as follows:

1. The Clerk will email notification of planning application consultation to the Planning Delegation whose members are Chair Williams, Cllr Eaton and Cllr Hawker.
2. The Planning Delegation members will determine the response then Chair Williams will forward the comments to the Clerk.
3. The Clerk will post comments on RBC site.

The Clerk advised that similar to objecting to planning applications, when the Council is in support of an application it should detail reasons why this is the case.

COUNCILLOR REPORTS & Future Agenda Items

10/12/27 Budget

10/12/28 Cllr Atkins offered her apologies for the December meeting.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

10/12/29 Schedule of Invoices/Payments

Clerk Sept & Oct Stipend & Expenses	£468.53 LGA '72 101,11,12
HMCR Clerk tax	£107.35 LGA '72 101,11,12
A Farnsworth Sept & Oct Lengthsman	£357.50 PHA '36 s259/60
Village Hall rent May, June & July	£54.00 LGA '72 sec 11
Garden Society Grant	£130.00 LGA '72 s137
Community Shop Grant	£500.00 LGA '72 sec 11
WAKE FM Grant	£250.00 LGA '72 sec 11

10/12/30 Schedule of Receipts

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

10/12/31 Council Meeting at 7:30pm on 20 December 2012 at Feckenham Village Hall.

The Meeting closed at 9:15pm.

Signed
Chairman

Date

Notes of Open Forum

10/12/32 J Eaton: Surface water on Astwood Lane is difficult to keep clear because the road is below the fields.

10/12/33 I Bellion: Lorries turning around on Mill Lane are destructive to the road surface. Why isn't this road adopted?

Co Cllr Gretton responded that usually residents are expected to upgrade road to a standard where it can possibly be adopted.

10/12/34 I Bellion: A Cllr has indicated that the Village Hall is available for free. As dictated by the governing document, the hall is never available for free. FVH is a charity for the benefit of parishioners.