

TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Terling and Fairstead Parish Council held on Tuesday 10th December 2019 at 7.30pm at The Square & Compasses, Fuller Street

Present: Mrs S McNamara (Chairman) Mr M Tugwell
Mrs J Long Mr L Bundy
Mr A Dyke Mr S Thatcher
Mr C Barker Mrs S Alder

F Killby – Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer

8 members of the public

23.25 ***Apologies for Absence*** – Apologies were received and accepted from R Dixon and P Bird.

23.26 ***Declaration of Interests*** – AD declared a non-pecuniary interest in all Agenda items relating to his employer, Lord Rayleigh’s Farms Limited, Lord Rayleigh and Lord Rayleigh’s family.

23.27 ***Meeting Open to the Public*** –

C Cutler (First Aider) – stated that his first aid certificate has expired and he has booked another course in January.

A member of the public addressed the meeting re his new sports business. He is currently setting up boot camps and is looking for outside space for this. Councillors were happy to offer the recreation ground but it is likely that he will use the school grounds, weather permitting.

23.28 ***Minutes of Last Meeting***

JL proposed and MT seconded that the Chairman of the meeting should sign a copy of the minutes as a true and accurate record. The minutes of the meeting held on 29th October 2019 were unanimously approved.

23.29 ***District and County Councillors’ Reports*** –

Cllr Bebb: - The Hatfield Peverel Neighbourhood Plan went to a local ballot on 28th November, 92% were in favour and the plan will be adopted at the next Parish Council meeting.

Council tax surplus refund due to Terling and Fairstead Parish Council is £282.

Braintree District Council’s medium-term financial strategy and budget setting for next year has been delayed due to the election.

Valuation office agency are behind schedule with 250 homes and 90 business premises awaiting council tax banding. The Business Rates Pool – in recent years Braintree District Council has combined with other authorities in Essex, a portion is sent back to the government but by pooling this it is worth just over £0.5 million to Braintree DC.

The Council has retained its Customer Service Excellence accreditation for another year.

Local Plan - hearing reopening next month. A12 consultation on page 11 stated that junction 20a and b would go and bridges would be rebuilt. Cllr Bebb wrote to Highways England, received an unsatisfactory

reply and has followed it up at various meetings. The intention is to build a new road that runs parallel with the A12 to the new super junction at Witham South, junction 21. Cllr Bebb's suggestion is to build a road from Junction 21 to the end of Maldon Road just outside the 30mph area to address the bad bends outside the village and then allow the Maldon traffic to use the new bypass to go north or south. The downside to this idea is that local roads are the responsibility of Essex County Council who need to liaise with Highways England. He is meeting Cllr Bentley to pursue this but is not convinced that they see this as a priority as they have so many other projects going on. Cllr Bebb wants local people to lobby for this scheme, he recognizes that it is not an ideal solution but better than the current option.

He has asked Highways England how they intend to plan the rebuilding of the bridges as they currently have no alternative bridge access in place, they are still working on this.

Cllr Abbott: – Essex County Council is in the middle of its budget setting process which is very difficult largely due to the end of the Revenue Support Grant. Cllr Abbott is asking for more money for the Local Highways Panel but three years ago budget was halved down to £0.5 million. There is also continued pressure on rural bus services and the budget for creating new Public Rights of Way or to provide diversions to improve them is now zero.

Regarding the A12 development, he is liaising with Highways England and he has the same concerns as Cllr Bebb regarding junctions and how local traffic will access it at Rivenhall. He also wants to address the issue of public transport and is concerned that there is no budget in proposed works for this.

Local Matters - Local Highways Panel schemes have been submitted for passing places with Fairstead Road submitted first. The requested speed surveys are in place and he is hoping for a positive outcome at the meeting in January regarding directional signs.

LB suggested that there could be major problems with emergency services getting to the parish if they close the bridges. Both Councillors noted this point for further clarification. AD stated that the current plan is to start construction in 2023 with a potential finish in 2027 and asked if there were any further updates as to timing. Cllr Bebb stated there was no further information at the moment. AD suggested using the other two bridges whilst one is being rebuilt as the most sensible option.

23.30 **Chairman's Report** – nothing to report.

23.31 **Finance**

Copies of Receipts, Payments, Bank Reconciliation, Budgets and Forecast for the current financial year were distributed prior to the meeting to all councillors. ST proposed that the following cheques/direct debits be approved for payment. Seconded by SA, unanimously approved: -

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|-------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------|
| 4 Nov | 2611 F Killby | Salary/Office Allowance | 812.22 |
| 4 Nov | 2612 F Killby | Expenses | 231.92 |
| 4 Nov | 2613 Inland Revenue | PAYE/Tax | 253.46 |
| 4 Nov | 2614 Essex Pension Fund | Clerk's Pension Contribution | 283.39 |
| 4 Nov | 2616 B D Council | Community Bus Hire | 64.00 |
| 4 Nov | 2617 Lord Rayleigh's Farms | Garage Rental | 20.00 |
| 4 Nov | 2618 Anglian Water | Water Rates | 21.28 |

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| 4 Nov | 2619 | E.On | Street Lighting | 84.47 |
| 4 Nov | 2620 | A H Jiggins | Handyman's Services | 182.32 |
| 4 Nov | 2621 | X2 Connect | Library Signs | 261.60 |
| 4 Nov | 2622 | Terling Village Hall | Room Hire | 41.80 |
| 18 th Nov | DD | EDF | Electricity Rec Ground | 8.00 |
| 18 th Nov | DD | British Telecom | Clerk's Phone Line | 40.74 |

Change of Bank Accounts to Unity Trust to enable BACs payments. Councillors details not yet requested by Unity Trust, Clerk to chase.

Community Bus to Chelmsford from January 2020 – AD proposed that the Chelmsford bus service be continued for another twelve months, seconded by CB, unanimously approved.,

23.32 ***Environmental and Footpaths***

Footpaths – A list of redundant footpaths still to be compiled, Clerk to discuss with PB.

Parish Map – Councillors have visited business in Terling and Fairstead – Humphries, Alan Parris, Owls Hill, Dairy Bridge Antiques and Square & Compasses would all like one space, the Rayleigh Arms would like two if possible, There are also two other businesses in Fuller Street that would like a space. Councillors to meet to progress the map.

Dog Waste Bins – the problems with the Ranks Green and the Fairstead bins should be resolved in December. JL had received a request for another bin, location to be clarified, however councillors were concerned that the problem is not the number of bins, but the refusal of some residents to use the dog bins.

Rats at Mill Lane – Clerk has chased Mark Garnham at Greenfields and will continue to do so.

23.33 ***Estate Liaison*** – nothing to report.

23.34 ***Health and Welfare***

Playground – SM asked that thanks be recorded to Cllr Long for organizing the painting.

Emergency Plan – An emergency ring round using land lines and mobiles was carried out. There were some issues with mobiles due to the inconsistent signal in Terling and Fairstead. It was agreed to set up a WhatsApp group for future tests. LB has checked the Emergency Plan and all is in order, his only concern is the intended work on the Hatfield Peverel bridges would mean some changes to the Plan and the appointment of a Fire Marshall.

23.35 ***IT & Publicity*** – nothing to report

23.36 ***Planning and Highways***

Planning App: 19/01348/HH, Proposed two storey rear extension and front porch, 13 Hull Lane Terling Essex - (Application permitted, for information)

Planning App: 19/01749/HH, Fairstead House, Fuller Street, Fairstead, Two-storey rear extension - (Application permitted, for information)

Planning Apps for Tree Preservation Orders – For information - Notice of intent to carry out works to a tree in a conservation area at the following three addresses: Land at The Street, Terling; Butlers Lodge, Terling; and 5 The Estate Yard, Terling

Oakfield Lane - AD has received an email from Greenfields with a quote for approximately £1900 to carry out some repairs to the road. They had been contacted by residents in Oakfield Lane because some delivery companies are now refusing to deliver due to the state of the road, and Greenfields are asking for contributions from residents for carrying out this work. AD will forward the email to the Clerk and she will contact Greenfields to request that they liaise directly with residents as this is not a Lord Rayleigh Farm's matter or something that the Council are able to support financially.

Traffic Calming Gates/Speeding/Mobile Speeding Monitors - No update on traffic calming gates, the speed surveys are in place, however the Fairstead Road one is in the wrong place. Clerk to ask that it be relocated.

Speed Watch -There are enough volunteers to progress this, Clerk to liaise with LB.

Road Repairs - Cllr Abbott will speak to Essex Highways regarding the damaged railings in Fairstead Road. Some temporary potholes have been filled in but not very well. Cllr Abbott requested that the Highways reporting tools be utilized as much as possible. Clerk to put a link to it on the Terling Hub.

United Reformed Church - AD informed Cllr Bebb that Braintree's Planning Department had refused to grant either a meeting or a phone call to discuss this. They insisted that a Pre-Application be submitted. Cllr Bebb stated he would take this further, AD to put together development ideas for the building and these will be forwarded to Cllr Bebb for action. Clerk to send with the file note of her conversation with Planning Department.

Parking Issues at School/Safety Railings/Repainting Yellow Lines -The cone system outside the school is working well. The children are currently drawing some people to put on the cones. Some councillors felt that the cones were not particularly attractive, it was confirmed that the cones are removed at the weekend. LB stated that the posts for the green around the noticeboard would cost either £66.66 or £35.47, depending on the quality required.

Planning Enforcements - nothing to report

Local Plan - as above

Directional Signs - as above

War Memorial - The new posts are ready to be installed. LB to action.

23.37

Recreation Ground

A local youth football team with connections to the village has asked if they could train on a Saturday morning for approximately 10 weeks at a cost of £25 per session. A Jiggins reported that the changing rooms were very dirty. Clerk to arrange for a cleaner and the football team responsible will be billed for the work.

Damage to Contractor's Equipment – AD suggested that GLYC should be asked to claim on their public liability as it was their responsibility. Councillors supported this. Councillors also discussed how to prevent this happening again and it was suggested this area could be filled in or the parking could be fenced off. Clerk to liaise with LRF. SM asked that thanks be recorded for A Jiggins work at the

recreation ground and around the parish in general. It was agreed that residents should continue to contact the clerk if they had any issues with overgrown footpaths and these would be cut if necessary. It was agreed that the clerk would put a brief explanation of the P3 agreement on the Hub, website and in the Parish News.

23.38 ***Councillors' Reports, including Village Hall Report, School Report and Church Liaison***

AD – RD has cleaned the Fairstead phone box, and it is almost ready for painting, the door needs planing as it is sticking and the light is not working, A Jiggins to action. AD would like a defibrillator installed in the phone box but suggested applying for three to cover Fairstead, Fuller Street and Ranks Green, particularly if the A12 works restrict the emergency services accessing the parish.

23.39 ***Clerk's Report***

Bus service over Xmas – unfortunately Essex County Council will not put on a service to replace the 25th December and the 1st January. Clerk has suggested to D Parris that some members of the community might be able to offer lifts on 24th and 31st December to the shops.

Pensioners Party – C Hennessy is happy to step aside and let a new team take over. CB to take the lead on this and C Hennessy will pass over her files to him. CB has been promised a free bus to collect guests.

23.40 ***Telephone Box Libraries/Condition of Fairstead Phone Box***

ST and JL now have the stamps and the books are sorted. This will be up and running in January. SA asked if walking books could be donated to the Fuller Street Information phone box.

23.41 ***MUGA Court***

MT and CB to meet with Tennis Club.

23.42 ***Mental Health First Aid Training***

There are no additional free training courses, clerk to get costs of courses for RD, JL and SA.

23.43 ***Information exchange / next agenda items*** – nothing to report.

23.44 ***Village Hall New Boiler***

SM reported that £600 is needed to carry out a survey for a new system. Cllr Bebb confirmed that he had agreed to donate £300 as a Councillors' Community Grant.

23.45 ***Date of next meeting, including committees:***

7.30, 21st January, Parish Council Meeting, Terling Village Hall, Terling, 7.30, 3rd March, Parish Council Meeting, Terling Village Hall, Terling

Before closing SM asked that thanks be recorded to all the volunteers who help the Parish Council, particularly the litter pickers, D Dunning who checks the defibrillator and Maurice Howard, the internal auditor. She also asked that thanks be recorded to F Killby for her hard work as Parish Clerk.

Meeting closed at 21.07