

TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present

Mrs. A. Anderson. (Chairman)
Mr. R. Dixon
Mrs. J. Lewis
Mr. R. Watson
Mr. R. Sterck
Mr. I. Smith
Mr. C. Cutler
The Clerk
2 members of the public

13 Meeting open to members of the Public:

The applicants, of the Thatched Cottage plans, for a 1.8m. wooden fence, to replace the dead boundary hedge, had come to the meeting to state their case and to appeal for Parish Council support. They brought along a petition in support of their application, signed by the majority of the neighbouring residents. RD told the meeting that this was a retrospective application and the applicants had been let down by Braintree District Council, as they had been informed verbally that they did not need to apply for planning permission. The applicants assured the Councillors that the hedge was dead and questioned why the fence should be less than 3' high. Essex County Council did not object to the fence. RD suggested that the way forward is to meet with the Parish Council Chairman, RD and RS to discuss a revised planning application, if, as they suspect, their plans are refused. The Parish Council will then advise and support their future plans, if possible. RD advised that they also appeal against the expected refusal.

14 Apologies for Absence:

Mrs. S. Wood
Dr. R.K. Bullard
Mrs. S. MacNamara
Mrs. M. Galione
Mr. C. Marshall

15 Minutes of the two meetings held on May 23rd :

These were unanimously agreed and signed by the Chairman, with the additions of "and approved" after "Both are attached" in the Finance report.

SS

Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on June 27th and the Parish Plan meeting, held on July 5th :

These were also approved and signed.

SS

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16 Matters Arising:

None

17 District Councillors' Report:

Mrs. Galione had sent a written report:

There are problems with the Parish Rangers and with the Housing transfer.

Meetings had been held to discuss the future of Braintree District 2021.

Braintree District Council is receiving applications for the demolition of perfectly good properties. Planning officers have advised that unless the building is listed or lies in a conservation area, the owner is at liberty to demolish it.

18 Chairman's Report:

None.

19 Councillors' Reports:

The legal department at Braintree District Council had been unable to advise on the proposed oil syndicate, but the Essex Association of Local Councils had written to the Parish Council, after conferring with the Legal Services at the National Association of Local Councils. The conclusion reached is that the Parish Council has no power to undertake this project and is therefore advised that action might be illegal. CC will still investigate as an individual.

20 Sub-committee Reports:

Health and Welfare:

SM has the ROSPA report on the Children's Playground and CM has read it. It is satisfactory and the bill has been paid.

Bus Services: 344 and 345 will continue to run. 341 and 342 are still under review.

Finance:

IS presented the Income and Expenditure Account for the period to July 10th, attached. He had also produced a graph, showing that more spending is necessary, or the Council rate will be lowered next year. It was agreed that SM will initially investigate a site for an adult recreation area and then the Finance sub-committee will take this forward. The Handyman had been in hospital and it was agreed to buy him a £20.00 garden token. The Chairman and the Clerk will check whether the litter bins need emptying.

The Audit had been completed and the papers had been sent to the external auditor.

The new mandate is now in place.

Eon Energy will be increasing the annual charge for street lighting slightly, from July 1st.

Just Lamps, Street Lighting Maintenance, had asked the Parish Council to agree to a five year maintenance contract, but the Councillors only

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wish to pay for one year, as the contract does not guarantee a fixed rate for longer than that.

Lord Rayleigh's Farms Ltd. had submitted annual bills for the Handyman's garage rent, of £60.00 and the Playground License of £25.00. It was agreed to pay these.

It was also agreed to pay the Rural Community Council's subscription of £50.00.

Environmental and Estate Liaison:

The Clerk had received a letter from the Senior Historic Buildings Adviser, expressing concern, regarding the wheel chamber and water pump, in Church Road and requesting the name of the person responsible for the upkeep. The Clerk was asked to send Lord Rayleigh's name and to request that a Parish Council representative should be present at the inspection and a copy of the report should be sent to the Parish Council.

IT and Public Relations:

RW had been in contact with Gary Cousins and has many photographs to go on the web-site. He will liaise with CC and will keep John Payne informed of developments.

Planning and Highways:

Oak Cottage, Braintree Road. Installation of roof window to garden room. Granted.

Oak Piggeries, Waltham Road. Erection of two storey rear extension. Revised Plans. The Clerk was asked to contact Braintree District Council for a copy of a letter sent to the applicant and notes of meetings between members of the Planning Department, before the Parish Council submits comments. The Planning Sub-committee will also contact the applicant, regarding a change-of-use certificate.

Forge Cottage, Waltham Road. Erection of first floor extension to existing garage and proposed enclosure of existing entrance porch. This application goes to Committee tonight.

10, Estate Yard. Work on tree. The Tree Warden recommends that thinning and removal of dead branches can be undertaken.

8, Estate Yard. Work on tree. The Tree Warden recommends that crown raising and thinning and removal of dead limbs can be undertaken.

Winter Service Questionnaire. RS took the papers to complete.

Braintree District Open Plan Strategy. Map to check and amend if necessary to assist in the Open Space Audit.

Great Warley Hall. Braintree District Council will send a copy of the 106 agreement, when finalized.

Plans in Braintree District Council's offices go back to 1948.

The Clerk was asked to contact Olive Cowell, Essex County Council, regarding the missing road signs replacements and the speed restrictions through Fuller Street and Ranks Green.

RD advised the Clerk to only return comments, not plans.

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21 Clerk's Report:

The Clerk had worked 68 hours over 7 weeks.

The Chairman took the circulation envelope to circulate.

All Parish Councillors had been sent updated Councillor lists.

Essex County Council had confirmed that the Handyman can spray glyphosphate on weeds, but a notice should be displayed.

The plastic covering on the "Apple Shed" notice board is cracked. The Clerk will monitor.

The Youth Contact Vehicle has been booked for August 3rd, at 7.15pm, in the Dismals. Posters have been displayed.

The Clerk had requested a special clean on all 5 phone boxes.

Paul Partridge, Braintree District Council had confirmed that gulleys are cleaned regularly, where there are kerbs. The Street Clean team will inspect Meg Millers Lane, The Dismals and Hatfield Road.

Owls Hill footpath width had been brought to the attention of Essex County Council at the Cluster meeting.

Wheely bins would be coming to the Parish in October.

The Clerk has a supply of Neighbourhood Watch stickers and newsletters.

The Clerk will be able to borrow a second filing cabinet, if necessary.

22 Cluster Meeting:

Action Points had been sent to all Parish Councillors, Braintree District Council, Hatfield Peverel Clerk and District Councillors. The next Cluster meeting will be held in Hatfield Peverel on October 31st.

23 Parish Plan:

Minutes of the open meeting, which took place on July 5th, with guest speaker, Jan Cole, of the Rural Community Council of Essex, had been distributed to all attendees and Jan Cole had been thanked. It was agreed that the next meeting should take place in late September, but interested parishioners should take on the scheme and the Parish Council will only be represented.

24 Standing Orders:

The Clerk had formulated additions to the Standing Orders. These were distributed to all Councillors and also copies of the model Freedom of Information Act scheme, which the Council had agreed to adopt in 2002. These additions will be put on the next agenda, for discussion.

25 Complaints Procedure:

This was deferred until the next meeting. In the meantime, the sub-committee of the Chairman, JL and SM will meet to formulate some plans.

26.1 Correspondence received:

Essex County Council: Work on the Ranks Green Road. No date has been determined as yet.

Essex County Council: Verge cutting procedures.

John Payne: State of the roads in the Fairstead area. The Clerk will send a copy to Essex Country Council.

Chris Hennessy: Thanking the Council for the donation to the Terling Tournament Fund.

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Essex Records Office: An agreement for the Parish Council to sign, regarding the deposit of old Minute Books, etc. There were two queries, regarding the Minute Books and the Clerk will try to find out answers from Lord Rayleigh's Farms. It was agreed that the books of precept stubs, which do not merit preservation, should be returned to the Parish Council.

26.2 Correspondence issued:

Braintree District Council: Emergency Plan change- Mr. D. Anderson will now replace RS, as the Terling Village Hall contact. The Clerk had requested two copies of the Emergency Plan for him and Mrs. Rumsey, the Head teacher.

The Monitoring Officer, Braintree District Council: Councillors' update.

Mr. Galloway, the Parishioner, who dealt with unruly teenagers and The Police, thanking them.

Charter 88: Offering support, regarding the closure of small shops.

27 Any other business:

The Chairman had contacted Lord Rayleigh's Farms, with concerns about asbestos, behind Viners Cottages. No reply has as yet been received.

Square and Compasses opening. Nothing to report.

First Responders Group. It was agreed to invite Peter Godden- Kent, to the October meeting.

Meeting Dates:

Tuesdays, September 5th and October 17th, 2006, at 7.00pm, at Terling Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.