

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Meeting
Held on Monday 2nd November 2015 at 7.00pm at Fremington Parish Hall,
Higher Road, Fremington**

Present: Cllrs Mrs S Kingdom (Chairman), J Bell, F Biederman, D Brailey, R Cann, D Chalmers, Mrs J Dyson, Mrs J Flynn, K Groves (from Min No. 1511/06), Mrs C McCormack-Hole, A Rennles, Ms M Scott, B Sherborne, G Turner and T Wood
Mrs V Woodhouse, Parish Clerk and Mrs E Badcock, Services Officer
Mr G Townsend, Strategic Development and Planning Officer, North Devon Council

In Attendance: 8 Members of the public and press

1511/01 **Apologies**
None.

1511/02 **Declarations of Interest**
Cllr Rennles declared a Personal Interest in Item 1511/15 as a member of Barnstaple Town Council and a Prejudicial Interest in Item 1511/06.

Cllr Mrs Kingdom declared a DPI in item 1511/24 as an allotment holder.

Cllr Ms Scott declared a DPI in item 1511/24 as an allotment holder.

Cllr Biederman declared a Personal Interest in Item 1511/20 application 60044 as the applicant is known to him.

1511/03 **Chairman's Announcements**
The Chairman reminded members that the Remembrance Service would take place on Sunday 8th November 2015 at 10.30am at St Peter's Church. Cllrs Mrs Flynn, Brailey and Rennles submitted their apologies as they will be attending a service in Barnstaple, Cllr Mrs Dyson submitted her apologies as she will be away.

1511/04 **To agree the agenda between Part A and Part B (Confidential)**
It was **resolved** to agree the agenda between Part A and Part B (Confidential).

PART A

1511/05 **To receive a report from the Police**
A report was not received.

1511/06 **Public Participation Period**
A member of the public requested information on the meeting between NDC and the developers for the Yelland Power Station site. Concerns were also raised with reference to asbestos still being on site at the former Army Camp development.

Cllr Groves entered the meeting at 7.04pm.

Cllr Rennles declared an Interest and left the meeting.

Cllr Biederman responded that it is normal for the District Council to meet informally to discuss developments and he believed an application would be submitted imminently and he could not comment until the application is submitted. Cllr Biederman confirmed that he would report the concerns raised with reference to asbestos first thing in the morning and will reply directly to the member of the public via e-mail.

Cllr Rennles returned to the meeting.

A member of the public asked Cllr Brailey about an article which suggested a maritime employment campus. Cllr Brailey responded that this was a wish list and identified grants that had been requested.

Members of the public raised concerns relating to the former army camp development which included heavy goods vehicles turning into Higher Road and travelling along Beechfield Road and the mess left on the road. One member of the public stated that it was his understanding that the road was soon to be adopted. A member of the public stated that he would speak to one of the contractors with reference to turning into Higher Road.

A member of the public addressed the Council with reference to planning application 60151 the resident confirmed that they have worked with planning officers to reduce the size of the development and have taken on board concerns of their neighbours.

A member of the public addressed the Council with reference to planning application 60010 they explained that the proposal was for an indoor facility with refreshments and would be from jumping to team games the popularity of trampoline parks is growing with 30 opening in the last twelve months. The company has taken into account safety and are members of accredited associations. The development will create jobs and they will be encouraging sustainable transport methods to access the site although there are 28—30 parking spaces.

1511/07 **To approve and sign the minutes of Fremington Parish Council meeting held on Monday 5th October 2015 as a correct record**

Copies were circulated with the agenda.

Cllr Biederman stated that he had asked a question of Cllr Brailey at the last Full Council meeting and he would like it included in the minutes the question was Cllr Biederman asked Cllr Brailey if it was the intention of the District Council to obtain the lay-bys at Roundswell, for use as traveller sites in the emerging local plan? Cllr Brailey responded that they had not considered them. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and subject to the amendment, to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting on the 5th October 2015 as a correct record. Cllr Mrs Kingdom duly signed the minutes.

Cllr Turner reported that the land at the underpass had not all been cleared. Cllr Cann reported that the land within the ownership of NDC had been cleared and they could not assume responsibility for land they do not own.

1511/08 **To receive, and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the following Committee meetings**

- Tews Lane Committee held on Thursday 8th October 2015
It was **resolved** to receive and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the Tews Lane Committee held on Thursday 8th October 2015.
- Fremington Quay Management Committee held on Tuesday 20th October 2015
Cllr Mrs Flynn was disappointed that the ward members had not been invited to sit on the Working Party to deal with issues at the Warden's Accommodation. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to add Mrs Flynn to the Working Party and subject to that amendment to receive and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the Fremington Quay Management Committee held on Tuesday 20th October 2015.

1511/09 **Highway issues – update**

None.

- 1511/10 **Matters to Note** (all held in the office unless specified as enclosed)
- Devon Countryside Access Forum – Annual Report 2014-2015
 - Email from Devon Archives & Local Studies Service re Devon Remembers Heritage Project (Copy enclosed)
- It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the information.

- 1511/11 **County and District Councillors' Reports** - To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillors for information only.
- Cllr Mrs Flynn was pleased to report that she had attended the recent Petroc Award's ceremony; this is the first year that an Honours Degree has been delivered at Barnstaple and Cllr Mrs Flynn congratulated Cllr Ms Scott on completing her Honours Degree. Cllr Mrs Flynn further reported that litter drives have been successful and if there are any further areas to let her know.

Cllr Cann also felt the litter drives had been successful. He reported that the changes in the delivery of the refuse service had proven to be a difficult time but the savings are apparent, plastic collection has increased from around 41 tonnes to 60 tonnes a month. He further reported that DCC would like to install a transfer station next to Brynsworthy which might be positive and produce further savings.

PC Lucy Robinson entered the meeting.

Cllr Brailey reported that NDC had a very positive week during democracy week. Cllr Mrs Flynn and Brailey had met with several pupils from various schools and had given a brief outline of the type of work the council undertakes and a tour of the facilities. The following week the pupils went on a trip to London and a tour of Westminster arranged by the local MP. Cllr Brailey reported that along with Cllr Matthews he had obtained funding of over £460,000 for new classrooms at Sticklepath School. Another £85,000 was required for further works and a request was put to DCC's Executive. At the meeting concerns were raised by Cllr Biederman over extra traffic which nearly halted the project. Cllr Brailey was pleased to announce that Cllr Matthews had attended the meeting to support the application and the proposition was carried. Cllr Brailey reported that the parcel of land at Roundswell is in the final stages of being transferred to the Parish Council.

Cllr Biederman reported that he had attended DCC Executive meeting and had asked questions of the project that could not be answered, he merely suggested that any decision is deferred for one month to enable the questions to be answered. Cllr Biederman did not believe temporary classrooms are the way forward and a new school is required. Cllr Biederman reported that, as stated in Public Participation, NDC has received a briefing on the West Yelland Development and a Planning Application is imminent.

- 1511/12 **To discuss the Neighbourhood Plan with the Strategic Development & Planning Offices from NDC and consider the formation of a Steering Group**
- Mr Townsend reported that one representation had been received to the Parish Council's request for Neighbourhood Area Designation and he would be preparing a report to recommend that approval is given to the Neighbourhood Area Designation. He stated that the Plan is very much parish led and NDC would give any assistance it can, however, the plan cannot prevent development only highlight where it would be appropriate.

Members considered the formation of a Steering Group and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to form a Steering Group. It was further **resolved** to initially elect Cllrs Cann, Mrs Flynn, Groves, Chalmers, Biederman, Rennles and Mrs Kingdom to sit on the Steering Group. Cllr Brailey suggested that given his experience with the Local Plan Cllr Cann should Chair the Steering Group.

The Chairman, with the consent of the Council, allowed PC Lucy Robinson to present to the Council. PC Robinson reported that there is another reshuffle within the Police and Fremington does not currently have any PSCOs, she further reported that there had been 2 crimes within Fremington in the last month. Members made PC Robinson aware that the Parish does not just include Fremington and she agreed to send a crime report to the Clerk for the Parish.

The Council thanked PC Robinson and Mr Townsend for their contribution to the meeting and they both left and did not return.

1511/13 **To consider electing the Chairman of the Parks and Playing Fields Committee as representative to the Fremington Local Nature Reserve Management Group**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllr Wood to the Management Group.

1511/14 **To consider street naming for housing development at land to West of Mead Park, Bickington**

Members considered the street naming and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to delegate to the Steering Group. It was further **resolved** that Cllr Ms Scott would ask the Fremington and Bickington History Group if they had any knowledge of historic names.

1511/15 **To consider future of North Devon Record's Office & Local Studies Centre and request from Barnstaple Town Council**

Members considered the request for financial support to enable the Records Office to remain in Barnstaple. Members felt that it was very important to keep the Records Office in Barnstaple and that yet again DCC is advocating its responsibility; however, the Parish Council would need more information to consider a financial contribution and it was **resolved**, with one abstention, to support the proposals in principle and to request further financial information from Barnstaple Town Council.

Cllr Cann and Brailey left the meeting at 8.12pm and did not return.

1511/16 **To consider Local Plan Consultation**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to reiterate the Parish Council's previous comments.

1511/17 **To receive feedback from the Parish & Town Council Highway Conference**

Cllr Chalmers reported that he had attended the Parish & Town Council Highway Conference, what was highlighted was the lack of funding and the likelihood of further cuts. They detailed the Snow Warden Scheme, the P3 Scheme and the Road Warden Scheme, the Parish Council is in the Snow Warden and P3 Scheme but not the Road Warden Scheme and Cllr Chalmers suggested that the Parish Council should join the scheme and take advantage of the free training offered, members raised concerns over the scheme it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention, to place the item on the next Agenda.

1511/18 **To receive feedback from the DALC AGM**

Cllr Chalmers reported that discussions took place on the shift in power on planning development, Coastal Communities Project and Funding and digital workshops. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to place the possibility of a digital workshop on the next Agenda.

1511/19

North Devon Council – Planning Appeals

North Devon Council, the determining Authority, has asked for any further comments from this Parish Council to be forwarded to The Planning Inspectorate on the following planning appeal:

Appeal Ref: APP/X1118/W/15/313842

Appeal by: Mr P Tucker

Application Ref: 58960

Proposal: Installation and operation of a single 500Kw wind turbine & access track on agricultural land at Woolmers Farm with an overall maximum tip height of 74m

Site address: Land at Woolmers Farm, North Lane, Bickington, Barnstaple

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to highlight to the Inspector that the location stated for the siting of the turbine is incorrect.

North Devon Council has advised that the following Appeal has been ALLOWED by The Planning Inspectorate:

Appeal Ref: APP/X1118/W/15/3003545

Appeal by: Welbeck Strategic Land LLP

Location: Land adjacent to the B3233, West Yelland, Barnstaple

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the information.

1511/20

North Devon Council – Planning Applications

North Devon Council, the determining Authority, has asked for comments from this Parish Council on the following planning applications:

It was formally noted that participation of the Councillors who are also members of NDC in both the debate and subsequent vote (in respect of any of the above, were preliminary taking account of the information matters) was on the basis that the views expressed made available at the time to the Parish Council. The District Councillors were reserving their final views on the applications until they were in full possession of all the relevant arguments for and against

60002 Proposal: Erection of replacement livestock & general purpose agricultural building

Location: Little Knightacott Farm, Lydacott, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr J & Miss R Ward

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to the building being replaced like for like and it being in keeping with the landscape.

60010 Proposal: Change of use from light industrial to D2 Trampoline Park

Location: Thompson Aerospace and Defence, Fishleigh Road, Roundswell, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr M Schofield, Jet Sports Ltd

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to there being adequate parking available.

60044 Proposal: Application for consent for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order in respect of removal of 1 Beech tree

Location: 8 Park Avenue, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mrs N Rostock

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention from Cllr Biederman, to recommend REFUSAL, the tree did not appear to be diseased or damaged.

60110 Proposal: Extension to garage
Location: 63 Meadowbrook, Roundswell, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr P Popham

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to the extension being of an appropriate height and no adverse impact on the amenity of neighbours.

60151 Proposal: Erection of dependant relatives annexe
Location: 36 Juniper Court, Roundswell, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mrs N Busby

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL.

1511/21

North Devon Council – Planning Decisions

North Devon Council, the determining Authority, has APPROVED the following application with conditions as filed:

58831 Proposal: Siting of 9MW capacity mechanism embedded generation plant to support the National Grid
Location: Land at West Yelland, Yelland, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr D Sheppard, GF Energy Ltd

59752 Proposal: Erection of one dwelling
Location: Victoria Cottage, Bickington, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: John A Stromski & Associates

59777 Proposal: Extension & alterations to dwelling (including raising of roof to create a first floor)
Location: 4 Dracaena Avenue, Sticklepath, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr D Sturm

59784 Proposal: Prior approval for change of use from shop (use Class A1) to one flat (use Class C3) (Class M(A))
Location: 14 Higher Road, Fremington, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mrs B Dennis

59789 Proposal: Demolition of existing & erection of new semi-detached dwelling
Location: 2 Chilpark, Fremington, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr P Price

59870 Proposal: Extension to dwelling
Location: 30 Home Farm Road, Fremington, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr R Evans

59897 Proposal: Erection of two bedroom dwelling
Location: 51 Bickington Lodge, Bickington, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Raw Design

The following application has been WITHDRAWN and will no longer be considered:

59884 Proposal: Prior approval for change of use from agricultural building to three dwellings (Class Q(A))
Location: Barn at Collacott Farm, Newton Tracey, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: NPAS Devon Ltd

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the information.

1511/22

Councillors Questions

Cllr Ms Scott asked if the manner in which Councillors left is recorded in the minutes. The Clerk confirmed that members entering or leaving are recorded but not reasons.

Cllr Mrs Kingdom asked if members would support a change in Standing Orders to allow the Finance Committee to serve longer than one year which would prevent a delay in changing bank mandates which in turn impacts on savings. Members should support and it was agreed to place this on the Agenda for the Annual Meeting in May for consideration.

1511/23

It was **resolved** that under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involves the likely disclosure of confidential information.

All members of the press & public left. Cllrs Ms Scott & Mrs Kingdom declared a DPI and left the meeting. Cllr Biederman took the Chair and called for a short comfort break.

PART B

1511/24

To consider update on the renewal of lease for the Muddlebridge Allotments

Members were informed that negotiations had taken place and the rent increase could be phased over four years. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to accept the renewal of the lease on a four year term with a phased rent increase.

Members considered the appropriate rent for allotment tenants which would cover the cost of running the allotment site, members noted that a profit would not be made from the allotments but there is a significant liability and cost to running the site. It was further **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to set the rents at £3.90 per ten square meters from the 1st April 2016 rising to £4.50 per ten square meters from the 1st April 2018 to cover the costs of the allotments.

Cllr Biederman proposed a vote of thanks to the Clerk for the time spent on negotiating a lease renewal.

Cllr Ms Scott & Mrs Kingdom returned to the meeting, Cllr Mrs Kingdom resumed the Chair.

1511/25

Close

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed Dated