NOTICE OF MEETING

Feckenham Parish Council

Thursday 2nd July at 7.30pm.

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

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr Rob Oaten (accepted), Cllr Paul Downes, Cllr Craig Warhurst (RBC), AND Cllr Roger Bennett (RBC&WCC).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS: None.

a) 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.

b) 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 4th June 26. The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT. Cllr Eacock advised the decision on Unitary Authorities would be announced on the 19th July 26. Cllr Eacock requested clarification on the Wheaten Hill application.

5. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT. Cllr Clayton advised he was now on the planning committee so would leave the meeting before any planning applications were discussed. He advised the Borough Council were involved with all applications both BESS and Solar. However, Arrow Valley Solar will be dealt with by the secretary of state due to its size.

Cllr Clayton advised Feckenham has not been selected to have battery charging in the car park. The nearest site will be at Astwood Bank.

Feckenham will soon be getting two new caddy size bins to collect food waste. Central Gov is funding 50%, with the remainder coming from the Borough Council. The waste will be taken to either a site the other side of Kidderminster or possibly Hindlip.

The Borough Council have decided to increase the number of parking attending to five. Currently there are 1.4 for the whole of Redditch. This will be funded by the Borough, although the owner of the Kingfisher centre will also be paying for one to be trained. Their duties will include littering from cars, ticketing cars parked unlawfully including parking over dropped kerbs. The complaints about parking are heard throughout the country. Some of the schools will need to look at their zig zag lines as not all of them are the correct colours or in the right locations.

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6.OPEN FORUM- Please see the end of the minutes.

The Parish Council meeting will be suspended for 15 minutes. Residents are invited to give them 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.

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7. PLANNING.

Planning comments given since last meeting: None.

a. **For Council Consideration**: 26/00664/FUL Q21 The Priory Stables. Withdrawn the day of this meeting.

25/00888/FUL (Reconsideration) Boome, Wheaten Hill. Cllr Smith will speak with our Consultant Dr Chris Ford.

b. **RBC Approvals**: 26/00091/FUL Q21 The Cottage, Trickses Lane.

c. **RBC Refusals:** None.

d. RBC Pending:

25/00628/FUL Grenergy BESS.

25/00888/FUL Wheaten Hill. BESS.

26/00383/EOR Arrow Valley Solar

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.

26/00395/FUL Old Yarr. Repair & alteration to stables.

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 acknowledged the finance reports and accepted their findings.**

9. NEW AGENDA ITEMS

A. Grant application from Moors Lane. The PC agreed to postpone their decision until more information was received to include copies of bank statements and source of other income. The clerk will contact them. The PC agreed to hold an urgent council meeting to discuss this in August if required.

B. To note change of dates from 26th June to 6th August for Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Governance & Accountability Return Accounts for The Year Ended 31 March 2026. Noted by Council and agreed.

C. To consider costs for Dr Chris Ford to attend the planning committee. The PC agreed to fund Dr Ford's expenses, likely to be around £1600 to appear at a planning committee meeting with Redditch Borough Council.

D. To consider costs of using a reputable company to shred parish council documents in line with the Retention policy. The PC agreed to consider funding when the costs were known and agreed. Cllr Clayton agreed he would find out who the Borough Council use.

E. To consider request of Feckenham in Bloom to remain under the umbrella of the parish council whilst retaining their own bank account. This request was cancelled prior to the meeting but after the agenda was posted. FIB will now remain independent. All funds have been transferred to their bank. It is strongly suggested they appoint Insurers, Risk assessments, and have a term of reference including finances policy document. The PC thanks them for their continued hard work in Feckenham.

F. To adopt changes to the pre-planning policy. Agreed and adopted.

10. CLERK'S UPDATE

A. Schedule of Correspondence for Consideration (not already noted). There is still no update on the Parish Path Warden volunteer as WCC are unable to provide training. Several options were suggested to WCC, but their decision remained the same. There is a change to the register of interest's forms. Councillor's addresses are no longer to be in the public arena.

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. Due to matters beyond the parish council the flood works remain unable to move forward.
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 to the Borough Council. A decision is awaited.
c) To open a higher interest account. It was agreed the PC would open a savings account with United Trust Bank.
d) Volunteer Parish Path Warden. As above 10A.
e) FVAT. No Update.

f) Healthy Worcestershire. No Update.
g) Unitary Authority. See WCC/RBC reports.
h) Feedback from Feckenham Energy Action Group.
i) Feckenham Emergency Plan. No Update.
j) Jislon Satellite and Milestone Islands. Awaiting fitting.
k) Astwood Lane Community Speed Watch. Any volunteers interested are asked to contact the clerk.
l) Arrow Valley solar. (Island Green Power IGP). No update.
m) To purchase a replacement, wrap around tree bench for the village square and memorial for the late Mr Lionel Hill MBE as a thank you for his support and help for Feckenham. Due to other village activities this project has not yet been progressed due to the workload of Feckenham Wake.
n) Redditch First Responders training sessions for CPR / Defib training. Awaiting dates.
o) Feckenham parish council Investment policy/agreement on savings accounts. Postponed.

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

3rd September 2026 at 7.30pm

Feckenham Village Hall.

All welcome to attend.

Public Forum.

A member of public attended the meeting to ask why the VAS machine was sited in the 40mph which could mislead drivers into not realising the speed had changed to 30mph. They thought it would be more effective if it was in the 40ph but much further up the road, and perhaps another in the 30mph. The history of the VAS machines and locations were discussed but it was agreed the PC would ask if the VAS machine of Alcester Road could be moved further away from the 30mph change. ***It was also discussed the possibility of moving the white nearer to the 30mph (This additional sentence was omitted in error).***

Signature Redacted