

**Minutes of Fremington Parish Council Meeting  
Held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at 7.00pm at Fremington Parish Hall,  
Higher Road, Fremington**

**Present:** Cllrs R Cann (Chairman), C Bell, F Biederman, B Clifton, D Harris, Mrs S Kingdom, Ms M Scott, B Sherborne, C Turner and T Wood  
Mrs V Woodhouse, Parish Clerk, and Mrs E Badcock, Services Officer

**In Attendance:** 5 Members of the public

1402/02      **Apologies**

As recorded on the attendance sheet, apologies were received from Cllrs J Bell, D Brailey, B Hockin, Mrs C McCormack-Hole and the Police.

1402/03      **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Ms Scott declared a personal interest in item 1402/17 as a member of the Community Group and item 1402/21 56797 and 56850 and item 1402/13.

Cllr Biederman declared a personal interest in item 1402/17 as Chairman of the Community Group and all DCC items as a County Cllr and item 1402/21 56797 and 56850 and item 1402/13.

Cllr Clifton declared a personal interest in item 1402/21 56797.

Cllr Turner declared a personal interest in item 1402/21 56797.

1402/04      **Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman announced the following: -

- The Parish Council had received three invitations to attend Rev Hockey's retirement; the Parish Clerk is unable to attend, if any member would like to attend in her place please inform the Clerk.
- The Mayor of Barnstaple is hosting a Masked Charity Ball; if any member would like to attend, tickets can be purchased from Barnstaple Town Council.
- Devon County Council is reviewing the community meals service and day centres. It was agreed these consultations would be placed on the next Agenda.
- The Chairman had suggested a £5 donation from members for the Vicar's retirement gift, members felt there were already several collections and it was agreed to send a card on behalf of the Parish Council.

1402/05      **To agree the agenda between Part A and Part B (Confidential)**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree the agenda between Part A and Part B (Confidential)

**PART A**

1402/06      **To Receive a Report from the Police**

Reports covering the period 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013 – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014 – 10<sup>th</sup> February 2014 were circulated. Members raised concerns over the types of some of the crimes and requested that the Clerk seek assurances from the Police. It was requested for the Clerk to speak to the Police about separating the crime to businesses and residential in Roundswell.

1402/07      **Public Participation Period**

A resident requested details on the outcome of the North Devon Council's Licensing Committee and the item relating to unlicensed taxi drivers. It was agreed that Cllr Biederman would forward a copy.

A resident was still concerned about parking in Beechfield Road and reported that a meeting had been held with residents and the Police, and another meeting was due to be held with residents, Devon County Council and the Police.

A resident asked Cllr Biederman to clarify which senior member of South West Highways is a major shareholder in Colas, Cllr Biederman said he would investigate the minutes from the meeting.

1402/08 **To approve and sign the minutes of Fremington Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014 as a correct record**

Copies were circulated with the agenda. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014 as a correct record. Cllr Cann duly signed the minutes.

1402/09 **To receive, and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the following Committee meetings**

Copies had been circulated with the agenda.

- Finance & Personnel Committee held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to receive and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the Finance & Personnel Committee held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014.
- Parks and Playing Fields Committee held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2014  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to receive and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the Parks and Playing Fields Committee held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

1402/10 **Highways issues – update**

Cllr Harris was concerned about Googly Lane and explained that the ditches are blocked.

1402/11 **Matters to Note (all held in the office unless specified as enclosed)**

- Devon Senior Voice Newsletter – Issue No 21
- Healthwatch Voices magazine – Issue 3 Winter 2013/14
- Letter from the ICO (enclosed)

It was **resolved** to note the above matters

1402/12 **County and District Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Turner reported that the Wind Turbine application had been refused due to a lack of information from the applicant. However he was unable to call in the Green Frog application due to a lack of material planning considerations and is likely it will be approved as there are not any grounds on which to refuse.

Cllr Turner explained that the trip to London to make representations to the Government on planning issues and developments was his idea and when the list was announced he was not selected to go through the gates so worked hard on press interviews; he believed the day had been very successful and had got the message across, however, he was disappointed to be written out of every press release and photograph.

Commonwealth Day would be taking place on the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2014. Cllr Turner had attended a meeting with the residents of Beechfield Road and the Police with regards to parking and he had pursued options such as Fremington Parish Council employing a Civil Enforcement Officer, double yellow lines and a one way system. Finally he reported that there could soon be an application submitted for open land development adjacent to Sampsons Plantation.

Cllr Biederman thanked and congratulated the Councillors who had made representations to the Government on planning issues, and stressed that we need to continue to represent the views of the communities within Devon and especially that of the parish. He explained that DCC budget cuts were putting pressure on services and proposed that the Parish Council writes to Central Government supporting DCC and NDC highlighting the effect these budget cuts are having on services within the community. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to write to Central Government. Cllrs Turner and Biederman are funding some trees for Allenstyle from their community budgets and with the remaining money Cllr Biederman would like to fund a bus shelter at the end of Chilpark and asked if the Parish Council would be willing to maintain the shelter.

Cllr Cann reported that the Environment Agency is responsible for flooding and have now provided attenuation tanks within the parish. The planning application adjoining Mead Park is likely to be refused and NDC faced a 40% cut within the Waste and Recycling Service which has been met through new more efficient vehicles and restructure of the service. NDC will not be increasing Council Tax this year and will be moving out of the Civic Centre as soon as possible with a front of house service in Lynton House and the remainder of staff relocating to Brynsworthy.

- 1402/13      **To consider request to relinquish the Parish Council's Agricultural Right of Way** (information attached)  
The Parish Council considered the information and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention, to retain the Agricultural Right of Way.
- 1402/14      **To receive members' reports from the following events: -**  
a) Devon County Council's review of its accommodation strategy for older people – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014  
Cllr Cann reported that the meeting was well attended; business cases were presented to those in attendance which made it financially unviable so members had no choice but to support the proposals to get rid of all the DCC spaces which would be absorbed by the private sector.  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the report.
- b) Care provided by Devon Partnership NHS Trust – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2014  
Cllr Mrs Kingdom reported that she attended the meeting which was not relevant and she left.  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the report.
- 1402/15      **To receive and consider Devon County Council's consultation on proposals for the future of youth services in Devon** (the information can be viewed at [www.devon.gov.uk/youthreview](http://www.devon.gov.uk/youthreview))  
Members considered the information and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to gain the views of youth clubs and organisation providers, contact North Devon Homes to ask if they could support any proposals and place this item on the next agenda for further consideration.
- 1402/16      **To receive and consider Devon County Council's consultation on the Heritage Service Review** (information attached, further information can be viewed at <http://new.devon.gov.uk/heritagereview/>)  
Members considered the information and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to strongly resist any cut down in hours and relocation of records from North Devon; partnership working with other organisations should be investigated.
- 1402/17      **To receive update on the Village Green Enhancement Project and consider permission to remove brambles and open up access to the nature reserve**  
Cllr Biederman reported that the Community Group would like to complete phase one of the project which is to open up the back of the site, by removing the brambles to the nature reserve. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree to phase one in principle and to delegate this to the Parish Clerk.

- 1402/18      **To consider adoption and refurbishment of the flag poles** (item requested by Cllr Turner)  
 Cllr Turner reported that the flag poles, which currently belong to the defunct Fremington Twinning Association, are in need of refurbishment and suggested that the Parish Council takes over ownership, with the agreement of the Twinning Association, and refurbishes the flag poles; it would be a minimal cost to the Parish Council as Cllrs Turner and Biederman would be willing to contribute using their community budgets.  
  
 Cllr Turner also asked if the Parish Council was going to mark the Commonwealth Day. The closing date for registering to take part in the Commonwealth Day was the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014. It was, therefore, **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, for the Parish Council to take over the ownership of the flagpoles, subject to permission from the Twinning Association, and informally, if feasible, mark the Commonwealth Day.
  
- 1402/19      **To consider request from the Parks and Playing Fields Committee for funds from the General Reserves**  
 The Chairman reported that the Parks and Playing Fields Committee had produced a drainage scheme for Griggs Field at a cost of £650; as there is no budget for this work the committee was requesting the money from General Reserves. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, for the cost of the drainage works totalling £650 to be met from General Reserves.
  
- 1402/20      **To receive and consider DCC’s decision to suspend programmed gully cleaning, Lengthsmen visits, routine patching and planned cleaning of ditches and easements for the rest of the financial year** (information attached)  
 It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to strongly oppose the proposals to suspend the above works.
  
- 1402/21      **North Devon Council – Planning Applications**  
 North Devon Council, the determining Authority, has asked for comments from this Parish Council on the following planning applications:  
  
 Members received a letter of representation for the following planning application which provided information on the surface water and how this would be collected and discharged.  
  
 56351 Proposal: Hybrid application for part demolition of Tremar, erection of 15 residential units, associated community benefits together with associated highway works & outline application for residential development of up to 70 units (amended plans)  
 Location: Land off North Lane, Bickington, Barnstaple  
 Applicant/Agent: Landlink Ltd  
  
 It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend REFUSAL, the proposed 70 units would have an adverse impact on the already congested highway and would be out of character with the village of Bickington. The Parish Council still has concerns about the surface water.  
  
 Cllr C Bell left the meeting. The meeting became inquorate, therefore, no further business could be transacted and the Chairman closed the meeting.
  
- 1402/22      **Close**  
 There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed ..... Dated .....