

TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Terling and Fairstead Parish Council held on Tuesday 28th June 2022
at 7.30pm, at Terling Village Hall, Terling

Present:	Mrs S McNamara (Chairman) Mrs P Bird Mrs J Halfhide Mrs S Alder	Mrs L Sime Mr M Tugwell Mr C Barker
	Cllrs Playle, Dervish	
	F Killby – Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer	
	4 members of the public	
27.87	<i>Apologies for Absence</i> – Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs Long, Dixon, Webster and Thatcher.	
27.88	<i>Declaration of Interests</i>	
	Cllrs Halfhide and Sime declared a pecuniary interest in Item 28.02.	
27.89	<i>Meeting Open to the Public</i>	
	A member of the public thanked the Parish Council for fixing the drains in The Dismals so promptly.	
	A member of the public commented regarding the Parish Council's submission to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the Longfied Solar Farm. Whilst respecting the comments made, he questioned the decision of the Parish Council to oppose the application, especially when the Chairman and a member of the Planning Sub Committee had stated at the meeting on 19 th May that, in this case, it was not appropriate for the Council to have an opinion. The Council had had 45 responses from 450 households and 20 people had attended the meeting and he asked whether this was representative of the whole Parish. He also had concerns regarding the process regarding how planning decisions are made when the Planning Sub Committee had met only once. He asked if it is relevant for the Council to comment on matters outside the Parish, e.g batteries and the sub-station.	
	The Chairman stated that she did believe that the Parish Council should not pass an opinion and apologized personally for not questioning this when the submission was considered at the meeting on 27 th May.	
	Councillors felt that the main body of the submission was completely justified but it was agreed to write to the Planning Inspectorate to submit the statistics.	
	A member of the public asked why the Parish Council meeting on 19 th May had started early so that he had no opportunity to hear comments about Longfield Solar Farm. This meeting followed the Annual Meeting when members of the public had used the Open Forum to comment. The Parish Council meeting had not started early and members of the public at that meeting were invited to comment but the Chairman apologised for any misunderstanding.	

27.90 ***Minutes of Last Meeting***

It was proposed by MT and seconded by JH that the Chairman should sign a copy of the minutes of the meeting of 27th May 2022, unanimously approved.

27.91 ***District and County Councillors' Reports***

Cllr Playle reminded Councillors of the pothole fund (36 potholes to be repaired, first half to be submitted before 8th august). There has been a change of LHP officers and meeting cancellations, but there is a meeting shortly to provide updates on existing schemes. The Community Initiative Fund has reopened and the deadline for the Saltbag Scheme is the 25th July. ECC is having a briefing this week on the Northeast Bypass and Beaulieu Park Station if there are any questions or concerns. The National Grid consultation has closed and the statutory consultations will be in spring next year.

Cllr Dervish – The Local Plan has been found to be sound and will be adopted at full Council in July if there are no issues with it. The National Grid proposal was debated at full Council with the recommendation to take it undersea or find new solutions. There is a new Community Centre to be built in Witham at Maltings Lane. Verge cutting requests should be reported via the Parish Council. Cllr Dervish will get a definitive map to see who is responsible for cutting. Live Well Scheme – the subject of obesity in children is to be revisited and introduced to school curriculums. SM thanked Cllr Dervish for her grant for the jubilee medals for the children in the Parish.

27.92 ***Chairman's Report*** – nothing to report

27.93 ***Finance***

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

6 June	BACS	F Killby	Salary	1046.69
6 June	BACS	F Killby	Expenses	193.68
6 June	BACS	Inland Revenue	PAYE/Tax	466.20
6 June	BACS	Essex Pension Fund	Clerk's Pension	417.49
6 June	BACS	A H Jiggins	Handyman Services	375.92
6 June	BACS	Lord Rayleigh's Farms	Grass Cut/Garage/Rec Rental	125.83
6 June	BACS	Playsafety	RoSPA Inspection	96.60
6 June	BACS	Berewood Limited	Strimmer Repair	218.70
6 June	BACS	James Todd	Payroll Services	31.20
18 June	DD	British Telecom	Clerk's Phone Line	58.94
18 June	DD	EDF Energy	Electricity Recreation Ground	23.00

The Full Council considered and reviewed the effectiveness of the Annual Internal Audit of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

The Full Council considered and noted the Annual Internal Audit Report of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

JH proposed that the Council should approve the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 of Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31st March 2022) seconded by LS, unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer.

PB proposed that the Council should approve the Accounting Statements (Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31st March 2022) seconded by SA, unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman and Responsible Financial Officer.

Clerk to post the Annual Governance and Accountability Return and the Notice of Inspection during which time public rights may be exercised on the main noticeboard and website.

SA proposed and MT seconded that the Financial Regulations be adopted with no changes, unanimously approved.

JH proposed and CB seconded that the Standing Orders be adopted with no changes, unanimously approved.

27.94

Environmental and Footpaths

Footpaths – A Jiggins has now cut most of the footpaths. A member of the public had requested that a footpath adjacent to Dairy Antiques be cut. This has not been cut by the Parish Council for some time as there is a problem with access.

The Footpaths Committee is to review the Essex County Council P3 maps as they are felt to be confusing and difficult to understand.

Rats – Mill Lane – PB has visited and spoken with residents in the affected area and the problem is still ongoing.

Parish Map – SA reported that Colin and Heather Cutler have offered to write a short history of the area, which will then be passed on the Estate's archivist for verification/additions if relevant. After discussion it was agreed to get a costing for 1,500 copies, A3 size, with 8 advertising spaces available. As stated before, the Parish Council cannot charge for these spaces but advertisers can offer a contribution towards the cost of printing. Councillors suggested that walking routes, advertisers and defibrillator locations should be included on the map, but these may increase production costs.

27.95

Estate Liaison – A member of the public had asked councillors if the Estate is responsible for the trees at Bramley Cottages. Clerk to contact Eastlight Homes to get a fallen tree removed.

27.96

Health and Welfare

Defibrillators – Oakfield Lane and Fuller Street are being installed on the 11th July. They will be operational approximately a week to ten days later.

Playground – CB reported that the main section of the new climbing frame is now concreted but the wetpour area has to be increased. Clerk to obtain quotes for this work and requested photos to forward to suppliers. It was agreed that JL should be asked to research a replacement rocker which could be funded by a CIF grant (50% match funded).

The Jubilee Committee would like to offer funds raised to install a bench in the playground.

Benches at Terling Ford – Clerk has submitted the application for this.

Oak Tree Survey - All is in order, Clerk is clarifying when next report needs to be carried out as there are discrepancies on this in the report. It was suggested that some kind of history could be prepared about the tree as visitors and residents are interested in it.

Noticeboards – no progress on these as it is proving to be very difficult to obtain oak shingles and the Fuller Street repairs have not progressed.

27.97

IT & Publicity –

Nothing to report

27.98

Planning and Highways

Planning Application Consultation - 22/00001/MAS - Chelmsford Garden Community Pratts Farm Lane Little Waltham – JH reported that she had looked through the huge amount of documents on the website and that it was an extraordinary planning application, made up of a series of villages, with all facilities within walking distance, in order to remove the need for cars. At this early stage the Parish Council submitted comments on the timing of the scheme in relation to other planning proposals – Longfield, A120 Bypass, A12 widening.

Road Repairs – - see Minute 27.91 for Cllr Playle's pothole scheme.

Local Plan – see Minute 27.91.

Directional Signs – The metal sign at Sparrows Farm has disappeared completely. ST reported a broken sign in Ranks Green, Clerk to clarify which one.

BDC Delegated powers – RD is to report on this to Councillors.

A12 Widening Further Consultation – F Strutt reported that the date had been pushed back as landowners have been refusing access, as Highways are not paying agreed fees. The Chairman of Traffic at Hatfield Peverel Parish Council reported that he had held a meeting with the project team earlier in the day and the scheme would be going to examination at the end of July. The scheme is now fixed in terms of where access roads, etc will go. The next stage is the logistics, eg removing the bridge in Station road in 2025 for up to six months and the impact on traffic and the only access road via Witham. Highways England are trying to negotiate access via Bury Lane, but this will not include agricultural vehicles, etc. The station will remain open and there will be a temporary footpath over the A12, with the possibility of a shuttle bus to the station.

Speed and Safety Issues/20mph Limit, New Road – This will have to be a Local Highways Panel submission if the Parish Council goes ahead with this.

VAS/SID Illuminated Sign Scheme – Cllr Dervish has discussed the possibility of hiring Hatfield Peverel's signs, but it is not certain that a suitable location is available in the Parish as the most suitable type would be the moveable ones which cost approximately £2,500, but need a wide pavement. There are two favoured suppliers, Traffic Technology and Swarco, and a third company that ECC use called Westcotech, who are very expensive. If the Parish Council wants a fixed site these have to be approved by ECC.

Green Lanes/Protected Lanes - LS reported that a number of lanes had lost their protected status and wondered who is giving advice and guidance on this, and to whom, and who is responsible for compiling these reports and changing the status of the roads. Clerk to write to Alan Massow at BDC to see if he can give any clarification on this.

Planting of Wildflower Seeds on Highways Verges – This was felt to be a good idea but not practical for the Parish.

27.99

Recreation Ground

A Jiggins will be asked if he can repair the steps outside the changing cabin. LS confirmed that the changing cabin and grounds conformed to FA standards. There is a possibility that Hatfield Peverel will change the club's name to incorporate Terling and Hatfield Peverel.

28.00

Muga Court/Tennis Court and Request for Funds to Replace Shelter

Clerk has received a recommendation from another Parish Council for a MUGA company in Maldon.

28.01

Longfield Solar Farm

As a statutory consultee the Parish Council has received a letter informing it of the meeting on 18th July to discuss the process of how the examination should be examined, it is not to discuss the submission. As Parish Council has no comments on this process it was not felt necessary to register to attend or to comment. A recording of the meeting will be available.

28.02

East Anglia Green – National Grid - The Parish Council submitted its comments in time.

28.03

Salt Bag Partnership Scheme 2022-23 – The Parish Council will not be participating this year as it holds sufficient stock.

28.04

Councillors' Reports, including Village Hall Report, School Report and Church

SA - Stansted future airspace – Stage 2 has been completed, there are noticeably more planes overhead but they are at high altitude. Fuller Street's Jubilee celebrations raised £700 for Farleigh Hospice.

JH – Abandoned Highways road signs have been collected, contractors are fined if they do not pick them up.

CB has visited the Electric Charging point at Braintree. It provides services such as travel to the racecourse and stations, but it does not offer a committed bus service.

28.05

Clerk's Report

UK Power Networks have provided paperwork for the replacement parts at the Terling Ford light. CB to investigate as they may have sent the wrong paperwork.

28.06 ***Information exchange / next agenda items***

28.07 ***Date of next meeting, including committees –***

9th August, 7.30 pm, Parish Council Meeting, Square & Compasses, 20th September, 7.30 pm, Parish Council Meeting, Terling Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.50 pm

DRAFT