

Feckenham Parish Council Agenda.

Ordinary Meeting.

Thursday 15th January 2026 at 7.30pm

Back Room Village Hall.

In attendance: Cllr Alan Smith(Chair), Cllr Erica Guise, Cllr Karen Reynolds, Cllr Jacqui Barrett-Meade, Cllr Paul Downes, Cllr Chris Hoyz (RBC), Jane Bull, Clerk to FPC.

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr Rob Oaten (accepted reason), Cllr Ian Bellion (accepted reason), Cllr Craig Warhurst (RBC), Cllr Brandon Clayton (RBC), Cllr Sue Eacock (WCC), Cllr Roger Bennett (WCC).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS:

a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. Cllr Jacqui Barrett-Meade said she would refrain from commenting on item 9e as she is a member of FABSS.

b) To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary and nonpecuniary interests (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) which are to be with the clerk as soon as possible prior to a meeting.

c) TO CONSIDER GRANTING REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Requests for dispensation must be made on an individual basis.

3. MINUTES: To consider the approval of the Minutes of the meeting held Thursday 11th December 25. The minutes were approved as a true representative of the meeting.

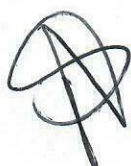
4. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT. No WCC Cllr available.

5. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT. Cllr Chris Hoyz advised the Borough Council had applied to Government for permission to postpone the elections due in May 26. Cllr Hoyz was advised as he was due to take part in the elections it would be classed as a declaration of interest, so he was unable to attend. The Borough Council have said this is due to the costs of the elections which are approx. £190,000. It is also related to the proposal for Unitary councils. Cllr Hoyz said he understood the Borough Council had already budgeted for these elections, and central government have funds available.

6.OPEN FORUM

The Parish Council meeting will be suspended for 15 minutes. Residents are invited to give their views and question to the Parish Council on issues on this agenda or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the Chair.

Members of the public may not take part in the Parish Council meeting.



7. PLANNING.

Planning comments given since last meeting: None.

For Council Consideration: 25.01102/FUL Horse Walker @ Old Yarr.

25/10437/FUL & 25/01508/LBC 10 High Street.

b. RBC Approvals: 25/01293/CPE Q26 Alcester Road.

25/01058/FUL Badgers Cottage.

c. RBC Refusals: None.

d. RBC Pending:

23/00192/FUL. Cross Boundary application for W/23/00270/FUL, Roundhill Solar Farm

23/01308/FUL. about the Land at Rockhill Lane, Astwood Lane. Roundhill Solar Farm.

W/23/00270/FUL. Roundhill Solar Farm (Wychavon Planning Authority).

24/01057/scop Innova Renewables Ltd. BESS scoping opinion.

25/00628/FUL Grenergy BESS.

25/00888/FUL Wheaten Hill. BESS.

21/00249/FUL. Land North of Droitwich Road.

24/00604/FUL 43 Alcester Road for a Domestic garage to front of main property and associated landscaping work.

24/00538/FUL Access on land south of Astwood Lane.

25/01058/FUL. Badgers Cottage

25/01232/LBC & 25/01231/FUL Old Berrow Farm.

e. RBC Withdrawn: None.

f. RBC Appeals: None.

g. RBC Permission Required: None.

8. FINANCE


As the Parish Council now have accounts package you will find the latest figures added to the agenda / minutes which will show all payments and account balances.

9. NEW AGENDA ITEMS

a. Precept Decision to request £66,000.

The PC resolved to raise the Precept to £66,000. All in agreement.

- b. **Upgrade to Scribe's next package with upfront costs of £499 and a monthly charge of £51 per month plus VAT.**
Agreed by Council. All in agreement.
- c. **Feckenham Emergency Plan. To consider adoption or reforming working party to look at issues and practical solutions.**
The PC agreed to form a working party to look at updating the earlier emergency plan.
- d. **Review, update, and adopt grants and donations policy.**
The PC chose not to revise the current policy and to readopt the existing policy.
- e. **Feckenham (FABSSS) BESS Group grant application.**
The PC agreed to award the BESS group a grant of £1,000 towards the costs of making a short film about Energy matters.
- f. **Review, update, and adopt FPC Complaints policy.**
The PC agreed to introduce a revised complaints policy which will now include a two-stage process to include informal, only moving onto formal if the complaint stays.
- g. **Review Redditch code of conduct.**
The PC agreed to undertake reviewing the Redditch code of conduct. The clerk will request the Borough Council send out the training.
- h. **Revised IT policy to reflect Assertion 10 guidance.**
Still in progress.
- i. **To arrange a parish meeting with regards to Winfield's.**
- j. The PC agreed to arrange a parish meeting before the next parish council meeting on Thursday 5th Feb at 7pm in the back room, village hall purely to give the village a chance to come together, discuss and exchange details with the current owner. The PC is purely arranging the meeting and is not involved in any commercial activity with either Winfield's or any other parties. It was agreed the Chair would lead the initial discussions with Winfield's. Any groups / individuals taking the matter forward would be a commercial arrangement directly with the Owners. The Parish Council are purely organising a meeting to ensure the village is aware of this possibility. The PC advise anyone who is interested to come and ask questions before checking with their own business advisers.



10. CLERK'S UPDATE

- A. Schedule of Correspondence for Consideration (not already noted). The Clerk will contact Scribe and advise the PC have agreed to increase the subscription to the next level to provide more detailed accounts information.
- B. Schedule of Tabled Correspondence Received (not already noted). Lloyds Bank have paid out a further £25 due to the delay with adding internet access for payments to one signatory. It is hoped this will now be finalised. Lloyds have also said the third bank account named as the "Treasurers Account" will be closed as the PC have no need of it.
- C. Schedule of Correspondence Sent (not already noted) The clerk advised the lengthsman has not been paid sine October as the invoices have not been sent to the PC. This is causing an accounts issue. Cllr Downes said he would speak to the lengthsman.

11. PROGRESS REPORTS

- a) **Flood works and Highways.** The next meeting has been arranged for Friday 6th March, and it is hoped there will be more news mid-March.
- b) **Planning Consultant for larger applications for homes within Feckenham.** The planner has finished her report on the parish. The report will be shared with the planning department at the Borough Council. The PC has requested the planning department consider adding Feckenham as a separate page when Redditch are finalising the New Local Plan. A decision is awaited.
- c) **Parish Neighbourhood Plan.** See 11B.
- d) **Housing Needs Survey.**
The housing needs survey has been analysed, and the results have been fed into the Parish Neighbourhood plan. This will be available on the parish website.
- e) **To open a higher interest account.**
This will be done as soon as time allows.
- f) Initial discussion on potential Community Project at the Winfield's site.
There will be an introductory meeting arranged for Thursday 5th Feb at 7pm.
- g) **WCC Highways-** Planning Department to request HGV's and other large vehicles do not use the High Street for access.
The PC have asked for the Highways planning Team to attend the next Highways / Flood meeting.
- h) **Website specific page on BESS /Solar information.**
The website developer has been asked to create a separate page.
- i) **Website specific page for FVAT (Feckenham Village Amenity Trust).**
- j) The website developer has been asked to create a separate page.
- k) **Volunteer Parish Path Warden.**
There will be an article in the next Feckenham News and asking anyone interested to contact the clerk.

- l) **Project Gigabit.** Existing information has been passed onto a councillor who will consider all the documents and inform the full council of any actions needed.
- m) **Healthy Worcestershire.** No Update.
- n) **Unitary Authority.** No update.
- o) **Update on Round Hill Solar Farm Project.** No Update.
- p) **Boom Power BESS Facility.** Update. No Update.
- q) **Innova BESS application.** No Update.
- r) **Feedback from Feckenham Energy Action Group.** See item 9B.
- s) **FVAT update.** The annual return has been updated to the charities commission.
- t) **Update on Bridge repairs on B4090.** The bridge repairs have been assessed and will be undertaken by WCC. The work will be undertaken at an unspecified date but is on their waiting list.

12. 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.

DATE & VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

7:30pm on 5th February 2026 at Feckenham Village Hall.

All welcome to attend.

Public forum.

One person attended the meeting but did not wish to raise any issues during the public session.

Signature
Redacted.