

## TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2008, following the Annual Parish Meeting, at Terling Village Hall.

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#### Present:

Mrs. A. Anderson (Chairman)  
Mr. R. Dixon  
Mrs. C. Godfrey  
Mr. I. Smith  
Mrs. P. Bird  
Mr. T. Lewis  
Mr. D. White  
Mr. C. Cutler  
Mrs. S. Alder  
Mrs. S. Stewart (Clerk)  
Mr. C. Marshall (Handyman)  
Mrs. M. Galione (District Councillor)  
1 member of the public.

#### Apologies for Absence:

Mrs. S. MacNamara.

#### 1. Election of Officers:

AA did not wish to continue as Chairman. No-one else felt that they had time to do this, so it was agreed that AA would chair this meeting and the Chairman's position would be resolved at the next meeting. The Clerk was asked to consult with other clerks to find out whether this problem existed elsewhere. SS

CC was elected as vice-chairman, proposed by TL, seconded by SA.

#### 2. Code of Conduct:

No councillors made alterations.

#### 3. Sub-committees:

Finance: AA, IS, RD.

Environment and Footpaths: CG, DW, TL.

Estate Liaison: PB (Terling), TL (Fairstead).

IT: CC.

Planning and Highways: RD, CG, DW.

Health and Welfare: AA, SM, SA.

Complaints: AA, SM, PB.

All sub-committee meetings are open to the public and must be advertised.

#### 4. Minutes of the Meeting held on April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008:

These were unanimously approved.

**5. Matters Arising:**

The damaged safety barrier in Ranks Green is still a hazard. The Clerk will report this to Essex County Council. A traffic barrier, buried in the hedge in Fairstead Road, should be inspected. It was agreed to investigate whether Terling Ford could become a quiet lane. The kissing gate, erected by Essex County Council, at Flacks Green, is in a dangerous place. The Clerk will write. SS

CC will speak to Lord Rayleigh's Farms, regarding asbestos on the football field. Youngsters had asked whether they could play basket ball and netball on the tennis courts. It was agreed that they should approach the Tennis Club Chairman, but should try tennis first. SS

CC will write to British Telecom, about the metal pole on Church Green. Braintree District Council had told the Clerk that no planning permission was needed. Lord Rayleigh had given permission for Rose Holden to place a bench on School Green, in memory of her husband. The Parish Council approved. A parishioner had asked the Clerk about having a bench on the green at the side of Terling Stores. The Clerk was asked to approach the Dicksons CC SS

**6. District Councillor's Report:**

Mrs. Galione felt that the decision to grant the planning application, at Bladon, New Road, was wrong. There had been no further developments at Great Warley Hall. The planning application for Nutshell, Fairstead Road is too big for the plot. Mrs. Galione will find out if freelance planning officers, employed by Braintree District Council declare interests.

Local Committee grants are well worth applying for. The next meeting is June 2<sup>nd</sup>, at Witham and the Chairman and CG will attend. The Clerk will find out what kinds of things can be applied for. AA  
CG  
SS

The Clerk had received a letter from Tim Lucas, now of Greenfields Housing Association, explaining that council houses at the moment could not be earmarked for local people, but this may change in the near future, as methods for allocating council houses are under review. He also wrote that it might be worth re-opening discussions with Lord Rayleigh on affordable housing. It was agreed that a speaker from Greenfields should be invited to attend the Cluster meeting. SS

**7. Chairman's Report:**

None.

**8. Councillors' Reports:**

PB asked if the Parish Council could cut the grass round Terling Village Hall. It was agreed that the Handyman would cut it and the Village Hall would be asked to pay for his time. A parishioner had queried why the handrail by the ford at Norrells had not been replaced. The Clerk will give him a copy of the appropriate correspondence. SS

DW: Braintree District Council had been investigating the septic tanks at Fuller Street. The Square and Compasses had a problem, because of the huge increase in use since it re-opened. Lichfield also has a problem. Braintree District Council is advising. The water leakage at Fuller Street

seems to have been repaired satisfactorily. The wording and positioning of signage at Fuller Street and Fairstead have been agreed with Essex County Council. Some signage is being obstructed by hedgerows. The Clerk and TL will contact the landowners and request they cut hedges back and if necessary, also ask the County Council to write to them. The “Set Aside” land in Fuller Street, which belongs to Lord Rayleigh’s Farms and was used for allotments, could be used for a community orchard. PB will consult with Lord Rayleigh first.

SS  
TL

PB

CG: A letter had been received from the Planning Enforcement Officer, regarding the hedgerow, bordering on land adjacent to 1, Brookside Cottages. The matter had been investigated and no further action will be taken.

TL: Ranks Green Road had been resurfaced. Ranks Green Litter Pick on April 19<sup>th</sup> was successful.

CC is the Neighbourhood Watch Officer for the Stores end of the village and Derek Turner continues to be the representative for the Gambles Green end.

CC

## 9. Sub-committee Reports:

### Finance:

IS presented two Income and Expenditure Account sheets to the Parish Council, both attached, one to March 31<sup>st</sup> and one to May 16<sup>th</sup>. With grants from Essex County Council, a tractor had been purchased and would do two footpath cuts per year, generating £5,760.00 income from Essex County Council.

It was approved that the following could be paid: Annual insurance-£943.88 (less discount for EALC membership), EALC subscription-£214.25, Chairman’s expenditure, (in Clerk’s absence)- £18.96, Handyman-£200.00 cash float for necessary expenditure, all invoices to be submitted.

The Cricket Club had written, regarding their agreed expenditure and its delay. The Finance sub-committee will consider this.

IS

### Environmental:

The tractor is now insured and has been delivered to the Handyman’s garage. Reports will appear in both the Braintree and Witham Times and the Parish magazine. The Clerk was requested to write to Essex County Council, thanking for the grants. The Parish Council now submits bills for cuts on a monthly basis. In the future, the tractor could be used more extensively, if a mowing deck and trailer are purchased. The Handyman could then possibly manage with just a strimmer, as the mower is getting old. DW was asked to produce figures for the Finance sub-committee. The Clerk was asked to find out from Braintree District Council how much the Parish Council would be paid for cutting Bramley Cottages. Work, using the tractor, will commence this week. PB will ask Lord Rayleigh about supplying red

SS

DW  
SS

PB

diesel. Grasshoppers can also supply this.

Estate Liaison:

No report.

Health and Welfare:

The sub-committee is looking into replacing the spring rabbit, in the Children's Playground.

The ROSPA report is due.

The Community Warden's reports have been received.

SM

IT and Public Relations:

No report.

Planning and Highways:

Nutshell, Fairstead Road. Proposed dwelling and detached garage. Comments: The Parish Council has no objections to the development of the site, but feels that these plans are unsuitable. CG has been in close contact with the neighbours.

Garnetts Mead. A letter from the Enforcement Officer had been received, concerning the use of the front gardens. It was agreed not to pursue this matter further.

Old Dairy. These premises are now being renovated for use as stables. PB will ask Lord Rayleigh whether change of use has to be re-applied for.

Mill House. A new application, received today.

PB

**10. Clerk's Report:**

Hours-30.75, over three weeks, (since holiday).

The circulation envelope was distributed.

DW took the Barlow Tyrie bench catalogue, to select a suitable bench for Fuller Street.

DW

The EALC has informed the Clerk that the NALC standing orders dated 2003, which this Parish's are based on, together with updates, are current.

Litter Pick. 14 adults attended Terling's litter pick and all areas were covered. The Kent family will be picking at Fuller Street.

The notice board at School Corner had been vandalized. The Handyman will try and repair it.

CM

Owls Hill. The bank, which is encroaching on the pavement, will be turfed and netted shortly by Essex County Council.

Children's Activity Day. This has been booked for August 18<sup>th</sup> and advertising and information will be sent out before the end of term.

**11. Councillor Vacancy:**

Terry Straight had come to the meeting to meet the Councillors. He had lived in Terling for two years and had previously been involved with charity work. The

Councillors felt that discussion with him was too short and it was decided that the Chairman and the Clerk should visit him, to find out more of his opinions. AA  
SS

**12. Cluster Meeting.**

Date- June 24<sup>th</sup>. Agenda items: Community Composting and Recycling, Greenfields Housing Association, A12 Update, plus ideas from Hatfield Peverel. The Clerk would order more copies of the Parish Update. SS

**13. Phone Box Closures:**

No parishioners so far had made any comments. The consultation period ends on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, so the Clerk has appealed for comments through the June edition of the Parish magazine. Comments made at the meeting: Are the red phone boxes National Heritage listed? Can individuals or Parishes buy the phone boxes, without equipment? Fuller Street is on the Essex Way and there is no mobile phone signal. SS

**14.1 Correspondence received:**

Braintree District Council: The Chairman of the Council would like to visit Parishes. It was suggested that she could be invited to the Barbecue, organized by the Pages, on July 13<sup>th</sup> and the Swimming Gala on July 20<sup>th</sup>. SS

Collection and Network Support Manager, Royal Mail: Various solutions had been suggested to the problems at the post box in Fairstead, but none were considered satisfactory.

EALC Courses: Chairman's Day, Planning for the Future of your Village, Advanced Councillor Training Day, Food Hygiene, Health and Safety, Budget and Precept.

**14.2 Correspondence issued, (since Clerk's leave):**

Election Officer, Braintree District Council: Sheila Alder's appointment.  
A. Meyer: AGM invitation.

**15 Any other business:**

It was approved to send a sympathy card on the death of Mrs. M. Fox. RD to find a contact name and address. SS

**The meeting closed at 11.40pm.**

**Next Meeting Dates:**

Tuesday, July 1st, at 7.00pm in Terling Village Hall.

Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. Cluster Meeting with Hatfield Peverel, at 7.30, in Terling Village Hall.