

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Parks and Playing Fields Committee
held on Thursday 30th January 2014 at 10.00am
at the Parish Council Offices, 12 Higher Road, Fremington**

- Present:** Cllrs D Harris (Chairman), J Bell, R Cann, B Sherborne and T Wood
Mrs Victoria Woodhouse, Parish Clerk and two members of the public
- 1401/35 **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were received from Cllrs F Biederman and Ms M Scott.
- 1401/36 **Declarations of interests**
There were none received.
- 1401/37 **To agree the agenda as published**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree the agenda as published.
- 1401/38 **Chairman's Announcements**
It was announced that a site visit had taken place with the North Devon Council at Mead Park, and the Parish Council had agreed to clean up the mud and grass seed the entrance to the Babbages Play Area. Quotations are being sought for the skatepark at Griggs Field, and the works highlighted in the Tree Survey for the Village Green require planning permission which the Clerk will obtain. It was further reported that Devon County Council are not in a position to confirm the agreement for cutting of the highway verges but the Parish Clerk has requested quotations on the understanding that it is subject to renewal of the agreement with DCC.
- 1401/39 **To approve and sign the minutes of meeting held on 27th November 2013 as a correct record**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 27th November 2013 as a correct record. Cllr Harris duly signed the minutes.
- 1401/40 **To consider request to add an additional name on Licence at Muddlebridge Allotments**
A request had been received to add an additional name on an existing Licence at the Muddlebridge Allotments. Members were informed that a non-cultivation notice had been issued to the tenant in question. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to refuse the request and to introduce a policy, compliance of which would be delegated to the Parish Clerk, with the wording "normally the Parish Council will not allow additional names to be added to a Licence once the Licence has been issued, any exceptional circumstances, as decided by the Parish Clerk, will be submitted to a Parks and Playing Fields Committee for consideration". It was further **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to issue a Notice to Quit for non-cultivation to the current tenant of Plot 2.
- 1401/41 **To receive and consider correspondence from Byeways Bowling Club**
Correspondence had been received from the Byeways Bowling Club requesting permission to bury the electricity power line cables. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree to the proposal of burying the electricity power line cables. The Parish Council is not in a position to fund the works but will endeavour to support the club to obtain funding.
- 1401/42 **To receive an update on the drainage at Griggs Field**
It was reported that the Environment Agency is unable to meet the Parish Council on site due to a lack of funding and resources; the EA is aware of the area and the drainage issues and would be happy with a drainage scheme as long as it is slow draining. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to accept the drainage scheme and quotation as provided by D J Tucker at a cost of £650 subject to Full Council agreeing the funds from the General Reserves.

- 1401/43 **To consider proposal from Tews Lane Committee for the relocation of the outdoor fitness equipment located at Cedar Grove**
 It was reported that the Tews Lane Committee had considered the relocation of the outdoor fitness equipment to Tews Lane due to the lack of use at Cedar Grove and the incorporation of the equipment into the existing facilities at Tews Lane. The Committee had agreed to locating the outdoor fitness equipment and to fund the relocation from the Tews Lane compensation money. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to accept the proposal from the Tews Lane Committee to relocate the outdoor fitness equipment to Tews Lane using the compensation money.
- 1401/44 **To receive update on the proposals for the Beechfield Football Pitch**
 It was reported that all of the required funding had been secured from the Town and Parish Grant Fund and Section 106 money for the area for the proposals which had previously been circulated to members. It was further reported that the Football Club had agreed to an annual hire charge to cover the costs of future maintenance. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to accept the proposals and to implement a hire charge of £500 plus utilities per annum for the Fremington Football Club.
- 1401/45 **To receive recommendation for Fremington Parish Grass Cutting Contract for 2014-2017**
 Three quotations had been received for the above and the recommendation from the three delegated Cllrs was to accept the lowest quotation which meets all the criteria and has the relevant qualifications, and this was from Dave Budd Gardening at a cost of £8,951.25 per annum. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary to accept the recommendation and award the contract to Dave Budd Gardening Services.
- 1401/46 **To receive and consider information relating to the roundabout at the Beechfield Play Area**
 It was reported that the Director of Operations from Park Leisure had informed the Parish Council that the bearings on the roundabout were close to wearing out and require replacement bearings; he explained that the bearings should be greased every six months and to his knowledge he is not aware that the bearings have ever been replaced. A quotation of £2,050 for replacement bearings and a new inspection hatch, for ease of greasing, to include delivery and installation was received. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to ask the Community Group if they would be able to fund or contribute towards the replacement.
- 1401/47 **To consider co-option of representative for residents at Fremington Quay** (referred from Full Council on 2nd December 2013)
 Members considered the co-option of a resident from Fremington Quay to the Committee; after much debate it was **resolved**, with two abstentions, not to co-opt a resident onto the Committee but to place a standing item on the Agenda for issues raised by residents at Fremington Quay.
- 1401/48 **To consider co-option of two members of the public** (item requested by Cllr Wood)
 Cllr Wood explained that one of the two members would have been a resident from Fremington Quay and had already been dealt with above; the second would be a member of the public to represent the views of the community. It was **resolved**, with one abstention, not to co-opt members of the public but to place a standard item on the Agenda to allow members of the public to speak on any matters relating to parks and playing fields.
- 1401/49 **To consider the maintenance of trees and overgrown areas at Fremington Quay**
 The Chairman reported that the trees along the BOAT Road required attention. The Parish Clerk reported that the trees had been reported to Devon County Council several times and a DCC Warden had been to look at the trees. Although the trees belong to the landowner DCC had arranged for four of the trees to be removed immediately and would arrange for the rest of the trees to be inspected.

The Chairman further reported that the trees along the hedge at the café car park required some attention. The Parish Clerk explained that the hedge was the responsibility of the tenants as included in the lease and she had already spoken to the tenants about the hedge.

The Chairman had some concerns about other areas at Fremington Quay and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to organise a site meeting at Fremington Quay before the next meeting.

1401/50

To approve change of meeting date for February

The Parish Clerk explained that the meeting is currently scheduled for Thursday 27th February but she would be on annual leave and suggested re-scheduling for the 20th February. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to re-schedule the meeting for the 20th February 2014.

Signed.....

Dated