

Minutes of the Meeting of Terling and Fairstead Parish Council held on Tuesday 9th December 2014 in the Gallery Room at The Square & Compasses, Fuller Street, Fairstead

Present:	Mrs S McNamara (Chairman)	
	Mrs P Bird	
	Mr R Dixon	
	Mr I Smith	
	Mrs S Alder	
	Mr D White	8 members of the public
	Mr R Hunt	Mrs Halfhide (Clerk)
	Mr J Payne	Cllr J Abbott
	Mr A Dyke	Cllr M Galione
	Miss S Clements	Cllr T Cunningham

Before the meeting commenced the Chairman called for a few moments silence in memory of Dick Sterk.

14.104 ***Apologies for Absence*** received from Mrs L Sime.

14.105 ***Meeting Open to the Public*** members of the public present did not wish to make any comments.

14.106 ***Minutes of Last Meeting***

PB proposed and SA seconded that the Chairman should sign a copy of the minutes as a true and accurate record. The minutes of the meeting held on 26th November were unanimously approved.

14.107 ***Declaration of Interests*** None.

14.108 ***District Councillors' Reports***

Cllr Galione had ascertained the delay with the Village Design Statement was due to Member illness at BDC. Cllr Cunningham reported that it had been proposed that there would be no BDC tax increase for 2015-16. There had been positive feedback on the new Witham Leisure Centre, which was now fully open. Cllr Cunningham sits on the Task and Finish Group looking at the parking partnership and would welcome feedback from residents on any parking issues in Braintree or Witham.

Cllr Abbott reported that the recent application for extended licensing and floodlighting at Great Leighs Racecourse had been refused. This had raised the issue of adjoining Parishes being consulted on such applications when the impact of such planning was felt over the wider community. Cllr Abbott was delighted to see that the potholes in Fuller Street had finally been attended to. The Chairman thanked him for his support.

There was no appeal date for the Little Warley Hall Farm planning application.

14.109 ***Chairman's Report*** Nothing to report.

14.110 ***Finance***

Copies of Receipts and Payments for the current financial year had been emailed to all Councillors. RD proposed that the following cheques/direct debits should be to be approved for payment and signed, seconded by JP. Unanimously approved.

27th Oct 1930	Daphne Parris Taxi - Transport rep meeting	£43.00
28th Oct 1931	Heather Cutler - VDS Printing	£52.80
11th Nov 1932	J Halfhide - Salary and office allowance	£710.48
11th Nov 1933	HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE & Tax	£151.28

11th Nov 1934	J Halfhide - Clerk's expenses Oct	£57.04
11th Nov 1935	Lord Rayleigh's Farms - Garage Rent	£20.00
11th Nov 1936	A H Jiggins - Handyman jobs	£193.68
11th Nov 1937	A&J Lighting Solutions Annual Maintenance	£16.20
11th Nov 1938	Acumen Wages – Payroll	£22.20
11th Nov 1939	EDF Energy - Electricity Rec Ground	£48.00
11th Nov 1940	Lord Rayleigh's Farms - Plumbing repair	£38.40
17th Nov D/debit	British Telecom - Clerk's phone line	£53.19

The Finance Committee had met and discussed the following proposals.

- Terling Village Hall Donation – funding/part-funding car park. RD had met Mr Gore and the proposal was for the Parish Council to consider funding £7,500 towards the next stage of the car park, with matched funding coming from the Village Hall. It was agreed that the Parish Council would need to see a business plan and the project should be put out to tender before considering further. SM would discuss with the Village Hall Committee.

- Review handymen's hourly rate – Finance Committee proposal to increase to £10 for general work. Proposed by DW. Seconded by AD. Unanimously approved.

- Clerk's salary:

- Approve new pay scale following agreement by NJC for 2014-16 to be implemented 1st January 2015. SCP 21 increases to £10.261 per hour. Proposed by RD, seconded by PB, unanimously approved.

- Approve non consolidated (one off) payment of £100 in December 2014 in accordance with NJC agreement for Clerks employed under the terms of the model contract (arisen as the pay rise deal commences January 2015 as opposed to April 2014) Proposed by RH, seconded by AD, unanimously approved.

- Consideration of Budget & Precept for 2015/16 (to be set and agreed at January 2015 meeting) Councillors were asked to forward their committees' budget for 2015-16 to IS in advance of the next meeting. Possible expenditure on the Tennis Club would need to be considered and factored into the budget.

- Proposal by Finance Committee to raise Precept by amount equal to the reduction in Localism Grant (estimated to be a 15.5% reduction making a raise in Precept of £600 to £14270). This was discussed and was deferred to the next meeting.

- Approve Chairman's Allowance of £120 for 2015-16 financial year. Proposed by RD, seconded by RH, unanimously agreed.

14.111 ***Environmental & Footpaths***

There was some concerns that recent ditch clearance in Fairstead was causing road flooding. DW discussed some Fairstead path cutting issues with the handyman.

14.112 ***Estate Liaison***

14.113 ***Health & Welfare***

Playground:

SA explained that a grant of £6859, 90% of the total project had been awarded by the Essex Environment Trust. In addition, the Community Initiatives Fund had agreed to award a grant covering the ancillary work, including the cost of the removal of the old roundabout, and improved fencing. A discussion took place regarding health and safety concerns in relation to the oak tree in the playground and recommendations to reduce risk including improved signs, locating the new

roundabout in a different location, and enlarging the fenced off area, and the possibility of an annual inspection by qualified arboriculturist.

JP proposed approval of expenditure for

- a) New Sputnik Roundabout & surfacing £7,622
- b) Removal of old roundabout from Playground £615
- c) Alterations to playground fencing up to £1,000
- d) New bespoke safety signs: up to £100

Seconded by RD, unanimously approved.

SA and SC wished to formally thank Cllrs Galione and Cunningham for their support with grant applications and the Chairman thanked Mr Lewis for his health and safety advice.

A decision on the oak inspection would be deferred until the next meeting. The Clerk was asked to write to Lord Rayleigh advising him of the plans. Advice would be sought from BDC and ECC.

SA and SC had inspected the playground and reported that the wheel on the toddler cabin needed tightening.

14.114

IT & Publicity

- update on new email addresses for Councillors & Clerk. JP explained there were still some teething problems which should be resolved in early January, when it was expected the new email would go live.

- Wireless Broadband for Parish – County Broadband: update

James Salmon outlined County Broadband's solution for delivering superfast broadband to the Parish, the various scenarios, timescales and costings. A survey leaflet would be distributed by the Parish Council early in 2015 to every household in the Parish, to be coordinated by JP. This would be followed up by door-to-door surveys for those households who did not respond initially. The Clerk would prepare some posters and would publicize the Parish Council's intentions.

14.115

Planning and Highways

APPLICATION 14/01425/FUL Demolition of existing porch and erection of replacement extension 1 Sebbys Gardens Owls Hill Terling Essex CM3 2PS. It was unanimously agreed that BDC should be asked to refuse this application.

APPLICATION 14/01500/FUL & 14/01501/LBC Proposed garden room - revision of approved applications 14/00555/FUL and 14/00556/LBC Pond Cottage Fairstead Road Fairstead. It was unanimously agreed that BDC should be asked to refuse this application, in line with the comments ECC Historic Buildings.

APPLICATION 14/00662 1 Sebbys Garden. RD explained an appeal had been made to the Secretary of State against BDC's decision to refuse permission. The Parish Council had written to again object to the application.

EX-AGENDA: APPLICATION 14/01483/FUL Erection of single storey rear extension / conservatory, Jacaranda Cottage Mill Lane, Terling CM3 2QG. The Planning Committee had no comment on this application.

- Fuller Street road repairs, Fuller Street sign. DW commented that the pothole repairs in Fuller Street had not been carried out to a high standard. Cllr Abbott concurred and stated that the quality of Highways repairs was often an issue. The Fuller Street sign had been replaced by ECC Highways.

- 14.116 **Recreation Ground**
- Sunday football. The Committee would meet to review arrangements.
- 14.117 **Councillors' Reports, including Village Hall Report, School Report and Church Liaison**
JP reported fly tipping by Loys Farm; the Clerk would report it. PB had received complaints from residents about Terling Post Office being closed at certain times. It was agreed this was not an issue for the Parish Council. AD had reported to ECC Highways, via the Clerk, the damage to the fencing on the bridge at the Old Dairy.
- 14.118 **Village Design Statement** – covered under agenda item 14.108.
- 14.119 **Tennis Club – Parish Council Involvement**
Councillors had met with representatives from the Tennis Club and it had been agreed that the Club should be relaunched and needed to be actively run and managed. It was agreed the Parish Council should take over the Licence and should support the club to prosper and grow utilising the existing facility in The Dismals. It was agreed that an advert should be placed in the next edition of the Parish News to try to find someone who was able to take on the role of managing the Club. Mrs Pauline Wright kindly agreed to assist with any sub committee, along with AD and LS (the Recreation Ground Committee). RH and RD offered to assist.
- 14.120 **Request by Terling School to use Parish Council artwork/logo of village sign**
After discussion it was agreed to allow Terling School to use the Parish Council's logo, which is a version of the crest on the sign on School Green, provided it was altered slightly and provided the Parish Council approved the design before use.
- 14.121 **Clerk's Report**
- 14.122 **General Correspondence to note**
- 14.123 **Information exchange / next agenda items**
Concerns were raised about dangerous parking outside Terling School. It was agreed the Council should again write to Terling School highlighting their concerns.
- 14.124 **Date of next meeting, including committees**
Parish Council Meeting: 20th January 7pm, Terling Village Hall
Parish Council Meeting: 10th March 7pm, Terling Village Hall
(Provisional) Parish Council Meeting: 21st April 7pm, The Square & Compasses, Fuller Street
(Provisional) Parish Council Meeting: 19th May 7pm, Terling Village Hall

Close of business: 9pm