

TERLING AND FAIRSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Terling and Fairstead Parish Council held on Tuesday 12th September 2023 at 7.30pm, at Terling Village Hall, Terling

Present: Mrs S McNamara (Chairman)
Mrs S Alder
Mr M Webster
Mr G Barnes
Mr M Tugwell
Mrs C Dervish (also attending as a District Councillor)
Mrs F Killby (Retiring Clerk)

Cllr R Playle

Miss T Curtis - Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer

1 member of the public

30.07 ***Apologies for Absence*** – Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Halfhide, Dixon, Thatcher, Barker and Sime.

30.08 ***Declaration of Interests***

Cllr Dervish declared an interest in all matters relating to the Recreation Ground. Cllr Barnes declared an interest in all matters relating to the Village Hall.

30.09 ***Meeting Open to the Public***

F Strutt confirmed that LRF had just finished harvest and asked if any issues had been reported. SM confirmed no issues. CD mentioned the tractor/machinery drivers had been kind to the children in passing and asked F Strutt to pass the comments on.

30.10 ***Appointment of Parish Clerk***

Tamasin Curtis was duly appointed as Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer. The Councillors thanked Mrs Killby for her hard work during her tenure as Clerk.

30.11 ***Minutes of Last Meeting***

It was proposed by GB and seconded by CD that the Chairman should sign a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Extraordinary General Meeting of 15th August 2023, unanimously approved.

30.12 ***District and County Councillors' Reports***

Cllr Playle reported that there was a second chance for the Member-Led Pothole Scheme. There are already some nominations including some for Terling and Fairstead. Only one of 18 has been completed and he has noted the one on Hatfield Road remains and he believes this should be made good with the Hatfield Peverel parish potholes in mid October. If any other potholes are known please send them to him over the weekend for him to add to the list. F Strutt queried a pothole on Crow Pond Road. Cllr Playle confirmed he would add this.

Cllr Playle confirmed that with regard to speed surveys the members of the Local Highways Panel only get two speed surveys each year due to limited budget. It has been recommended by Highways that if any Parish Council should want a survey they could look to fund this themselves. The Councillors felt this was not required at the present time.

Cllr Playle confirmed the Essex County Council cabinet met to agree the draft waste strategy and noted all county councils are required to eliminate the use of landfill by 2030. Essex County Council currently uses 100% landfill to dispose of waste. The draft waste strategy published today will be subject to a 10 week consultation asking residents their opinions on waste disposal. Once the results of the consultation are available Cllr Playle will confirm.

With regard to National Grid Norwich to Tilbury the second consultation ended a few weeks ago. Essex County Council entered a submission along with Suffolk and Norfolk to the CEO of National Grid re-iterating their dissatisfaction of the consultation process. Essex County Council has funding to take an independent review if required. This will be published next year and once completed he will share.

Cllr Playle asked if there were any questions regarding concrete in schools and there were none.

SA asked about DigiGo. Cllr Playle confirmed there is a bus consultation looking at a number of services at risk of being withdrawn due to running costs. No services in the Parish are on the immediate at risk list and the Fuller Street service is to be reviewed in 2 years time. DigiGo will be a bus service that you book and collects from home direct to destination. The current trial area is north of Chelmsford, Great Waltham, Braintree and Great Notley. The service has an advantage in that it is more than one day a week but there are questions over accessibility due to the technology involved.

Cllr Dervish confirmed that a full Braintree District Council meeting was held last Monday. The main points arising were supporting communities through the cost of living, delivering affordable housing and delivering a fair and balanced budget. The housing had good statistics but currently builders are not building, and the Council are working to find a solution. The Council will relaunch Live Well and Cllr Dervish will be part of this.

Cllr Dervish noted that green bin charges are now in place at a cost of £55 per year.

30.13 ***Chairman's Report***

Nothing to report.

30.14 ***Finance***

Copies of Receipts, Payments, Bank Reconciliation, Budgets and Forecast for the financial year ending 31st March 2024 were distributed prior to the meeting to all councillors. MW proposed that the following BACs payments/direct debits be approved for payment, seconded by CD, unanimously approved.

5 th July	BACS	F Killby	Salary	£1171.80
5 th July	BACS	F Killby	Expenses	£240.20
5 th July	BACS	Inland Revenue	PAYE/Tax	£448.28
5 th July	BACS	Essex Pension Fund	Clerk's Pension	£471.82
5 th July	BACS	Alan Jiggins	Handyman Services	£483.18
5 th July	BACS	Lord Rayleigh	Garage Rent/Grass Cutting	£126.00
5 th July	BACS	James Todd	Payroll Services	£34.32
5 th July	BACS	Heelis & Lodge	External Audit	£260.00
2nd Aug	BACS	F Killby	Salary	£781.86
2nd Aug	BACS	Inland Revenue	PAYE/Tax	£190.23

2nd Aug	BACS	Essex Pension Fund	Clerk's Pension	£287.84
2nd Aug	BACS	Lord Rayleigh's Farms	Garage Rental	£36.00
2nd Aug	BACS	A H Jiggins	Handyman Services	£167.26
2nd Aug	BACS	James Todd	Payroll Services	£34.32
2nd Aug	BACS	Anglian Water	Water Rec Ground	£24.45
2nd Aug	BACS	RCCE	Subscription	£72.60
3rd Sept	BACS	F Killby	Salary	£745.05
3rd Sept	BACS	Inland Revenue	PAYE/Tax	£174.57
3rd Sept	BACS	Essex Pension Fund	Clerk's Pension	£273.01
3rd Sept	BACS	Lord Rayleigh's Farms	Garage Rental	£36.00
3rd Sept	BACS	A H Jiggins	Handyman Services	£245.07
3rd Sept	BACS	James Todd	Payroll Services	£34.32
3 rd Sept	BACS	Terling Village Hall	Room Hire	£8.40

To approve training courses for new Parish Clerk at a cost of £141.25 to Parish Council after Essex Parish Clerk's bursary discount (total cost before discount - £565.25). Proposed by SA and seconded by MW, unanimously approved.

FK confirmed the Parish Council had received £1 from Terling Football Club for the changeover of the Terling Football Club cabin.

FK confirmed the Parish Council had received a donation from the collection for the late Mildred French totalling £115 with the request that this goes towards something for the playground. FK noted that the cheques were made out to the bank and so they need to be amended. CD suggested a playground pot was started and this was unanimously agreed. The Council is very grateful to the family and a letter of thanks will be sent.

30.15 ***Environmental & Footpaths***

Parish Map – This has been successful. The maps at Owls Hill Tea Room have been very popular and there was a call from a member of the public in White Notley requesting a map. FK confirmed that one contribution towards the Parish map is awaited. SM to pop in for another matter and will chase.

River Ter – SA confirmed currently no update. SA and RD completed some river training. It is hopeful that a monitoring group can be set up and equipment will be needed. SA noted it would be good to possibly get the school involved.

Hatfield Road Litter – CD and GB to organise. CD to supply GB with the appropriate bags and GB will put out litter pick safety signs from the garage. There will also be an upcoming Parish litter pick. F Strutt was disappointed with the amount of litter at Peg Millers Lane and suggested a log being placed could stop the parking.

CD to follow up the BDC installed camera at Birds Lane to assist with fly tipping.

F Strutt confirmed LRF has renewed permitted right of way signs.

30.16 ***Estate Liaison***

F Strutt confirmed LRF are currently battling for compensation for field damage following Pylon works.

CD noted a loose manhole cover outside the pool – F Strutt confirmed to email David Brien.

SM noted a hole coming into the Dismals. Parish Council to email David Brien regarding scalplings stored by LRF.

30.17 ***Health and Welfare***

Defibrillators – Nothing to report. The Church now has permission to install a defibrillator. Onward monitoring to be discussed. RD has paint for the phone box at Owls Hill.

Playground – SA sent FK a report and a list of things that need doing and suggested a work party. GB happy to take a look and CD agreed to review also. There was an issue with a bolt in the climbing frame but this is now fixed.

Emergency Plan – Ongoing. There is a BDC leaflet ‘What to do in an Emergency’. Clerk to confirm to CD how many leaflets are needed and CD will obtain them from BDC.

Village Hall Bins location/labels – CD had an update on locks from the Hatfield Peverel Clerk who confirmed they use long combination locks. The bins are to move next to the bottle bank. Clerk to order locks. New bins will be ordered and the signage for these will be checked.

Men in Sheds – The talk that was previously cancelled will be rearranged.

Libraries to be added to the next agenda. CB has the spare books. Clerk to confirm code for garage to GB and CD.

30.18 ***IT & Publicity*** – FK noted that there was a switch over from landlines imminent and would there be difficulties for residents. It was noted this was not yet compulsory and there had been no reports of difficulty to date.

30.19 ***Planning and Highways***

Road Repairs – Council Playle has updated re potholes as above.

Directional Signs – There is a new sign at Fairstead but the location has changed. A resident has asked CD to keep the old signs – CD has asked Councillor Playle if this is possible.

A12 Widening Further Consultation – No further updates.

20s Plenty Initiative – The response was largely supportive with one email opposing. JH seeking a speaker regarding the scheme.

30.20 ***Longfield Solar Farm***

No further updates.

30.21 ***East Anglia Green – National Grid***

The scheme will now be known as National Grid Norwich to Tilbury and the agenda will be updated going forward. FK noted an email from Heather Cutler regarding ancient trees and

woodland. It has been sent to David Gomer but will also be forwarded to F Strutt as this could be interesting for LRF.

30.22 ***Area Opposite the Village Hall used for Parking***

EALC has been approached for advice. MW noted that he has concerns regarding the surface condition and liability. TC to review.

30.23 ***Parish Handyman***

Alan is willing to carry on until the end of this financial year and the search for a replacement will continue. Currently no interest in the role. The Church has agreed to keep the area around the War Memorial tidy. Alan will carry on with footpaths.

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

Nothing to report.

30.25 ***Clerk's Report***

FK queried whether the parking at the school had been resolved. Clerk to arrange a morning visit from the Parking Warden.

Has the Anglian Water fence in dismals been fixed? SM and CD will review.

There are no reports of any issues on the footpaths.

It had been noted there was an overgrown hedge on New Road which was overhanging the path. TC confirmed this had been cut.

There is a fallen sign at Fairstead Church – F Strutt will look if it is LRF land.

Litter pick – It was agreed the Terling and Fairstead litter pick will be 15th October at 10.00am and SA will check with ST whether 7th October was suitable for Fuller Street and Ranks Green. Clerk to arrange litter pickers etc with BDC. It was noted BDC operations team were very good and responsive.

30.26 ***Information Exchange/next agenda items***

Noted as above.

30.27 ***Date of next meeting, including committees***

The next meeting will be 24th October 2023 at Terling Village Hall and then in Fuller Street at the Square & Compasses on 5th December.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm.