

## Minutes of the meeting held 17 July 2014 at Feckenham Village Hall, Feckenham

Present: Councillors: R Williams (Chair), K White, P Eaton, E Atkins, P Dormer

In Attendance: S Arble (Clerk), 22 parishioners, RBC Cllr B Clayton & WCC Cllr P Gretton

54 Apologies The Council accepted apologies from **Cllr Arthur**.

### 55 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

A. Members were reminded of the need to keep their register of interests up to date.

B. Members were asked to disclose any disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the Agenda and their nature. Councillors with a disclosable pecuniary interest are required to leave the room for the relevant agenda item. None declared.

C. Members were asked to declare any other disclosable interests in items on the Agenda and their nature. None declared.

56 The **MINUTES** of the meeting held 15 May 2014 were approved.

57 **County Cllr Gretton** reported the following:

A. As a result of the Bus Consultation, WCC decided to keep 20% of the bus subsidy. Bus #354 shall continue as usual.

B. WCC still needs to find £4 million savings over the next four years.

C. Care Act added £13-18 million to WCC budget. Cap of out of home care set at £75,000 excluding hotel costs.

D. Formal Broadband Scrutiny set for 17 September; public welcome. WCC goal is 90% of county on Superfast Broadband. Feckenham benefitted from the Airband scheme, due to this it is not scheduled for Superfast Broadband. If this is unsatisfactory, a petition should be presented to WCC.

E. Plans are to change entire school system in WORCS to two tiers. This would affect Feckenham.

58 **Borough Cllr Clayton** reported the following:

A. J Potter elected as member of RBC, she replaces M Chalk.

B. Bromsgrove section of Local Plan #4 failed preliminary enquiry. This may mean RBC changes plan for more houses at Webheath. Plan may also have to go back to consultation.

**Chairman moved: The meeting now adjourned to hold Public Question Time, notes of which are at the end of the minutes.**

### PROGRESS REPORTS

59 **FIG:** Mill Lane repaired. **ACTION: Chair Williams to draft thank you letters for donators.**

60 **Lengthsman:** Cllr Atkins was to request the Lengthsman investigate pooling just after power station. The 9 items related to High St & Astwood Lane pipe were pipe jetted in general area. Matters resolved.

Cllr Atkins requested Lengthsman to

A. strim path by Rose & Crown and 52 High St

B. Cut hedge on Berrowhill Lane near village

C. Trim foliage at Callow Hill

Cllr Atkins reported that the tip at Lydiate Ash will not accept green waste from Lengthsman. Chair Williams stated this is an issue for the Lengthsman, not the Council.

61 **Flood Prevention:** On 8-7-14 the Clerk reported two issues on HAM GREEN LANE

A. Drain opposite Elcocks Brook Pub going toward Brookhouse Lane needs to be pipe jetted; can't open. Ref 6264677

B. Ditches need to be cleaned. Issue passed to Land Drainage. Ref 6264651

62 **Estate Gates:** The area in question is too narrow to post "Feckenham" signs on estate gates. Matter resolved.

63 **Footpath Warden:** No update.

64 **Pool Barn Wall:** Wall was removed; matter resolved.

65 **Bench on Cruise Hill Lane: ACTION: Cllr Arthur to investigate the possibility having the bench turned around and hedge lowered.**

66 **Walking Map Brochure: ACTION: Chair Williams to discuss design plans with Parish Footpath Officers (the Whites).**

67 **External Audit:** There was an error in the Box 1 figure for 2013/14. Error resolved on 2-7-14. External Auditor wanted further information regarding Box 3. Issue resolved on 2-7-14. Grant Thornton gave an unqualified opinion. Notice of Conclusion of Audit posted 12-7-14. Matter resolved.

68 **Feckenham Manor Community Archaeology Project:** No update.

69 **Council Vacancy:** Ne election has been called; the Council can now adopt a new member. **ACTION: Clerk to forward a co-option application to A Smith.**

70 **Lengthsman Contracts:** Signed and forwarded to WCC. Matter resolved.

71 **Superfast Broadband:** See minute 77.

72 **Moors Lane Resurfacing:** Chair Williams reported that the grant was never received so he can only assume FPC did not qualify. To date, one parishioner is willing to donate funds to the project. **ACTION: Council to write a letter to Moors Lane residents to determine if any would like to donate funds toward the project.**

73 **NDP Update:** The Clerk applied for £1115 and received a grant of £1035 (10% is automatically withheld) from Localities for the purpose of

A. Consultant scoping session to include hall rental and advertising ~£750.

B. Consultant written feedback report ~£400.

There was an introductory meeting held with Kirkwells (planning consultant) on 1-7-14. Several cllrs and parishioners who expressed interest in re-forming the NDP Steering Comm. were present. An additional meeting will be held for prospective NDP members on 29-7-14 at 7:30pm.

74 **Cllr Training:** Cllrs Atkins and Eaton attended finance training. Matter resolved.

75 **Justification Of Reserves:** The Clerk requested an update from Mr Fletcher on 22-5-14 and 8-7-14. No reply.

76 **Cllr Dormer DPI:** DPI sent to RBC and on FPC website. Matter resolved.

**CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS**

- 77 **TO CONSIDER APPROVING SUPERFAST BROADBAND PETITION**  
 A petition was presented to the Council by J Clements. Over 200 parishioners signed the petition to request WCC include Feckenham in Openreach's Roll-Out Of Fibre Optic Superfast Broadband. The Council resolved to support the petition. **ACTION: J Clements to forward cover letter to Clerk. ACTION: Clerk to forward petition to WCC.**
- 78 **TO CONSIDER APPROVING DESIGNATED NEIGHBORHOOD AREA APPLICATION**  
 The Council resolved to approve the application. **ACTION: Clerk to forward application to NDP Steering Group. The Group to review application to ensure details are correct.**
- 79 **TO CONSIDER APPOINTING A PARISH REPRESENTATIVE FOR RBC STANDARDS COMMITTEE**  
 The Council resolved to appoint Cllr White to the position.
- 80 **TO CONSIDER APPOINTING A DEPUTY PARISH REPRESENTATIVE FOR RBC STANDARDS COMMITTEE**  
 The Council resolved to appoint Cllr Dormer to the position.

**CLERK'S UPDATE**

- 81 **Schedule of Correspondence Not Yet Replied To**  
**WCC – N Friend:** Consult on Statement of Community Involvement Comments due 30-7-14 **Noted**  
**WCC – S Aldridge:** Consult Planning Validation Comments due 30-7-14 **Noted**
- 82 **Schedule of Correspondence Received (not otherwise noted)**  
**WCC:** Public Notice B4090 40mph speed limit – Nothing is changing, WCC is matching maps to what exists on the road  
**WCC:** Temporary order to close part of Norgrove Lane and Crumpfields from junction with Sillins Lane to its junction with Green Lane. Work to commence 4-8-14 for duration of ~ 4 weeks  
**FVH – I Bellion:** FYI FVH Defibrillator info

**Schedule of Correspondence Sent (not otherwise noted) - None**

**PLANNING**

- 83 **FOR PARISH COUNCIL CONSIDERATION**  
**2014/159/OUT:** Rockhill Farm, Astwood Lane - Outline application with some matters reserved – demolition of buildings and alteration of farmhouse with 9 new dwellings  
 FPC Comments:

As the site is in the Green Belt, this application is contrary to both Local Plan 3 and the emerging Local Plan 4, which does not permit, "the creation of a dwelling or dwellings".

The site is "agricultural ", which by definition is not a brown field use. Accordingly, paragraph 89 of the National Planning Policy Framework is not applicable. Consequently, this is not an exceptional site within the Green Belt.

The reference and interpretation of the agricultural building permitted development rights is inaccurate. These rights refer to conversion, not demolition and new build. Hence stated permitted development rights do not apply under this application.

All matters except access are reserved, however there is insufficient information provided to accurately assess the access. The Council notes the following:

- a. the indicated access point is on the narrowest point of the road into the village
- b. residents living at this point have no alternative but on road parking
- c. no visibility splays are apparent, and no traffic speeds given to establish the appropriate X and Y distance required for the same
- d. any visibility splay will no doubt require significant lengths of hedgerow to be removed and result in a detrimental effect on the entrance to the village

Based on the above, the Council believes the access is in a dangerous and unsuitable location.

A provision for affordable housing is mentioned, but none is provided for in the proposal. The Council believes a mix of 2, 3 and 4 bedroom dwellings would best meet the affordable housing needs in the parish.

If the application is approved, the Parish Council request that a number of up to nine dwellings be written into a Town and Country Planning Act (1990) Section 106 Agreement. A significant percentage of the 106 funds are expected to be earmarked for the benefit of Feckenham; more specifically for the Feckenham First School, and other projects such as the improvement to the pavements along parish roads.

**RBC APPROVALS**

84 **2013/189/FUL:** Restoration and extensions of Mutton Hall Farm house and conversion of brick barn to a single dwelling

**RBC REFUSALS**

**RBC PENDING**

**APPEALS**

**COUNCILLORS REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Councillors may use this opportunity to report matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas.

85 VAS

**FINANCE**

86 **Schedule of Invoices**

Clerk May & June Stipend & Expenses	£569.32	LGA'72 101,11,12
HMCR Clerk tax	£72.00	LGA'72 101,11,12
*A Farnsworth May Lengthsman	£191.50	PHA '36 s259/60
*A Farnsworth June Lengthsman	£186.50	PHA '36 s259/60
Village Hall Rent April thru July	£57.00	LGA '72 s133
Village Hall Rent 1 July	£19.00	LGA '72 s133
WORCS CALC Cllr training x2	£180.00	LGA '72 s111

\* Emergency Decision July – paid

87 **Schedule of Receipts**

Localities Grant	£1035.00
May interest	£0.81
June interest	£0.83

88 June 2014 Income & Expense Report emailed to cllrs on 10-7-14. Noted.

89 June 2014 Bank Reconciliation verified by Cllr Eaton.

**Feckenham Parish Council Reconciliation for the Period:**

Date	Date
1st June 2014	30st June 2014

add	current acc		2750.31
add	deposit acc		20629.39
less	cheques paid uncleared:	#776	35.59
		0.00	0.00
add	cheques rec'd not paid in:		
	payee	0.00	
	payee	0.00	
	payee	0.00	
	payee	0.00	0.00
equ	balance C/F		<b>23344.11</b>

Opening Balance Deposit Account	19593.56
Add receipts for period	1035.83
Opening Balance Current Account	2506.82
Add receipts for period	207.90
Less payments for period	0.00
Equ closing balance	<b>23344.11</b>

90 **DATE & VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Council Meeting at 7:30pm on 18 September 2014 at Feckenham Village Hall.

**OPEN FORUM NOTES**

A. Frequent delays on route between Ridgway and Alcester. A new main to Evesham and ongoing repairs. A parishioner may organize a National Grid representative to apologize for delays.

These works have nothing to do with recent power cuts.

B. Planning Application 2014/159/OUT

- i. Not easy access to/from village
- ii. Access to site is dangerous
- iii. Not using footprints of existing buildings except for farmhouse
- iv. Farm inaccurately indicated as a nuisance for noise and smell
- v. Density higher than Yeates' Acre

- vi. Need social housing, not affordable housing
  - vii. Worst area for flooding
  - viii. Substantial project to drain adequately
  - ix. Increased traffic in village dangerous
  - x. Hedgerows not trimmed for visibility
  - xi. Not a Brownfield site
  - xii. Requesting 40 parking spaces for 9 dwellings
  - xiii. Heritage of farm a concern
  - xiv. Village turning into a series of estates
- C. Chairman Rhys encouraged parishioners to send individual comments to RBC.
- D. Airband not a viable long-term solution. Petition for Feckenham inclusion in current Superfast Broadband roll-out sent to WCC.
- E. Can Feckenham Meadows be considered for adverse possession? Very doubtful. Owner was approached with idea of creating a viable meadow. Owner stated the land would be grazed by cattle
- F. Brook near Brook House is diverted. Brook diverted while drainage work is carried out.
- G. HGVs well over the 7.5 tonne limit speed through the village. **ACTION: WCC Cllr Gretton will email police and request 7.5 tonne is enforced.**

DRAFT