

**Minutes of the Meeting held 15 December 2016 at Feckenham Village Hall, Feckenham**

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Present: Councillors: A Smith (Chair), P Dormer, Q Cary, S Arthur, H Hammersley & I Bellion.

In Attendance: S Arble (Clerk) and 8 members of the public.

235 Apologies accepted from Cllr Guise.

236 No interests declared.

237 No dispensation requests.

238 **The Council resolved** to approve the **Minutes** of the meeting held 17 November 2016 at Feckenham Village Hall, Feckenham.

239 Cllr Hammersley completed his DPI form and the Clerk advised that it should be emailed to RBC.

240 **County Councillor Report:** WCC Cllr not present.

241 **RBC Cllr Potter Reported:** Housing construction at Webheath has commenced and that Broadband is due later in December.

242 **RBC Cllr Clayton Reported:**

- A. Local Plan 4 due for final consideration in January 2017.
- B. Asked Council why are private lorries using Church Road to access field next to sewage works? Cllrs didn't know the answer.
- C. There were no FPC comments concerning the BT kiosk on The Square. FPC is pleased the kiosk will be removed because it is unnecessary and inappropriate for the Conservation Area.
- D. Understood that FPC doesn't comment on planning applications outside the parish. Chair Smith apologized for the confusion and stated that FPC is keen to comment on all planning applications impacting Feckenham.
- E. Can only attend one FPC meeting in 2017; will try to send email updates.

243 The Chairman moved: The meeting is now adjourned to hold Public Question Time from 7:40 until 8:10pm; see notes at end of minutes for public comments.

**PLANNING**

244 **The Council resolved** to not object to planning application 2016.347.FUL.

245 **The Council resolved** not to object to planning application 2016.359/358.LBC/FUL subject to the views of the local authority Conservation Officer.

246 RBC Approved:

- A. 2016.275.FUL: By delegated decision to the Clerk there was no comment from FPC.
- A. 2016.286.FUL: By delegated decision to the Clerk there was no comment from FPC.
- B. 2016.305.LBC: By delegated decision to the Clerk the Council had no objections subject to the views of the Local Planning Authority conservation officers.

**FINANCE**

247 The Council resolved to approve the payment schedule.

Ref	Cheque	Payee	Details	Total Payment	VAT	Net Payment	Chq Total	Date
30	983	A Farnsworth	Nov Lengthsman	£196.00	£0.00	£196.00		15.12.16
31	984	S Arble	Nov Wage	£301.19	£0.00	£301.19		
31	984	S Arble	Nov expenses	£19.49	£0.58	£18.91	£317.48	15.12.16
32	985	HMRC	Clerk PAYE Nov 16	£3.20	£0.00	£3.20		15.12.16
33	986	FVH	Hall rent Sept-Dec	£60.00	£0.00	£60.00		15.12.16
				<b>£579.88</b>	<b>£0.58</b>	<b>£579.30</b>		

248 Cllr Cary confirmed the November 2016 reconciliation is correct.

Date  to Date

add	Current Account balance			3227.04
add	Deposit Account balance			20518.57
less	Cheques paid uncleared:			
equ	Balance C/F			<b>23745.61</b>

Opening Balance Deposit Account	20517.73
Add receipts for period	0.84
Less payments for period	0.00
Opening Balance Current Account	4416.82
Add receipts for period	0.00
Less uncleared cheques	0.00
Less payments for period	<b>1189.78</b>
Closing Balance	<b>23745.61</b>

249 The November 2016 Income & Expense Report was noted.

250 The 2016 Risk Assessment was noted.

251 **The Council resolved** to approve the 2017-18 Budget. Highlights include:

- A. £8300 precept; no increase from 2016-17.
- B. £7802 reserved for grants and parish improvement projects
- C. Reserve reduced to £10,693 if 2017-18 Budget spend is actualized.

**NEW MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

252 **The Council elected** Cllr Arthur Vice Chairman of the Council.

253 **The Council resolved** to consider defibrillator dates/trainer at February 2017 meeting.

**CLERK'S UPDATE**

254 No correspondence for consideration.

255 No tabled correspondence.

Schedule of Correspondence Sent (not already noted)

256 R Bamford 23.11.16 Planning Letter: R Bamford response states that FPC will be added to the RBC weekly planning list; matter resolved.

257 No update on Clerk pension.

258 **ACTION: Clerk to notify WCC that a bollard is missing at corner of High St and B4090. Consequently cars are parking on the pavement next to planters.**

**PROGRESS REPORTS**

259 Chair Smith reported that for this meeting and in the future only progress reports with an update will be listed on the agenda. Cllrs are urged to send written reports to the Clerk prior to posting the agenda, but it will be possible to provide updates at meeting should it be necessary.

258 **Broadband WP:** Cllr Cary reported that Superfast Broadband should have been live 14.12.16. Hope to arrange for Superfast Broadband to go live at the same time the Christmas Tree lights are turned on.

259 **Lengthsman & Flood Prevention:**

- A. Ham Green Ditches #6264651: T Curwell of NWWM reported the issue to WCC Highways.
- B. Drain on Astwood Lane, Lengthsman can't open; 210864 – works scheduled in next four weeks – matter resolved.
- C. Drain on High St opposite #14, Lengthsman can't open; 210866 – works scheduled in next four weeks – matter resolved.
- D. Drain on Astwood Lane near Yeates' Acre, Lengthsman can't open; 210860 – works scheduled in next four weeks – matter resolved.
- E. Drain opposite Willowdene, Astwood Lane, Lengthsman can't open; 210859 – works scheduled in next four weeks – matter resolved.

260 **Footpaths:** Mr Gordon reported the following by email on 24.11.16

Statistically, when I started in spring this year there were just fewer than 70 problems across the parish on the WCC database. The initial focus was on visiting and checking their status, i.e. are the problems real and correctly described. I have visited all problems reported at that time and updated WCC with the results.

Over the year additional problems have been logged and my current list shows just fewer than 100 in total. 50 remain on the database, but some of these are likely to be closed based on my reports, so 30 or so remain to be dealt with. Patrick White and his team have been quite active, doing some major clearance work on bridleways (including the one that runs above Bow Brook and The Dingle and ends at the Mill Wheel). Patrick has also advised that a number of new gates will be installed near Ham Green, South and East of Love Lyne.

There are notable problem areas, particularly near Grove Farm and Middle Beanhall Farm, these have been reported. One other is the area South of Droitwich road and East of the farm track opposite the Mill Wheel. Here, a couple of paths are difficult to use as the area has been fenced off by the landowner, some of this being electric. There are also unofficial signs trying to direct walkers around the edge of the field rather than across it. I have reported and discussed with Patrick and the landowner has been approached and I am advised that the footpaths will be restored (although timescale is unclear).

In addition to checking reported issues my activities have involved replacing or adding waymarks, minor stile repairs and clearing brush around stiles (one was completely blocked and took an hour with loppers, saw and secateurs!). Most remaining issues will need either more serious repairs (bridges, new stiles etc.) or discussions with landowners re. locked gates and other obstructions, which I am advised to leave to WCC.

Plans for 2017 (time permitting) include drafting a leaflet for a circular walk to and from the centre of the village.

261 **Traffic Calming WP:** Cllr Arthur reported the following:

A. The money for two VAS has been secured. WCC will order VAS to be installed in February 2017.

B. White line hatching to be painted in February-March 2017.

C. Mr Coburn has given the land around his hedge to FPC. Cllr Arthur would like hedge removed and wire stock proof fence erected soon.

**COUNCILLOR REPORTS & Future Agenda Items**

262 NDP Progress Report for February – Cllr Bellion

263 **The Council resolved** to consider the Clerk’s Contract at February 2017 meeting

**Date and Venue of Next Meeting**

233 Parish Council Meeting 7:30 on 16 February 2017 at Feckenham Village Hall.

234 The meeting closed at 8:35pm.

Signed ..... Date .....  
Chairman

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME NOTES**

M Fitzpatrick discussed application 2016.347.FUL; highlights included

- A. Number of units the same and layout similar to approved plan.
- B. Visually a better scheme.
- C. RBC seems to be standing firm on approved scheme.
- D. Volume and footprint of proposal no different from approved plan.
- E. Current approval received detailed housing planning; only landscaping is outstanding.