

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council's Tews Lane Committee  
held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 10am  
at the Parish Council Offices, 12 Higher Road, Fremington**

- Present:** Cllrs R Cann (Chairman), D Chalmers, Mrs J Dyson, B Sherborne and G Turner  
Mrs Victoria Woodhouse, Parish Clerk  
Mrs M Birchmore, Barnstaple Football Club, Richard Sharples, Barnstaple Youth Football Club
- 1611/24      **Apologies for Absence**  
Cllrs Mrs S Kingdom and Mrs J Flynn.
- 1611/25      **Declarations of interests**  
Cllr Turner declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in Item as the Chairman of the Roundswell Residents' Association.
- 1611/26      **To agree the agenda as published**  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree the agenda as published.
- 1611/27      **Chairman's Announcements**  
The Chairman explained that the issue with the surface water was still being pursued and expressed his concerns. The Chairman informed members that there has been an issue with contractors from the development parking at the sports facility and the developers had agreed that an area for the contractors to park would be provided on site.
- 1611/28      **To approve and sign the minutes of meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2016 as a correct record**  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2016 as a correct record. Cllr Cann duly signed the minutes.  
  
Cllr Turner declared an interest in the following item and left the meeting.
- 1611/29      **To consider contracts for the maintenance of the site from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**  
It was noted that six requests for quotations had been sent and only three quotations received from the following:  
  
Roundswell Residents' Association – Litter picking only.  
The application did not demonstrate how the volunteer group would dispose of the rubbish, using domestic bins for trade waste would not be appropriate and the Parish Council could not be seen to condone this operation. Concerns were also raised about the continuity of services with a volunteer group and it was noted that the Association does not hold Public Liability Insurance and is not trained in Health and Safety or safe working practices. For these reasons it was agreed not to award the litter picking to the Roundswell Residents' Association.  
  
WT & RJ Jones – Fertiliser, Aeration and Scarifying of sports pitches and pitch re-instatement report only.  
This option was not cost effective and therefore it was agreed not to award any aspect of the contract to WT & RJ Jones.  
  
Plandscape – Full Maintenance.  
Members discussed the option of removing the litter picking from the contract which had been quoted at an annual cost of £1,144. Members discussed the possibility of Parish Council's Handyperson litter picking the site twice a week which would take approximately one hour and produce a financial saving to the Parish Council.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to remove the litter picking from the contract, which would be carried out by the Handyperson, and to award the Maintenance Contract for 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 to Plandscape. The quoted annual cost of £7,229.73 is to be adjusted following this amendment.

Cllr Turner returned to the meeting.

1611/30

**To review hire charges for the site**

Members considered the hire charges for the site. It was noted that the Barnstaple Youth Football Club is having to regularly play at other sites due to surface water. A suggestion of hiring out a pitch to other teams for a match when in a suitable condition but not on a regular basis was considered. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to trial the proposal with Mrs Birchmore making the bookings and informing the Parish Council when the pitches have been booked to other teams so as to ensure the pitches are not overplayed.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to freeze the hire charges for the Football Clubs in light of the surface water.

It was noted that the annual hire charge for the motorcycle training groups worked out at less than £14 a week, they are a commercial operation and the Parish Council should be looking for an increase in return. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to increase the hire charge to £25 a week (£1,300 annual charge per motorcycle business).

1611/31

**To consider draft budgets for 2017-2018**

Members considered the draft budgets it was agreed to keep the pitch maintenance budget at £6,700 with a total expenditure of £11,750 and increase the hire charges income budget to £5,500. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to accept the budgets subject to these amendments.

1611/32

**To receive update on drainage investigations on the site**

Cllr Turner explained the history of the surface water on site and felt that progress was not being made. He suggested that the item should be referred to Full Council with a view to handing the site back to the North Devon Council.

Cllr Cann explained that there is specific Section 106 money identified for drainage on the site and he is pursuing the issue with senior officers. He did not feel that all routes had been exhausted and it was premature to be threatening to hand the site back to NDC.

It was **resolved**, with one vote against from Cllr Turner, to defer consideration of this item to allow further options to be explored and discuss at the next Committee meeting.

1611/33

**Close**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.53am.

Signed.....

Dated 23/2/2017