

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Parks and Playing Fields Committee
held on Wednesday 25th November 2015 at 11.00am
at the Parish Council Offices, 12 Higher Road, Fremington**

Present: Cllrs T Wood (Chairman), J Bell, F Biederman, K Groves and B Sherborne
Mrs Victoria Woodhouse, Parish Clerk, 2 Representatives from the Byeways Bowling Club
and Mr D Beechey, Treasurer Muddlebridge Allotment Association

1511/35 **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr F Biederman.

1511/36 **Declarations of interests**

None.

1511/37 **To agree the agenda as published**

Agreed.

1511/38 **Chairman's Announcements**

It was reported that a hole had appeared in the floor of the showers in the Beechfield Centre, the Parish Council's Handyperson had agreed to repair, which would make the floor safe, with the Caretaker for the Football Club and this would be completed before the next Football game. Members were concerned about the safety of the building overall and requested that it be monitored closely. If it becomes unsafe the Parish Council would have to look at closing the centre permanently. It was noted that the funding from Sports England would require the co-operation of the Football Club and it was agreed to arrange a meeting with the Football Club to proceed.

1511/39 **Public Participation Period**

The Treasurer of the Muddlebridge Allotment Association addressed the Committee and stated that the tenants of the allotment site were both shocked and disappointed with the increase in rents. He expressed concern that plots might become vacant and the Parish Council might struggle to fill the vacancies. Members were regretful and sympathised with tenants on the increase and explained that negotiations with the Agents had taken place and the issue debated at length and the situation would be monitored.

1511/40 **To approve and sign the minutes of meeting held on 29th October 2015 as a correct record**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 29th October 2015 as a correct record. Cllr Wood duly signed the minutes.

1511/41 **To consider utilising land at Byeways for community use**

Members received a report following a meeting with the Byeways Bowling Club, which is attached to these minutes as appendix one. Cllr Biederman was concerned with the costs involved and stated that the Tarka Tennis Centre is actually struggling to fill the courts available. Cllr Wood informed members that he would like to see tennis courts which would complement the Bowling Club and diversify sports for the parish. He felt that setting up a club rather than opening the courts to the general public would provide better security and maintenance for the site.

The representatives from the Bowling Club commended the Clerk on the report which they felt was very fair and explained that the club's biggest concern is the security of the club house; they also felt that the bungalows in front of the site might not be happy with the use as tennis courts and they would like to use the area as an all-weather bowling green.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the report until there is a recognised need for such a facility or until the Bowling Club approach the Council with a need to use the area. It was further **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to write to the Byeways Bowling Club confirming the approval for the additional building providing a viewing area and changing rooms.

The representatives from the Byeways Bowling Club left the meeting.

1511/42 **To receive update on transfer of land at Maple Grove, Roundswell**
Members received a report from the Head of Legal and Monitoring Officer at NDC, who is acting as the Council's Solicitor in this matter, setting out the issues affecting the land and reporting on the results of the searches and enquiries. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to proceed with the transfer.

1511/43 **To note receipt of letter of comfort from NDC relating to Babbages Allotments**
A letter of comfort had been received from NDC stating that the Council would renew the lease for the Babbages Allotment site. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the information.

1511/44 **Close**
There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.40am.

Signed.....

Dated