

Minutes of the meeting held 18 September 2014 at Feckenham Village Hall, Feckenham

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- Present: Councillors: R Williams (Chair), K White, P Eaton, E Atkins, P Dormer, S Arthur & A Smith (co-opted during the meeting)
- In Attendance: S Arble (Clerk), 3 members of the public (Mr Smith was co-opted as a member of the Council), RBC Cllrs B Clayton & J Potter and WCC Cllr P Gretton
- 91 No apologies received.
- 92 The Council resolved to co-opt Mr Alan Smith as a member of the Council. Cllr Smith signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office/Undertaking to Observe the Code of Conduct. **ACTION: Cllr Smith to forward DPI form to RBC. ACTION: The Clerk to notify RBC of the Cllr Smith co-option.**
- 93 No interests declared.
- 94 The Council resolved to approve the **MINUTES** of the meeting held **17 July 2014**.
- 95 **County Cllr Gretton** reported the following:
A. Cllr Gretton presented the J Clements/ Q Cary Superfast Broadband Petition to WCC on 18-9-14.
B. Having Airband does not exclude Feckenham from receiving Superfast Broadband.
C. Petitions are recognized as a legitimate demonstration of demand.
D. While not guaranteed, there is a reasonable possibility that Superfast Broadband could be in Feckenham during the next few years.
- 96 **Borough Cllr Potter** reported the following:
A. The Feckenham NDP Area Designation Application was recommended for approval.
- 97 **Borough Cllr Clayton** reported the following:
A. Local Plan #4 to go to public enquiry soon.
B. Proposed housing development at Webheath problematic due to traffic issues leading into A38 roundabout in Bromsgrove.

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

PROGRESS REPORTS

- 98 **FIG: ACTION:** Chair Williams to draft thank you letters for donators.
- 99 **Lengthsman:** Cllr Atkins reported that all jobs were completed. **ACTION: Cllr Atkins to request signs near Moors Lane is cleared of vegetation.**
- 100 **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 was pipe jetted, #6264677; matter resolved.
b. Ditches need to be cleaned 6264651. Issue passed to Land Drainage.

c. On 8-9-14 the Clerk reported that water is flowing into drain on Norgrove Lane very near Crumpfields Lane, #6350931.

101 **Footpath Report:** The Clerk reported the rail on the bridge (at end of Mill Lane) on FH542 is badly damaged; #6353229. **ACTION: Clerk to request the Footpath Officer to provide reports to the Council.**

102 **Bench on Cruise Hill Lane:** No update. **ACTION: Cllr Arthur to investigate the possibility having the bench turned around and hedge lowered.**

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

104 **Feckenham Manor Community Archaeology Project:** Meeting scheduled for 1 October.

105 **Council Vacancy:** See Minute 92; matter resolved.

106 **Superfast Broadband:** See minute 95.

107 **Moors Lane Resurfacing:** Chair Williams reported one parishioner agreed to donate up to £1000 for the project. The initial quote to complete the work is £16,000. The Working Party (Cllrs Arthur and Williams) will meet to discuss how to progress this matter.

108 **NDP Update:** See Minutes 117 & 118.

109 **Justification of Council Reserves:** The Clerk requested an update from Mr Fletcher on 22-5-14, 8-7-14 and 8-9-14. No reply. **ACTION: Clerk to request an update.**

110 **Overweight Lorries on High Street:** The Clerk requested Officer Waterhouse to investigate this issue. The response on 1-9-14 stated

- a) Lorries are permitted access for delivery purposes; perhaps situation needs to be clarified.
- b) Rock Hill Lane alternative route not appropriate.
- c) Alternative using Saltway through Astwood Bank poses problems because of school peak hour congestion
- d) This situation is not easily resolved.

During a discussion on the matter, it was determined that lorries leaving Astwood Business Park must turn left, but there is a 7.5 tonne weight limit through the village.

ACTION: RBC Cllr Cllrs Clayton and Potter to investigate. WCC Cllr Gretton to investigate.

NEW AGENDA ITEMS

111 The Council resolved to renew the insurance with Zurich at a cost of 243.80 per year.

112 The Council resolved to delete the wording of Standing Order 70, leaving the number in place and adding "deleted following the implementation of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulation 2014.

113 The Council resolved to contribute £500 (upon receipt of invoice) toward the refurbishment of the War Memorial on the grounds of The Church of St John the Baptist, Feckenham. **ACTION: Clerk to inform Mr Hunter of the Council decision.**

114 The Council resolved to approve the following meeting dates for 2015: 19 Feb, 16 April, 21 May (to include Annual Parish Meeting), 16 July, 17 Sept, 19 Nov and 17 Dec; all dates are 3rd Thursday of the month. **ACTION: Clerk to book the dates with B Robson.**

- 115 The Council resolved to
- a) request WCC disclose the results of the latest speed survey on the B4090 in Feckenham
 - b) request WCC consider installing pinch points on the B4090 in Feckenham
- ACTION: WCC Cllr Gretton to make enquiries with D Degge concerning the last speed survey on the B4090 in Feckenham, the cost of conducting a new survey should FPC make such a request and the possibility of installing pinch points on the B4090 in Feckenham.**
- 116 The Council resolved to further investigate the possibility of purchasing VAS signs for the parish. The Clerk forwarded a large file to Cllr Arthur with previous information gathered on traffic calming.
- 117 The Council resolved to reimburse members of the Feckenham NDP Working Party expenses for items such as post, flyers, rent, travel etc up to a total amount of £500 through April 2015. All expenses will be approved by the NDP Working Party before receipts/invoices being presented to the Council. All invoices and receipts should clearly state the VAT element. **ACTION: The Clerk to inform the Chair of the NDP Working party of its decision.**
- 118 The Council resolved to approve the Letter of Appointment to Kirkwells to carry out a scoping session and a follow-up written report for £900 plus VAT. **ACTION: Clerk to inform the Chair of the NDP Working party of its decision.**

CLERK'S UPDATE

- 119
- a) Schedule of Correspondence for Consideration – None
 - b) Schedule of Tabled Correspondence (not otherwise noted)
 - 1) **WDC:** Individual Electoral Registration (IER)
 - 2) **RBC:** 6-8-14 cc NDP letter
 - 3) **A Pulsford:** 7-8-14 email RE hedge work & bridge repair

PLANNING

FOR PARISH COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

- 120 **2014/222/FUL:** 53 Alcester Road – Two storey side extension to provide additional living room and bedrooms Comments due 30-9-14.

RBC APPROVALS - none

RBC REFUSALS

- 121 **2014/159/OUT:** Rockhill Farm, Astwood Lane – Outline application with some matters reserved – demolition of buildings and alteration of farmhouse with 9 no. New dwellings
OBJECT

RBC PENDING

- 122 **2014/015/LBC:** Stoners Farmhouse, Berrowhill Lane – erection of a porch and replacement windows on the north elevation SUPPORT
- 123 **2014/086/FUL:** Stoners Farmhouse, Berrowhill Lane – erection of a porch and replacement windows on the north elevation SUPPORT
- 124 **2014/228/OHL:** Electricity Line from Feckenham to Great Alne – Overhead line upgrade, including increase in height and thickness of cabling SUPPORT
- 125 **2014/172/FUL:** Upper Bean Hall, Bradley Green - Replacement of rotten electric wooden gate and fence with reclaimed brick walls and wrought iron gates SUPPORT

APPEALS

- 126 **2013/228/OUT:** The Paddocks, Astwood Lane – Outline application with some matters reserved – 8 no dwellings providing mix of 4x2 bed, 2x3 bed and 2x4 bed, one of which will be a replacement dwelling SUPPORT

FINANCE

- 127 The Council approved the September 2014 Payment Schedule listed in Appendix A of the September Agenda.

- 128 Cllr Eaton confirmed the accuracy of the August 2014 Reconciliation as listed in Appendix B of the September Agenda.

- 129 The Council noted the August 2014 Income & Expenditure Report. The Clerk reported that all spending was in line with the budget.

- 130 **ACTION: The Clerk to cut a new cheque for Chair Williams; cheque #776 was lost.**

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.

- 131 Cllr Atkins mentioned that Old Yar Farm was sold and the nearby bungalow is for sale with planning permission to create a large house on the footpad.

- 132 Cllr Eaton reported the notice board (thought to be owned by RBC) across the street from the village hall parking lot needs updated material. The current material is faded.
ACTION: Clerk to report the issue to RBC.

DATE & VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

- 133 Council Meeting at 7:30pm on 20 November 2014 at Feckenham Village Hall.

- 134 The meeting closed at 8:45 pm.

OPEN FORUM NOTES

- A. A parishioner asked about the state of the Moors Lane resurfacing project. See Minute 107.
- B. A parishioner expressed concern about the oversized vehicles in the village. See Minute 110.