

TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Terling and Fairstead Parish Council held on Tuesday 28th February 2023 at 7.30pm, at Terling Village Hall, Terling

Present:	Mrs S McNamara (Chairman)	Mrs L Sime
	Mrs S Alder	Mr M Tugwell
	Mr M Webster	Mr G Barnes
	Mrs J Halfhide	Mr S Thatcher

Cllr Dervish

Cllr Playle

F Killby – Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer

1 member of the public

29.15 ***Apologies for Absence*** – Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs Dixon and Barker.

29.16 ***Declaration of Interests*** –. LS and JH declared a pecuniary interest in Minute 29.30 - East Anglia Green.

29.17 ***Meeting Open to the Public*** – Cllr Dervish reported that the Coronation plans were under way with a meeting later in the week and that the current plan is a celebration in the grounds of Terling Place.

29.18 ***Minutes of Last Meeting***

It was proposed by MW and seconded by ST that the Chairman should sign a copy of the minutes of the meeting of 17th January 2023, unanimously approved.

29.19 ***District and County Councillors' Reports***

Cllr Playle – the recent budget setting meeting agreed an increase of 3.5% in council tax with 2% ringfenced for social care of vulnerable members of society. £4 million has been set aside for the pothole scheme, which will include footpaths and pavements.

Cllr Playle believed that the potholes in Witham Road and Fairstead Road had been repaired but was unsure about Braintree Road. Information had been passed on to RD about water quality monitoring of River Ter.

Residents have asked if Braintree Road can be added to the gritting route and Cllr Playle will request this but as it does not meet the criteria, an engineer will need to do a specific assessment. He has also requested that gritbins be placed on the route between Terling and Three Ashes.

BDC is trialling a booking scheme at its recycling depots primarily to see how recycling is being used as the system is being abused, particularly in the areas close to London. The trial will be for nine months.

Cllr Dervish – the budget meeting agreed an increase of 2.5% for council tax, there will be a £25 refund for all council taxpayers. The cancellation of printed recycling calendars delivered to households will save £25,000. Posters, etc will be available to advertise the timetable.

The Councillors' Community Grant will be available again and the Street Cleaning Agreement will be maintained with Parish Councils with no reduction.

29.20 ***Co-option of Parish Councillor – Terling Ward***

C Dervish had previously expressed an interest in being co-opted onto the Council and was eligible under the rules. MW proposed that C Dervish be co-opted, seconded by JH, unanimously approved. CD signed the Declaration of Office, and consent forms regarding GDPR and receiving Council Summons and Agendas electronically. CD completed the Register of Interests which will be returned to the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

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

29.22 ***Finance***

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

8 Feb	BACS	F Killby	Salary	1691.76
8 Feb	BACS	F Killby	Expenses	107.09
8 Feb	BACS	Inland Revenue	PAYE/Tax	851.38
8 Feb	BACS	Essex Pension Fund	Clerk's Pension	698.02
8 Feb	BACS	A H Jiggins	Handyman Services	142.83
8 Feb	BACS	Lord Rayleigh's Farms	Garage/Rec Ground Rental	51.83
8 Feb	BACS	Anglian Water	Water – Rec Ground	18.51
8 Feb	BACS	James Todd	Payroll Services	31.20
18 Feb	DD	EDF Energy	Elec – Rec Ground	534.00

29.23 ***Environmental and Footpaths***

Parish Map – LS proposed and JH seconded approval of the quote for £290. SA confirmed that the suggested contribution from advertisers would be £40 each leaving a cost to the Parish Council of £10. The maps will be distributed to businesses and parishioners. SA asked that thanks be recorded to Heather Cutler for all her hard work on this project.

Water Sampling, River Ter – Cllr Playle has sent some information on this, RD to action. LS has a website address for the Essex Rivers Hub that she will forward to SA.

JH reported that she had contacted UK Power Networks to complain about the positioning of solar powered movement activated messages on Footpath 5 close to where it is working on pylons. UK Power Networks agreed to email the Parish Council with an update, none received to date.

29.24 ***Estate Liaison***

LS stated that she would be marking up a document relating to the areas used for car parking and forwarding it to councillors and afterward to the Estate. The Chapel has been secured as a defensive purchase and the Parish Council is happy to support this acquisition.

CD stated that a number of trees had been cut on The Dismals exposing a lot of broken fencing which is now on the ground. There are also a number of fallen bricks on the bridge and some areas with exposed barbed wire fencing. CD had marked up a plan showing the damaged areas which she passed to LS/F Strutt. CD also pointed out that some metal fencing had come down on Norman Hill. CD was concerned that all of the above issues could be a problem to children and wildlife.

F Strutt reported that the Estate had planted 100 cherry trees, hawthorn, oaks to replace some of the dead ones and some hazel in the hedgerows. He has had no update on the Stansted Airport offer of trees, clerk to chase.

29.25 ***Health and Welfare***

Defibrillators - the defibrillator in Owls Hill has been out of action due to a battery problem, clerk to chase. The Owls Hill phone box door is sticking, A Jiggins to fix. Cllr Playle should be able to fund the relocation of the Ranks Green defibrillator with a Locality Fund grant.

Playground - the seat is now fixed, MW to ask D Jiggins if he can take the sand. CD stated that the children are very happy with the climbing frame. The Bunny Rocker seat is broken, clerk is to source a replacement. CD stated that Hatfield Peverel may have some surplus equipment when they upgrade the playground, but there is no date for this. GB and CD to join the Health & Welfare Committee.

Benches at Terling Ford Licences – no update.

Emergency Plan – SA/FK to review.

Noticeboard – Fuller Street repairs – This has now been completed.

29.26 ***IT & Publicity*** – nothing to report.

29.27 ***Planning and Highways***

Road Repairs – see Minute 29.19.

Directional Signs – nothing to report.

BDC Planning Regime regarding delegated powers – nothing to report.

A12 Widening Further Consultation – Another document was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate drawing attention to the number of listed buildings in the Parish. F Strutt stated that a large office and welfare facility is scheduled to be built on Estate land close to the Hatfield Peverel slip road. It will be in place for up to eight years.

20s Plenty Initiative - JH is organising for a representative to attend the Parish Council meeting in May.

Chelmsford Garden Village – nothing to report.

Green Lanes/Protected Lanes – nothing to report.

Update on Engagement with BDC Officers regarding Planning Inspectorate DCOs – nothing to report.

Chapel – see Minute 29.24.

29.28 ***Recreation Ground***

Clerk is still chasing the refund from EDF Energy.

29.29 ***Longfield Solar Farm*** – nothing to report.

29.30 ***East Anglia Green – National Grid*** – nothing to report.

29.31 ***Area opposite the Village Hall used for parking*** - see Minute 29.24.

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

MW – the school would like more grit and would be happy to store it if this is an issue for the Parish Council. Clerk to action when the initiative opens later in the year.

The parking issues in the road still continue to be a problem, Clerk to contact Parking Partnership regarding a control for this area.

MW also wanted to point out that information on the recent dog theft had been shared 4,500 times on social media and the dog was happily recovered less than 24 hours after it was taken.

LS stated that Fern House Surgery had sent through a list of infection control criteria needed to make the surgery safe, however workforce continue to be the main problem. LS has contacted the Integrated Care Board to see if Fern House is receiving funding for the surgery.

ST – is taking over the monitoring of the defibrillator in Ranks Green and will clean up the phone box before the shelves are replaced.

CD – stated that the school is having a Litter Heroes Assembly to recognise some of the litter picking actions of the school children.

SA – to organise a litter pick in Fuller Street and Ranks Green with ST, possible date of 25th March.

29.33 ***Clerk's Report***

UK Power Networks has confirmed that the light at the Ford has been repaired. SM to check.

Training – this still needs to be finalised, however it was agreed to wait until after the election of new councillors.

A litter pick will be held on the 25th March in Terling.

29.34 ***Information Exchange/next agenda items***

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

18th April 7.30 pm, Square & Compasses, Fuller Street

23rd May, 7.0 pm, Annual Parish Meeting, 7.30 pm, Parish Council Meeting, Terling Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 09.05 pm.