

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Meeting  
Held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 7.08pm at Fremington Parish Hall,  
Higher Road, Fremington**

**Present:** Cllrs Mrs S Kingdom (Chairman), S Adams, F Biederman, R Cann, Mrs J Cann, D Chalmers, I Crawford, K Groves, Mrs C McCormack-Hole, Ms M Scott, B Sherborne and P Thorn  
Mrs V Woodhouse, Parish Clerk  
Mrs E Badcock, Services Officer  
Mrs L Steer, Deputy Services Officer  
Cllr Mrs J Mackie, North Devon Council

**In Attendance:**

1 Member of the public

1903/01

**Apologies**

Cllrs D Brailey, Miss L Goodger and A Rennles.

1903/02

**Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Ms Scott declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in Item 1903/22 as her parents live at Fremington Quay.

1903/03

**Chairman's Announcements**

None.

1903/04

**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).

1903/05

**To receive a report from the Police/Councillor Advocate**

A report was received and is attached as Appendix one. Cllr Chalmers reported back on the meeting of the Councillor Advocates which was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019. Cllr Chalmers confirmed that he had raised the issue of a lack of Police presence at Parish Council meetings and the PCC had agreed to investigate. It was noted that the Police had been requested to attend tonight's Parish Council meeting, however, there was not an officer available.

It was noted that the Parish Council was aware of a hate crime that had been logged but did not show on the crime report and concerns were raised about what other crimes might be missing from the list and the fact that Woodville is still not included on the report.

Cllr Chalmers reported that the Cyber Crime presentation would be given at the July 2019 Council meeting and he also raised concerns over whether or not these crimes are being reported to the Parish Council. Cllr Chalmers added that Town and Parish Councils are concerned by the amount of County Councillors that are attending the Councillor Advocate meetings with the PCC and how this is changing the purpose and liaison that was supposed to be for Town and Parish Councils.

1903/06

**Public Participation Period**

None.

1903/07

**To approve and sign the minutes of Fremington Parish Council Extraordinary meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

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 the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019 as a correct record. Cllr Mrs Kingdom duly signed the minutes.

- 1903/08      **To receive, and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the following Committee meetings**
- Burial Authority Meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019  
It was **resolved** to receive and ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the Burial Authority Meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019.
- 1903/09      **Highway issues – update**  
Cllr Biederman reported that he is still waiting for a meeting with highways and school. The Highway Officer had confirmed that the Cedars roundabout is not classed as “severe” as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework and the results of the traffic lights trial will be submitted to the HATOC meeting at the end of the month.
- 1903/10      **Matters to Note** (all held in the office unless specified as enclosed)
- DCC – Temporary Prohibition of Through Traffic & Parking – A361 Barnstaple Bypass, Barnstaple – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March to Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019 between the hours of 19.00 and 07.00
  - Devon Communities Together – Hosting of Dutch students in Devon in June 2019
  - DCC response to email re Promoting Public Transport (Copy enclosed for Cllrs)
  - Email from Mr A Jones, Landscape & Countryside Officer NDC, re Tree Preservation Order consultation (Copy enclosed for Cllrs)
- It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the information.
- 1903/11      **County and District Councillors’ Reports** - To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillors for information only.  
Cllr Mrs Mackie reported on the improvements that had taken place to land at Littlemore Close and expressed the need for more volunteers in Yelland, it was suggested that contact be made with the Lagoon View Orchard group. Cllr Mrs Mackie spoke with reference to planning application 66207 and the need for a good quality café in Yelland but did feel that the Parish Council should be mindful of signage on the Tarka Trail and the impact this could have on the Bake and Brew business.
- Cllr Cann noted that the location for planning application 66207 was initially advertised incorrectly.
- Cllr Biederman reported on the Council Tax increase for NDC (2.99%) and DCC (3.99%) and explained that this was to continue providing services following further government cuts.
- 1903/12      **To consider a request to place a bench in Fremington Cemetery**  
The information was circulated prior to the meeting and members considered the request. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the request.
- 1903/13      **To receive update on Street Naming and Numbering for new commercial units, Roundswell Business Park, Roundswell**  
Members noted that the Parish Council’s suggested name of “Centenary Park” had not been supported by the developer and whilst he agreed with the sentiment, it was felt that it was inappropriate due to multiple pronunciations and the spelling, his preference was still for “Sealey Business Park”. The Parish Council did not feel it appropriate for the development to be named after the developer which is contrary to policy and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to object to “Sealey Business Park”, it is contrary to policy and there is no local connection to the area the name should reflect the historic names of the area.

1903/14 **To receive report from Cllr Chalmers following the recent DALC meeting**  
Cllr Biederman left the meeting.

Cllr Chalmers reported that the presentation and discussions with the Highway Officer had taken place at the DALC Larger Council meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> February.

Many Councils felt the same at that the Highways Authority had not been objecting to planning applications and traffic congestion was an issue. The Highway Officer had confirmed that this is the case and there was a discussion around the interpretation of the word “severe”.

Cllr Biederman returned to the meeting.

The Officer had confirmed that with the Government’s house building target the highway authority is there to help facilitate development and not obstruct. It was highlighted to the officer that the Parish Council had heard that Devon County Council as an authority raise less objections than other highway authorities.

Members discussed the response and the traffic congestion within the Parish especially in relation to journeys to school and the impact of pollution. It was noted that there is likely to be more weight in challenging planning applications on the pollution aspect rather than highway grounds and it was felt that more emphasis should be placed on the environmental impact assessments submitted with planning applications.

Members asked if the Parish Council could be supplied with a copy of the latest results from the pollution investigations along Bickington Road.

1903/15 **To receive response from Devon County Council on the location of the proposed school at Tews Lane, Bickington**

Correspondence was received from Devon County Council in response to the Parish Council’s objections to the proposed school site in Tews Lane. It was noted that the response related to planning application 53881 to which the Parish Council had submitted objections. After discussion about the sites allocation within the adopted local plan, the impact the proposals will have on the amenity of the area and the concerns that were raised at the recent consultation event it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to maintain the Parish Council’s objections to the proposed site, the adverse impact this would have on the amenity of the area and the highway network were felt to be unacceptable and the Parish Council would still ask DCC to reconsider the site next to Sainsburys.

1903/16 **North Devon Council – Planning Appeal**

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:

Site address: Roundswell Retail Park, John Penrose Road, Roundswell, Barnstaple  
Description of development: Alterations to front elevation of retail terrace  
Application Reference: 65593  
Appellant’s name: Canada Life Investments  
Appeal reference: APP/X1118/W/19/3221631  
Appeal start date: 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019

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

1903/17

**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*

66207 Proposal: Change of use & conversion of unit to a Café (A3)  
Location: Sandbanks Business Park, Yelland Quay, West Yelland, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mr Ellis, ARE Investments

It was **resolved**, with 2 votes to the contrary and 3 abstentions, to recommend REFUSAL, this would constitute the loss of an economic unit and is premature in light of a decision on the Yelland Power Station Development application, there would also be a conflict between the economic units and pedestrians, it is unclear whether there would be sufficient parking.

66216 Proposal: Extension to existing tennis pavilion to form enhanced facility  
Location: Longmead, Bickington Road, Bickington, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mr R Huxtable

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention, to recommend APPROVAL subject to the design being in keeping with the area and no adverse impact on neighbouring properties.

66248 Proposal: Formation of an off-road parking area  
Location: 16 Barracks Road, Fremington, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mr M Lester

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL in principle and subject to the Planning Officer being satisfied that there are not any safety or highway issues.

1903/18

**North Devon Council – Planning Decisions**

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

65431 Proposal: Application for consent for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order in respect of felling of 1 No.Oak (T1) & 1 No.Ash (T4) together with selective crown lifting of 1 No. Oak (T6) & lateral pruning of mixed species Hazel & Hawthorn (H1)  
Location: Plots 1 – 4 Glenwood Park – Phase 1, Roundswell, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Aspect Tree Consultancy Ltd

65441 Proposal: Application for consent for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order in respect of crown reduction (1.5m) of 1 x Oak (T1), crown (1.5m) and height (1m) reduction of 1 x Ash tree (T2)  
Location: 79 Lagoon View, West Yelland, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Arbmark Tree Care

65541 Proposal: Conversion of bungalow to two storey dwelling with external alterations & addition of new balcony (amended plans)  
Location: 25 Allenstyle Road, Yelland, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mr G Graham

- 65586 Proposal: Application for consent for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order in respect of crown lifting of 1 Beech tree (T1) and selective branch reduction of 2 trees (T2 & T3)  
Location: The Vicarage, Mill Hill, Fremington, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Arbmark Tree Care
- 65927 Proposal: Application for consent for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order in respect of removal, coppicing & crown lifting of various trees  
Location: Griggs Field, Fremington, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Fremington Parish Council
- 66024 Proposal: Extension to dwelling  
Location: 4 The Bungalow, Roundswell, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mr Ian Braunton
- 66077 Proposal: Application for consent for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order in respect of removal of one Evergreen Oak  
Location: Muddlebridge House, Fremington, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mr Graham Macdonald
- 66188 Proposal: Application for a non-material amendment to planning permission 63553 (residential development for 59 dwellings, open space, landscaping, infrastructure & all associated development) in respect of changes to house types, materials & boundary plan  
Location: Land at Glenwood, Roundswell, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Redrow Homes
- 66226 Proposal: Application for consent for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order in respect of removal of 1 multi-stemmed Alder  
Location: 14 Colombelles Close, Fremington, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mr S Crockett

To note that the following applications have been WITHDRAWN:

- 65814 Proposal: Creation of small scale electricity generation plant  
Location: Former Yelland Power Station, Yelland, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Lark Gas Assets Ltd
- 66087 Proposal: Agricultural building works prior notification for the erection of greenhouse to grow vegetables  
Location: Lower Yelland Farm Field, Yelland, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mr A Moore

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

Cllr Biederman and Mrs Mackie left the meeting and did not return.

1903/19

#### **Councillors Questions**

Cllr Mrs Cann asked for clarification on DCC's bus shelters following correspondence received, it was confirmed that the two shelters in Bickington in question are the responsibility of DCC. Cllr Mrs Cann also asked if parents had been informed that the Beechfield Centre Car Park was closed, it was noted that this is not a public car park and the school had been informed as a matter of courtesy and the school had confirmed that they would let parents know.

Cllr Groves felt disheartened that the Parish Council kept getting overruled and felt that other authorities were working against the Parish Council instead of in partnership, it was agreed that the Parish Council has to try its best to represent the views of the parishioners.

Cllr Crawford asked how he requests an item for inclusion on the Agenda, it was noted that it is the Clerk's Agenda and all requests need to be put in writing to the Clerk.

Cllr Ms Scott informed members that the hedge on the land next to the Cemetery had been cut down and explained that she had received a letter from the education authority apologising for not delivering special education correctly and the lack of structures in place.

Cllr Thorn asked who was installing the bus shelters as part of the Tarka Ridge development, it was noted that this was the responsibility of the developers.

Cllr Cann reported that the AONB had submitted a robust objection to the Yelland Power Station development.

Cllr Groves was pleased to see that the Beechfield Centre project had commenced.

1903/20 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 items as they involve the likely disclosure of confidential information.

**PART B**

1903/21 **To receive update on the Sub-Lease for land at Eilerslie Road Play Area and consider advice from the Parish Council's solicitor**

It was noted that a structural report had been received on the condition of the Scout Hut and although the Parish Council was sub-leasing the land it had a duty of care to ensure the hut is safe and fit for purpose. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to delegate the matter to the Clerk to proceed on the advice of and in conjunction with the Parish Council's solicitor and the District Council and to ensure that all immediate actions and/or repairs highlighted are undertaken to ensure the safety of the building whilst the Scouts are supported in replacing the hut.

Cllr Ms Scott declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest and left the meeting for the following item.

1903/22 **To receive inspection reports from the Parish Council's Clerk of Works for the extension to the kitchen at Fremington Quay**

The reports were circulated prior to the meeting. It was noted that there was one outstanding issue of standing water on the existing roof of the building and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the reports and ask the Parish Council's Clerk of Works to investigate the issue with the standing water.

Cllr Ms Scott returned to the meeting.

1903/23 **To receive, consider, amend and/or adopt as necessary the draft Fremington Parish Council Strategic Review**

Members felt that as it was a large comprehensive document they required more time to consider the details and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to defer consideration until the April Full Council meeting.

1903/24 **Close**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.33pm.

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