

TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th April 2006 at 7.00pm, in Terling Village Hall

Present

Mrs. A. Anderson. (Acting Chairman)
Mr. R. Dixon
Mrs. J. Lewis
Dr. R. K. Bullard
Mrs. S. Wood
Mrs. S. MacNamara
Mr. R. Watson
Mr. R. Sterck
Mrs. M. Galione (District Councillor)
The Clerk
5 members of the public

86 Meeting open to members of the Public:

Concern was expressed, regarding Lord Rayleigh's work behind Viners Cottages. The Chairman had met with Lord Rayleigh and he had said that the land is being tidied up, but photographs were shown to the Parish Council of large mounds of earth, deposited immediately behind the residents' gardens, some as high as 8 feet. It had always been understood that Lord Rayleigh permitted the residents access to tidy their hedges. The Parish Council Chairman had asked Lord Rayleigh to explain what is happening, to allay parishioners' fears. It was decided that the Parish Council would write to Lord Rayleigh, requesting that the earth is landscaped and kept to the level of residents' hedges.

AA

87 Apologies for Absence:

None.

88 Minutes of the meetings held on March 7th:

These were unanimously agreed and signed by the Chairman.

89 Matters Arising:

The Handyman had replaced the surfaces of the notice boards at Ranks Green and Terling Stores. He still has to repair the roof of the notice board at School corner.

CM

The Clerk told the meeting that the War Memorial was last cleaned in 2000 and a proprietary moss remover had been used. A pressure washer is too harsh. Grants were not available at the time and a quotation had been set at £940.00 for professional cleaning. The Handyman offered to clean it.

CM

Two parishioners had requested Neighbourhood Watch items and the Clerk was given permission to order these and to ask whether

SS

TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Neighbourhood Watch signs for the village boundaries are made of plastic or aluminium, before ordering two.

The Best Kept Village Competition: both parishes had been entered. The judges would be visiting twice at unknown times. It was agreed to distribute letters to all parishioners, asking them to keep visible parts of their property tidy and to offer the Handyman's help, if needed. This would also be put in the Parish magazine. If necessary, Lord Rayleigh has agreed to approach his tenants.

SS

It is possible that the Square and Compasses will reopen on May 1st. No reply had been received from Mr. N. Wright, concerning a log for a bench for the River Walk. It may be possible to use the sleepers from behind Viners Cottages, after inspection for creosote.

There may be a well below the grass island on the Riverside side of Terling Ford. The Clerk had written to Essex County Council, asking for this island to be kerbed.

SS

The new salt box for Fairstead Hall Road had been incorrectly placed at Three Ashes Corner. The Handyman had remounted it opposite Fairstead Hall, as agreed.

90 District Councillors' Report:

The next full meeting of Braintree District Council will be April 19th. The Planning Department had overlooked the loophole, which allows householders to put rooms in their roof-spaces, with windows, without permission. Both the applications in the Estate Yard had been granted. The History Fair in Braintree on June 20th will particularly appeal to young people.

Mr. and Mrs. Galione have received an invitation to a garden party at Buckingham Palace.

Parish Council Forum, 20th April. A Planning Application Update and the signing of the Braintree District Partnership Agreement. RD, RS and SW had volunteered to represent the Parish Council at this meeting.

RD
RS
SW

The Clerk had been asked to bring to the Parish Council meeting a petition from Terling Post Office, regarding saving rural post offices.

91 Chairman's Report:

The Chairman had asked Lord Rayleigh about the use of the piece of land between the Swimming Pool and the Water Board, possibly for a basketball court or other equipment for adults to use. Unfortunately, all this equipment is expensive. Grant applications and match funding will be investigated.

The Chairman had also asked Lord Rayleigh for his Redundant Farm Buildings Policy, but he had no knowledge of one. The Clerk had looked through old records, but could find no such policy. RD offered to look through his papers.

RD

Lord Rayleigh will check the trees overhanging Terling Ford and whether there should be a gate across the entrance to the field behind New Road.

John Payne had returned the old record books to the Clerk. It was agreed that the Essex Records Office should be contacted, to find out

TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

what the arrangements are, regarding storing them there, how much does it cost and how easy is access to them. Concern was expressed about losing them. It was decided for easy access that the Clerk should keep the last ten years' records at her home. SS

92 Councillors' Reports:

JL had organised Ranks Green litter pick. Fifteen people had helped and 14 bags of rubbish had been collected, including much broken glass.

Photographs had been taken and residents of Ranks Green had written and signed a petition about the state of the road there. The Clerk will send these to Essex County Council. SS

Concern was also expressed, regarding the incorrect apostrophe in the Ranks Green sign. The Handyman will try to paint this out. CM

Overflowing drains in the area were mentioned and as it was thought that this might be foul water, JL will contact Public Health immediately. JL

The Kents at Fuller Street have offered to litter pick their area. The Clerk will provide the equipment. SS

The road at Fuller Street is still flooding. The Water Board has investigated three times and repaired, but there is still a problem.

Braintree District Council is aware of this too.

RS told the meeting that Terling Village Hall has very high oil bills. The heating system is being modified, to make safer.

93 Sub-committee Reports:

Finance:

IS presented the Income and Expenditure Account for the period to the 31st March, 2006, attached.

It was proposed by RD and seconded by SM that the Chairman should be on the Finance Sub-committee, until the AGM and the committee will meet as soon as possible to discuss expenditure, the Clerk's salary and the Insurance Policy. IS
RD
AA

IS asked that all sub-committees should come forward at the AGM with proposals for expenditure. One suggestions was discussed: if Frank Morrissey is willing to tutor another course, more IT training ALL

could be arranged, using Terling School facilities. The School has Broadband usage until 5.00pm and the Parish Council could perhaps pay to expand this to all hours. SS

The EALC annual affiliation fee was approved- £203.48.

The new mandate pack was duly signed and RKB as the cheque signatory, replacing John Payne, will take his appropriate papers to the local bank. RKB

Environmental:

There is still no development over the cemetery fence repair.

Braintree District Council had sent the Street Cleaning Partnership 2006/7 agreement details, which are similar to previous years.

Braintree District Council will now pay £493.10 and the Parish Council was asked to provide details, as to how the contribution was

TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

spent in the last year. The Clerk was asked to do this and RKB will complete a questionnaire about the new Parish Rangers, which had also been sent. SS
RWB

Parking problems were discussed, particularly in The Street. The Clerk will once again put the Parish Council's concerns in the Parish magazine, stressing the importance of access for the emergency services. SS

A letter had been received from DEFRA, giving details of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005. A free guide, outlining Parish Council's powers is available and the Clerk was asked to obtain one. SS

Health and Welfare:

The ROSPA playground inspection had been booked for May.

IT:

The Chairman had received a letter from John Payne, regarding the web-site and RW had replied, with some queries. No reply had as yet been received.

RW told the meeting that the current web-site would cost £26.00 for two years and it was agreed to pay this. ISP is too expensive.

RW has signed up for Essexinfo-net, which is free, simple to use and helpful. Colin Cutler had offered to help RW. RW
CC

If a computer course can be tutored, PE will speak to the new Head teacher, regarding using the suite and possible dates. PE

Planning:

The sub-committee had met, report attached.

The applications at Helston and 12, Hull Lane had both been withdrawn. New plans had been submitted for 12, Hull Lane and the sub-committee would consider these.

The dangers of joining the A12, going north at Hatfield Peverel were discussed. RD will draft a letter for the Clerk to send. RD
SS

Work is being done at the entrance to the land adjacent to 1, Brookside. The sub-committee will investigate rules regarding entrances. RD

The resident of Willow Cottage had attended the meeting, with concerns on tree felling at the Old Stores, Fuller Street, in advance of planning permission. RD will draft a letter to Braintree District Council. RD

94

Clerk's Report:

The Clerk had worked 57.75 hours, in six weeks.

The Chairman took the circulation envelope, to read and circulate. AA

The Clerk had reported two instances of fly-tipping, which had been collected by Braintree District Council. The hardcore opposite Little Loys has been put there by Strutt and Parker. The Clerk was asked to enquire of Essex County Council, as to whether the surplus materials left near Whitelands were not collected after the road was repaired. SS
The salt boxes had been checked.

TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

- The handyman's garage door is still being obstructed by the neighbour. The Clerk will ask Lord Rayleigh if a notice can be put on the door. SS
- Orion Scaffolding is still willing to host the Garden Refuse Vehicle. The Chairman had asked the Clerk to find out about vehicle activated signs; Essex County Council will let the Parish Council know the details, when they are finalized.
- RW had provided a USB lead for the printer and loaned the Parish Council a photocopier for the foreseeable future.
- Braintree District Council had sent the Clerk details of the children's activity day, to take place in the summer holidays. The Clerk was asked to book it for earlier in the holidays if possible. SS
- 95 Councillor Vacancy:**
Colin Cutler had agreed to become a Parish Councillor. He was proposed by SM and seconded by RKB and duly co-opted. He signed the Acceptance of Office form and agreed to observe the Code of Conduct. He also completed the Register of Interests.
- 96 Newsletter:**
It was unanimously agreed that as all Parish Council information is freely available in the Parish magazine, and on the web-site, and because the Minutes are placed in prominent public places, there is no need for an annual newsletter.
- 97 Freedom of Information Act:**
It was unanimously agreed that the following should be included in the Council's Standing Orders:
Sub-committee meetings are open to the public and parishioners wishing to attend should apply to the Clerk. SS
Rough notes made by either the Clerk or the Parish Councillors should be kept until the Minutes are approved at the next meeting. ALL
The EALC is running a course to include the Freedom of Information Act on May 3rd. The Clerk asked permission to attend and this was granted, to cost £45.00. SS
- 98 Cluster Meeting:**
Braintree District Council's notes for the Cluster Meeting were distributed to all Parish Councillors.
The meeting will take place on June 27th, at 7.30pm, in Terling Village Hall.
The Councillors would like the following to be put on the agenda:
Planning Enforcement. The Scrutiny Panel's conclusions.
The A12.
The Local Development Framework. SM
They would like John Gyford to attend and SM offered him transport.
They would also like the Police, the Highways Authority and the Environment Agency to be represented.
The Clerk will contact the Hatfield Peverel Clerk for his agenda items. SS
- 99.1 Correspondence received:**
EALC: Course-Raising the profile of your Parish Council.
EALC: Award information. The Chairman took this to study. AA

TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Peter Turner: A copy of his letter he sent to BAA, Stansted.

Mrs. Rumsey, Terling School new Headteacher: The Staff at the School will back the Parish Council's campaign to combat the problem of litter.

British Telecom: Latest development on the public payphones. JL requested a copy. SS

Patrick Dempsey, Braintree District Council: A request for Councillors to review and update their Registers of Interest at the Annual Meeting. A checklist is to be returned to him. The Clerk had copied the guidelines, which he had enclosed, to all Councillors. SS

99.2 Correspondence issued:

Robin Gowers: The Parish Council is withholding no information from him.

Mrs. McGinniss, Terling Tots: A request for the Nursery staff to back the Parish Council's campaign to combat the litter problem.

Essex County Council: Various highway problems.

Jan Cole, Rural Community Council of Essex: Parish Plan- the Parish Council has no-one at the moment, who would be willing to take on this large scheme.

Peter Turner: To thank him for his continued support on local matters of concern.

Mrs. Riley, Rayleigh Arms: A suggestion that she should check with Braintree District Council as to whether her signage conforms with planning regulations.

Other letters have been dealt with elsewhere.

100 Any other business:

Litter Pick date: April 22nd, 10.00am at Terling Village Hall. Reminder. This had been advertised.

Meeting Date:

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual General Meeting:

Tuesday, May 23rd, at 7.00pm, in Terling Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.