

TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th March 2007 at 7.00pm, in Terling Village Hall

Present

Mrs. A. Anderson (Chairman)
Mr. R. Sterck
Mr. I. Smith
Mr. C. Cutler
Mr. R. Dixon
Mr. T. Lewis
Mrs. C. Godfrey
Mrs. M. Galione. (District Councillor)
The Clerk
3 members of the public

95 Meeting open to members of the Public:
No comments.

96 **Apologies for Absence:**
Mr. P. Evans
Mrs. S. MacNamara
PC Nikki Doubleday

97 **Minutes of the meeting held on January 30th:**
These were unanimously agreed and signed by the Chairman.

98 **Matters Arising:**
The missing road signs should be replaced before April.

99 **District Councillor's Report:**
The Council Tax in this area has only increased by 3.8%, which is lower than the national average.
The Environment Group has recommended that building regulations should take into account environmental friendliness.
The Rural Development Fund is offering grants to villages.

100 **Chairman's Report:**
No report.

101 **Councillors' Reports:**
TL was pleased that the Braintree and Witham Times had highlighted the state of the road at Ranks Green. The repair work is supposed to be done in April/May. There is still no news of the 30mph speed limits. The afternoon postman aggravates the muddy situation round the Ranks Green notice board and pillar box. The Parish Council will try to contact him.

SS

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A Ranks Green parishioner has offered to pay for a replacement bench to stand in front of the Pretty Lady. It is a number of years since there was a bench there and the Pretty Lady is now a private house. TL will investigate the land ownership.

TL

102 Sub-committee Reports:

Finance:

The Finance sub-committee had met on March 6th, report attached. IS and RD had met with Football Club representatives on February 1st. The Parish Council would like to help the Club to improve its premises, but until the Club finances are officially organized, the Parish Council decided unanimously support cannot be given and no grants can be applied for. IS presented the Income and Expenditure account for the period to February 16th, attached.

Environmental:

Best Kept Village Competition entry forms had been received, but it was felt that Terling and Fairstead would not enter the competition until the Village Design Statement was further forward.

Some information had been received about Minerals and Waste and Hanging Baskets, which CG took to study.

CG

Braintree District Council's Garden Waste Collection Service posters had been displayed on the notice boards and the dates would be put in the Parish magazine.

SS

As parishioners are concerned about recycling, it was decided to invite a representative from Braintree District Council, to talk at the AGM. A Community Warden's report had been received.

SS

Estate Liaison:

The Chairman will meet with Lord Rayleigh, to discuss the stones on School Green and other matters.

AA

Health and Welfare:

The ROSPA Inspection for May 2007 has been booked.

SS

The Essex Playing Fields Association had written, asking the Parish Council to subscribe again, £25.00 per annum. The Clerk was asked to get SM's opinion on this.

SM

IT and Public Relations:

303 people looked at the web site last month. CC asked if the address could be displayed on the notice boards and be printed on the letter heading. The Neighbourhood Watch had requested that an incident report should appear on the web site and the Clerk will put something in the Parish magazine and communicate with Terling School Head teacher on this, as the incident occurred at school closing time outside the School.

SS

SS

PE will be asked to contact Terling School about hiring the Computer room for an evening course.

PE

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Planning and Highways:

The Planning Sub-committee had not yet been able to set up a meeting with Alan Southerby, Braintree District Council.

The Clerk was asked to E-mail planning responses back to Braintree District Council in the future.

SS

Application: Willow Cottage, Fuller Street. Erection of two storey rear extension.

2, The Estate Yard. Tree work. Neither Braintree District Council nor the Tree Warden could find evidence of problems with these trees and so the resident had been requested to seek a report from an arboriculturalist, before any action can be taken.

103 Clerk's Report:

The Clerk had worked 11.5 hours, since her holiday, in preparation for this meeting.

A Parish Councillor took the Circulation envelope, to study and pass on.

The Clerk was asked to write a letter, thanking David Anderson for the work he did on the lamp post, when the lamp blew down.

SS

The Handyman told the meeting that the mower is not working properly. He was asked to obtain written quotations for repair. If repair is not an option, the Council unanimously approved the purchase of a new mower. The Handyman should claim the time that it takes him to research this.

CM

104 Village Design Statement:

The next committee meeting will be taking place on March 14th. The public meeting had received good response and a number of volunteers had come forward.

A grant had been applied for and the EALC is sending further grant application papers. The estimated cost of the project is approximately £7,500.00.

CC outlined expected costs for the photographic workshop, due to take place on March 24th- printing, inkjet cartridges, stationary and yellow jackets, both on sale or return, food, which Paul Harrison is preparing, hall booking, etc. He estimated £200.00-£250.00. IS authorized a loan of £200.00 and there is still some surplus from the Parish Council's original donation of £200.00. The Parish Council's Public Liability Insurance covers parishioners on the day, provided reasonable care is taken, no-one trespasses and no children are involved, especially in being photographed.

All the financial transactions can be recorded in the Parish Council's cash book, as long as they are shown separately.

SS

105 Terling Post Office:

The Chairman had organized a petition, supporting Terling Post Office and 384 parishioners had signed this, backed by the local MP. It had been sent to the Post Office Network. A printed letter had been distributed to every house, for parishioners to send on to the Post Office Network and many had done so. The Post Office's decision will be reached at the end of March.

106 Street Lamp, Dismals:

The majority of parishioners, who have come forward, want the street lamp reinstated. The Handyman said that he would be able to erect the pole, if Lord

CM

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- Rayleigh's Farms would hire the borer to the Parish Council. The Chairman will see Lord Rayleigh, and obtain more information on lamp designs from Colchester Electrical Company. The Clerk will contact EDF Energy, to ascertain that this is the correct procedure. Parishioners have three alternatives: a modern lamp, an older looking lamp, which may be more in keeping with the village scene, but will be more expensive or to have no lamp at all. The designs will be displayed at Terling Stores, giving approximate cost, together with a form for parishioners to fill in with their preference. These findings will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting and the way forward determined. AA
SS
SS
CC
In the meantime the lamp at Terling Ford will be insured for the replacement value of the preferred lamp, for which the Chairman has been quoted. SS
- 107 Elections:**
The candidates' packs had just been received and these were distributed to interested parties. Notices of the Election have to be displayed on the notice boards on March 19th and nominations have to be received at Braintree District Council Offices by April 4th. Candidates' consent to nomination forms have to be received at Braintree District Council Offices by April 10th. The Poll will take place on May 3rd. The Annual Parish Council Meeting has to take place within 14 working days from this date. SS
ALL
- 108.1 Correspondence received:**
Essex County Council: A request for a map of the location of the proposed speed and volume survey.
Essex County Council: An invitation to a Local Government Service at Chelmsford Cathedral on April 27th. IS and his wife will attend. IS
Essex Police: A request for volunteers to help with Police work.
PC Nikki Doubleday, Police Community Support Officer: An introduction and request for meeting dates.
EALC: Two courses: Employment Issues and Law and Procedure.
- 108.2 Correspondence issued:**
Pauline Bullard: Condolences.
Lord Rayleigh: School Green erosion.
- 109 Any other business:**
A parishioner had damaged her tyres in a large pothole in Pole Lane and there is another large one near the Old Dairy. The Clerk will report these. SS
Parish Litter Picks: Ranks Green- March 31st.
Terling- April 14th. Terling Village Hall. 10.00am.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Meeting Dates:

Tuesday, April 14th.

Tuesday, May 22nd. Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting.

These meetings are at 7.00pm, at Terling Village Hall.