

Minutes of the Meeting of Terling and Fairstead Parish Council held on 30th July 2013, at 7.00pm in The Gallery Room at The Square & Compasses, Fuller Street, Fairstead

Present:	Mrs S McNamara	Mrs P Bird	Mr T Lewis
	Mrs S Alder	Mr R Hunt	Cllr T Cunningham
	Mrs L Sime	Mr R Dixon	Mrs J Halfhide (Clerk)
	Mr D White	Mrs J Cook	4 members of the public

ACTION

13.46 **Apologies for absence:** Apologies had been received, and were accepted, from Cllr James Abbott, Cllr Margaret Galione, Mr Ian Smith and Mrs Ann Anderson. Apologies for lateness were received from Mrs Louisa Sime.

13.47 **Meeting Open to the Public**

The Chairman welcomed Daniel Jiggins and Alan Jiggins, the Council handymen, and thanked them for all they do, especially their work at the Playground and the paths cutting programme.

Mr Roome had been disappointed to see the odour problem in Fuller Street on the Agenda again. He explained that he had had experts examine the pub's water treatment system and it had been found to be working perfectly. He was having it emptied every 3-4 months. No one from BDC had visited recently to test the quality of the water course but he was confident that if they did they would find it well within guidelines. Mr Roome commented that it was important to note that smells from water treatment plants did not necessarily indicate an unacceptable discharge into the water course, which is what BDC and the EA would be testing. It was noted that although there were currently no smells, even through the recent very hot weather, there had been some effluence in the water course downstream since the installation of the pub's water treatment system.

Residents queried why BDC recycling bags were no longer available from Terling Village Stores. The Clerk explained she had been trying, unsuccessfully, for six months to get BDC to deliver a large box on a regular basis but they had so far declined to do so. The system had worked well for several years previously. Cllr Cunningham offered to follow this up. Residents commented that the salt/grit bins were empty. The Clerk explained these would be refilled by Essex Highways in the Autumn in good time for the winter season. Residents asked when the Fuller Street phone kiosk would be repainted. The handymen responded saying it was the next on their schedule of works.

Residents were dismayed at the road closures in Fuller Street which, despite assurances from Essex Highways and their apologies for the inefficiencies of the last diversion in June, exactly the same diversionary route had been put in place yet again. Essex Highways had pointed out that the fault lay this time with their contractors, and was due to a simple administrative oversight.

13.48 **Minutes of Last Meeting**

TL proposed and JC seconded that the Chairman should sign a copy of the minutes as a true and accurate record. The minutes of the meeting held on 25th June 2013 were unanimously approved.

13.49 **Declaration of Interests**

None declared.

13.50 **District Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Cunningham offered assistance with any information or statistics required for the

Parish Council to make a representation on the Boundary Review.

13.51 **Chairman's Report**

Nothing to report

13.52 **Finance**

Copies of Receipts and Payments for the current financial year had been emailed to all Councillors. The Clerk distributed the Receipts and Payments, Budget and Forecast sheet and graph. The following cheques were approved for payment and were signed. All invoices had been checked against cheques. JC proposed that the expenditure be approved, seconded by PB and unanimously approved:-

13-Jul-13	1739	Berewood Limited - Cricket Mower repair	£509.97
13-Jul-13	1740	Barlow Tyrie - Flacks Green Bench	£496.88
13-Jul-13	1741	J Halfhide - Clerk's Expenses June	£ 21.99
13-Jul-13	1742	ROSPA - Playground Inspection	£ 92.40
13-Jul-13	1743	Lord Rayleigh's Farms - Garage Rent	£ 20.00
13-Jul-13	1744	Terling Village Hall - Room hire	£ 12.20
13-Jul-13	1745	RCCE - Annual Subs	£ 66.00
13-Jul-13	1746	Lord Rayleigh's Farms - Playground Licence	£ 25.00
13-Jul-13		DDebit ICO - Data Protection Registration	£ 35.00
13-Jul-13	1747	EON - Street Lighting	£ 34.79
13-Jul-13	1748	Oakley Services (Rayne) - Boiler - swimming pool	£955.20
13-Jul-13	1749	J Halfhide - Salary & Office Allowance	£648.93
13-Jul-13	1750	A H Jiggins - Handyman Jobs, General Parish Work	£276.63
13-Jul-13	1751	HM Revenue & Customs – PAYE	£207.29

- Review of Internal Audit Report

The Finance Committee had yet to meet to discuss the internal auditor's report. SM outlined the main points raised, which were discussed.

SM IS
RD,SA

- Approve donation to Royal British Legion for Poppy Wreath - £17
Proposed by SA, Seconded by JC. Unanimously approved.

JH

13.53 **Environment & Footpaths**

- Odour Nuisance, Ranks Green

TL reported that the retrospective planning application needed to be submitted to BDC by 1st August. The legal options open to the Parish Council were discussed. Further guidance was being sought from NALC's legal department. Priti Patel MP had been consulted and she had forwarded a response to her enquiries from the Environment Agency.

TL would find out whether the residents of Ranks Green would like the Parish Council to hold a Public Meeting in Terling to discuss the problem. This might be worthwhile once the legal advice had been received and when it was known if a retrospective planning application had been lodged with BDC.

TL

- Odour Nuisance, Fuller Street

SA and DW confirmed there had been no reports of further odour problems in Fuller Street since the last meeting.

- Update on P3 Paths Cutting

The cutting of the footpaths was almost complete. Issues were discussed and the Clerk would contact P3 where necessary. The handymen pointed out that as some paths are only cut once a year work on these the following year takes considerably longer, often taking

twice as long to cut, sometimes strimming was necessary - yet the rate paid by ECC per metre remained the same. The Clerk was asked to address this with P3.

The Paths Committee would need to meet to discuss whether to ask the Parish Council to fund extra cuts with an estimate of the extra expenditure.

JH
DW, TL,
LS

13.54 **Estate Liaison**

David Game had emailed to say he would be contacting P3 about some queries he had about some Terling paths. In the Clerk's holiday absence the Chairman had forwarded this to the Estate for information.

13.55 **Health & Welfare**

SA explained the draft Emergency Plan which had been emailed to all Councillors prior to the meeting for their consideration. The Parish Council's role in an emergency situation was explained. The Plan was discussed and it was unanimously agreed that the final Plan should be adopted should be drawn up and published as soon as possible. Annual reviews would take place in May after the Annual Meeting.

SA/AA

The Parish Council has an option to sign up to Flood Alert, it was agreed this was a good idea and SA agreed to give the Clerk details.

SA

The ROSPA report for the Playground inspection had been reviewed. The slide needs to be renovated at a cost of £1,005; the report identified it as low risk. A cradle swing was in need of replacement; the handymen could probably replace it, AA would be getting a quote for this. The see-saw and rocking horse needed renovation amounting to £455 each. The Sputnik roundabout would need in excess of £1,000 to renovate, a new one would cost in the region of £5,000. SA and AA would like to consider this replacement in the next financial year. TL proposed, seconded by PB, that the renovation work to the slide, see-saw and rocking horse be implemented as soon as possible as should the replacement of the cradle swing. Unanimously agreed. Quotes would be obtained in line with the Council's financial regulations.

13.56 **IT & Publicity**

Cllr Bentley's reply regarding the concerns expressed by residents on the Essex Superfast Broadband Project had been circulated and was discussed. The Clerk would ensure that details of wireless broadband providers would be available on the Council's website. TL had repaired the office chair for the Internet café.

JH

13.57 **Planning & Highways**

Application ESS/26/13/BTE – Bateman's Farm, Great Leighs – WITHDRAWN

The Chairman and Mrs Joyce Lewis had attended a meeting with Michael Anderson of Strutt and Parker and Mr Lee Finch of GB Finch Ltd (after the withdrawal of the application). The Chairman outlined the points raised. The Chairman and Mrs Lewis felt that from a health, safety and environmental standpoint the proposals, as stated at the meeting, were reasonable provided the issues raised were addressed.

RD highlighted that the air and water quality would need monitoring.

The planning application for Willow Cottage, Fuller Street, which had been referred to the Planning Inspectorate had been APPROVED and this would set a precedent for consent for annex accommodation in the wider Parish.

Large and numerous potholes in Rolls Farm Lane and Sparrows Farm Lane had been reported to Essex Highways by residents. It appeared that Highways would not be repairing them at this stage. The Clerk was asked to report and monitor again.

Ex-Agenda: Application for work on trees affected by the Conservation Area at Homeside, The Street, Terling. The Tree Warden had declared an interest, the applicant being his immediate neighbour, and would thus not be able to report.

- 13.58 **Recreation Ground**
 LS had cleaned one of the changing cabins and would clean the other prior to the first hire of the new season, 11th August. JH and SM offered to help. More thorough checks would be implemented after each hire. It was agreed that a low level tap should be installed to make cleaning easier. Installation of phase 3 electricity would be prohibitively expensive. LS
- 13.59 **Councillors' Reports, including Village Hall Report, School Report and Church Liaison**
 PB reported that there had been some problems reported by the tenant of a field where horses are grazed (stolen horse blankets being one issue). It was agreed this was not a Parish Council issue. There had been complaints about a car parked permanently outside someone else's home. Again, this was not a Parish Council matter. Both residents should be directed to PSCO Doubleday.
 The improvements to the heating system at the Village Hall would soon be commencing. £70,000 was required for the new Village Hall Car Park, which would probably be done in stages.
 SA had carried out a mini-litter pick in Fuller Street and had reported potholes and handled road closure complaints. SA thanked the Estate who had acted quickly to cut the verges following a request from residents. (Alex Dyke clarified that the Estate was contracted to cut the verges once this year and twice next. On the years with only one cut the work was done later in the season.)
 RD asked the Clerk to find out how Heather Cutler's War Memorial Project was progressing and to offer assistance from the Council.
- 13.60 **Clerk's Report**
 Hours for June: 62.5. The Clerk had received the BDC Economic Development Prospectus Consultation document which was passed to the Chairman for consideration.
- 13.61 **Electoral Review of Braintree District: Warding Arrangements**
 It was agreed that it was essential that a representation be made to the Local Government Boundary Commission and that a working group be formed consisting of the members of the Finance Committee. It was unanimously agreed that the Finance Committee be given a mandate to make a representation on behalf of the Parish Council. Tom Hawthorne would be asked to attend the meeting. IS, SM SA, RD
- 13.62 **Village Design Statement.**
 It was decided that no follow up action would be taken following the decision from Awards for All to refuse the second grant application for the final phase of the VDS. The Clerk was asked to find out the current state of the project from Colin and Heather Cutler. Without the grant it was suggested that a scaled down distribution should be considered to reduce printing costs.
- 13.63 **Terling Ford**
 The Clerk was asked to find out if Cllr Abbott would be available for an evening meeting.
- 13.64 **General Correspondence to Note** None.
- 13.65 **Information Exchange / next agenda items** None.
- 13.66 **Date of Next Meeting, including Committees**
 Tuesday 10th September Terling Village Hall, 7pm, Tuesday 15th October, Terling Village Hall, 7pm, Tuesday 3rd December, The Square & Compasses, Fuller Street, 7pm
 The meeting closed at 8:55pm.

