

Feckenham Parish Council Agenda.

Ordinary Meeting.

Thursday 5th February 2026 at 7.30p

Back Room Village Hall.

In-attendance: Cllr Alan Smith (Chair), Cllr Ian Bellion (Vice-Chair), Cllr Erica Guise, Cllr Rob Oaten, Cllr Karen Reynolds, Cllr Jacqui Barrett-Meade, Cllr Craig Warhurst (RBC), Cllr Brandon Clayton, Cllr Sue Eacock (WCC), Jane Bull, clerk to FPC.

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr Paul Downes, Cllr Chris Holz (RBC) and Cllr Roger Bennett.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS:

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. Cllr Alan Smith, Cllr Ian Bellion, and Cllr Erica Guise. All said they would not speak regarding 9C as they are members of the Wake committee.

c) TO CONSIDER GRANTING REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Requests for dispensation must be made on an individual basis. Cllr Barrett-meade and Cllr Rob Oaten said they were neighbours of 7a. It was accepted they would speak but would abstain from voting.

3. MINUTES: To consider the approval of the Minutes of the meeting held Thursday 15th January 2026. The minutes were approved as a true representative of the meeting

4. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT. Cllr Eacock asked for the latest update on flooding and was advised the next meeting is 6th March. The County Council have applied to raise Council tax above the 5% maximum. Government will make the decision. Unitary Authorities decision has now been pushed back to June.

5. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT. The Borough Councillors said Redditch is one of twenty-nine councils who have elected to postpone May 2026 elections. Next year WCC will hold shadow elections. This is to ensure the unitary councils will be in place when Borough and District councils cease to exist in 2028. The secretary of state has approved the plan.

The new local plan is still in development. The call for sites suggested 5200 new homes could be built in and around Redditch. However, Redditch will still be under target by 3,000 new homes. The Borough Council may try to readvertise, and the PC were advised under current rulings, developers can reapply. It is unlikely planning officers can refuse the applications. RBC can ask other areas if they can build in their area. Neighbouring areas have a duty to comply. Land does not need to be developed for nine ½ years after the most recent Neighbourhood plan is produced and adopted. The new plan will be sent and shared with WCC. Webheath is likely due to be further developed which could increase flooding down to Feckenham.

6.OPEN FORUM. No members of public in attendance.

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.

Cllr Brandon Clayton and Cllr Craig Warhurst left the meeting prior to the agenda items.

7. PLANNING.

Planning comments given since last meeting: None.

a.For Council Consideration: 26/00038/PIP Land adjacent to Yeates Acre- Up to two dwellings.

26/00039/PIP Land adjacent to Rockhill Farm- Up to five dwellings.

7a : Having taken advice from its planning consultant the Council decided to enter a neutral comment with the addition of a comment to point out that the two applications might be considered to be on one site. The area of the entire site would trigger conditions regarding the provision of affordable/social housing. Concerns were also expressed about potential flooding that might result from the development of the site.

b. RBC Approvals: None.

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.

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

25/01102/FUL Horse Walker @ Old Yarr. The council noted that this had been re-sited. This meant that the original objection to the retrospective application for a Horse Walker could not stand. Agreed to submit a new objection without the references to the retrospective aspects of the application.

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

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. The PC agreed to accept the reconciliation figures and all payments on the transaction report.

9. NEW AGENDA ITEMS

- a. **Police have arranged a community meeting Sunday 1st March.** Does the PC wish to pay the village hall costs. The PC agreed to fund the village hall costs. The date has changed to 21st March and will be primarily offering parishioners home security advice.
- b. **Tree blocking the flow of Bow Brook.** The clerk said the Environment Agency assessed the tree, and do not feel it justifies their input it at this time. The EA suggested speaking to the landowner.
- c. **Grant application from Feckenham Wake.** The PC agreed to support Feckenham Wake and agreed to award a grant payment of £1,000.
- d. **Jislon Satellite and Milestone Islands. To consider improving visibility of the satellites due to discolouration.** The Council agreed the satellites need to be more visible. It was suggested asking WCC if they had any thoughts and to ask the original company for an estimate of new satellites.
- e. **Speed reduction on Astwood Lane and Droitwich Road.** The PC agreed speeding is still an issue within the village. The clerk will approach Safer Roads for help and speak with the local policing team.
- f. **To consider the revised IT policy to reflect Assertion 10 guidance.** The PC agreed to adopt the updated policy.
- g. **In line with assertion ten to adopt GDPR within Council activities.** The PC agreed to adopt the updated policy.

10. CLERK'S UPDATE

A. Schedule of Correspondence for Consideration (not already noted). A reminder to send in photos and locations of yellow grit bins in the village. Mike Dunphy from Strategic planning is happy to meet, after discussion the PC will wait until after the greenbelt review.

- B. Schedule of Tabled Correspondence Received (not already noted).
- C. Schedule of Correspondence Sent (not already noted).

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 funding news mid-March.
- b) **Parish Neighbourhood Plan.** The PC has asked the planning department to consider adding Feckenham as a separate page to the New Local Plan using the report commissioned by the PC which has been sent. A decision is awaited.
- c) **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.
- d) **To open a higher interest account.**
This will be done as soon as time allows.
- e) **Initial discussion on potential Community Project at the Winfield's site.**
There was an introductory meeting arranged for Thursday 5th Feb at 7pm. The PC agreed to arrange a parish meeting purely to give the village a chance to come together, discuss and exchange details with the current owner. The PC is only arranging the original meeting and is not involved in any commercial activity with either Winfield's or any other parties. It must be noted this is a commercial arrangement and anyone/organisation is urged to seek legal advice.
- f) **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.
- g) **Website specific page on BESS /Solar information.**
The website developer has been asked to create a separate page.
- h) **Website specific page for FVAT (Feckenham Village Amenity Trust).**
- i) The website developer has been asked to create a separate page.
- j) **Volunteer Parish Path Warden.** Still vacant.
- k) **Project Gigabit.** Cllr Oaten to attend a meeting 10th February and will draft a report for Feckenham news and the PC.
- l) **Healthy Worcestershire.** Cllr Eacock has reminded WCC that Feckenham needs to be included and asked for the community transport to include the parish.

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m) **Unitary Authority.**

The consultation, which was launched on 5th February, will run until 26th March and we currently expect the final decision on the preferred proposal in July.

You can find out more about each proposal, and have your say, at www.transformingworcestershireshire.co.uk.

The link to the Government consultation website is <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-reorganisation-in-worcestershire>

- n) **Update on Round Hill Solar Farm Project.** Withdrawn.
- o) **Boom Power BESS Facility.** No update.
- p) **Innova BESS scop application.** No update.
- q) **Feedback from Feckenham Energy Action Group.** No update.
- r) **FVAT.** Cllr Bellion had attended an allotments meeting.
- s) **Feckenham Emergency Plan.** A member of public has volunteered to be involved. There is help available from RBC. The clerk will arrange a meeting.

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 March 2026 at Feckenham Village Hall.

All welcome to attend.

Signature
Redacted