

TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Terling and Fairstead Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th January 2022 at 7.30pm, at Terling Village Hall

Present:	Mrs S McNamara (Chairman)	Mr P Bird
	Mr C Barker	Mrs S Alder
	Mr M Tugwell	Mrs J long

Cllr Playle and Cllr Dervish

F Killby – Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer

0 members of the public

26.97 ***Apologies for Absence-*** were received and accepted from Cllrs Halfhide, Dixon, Thatcher and Sime.

26.98 ***Declaration of Interests*** – None declared.

26.99 ***Meeting Open to the Public***

Cllr Dervish, as a member of the public noted that the Dismals is still not repaired. Clerk stated that the materials to carry out the repairs were on order and would be delivered as soon as possible.

A local Women's Institute is in the early stages of being set up and Cllr Dervish will keep the Parish Council posted. This will not impact or overlap with Terling Ladies Club as meetings will be held in the evenings. Terling Ladies Cricket Team is going from strength to strength, training takes place at Rickstones Academy and all are welcome. Cllr Dervish has spoken to Highways about road conditions as no-one is gritting in the Parish apart from a few roads. The Parish Council has some supplies of grit and the grit bins are also full. Cllr Dervish also asked for an update regarding her request for a crossing patrol near the school.

27.00 ***Minutes of Last Meeting***

It was proposed by JL and seconded by CB that the Chairman should sign a copy of the minutes of the meeting of 7th December 2021 – unanimously approved.

27.01 ***District and County Councillors' Reports*** –

Cllr Playle – has held a meeting with his Highways Liaison Officer regarding Oakfield Lane. This job is on the list of work to be carried out by the team with CCTV equipment.

Winter Service – some roads are gritted, grit boxes are topped up, and Cllr Playle will enquire as to who can do the gritting.

Fingerposts - the one on the Witham Road by the junction off to Fairstead is now down. The crossing patrol request has gone into ECC and they are investigating, however, Cllr Dixon's proposed 20mph scheme might be more suitable at this junction.

The Essex Libraries consultation closes this weekend. The new grit bins request is on the LHP scheme list but this is a long process. Cllr Playle has no funding left for this financial year but he could pay for some in the next financial year if needed.

ANPR cameras – at the last meeting with Mr Hirst said he would have another look at this scheme for the Parish. Councillors are very disappointed with the lack of action on this matter are assurances made by Mr Hirst.

ECC budget for council tax proposed a 4.9% increase which is due to inflation and increased social care charges. This will go before full council for approval on 10th February.

Cllr Dervish – a lot of meetings have been held regarding BDC budget. It has been proposed and will be passed by full council on 14 February that there will be a 2.9% increase for council tax (no increase last year). There is also a proposal to reduce Councillors' Community Grants which Cllr Dervish is strongly opposed to, and it is possible that any monies left over will not be carried over into the next financial year. Money has been allocated in the budget for air quality measuring, there is a proposed budget for compliance and monitoring of planning regulations.

The Local Plan Phase 2 deadline is on 24 January and there are queries on Section 106 money and the way it is dealt with. BDC is awaiting guidance from central government on the process.

Regarding recent late bin collections, apologies and thanks to residents, the service is now back to normal, this was to sickness and bank holidays. The Parish Council asked that thanks be recorded to the waste operatives for their hard work during this time.

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

Cllr Playle left the meeting.

27.03 **Finance**

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

7 Dec	BACS	F Killby	Salary	771.71
7 Dec	BACS	F Killby	Expenses	22.50
7 Dec	BACS	Inland Revenue	PAYE/Tax	259.53
7 Dec	BACS	Essex Pension Fund	Clerk's Pension	288.96
7 Dec	BACS	A H Jiggins	Handyman Services	224.07
7 Dec	BACS	Lord Rayleigh's Farms	Grass Cutting	60.00
7 Dec	BACS	Terling Village Hall	Room Hire	43.40
7 Dec	BACS	E.on	Street Lighting	64.38
7 Dec	BACS	Jayne Halfhide	Defibrillator Costs	179.94
7. Dec	BACS	James Todd	Payroll Services	31.20
7 Dec	BACS	Arrowmail	Mailbox Hosting	56.16
7 Dec	BACS	RCCE	Subscription	72.60
7 Dec	BACS	BHIB	Tractor Insurance	95.20

18 Nov	DD	British Telecom	Clerk's Phone Line	53.64
18 Nov	DD	EDF Energy	Electricity Recreation Ground	23.00
6 th Jan	BACS	F Killby	Salary	651.15
6 th Jan	BACS	F Killby	Expenses	75.54
6 th Jan	BACS	Inland Revenue	PAYE/Tax	173.99
6 th Jan	BACS	Essex Pension Fund	Clerk's Pension	233.39
6 th Jan	BACS	A H Jiggins	Handyman Services	111.45
6 th Jan	BACS	James Todd	Payroll Services	31.20

The Finance Committee had met to review the current budget (2021-22) and draft budget and precept (2022-23) and recommended that the precept be increased from 25,356 to £27,638, an increase of £2,094, which is equivalent to 9%. After discussion, which included the possibility of reducing village hall waste collection costs, it was proposed by JL and seconded by SA that the precept be increased by 10%, to £27,892, approved with one abstention.

BDC supply the Parish Council with a calculation based on a Band D property of the Parish Council element which will be as follows:

Parish Council Element - Band D property – annual cost - £66.25, an annual increase of £6.30, which equate to a 10% increase. It should be noted that this percentage increase can differ on the Council Tax bill depending on the Banding of the property.

To approve the purchase of a new noticeboard for Fuller Street – maximum cost £746 – ex VAT - The proposed noticeboard is manufactured from a composite material as hardwood noticeboards are extremely expensive. Some Fuller Street residents would prefer to repair the current noticeboard and SA will discuss this further to see if this is possible, so no purchase decision as yet.

To approve the purchase of water quality testing materials (Rive Ter), etc - £400 ex - VAT Appendix II – SA stated that it is not appropriate to test it now as the river is in full flow, but the money is in the budget if needed. It was felt that it was important to test the river in various locations as it was necessary to keep the pressure up on the Environment Agency, so that the River Ter does not get relegated to the bottom of the list of priorities.

To approve the purchase of materials to repair the Noticeboard opposite the school - £472 ex VAT – Appendix III. CB is currently getting another quote for this job, but he did point out that more timber needs to be replaced than originally thought. Clerk to chase her contact.

27.04 *Environmental and Footpaths*

PB stated that there are currently no problems with footpaths.

Rats – Mill Lane – still an issue, PB will visit the resident to see what progress is being made.

Parish Map – this is still a work in progress, SA will ask Paul Guppy if he can assist as he has experience of map production as a councillor with another parish council. PB to speak to H Cutler to ask for her advice and input.

Water Quality - River Ter - see Minute 27.03

Repair of Noticeboard opposite school – see Minute 27.03

New Noticeboard Fuller Street – see Minute 27.03

27.05 ***Estate Liaison*** – nothing to report

27.06 ***Health and Welfare***

Defibrillators – Essex Community Foundation has awarded the Parish Council £2,500 towards the purchase of new defibrillators for Fuller Street and Oakfield Lane. Clerk stated that the purchase and set up of the defibrillators need to take place before the end of the financial year as Cllr Playle’s grant for part funding for Fuller Street needs to be invoiced by 31 March 2022.

Playground – JL has contacted the supplier to negotiate a reduction in price. CB suggested just purchasing the climbing frame and carrying out the installation with a team of volunteers in March. The Parish Council were happy to agree to this. Clerk to ask when A Jiggins will fit the rocking horse seat.

Benches at Terling Ford Licences – clerk to chase application.

Oak Tree Survey – Playground – clerk to chase.

Emergency Plan/Disaster Plan and Longfield Solar Farm - Telephone Tree Test – clerk to arrange random Whats App test.

27.07 ***IT & Publicity*** –

Nothing to report

27.08 ***Planning and Highways***

App: 21/03475/FUL Proposed Abattoir Extension and Associated Works, Blixes Farm, Ranks Green Road, Ranks Green - The Parish Council’s response is to be submitted as soon as possible.

Waltham Road/Oakfield Lane flooding - see Minute 27.01

River Hill water leak – Anglian Water has stated that they inspected the site and although there is a trickle of water, they are unable to locate the source. Their engineers will continue to look into this matter.

Fuller Street flooding/water leak – SA reported that the leak is still running, and it is icy at times.

Road Repairs – the two potholes on the Hatfield Road are very bad.

Local Plan – see Minute 27.01

Directional Signs – see Minute 27.01

BDC Delegated powers – no update from BDC, Cllr Dervish has chased this again.

Highways Devolution Scheme – nothing to report.

Traffic Calming Gates – These have been agreed and are in hand, no date for installation as yet.

ANPR system – see Minute 27.01

A12 Widening Further Consultation – the latest information from the Planning Inspectorate has been circulated on the Terling Hub and the Community website.

Speed and Safety Issues – This agenda item was tabled after the tragic accident in Fairstead. Councillors asked if speed bumps could be installed but these are not allowed in areas with no street lighting or where there is a speed limit over 30 mph. Clerk to put new Highways rules on Community website and Terling Hub.

27.09 ***Recreation Ground***

Cllr Dervish reported that Hatfield Peverel Football used the ground for the second week and are very pleased with the playing surface. The car park area is a problem as it was very muddy on the first Saturday and lots of cars got stuck. Unfortunately, without huge expenditure nothing can be done to improve the surface and it will be necessary to park in New Road or the Village Hall car park if the conditions are bad. The Recreation Ground Sub Committee is to meet and discuss the budget for the recreation ground.

27.10 ***MUGA Court/Tennis Court*** – MT reported that he has an appointment with an installer to measure up the area and quote for the work. CB is looking into solar lighting for the project. Cllr Dervish stated that the cricket club would definitely use the facility for practice and the tennis club could play in the evening if the courts were floodlit.

27.11 ***Longfield Solar Farm*** – Clerk to arrange meeting.

27.12 ***Crime Prevention Grant***

Some discussion was held about applying for a grant for ANPR cameras and the issues around privacy. It was also pointed out the cameras do need a power supply, and this could be difficult in some locations in the parish, although solar power may be a possibility. It was stressed that the ANPR cameras would be monitored by a central organisation and would be nothing to do with the Parish Council.

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

SA – has received some complaints about the size and weight of Whites Lorries passing through the village and wondered if they could find an alternative route, via Hatfield Peverel and Terling. Clerk to contact Whites Lorries to see if anything can be done, however she did point out there was a similar situation with Finches Lorries in Fairstead and the lorries are not breaking any laws and are entitled to be on the roads.

SM – asked the Clerk to contact the surgery in Witham to find out if/when the Terling surgery will re-open.

JL – asked if litter picks could be slightly later to allow for the hedges to be cut as so much rubbish appears after this time, therefore litter picks will be in May and November. The missing fence panels at the school have been replaced.

CB – the pooh bins including the new one at the Ford are being well used. Clerk to order more bags.

27.14 ***Platinum Jubilee Celebrations***

SM reported that the Church Events Committee have some ideas and are meeting next Thursday 27th January in the Rayleigh Arms. SM will put a note on the Terling Hub inviting all to join this informal gathering to discuss ideas. The possibility of a street party was discussed. SA asked if the two churches would be organising a joint event or if they would hold separate events and that residents have been discussing it. SM stated that at this stage it was very much a starting point and that nothing was decided. Cllr Dervish would be happy to offer some CCG funding for this event.

27.15 ***Clerk's Report***

A request was received from a resident in Fairstead Road who wished to use the recreation ground car park for builders. Unfortunately this will not be possible due to the muddy conditions.

A Jiggins will be fixing the glass in the Terling phone box.

The dog bin opposite Loyes has been emptied, clerk confirmed the bins are emptied weekly. JL stated that a number of the lids are not working, clerk to speak to BDC.

27.16 ***Information exchange / next agenda items –***

27.17 ***Date of next meeting, including committees:*** 7.30 pm, 1st March 2022, Terling Village Hall, 7.30 pm, 5th April 2022, Square & Compasses, Fuller Street

Meeting finished at 09.20 pm