

## **TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting (Annual Assembly of Electors) held on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> May 2013 at 7.00pm in Terling Village Hall**

**SUBJECT TO APPROVAL**

**Present** Mrs S McNamara  
Mr R Dixon  
Mr I Smith  
Mr T Lewis  
Mrs S Alder  
Mrs L Sime  
Mr D White  
Mr R Hunt  
Mrs J Cook  
Cllr M Galione  
Cllr T Cunningham

Mrs J Halfhide, Clerk  
8 members of the public

#### **Minutes of the meetings held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2012:**

These were unanimously approved (proposed by TL, seconded by RH).

#### **Matters Arising:**

There were no matters arising.

#### **Chairman's Report:**

The Chairman gave her Annual Report summarizing the work and achievements of the Parish Council during the past twelve months. This would be published on the Parish Council Website, in the Parish Magazine and on the notice boards.

#### **Presentation on Superfast Essex Broadband Project:**

Mr Philip Wilson from Essex County Council gave a presentation on the Superfast Broadband Project outlining the project aim of at least 90% of premises across the County having access to asymmetric Superfast Broadband by 2015 and that all premises will have access to at least 2Mbps by 2015. Mr Wilson explained how the project is being funded. The supplier being awarded the contract will almost certainly be BT (the only company expected to tender for the project) and this will be announced in the autumn. All businesses and residents are encouraged to register their demand on [www.superfastessex.org](http://www.superfastessex.org) which will then illustrate where the demand for broadband lies. The two year roll out will commence in the areas of greatest need.

Some members of the public present expressed dismay at what they had heard. They explained that it was well known, and BT had already confirmed, that it was not be viable to get broadband to parts of the Parish including Fuller Street, and that with this knowledge why would the Parish have to wait two years before being offered the alternative of satellite or radio technologies when that technology was available immediately, indeed some residents were already taking advantage of this technology.

Mr Wilson suggested if there were concerns about the approach being taken this was really a

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political issue and the most appropriate person to contact would be ECC Cabinet Member responsible for the project, Cllr Kevin Bentley. Ultimately the responsibility rested with the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. He offered to revert with the number of households who do not presently have any broadband access in the Parish and promised to provide some paper surveys for those who have no broadband access so they can partake in the survey. The Clerk would arrange to distribute these to Fuller Street residents.

### **Open Forum:**

Members of the public expressed concerns about potholes in Ranks Green. The Clerk confirmed she had already reported these particular ones to ECC Highways.

The junction at Lynderswood Road in Great Leighs was highlighted as being extremely hazardous as the many road repairs there had recently obliterated the give way lines and the pattern of the tarmac led drivers to assume the give way line was in fact much further on that it actually was. The large number of HGVs servicing the commercial and agricultural operations in the area caused considerable damage to this section of road which needed a major refurbishment. The Clerk was asked to report these concerns to Highways.

It was agreed that Cllr James Abbott should be informed of the various outstanding Highways issues being faced by the Parish and his assistance should be sought.

The meeting closed at 7:55pm