

FECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 17 April 2014 at 7:30pm

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

In Attendance 5 parishioners, Co Cllr Gretton, Borough Cllrs Chalk & Clayton

Apologies and reasons: Cllr Hawker on holiday

04/14/01 **Declarations of Interest:**

04/14/02 **Minutes** of the 14 February meeting approved.

04/14/03 **TO CONSIDER CO-OPTING P DORMER AS A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL**
Application emailed to cllrs on 14-4-14.

The Council resolved to co-opt P Dormer as a member of the Council. Cllr Dormer signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office/Undertaking to Observe the Code of Conduct. **ACTION: Clerk to forward DPI form to Cllr Dormer.**

04/14/04 **County Councillor Report:** Cllr Gretton reported the following:

1. Fire Authority is removing a retained fire engine from Redditch Fire Station to save £50,000. There will be minimal impact on response time.
2. Bi-election to be held in Redditch.
3. Enterprise Partnership Strategic Plan to receive £3 million funding from government.

Chair Williams enquired as to whether Cllr Gretton would support extending double yellow lines on Astwood Lane. Cllr Gretton responded that he would be reluctant to do so because motorists would have no other option than to park illegally. There are plans to increase double yellow lines around the corner of Swansbrook Lane.

04/14/05 **Borough Cllr Report:** Cllr Chalk reported the following:

1. RBC will not help financially with Data Protection or resurfacing Mill Lane.
2. Local Plan 4 to go before government for approval. 6400 new houses already queried, but no decisions made. Feckenham will be impacted by drain work construction proposed in the Plan.
3. PC Woodhouse should be available for patrol on school run days to mitigate illegal parking.
4. May meeting will be last meeting as an RBC cllr.

Cllr Gandy reported that Sec 106 funding may be used to create a pedestrian crossing for the Feckenham School.

See Public Question Time Notes at End of Minutes

PROGRESS REPORTS

04/14/06 **Fig:** Mill Lane repaired. **ACTION: Chair Williams to draft thank you letters for donators.**

04/14/07 **Lengthsman:** Cllr Atkins was to request the Lengthsman investigate pooling just after power station. The Clerk reported the following:

1. Ref #5937508: drains between Richardson's & Direct Floors blocked, need pipe jetting
2. Ref #5937532: drain opposite Moors Lane needs cleaning, full of roots

3. Ref #5937359: drains on both sides of Old Cider Mill drive need cleaning, can't open

In all three cases the Clerk was told the areas were inspected and will be cleaned in routine cycle; matter resolved.

The Clerk reported the following on 6-2-14: Reference #6019878

HIGH STREET

1. Drain opposite #17 needs to be cleared, car parked 6027235
2. Drain at junction with Turton Gardens (opp Valentine Cottages) needs to be cleared – too dangerous in middle of road 6027257
3. Drain opposite #43 needs to be cleared, car parked
4. Drain opposite #57 needs to be jetted, cannot clean below pipe, water too deep
5. Drain opposite #64 needs to be cleared, car parked
6. Drain opposite Old Needle Mill needs to be pipe jetted, water too deep to reach

ASTWOOD LANE

7. Drain opposite Willowdene needs to be cleared; can't open
8. Drain opposite #9 needs to be cleared; can't open
9. Drain opposite Winfields Store needs to be cleared; can't open

HAM GREEN LANE

10. Drain opposite Elcocks Brook Pub going toward Brookhouse Lane needs to be pipe jetted; can't open
11. Ditches need to be cleaned

04/14/08 **Flooding:** On 20-3-14 Cllr Gretton reported that an inspector visited the area and identified numerous defects which need attention. Work completed; matter resolved.

04/14/09 **Estate Gates:** Cllr Gretton reported area is too narrow to post "Feckenham" signs on estate gates. **ACTION: Cllr Gretton Investigating an alternative.** No update.

04/14/10 **Footpath Warden:** No update.

04/14/11 **Pool Barn Wall:** The wall is owned by the developer. As the wall is not dangerous, Messrs Tricklebank and Furey will repair the wall when convenient. No update.

04/14/12 **Bench on Cruise Hill Lane:** Bench installed. Council investigating if bench be turned around to take advantage of the great view. Chair offered a vote of thanks to Cllrs Dormer and Arthur for their assistance.

The Clerk did not file a claim with the insurance company because an approximate date for the bench has yet to be determined. Matter resolved.

04/14/13 **Walking Map Brochure:** Chair Williams reports the cost is £200-250 for 1000 copies. **ACTION: Chair to discuss design with the Whites.** No update.

04/14/14 **Internal Audit:** Engagement Letter emailed to R Fletcher. Audit has commenced. The Clerk posted the Date for the Exercise of Elector's Rights on 1-4-14.

04/14/15 **Feckenham Manor Community Archaeology Project:** Cllr Atkins reported the following:

This site has long since been associated with various kings and queens in the past, because of the importance of its situation, where it is understood to originally have been the site of a mansion or hunting lodge in The Forest of Feckenham.

This site has been designated as a 'site at risk' by English Heritage; so, following a preliminary letter from Imogen Sambrook – Heritage at Risk Project Officer a meeting was held on the site situated at the back of The Square, Feckenham, on Thursday 10th April 2014, to discuss the potential organisation of a community group to improve the condition of the scheduled monument.

About fifteen people attended with more showing interest in its future. The idea suggested was that a steering committee should be set up to oversee the site so that it might be possible to apply for help from the Heritage Lottery Fund, to perhaps have a geophysical survey done. Three people present offered to be a Chairman, Secretary

and Treasurer, with the proviso that the committee would not be formed until the end of June, because of people's various commitments.

It was suggested that the committee could be affiliated to one of the various organisations in the village, but this was not deemed to be feasible at the moment. Another point raised was the fact that the site was owned by Redditch Borough Council, who would have to have some say in its conservation, as they were responsible for its maintenance and derived revenue from its use.

Another point raised was the name of the site; known at the moment as 'The Feckenham Manorial Moated Site' and whether there was an alternative.

The meeting closed with Imogen advising us that she would collate all the information and send it to us.

04/14/16 **ICO:** £35 payment is due to register.

CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

04/14/17 **TO CONSIDER REVIVING NDP STEERING GROUP**

Cllr Hawker raised this issue at the last meeting. To be considered at May meeting.

04/14/18 **TO CONSIDER ORGANIZING A WORKING PARTY WITH THE AIM OF RESURFACING MOORS LANE**

Should the Council resolve to form a working party, the goal will be to raise funds for the resurfacing job. Chair Williams applied for a Spirit of the Community Award to be applied toward the repair of Moors Lane. See 7-4-14 email.

Chair Williams obtained a quote for £15,000 to complete the repairs work.

Cllr Chalk to investigate if RBC could help with funding.

The Council resolved to defer the matter until news of the award is received.

04/14/19 **TO CONSIDER APPROVING DRAFT 2013/14 FPC ACCOUNTS**

See 6-4-14 email. The year end process is as follows:

1. Clerk post Date for the Exercise of Electors' Rights on 1 April. This is a two week notice period informing parishioners they will have between 14 April and 12 May to inspect the accounts by appointment.
2. Council approve draft accounts at April meeting.
3. Internally audited accounts approved at April or May meeting. Internal Auditor completes Section 4 of the Annual Return.
4. Annual Return (Sections 2) completed during May meeting. The Clerk completes Section 1 prior to the meeting and the Council completes Section 2 during the meeting.
5. Year End due 30 June when External Audit will take place.

See website for previous Annual Returns. The draft accounts are designed to mirror the Annual Return.

The Council resolved to approve the accounts.

04/14/20 **TO CONSIDER APPROVING WCC LENGTHSMAN CONTRACT**

FPC is due to receive £2361.40 for Lengthsman use in 2014/15. The contract is the same as in previous years.

The Council resolved to approve the contract as drafted. **ACTION: Clerk to forward contract to Lengthsman.**

04/14/21 **TO CONSIDER APPROVING FPC LENGTHSMAN CONTRACT**

The Lengthsman has requested a £1 per hour raise from £11 to £12. The Contract calls for 15.5 hours of work per month. See 7-4-14 email.

The Council resolved to approve the contract. **ACTION: Clerk to forward contract to Lengthsman.**

04/14/22

TO CONSIDER REQUESTING WCC TO PAINT DOUBLE YELLOW LINES UP SWANSBROOK LANE

Many cars are often parked illegally during school pick up/drop off times. This measure would make the area near the school safer. The Clerk emailed Cllr Gretton on 7-4-14 and requested he look into the matter.

See Minute 04/14/04; Cllr Gretton is not inclined to support FPC, matter resolved.

CLERK'S UPDATE

04/14/23

WCC Public Path Diversion Order: Footpath FH-719 formerly Footpath 164.

04/14/24

Schedule of Correspondence Not Yet Replied To

WCC – T Pollock: 13-3-14 email RE 40mph speed limit COMMENTS DUE 3 APRIL – FPC declined to offer because the consultation was to amend internal documents

04/14/25

Schedule of Correspondence Received (not otherwise noted)

M Thompson: RE FPC land ownership; the Clerk responded that FPC does not own any land

A Pulsford: 25-2-14 email RE Dormer App

10 Downing St: RE tax cut for businesses and charities

A Pulsford: 6-4-14 email RE 2014/011/Full

Phone call from parishioner on Sillins Lane: Complaint about chain saw noise on a Sunday

04/14/26

Schedule of Correspondence Sent (not otherwise noted)

PLANNING MATTERS

04/14/27

FOR PARISH COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

2013/189/FUL: Restoration and extensions of Mutton Hall Farm house and conversion of brick barn to a single dwelling Comments due 28-4-14

04/14/28

RBC APPROVALS

04/14/29

RBC REFUSALS

04/14/30

RBC PENDING

04/14/31

APPEALS

COUNCILLOR REPORTS & Future Agenda Items

04/14/32

VAS

FINANCIAL MATTERS

04/14/33

Schedule of Invoices/Payments

Clerk Feb & March Stipend & Expenses	£740.77	LGA'72 101,11,12
HMCR Clerk tax	£97.80	LGA'72 101,11,12
A Farnsworth March Lengthsman	£181.50	PHA '36 s259/60
Feckenham Football Club	£250.00	LGA 72 s137
ICO Registration fee	£35.00	LGA '72 s34(5)
*Codec Facilities new bench paid	£399.00	LGMPA 1953 s4
**Codec Facilities bench fittings paid	£25.00	LGMPA 1953 s4
**Codec Facilities bench engraving paid	£59.00	LGMPA 1953 s4
***IPS install bench	£75.00	LGMPA 1953 s4

* Emergency Decision February

**Emergency Decision March

***Emergency Decision April

The Clerk claimed a VAT return of £1840.42 on 17-3-14.

04/14/34	Schedule of Receipts	
	FIG Mill Lane donations	£5000.00
	WCC FIG Donation	£1500.00
	VAT return	£140.97
	Lengthsman	£1164.48
	Feb interest	£0.90
	March interest	£0.78

04/14/35 March I&E Report emailed to cllrs on 14-4-14.

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

04/14/36 Council Meeting at 7:30pm on 15 May 2014 at Feckenham Village Hall to be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7:15pm.

The Meeting closed at 8:30pm.

Signed
Chairman

Date

OPEN FORUM NOTES

04/14/37 J Eaton: Feckenham not included in Superfast Broadband scheme possibly because of Airband. FPC was not told of this limiting choice in advance of pursuing Airband. Would like FPC to make representations to be included in current rollout of Superfast Broadband.

Co Cllr Gretton: 8 areas in county will receive Superfast Broadband. The current rollout includes two areas. 70% of county already covered, plan is for 95% coverage.

The Clerk stated that the areas chosen by WCC consultations in which parishioners were asked to sign up for Superfast Broadband about 18 months ago. Apparently, not enough interest was demonstrated in Feckenham.

ACTION: Co Cllr Gretton to investigate.

04/14/38 Cllr Eaton presented a Redditch Standard article which stated FPC supported an application for a log cabin and an incubator shed on the Saltway.

ACTION: Clerk to draft a letter requesting the Redditch Standard to print a correction. FPC was not consulted nor did it support the application in question.