

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Meeting held on  
Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 6.30pm in  
The Beechfield Centre, Beechfield Road, Fremington.**

**Present:** Cllr S Kingdom (Chairman)  
Cllrs J Bell, F Biederman, I Capon, J Cann, C Connell, I Crawford, K Groves,  
C McCormack-Hole, M Scott and W Sherborne.  
Mrs Kate Graddock, Parish Clerk, Supt. T Davies and Sgt. S Jepp from  
Devon and Cornwall Police, M Hookway from Stop Hate Crime UK, M  
Harrison from Police and Crime Commissioners Office, Mr Greenfield,  
Greenfield Architects and 23 members of the public.

1911/63 Apologies for absence, as recorded on the attendance sheet, were received  
from Cllr Adams, Hockin and Rennles.

1911/64 **Declarations of interest**  
None received.

1911/65 **Chairman's Announcements**  
The Chairman gave an update from Mr Bowman, Planning Officer at Devon  
County Council on the Former Power Station at Yelland. She reported that  
the area is managed for ground breeding birds, but these are frequently  
disturbed by human intrusion. The issue is the continued trespass by  
members of the public who appear to think that they have a right to use the  
site for off road cycling and dog walking. The site owner has previously  
erected fences in line with the planning permission, but these were destroyed.  
The latest attempt to prevent public access has been the erection of signs but  
theses have also been vandalised. He is unable to identify what further action  
the landowner can take other than to have fulltime security on site.

1911/66 **Public participation**  
A member of the public reported on the presentation by the developer of  
Allenstyle and raised concerns over the substitute of 23 private houses for a  
nursing home and the additional traffic that this will generate. They also  
raised concerns over the current condition of the site.

\*\*\* Cllr Groves entered the meeting at 6.32pm. \*\*\*

\*\*\* Cllr Biederman and Crawford entered the meeting at 6.33pm.\*\*\*

A member of the public reiterated the points raised above and that the  
developer had not delivered the items promised under phase 1.

A member of the public reported on the condition of Yelland and reiterated  
that it was part of the Parish. They mentioned the condition of bus stops at  
Yelland Cross, graffiti on the broadband box due to low level anti-social  
behaviour and the mud on pavements at Ballards Estate by Tarka Ridge,  
which can be dangerous and very muddy, and residents could slip. They  
further reported that outside Tarka Ridge, the condition of the road by Lagoon  
View needs realigned as it could be dangerous in the dark. They thanked  
members of the Yelland Action Group for keeping them up to date with any  
parish matters but urged the Council to consider these issues within its ward.

The Agent for the Planning Application spoke in support of application 64203. They mentioned that they were looking to provide a new landscape buffer to the west boundary and a change to the affordable housing.

1911/67

### **County and District Reports**

\*\*\* Cllr Cole entered the meeting at 6.40pm. \*\*\*

#### **Cllr Biederman - Devon County Council**

Cllr Mackie - apologised on behalf of Cllr Mackie due to a new family arrival.

DCC Permit Scheme – As of April 2020, traders will need to pay a fee for working on the highway and will need to put forward a management plan and show they are working collaborately. If seen to do this, there may be a reduction in fee payable. The introduction of a Roadworks Permit scheme offers an opportunity to reduce journey delay and associated congestion / fuel emissions through better control and planning of works on the highway

Fostering in Devon - Foster parents are needed in the area – Cllr Biederman urged people to go to DCC website if they were thinking of doing this.

School funding – There will be an extra £228.00 per pupil (Primary) and £184 per pupil (Secondary). This is good news but still leaves £226.00 per pupil less than previously but is a step in the right direction.

#### **Cllr Cann – North Devon Council**

Roundabouts – She reported that she had spoken to three Devon County Councillors re: funding on roundabouts in Roundswell.

Griggs Field Clean up – She reported that there was due to be a clear up of the Nature Reserve on the side of Griggs Field at the weekend.

Housing – 9 properties have been completed to help with the current emergency housing situation.

#### **Cllr Walker – North Devon Council**

Oakland Park South development – She reported that she had asked for a meeting with the Planning Officer regarding Oakland Park South as there is a number of concerns locally.

Remembrance Day – She thanked the Parish for making her feel welcome at the Remembrance Day Parade.

Disability Awareness – She has been invited to Strategy Committee to speak about disability awareness. She informed members that there are grants available to help with items in the home with some funding that is not means tested. She encouraged members to advertise this within their wards.

Climate Change – She attended the Climate Change Day at The Cedars, which was well attended and very informative.

1911/68

**Police**

Members were circulated the crime figures provided by PC Robinson. Members raised a concern regarding the sexual offences within the statistics.

Members welcome Supt. Toby Davies to the meeting. He thanked members for the invitation and gave a report on the current situation with Devon and Cornwall Police.

He reported that Ins. Emma Carpenter has been appointed as Inspector for Barnstaple. North Devon has a high level of confidence and is one of the safest places to live in the Country. He reported that there are less officers than what they had a few years ago and with this reduction, the Police has had to look at the way in which they deliver business and how they do things and where the greatest level of resources is needed. Challenge is that national crime levels are increasing and is much more about safeguarding, protecting victims. The polices' work is not always crime related and the biggest change in the last 5 years is that crime has moved to hidden harm, rather than traditional crime, which has meant that the Police force has had to adapt their teams, so they are better aligned to specialist themes.

An initiative has been installed called 'Break the Cycle', which focuses on getting upstream and look at the reasons why individuals keep offending and the good news is that locally that crime is falling.

Strong partnerships with local councils and communities are imperative and it's important to ensure there is a key link to the community and councillors. Supt. Davies felt a Newsletter style report would be beneficial for the Council, as the figures given could be pulled of the website. Items for inclusion could be how you or your community can get access to your police team, where the next opportunities are to meet an officer etc.

Supt. Davies mentioned that Parish Forums are attended by Police Team and can be useful for everyone involved, as it's a chance to communicate with a number of individuals and councillors.

He reported that there was a Community Safety Partnership available, which the Council could explore to enable further communication.

Cllr Crawford asked why anti-social behaviour isn't reported on the website statistics and whether that could that be included? Supt. T Davies explained that those kinds of figures are not always possible to pull from statistics and it would be more important to have a good relationship with officers, so councillors can get a view of what's going on the area.

\*\*\* Cllr Biederman declared an interest in this matter as a member of the Police Crime Commission Panel. \*\*

Cllr Biederman thanked Supt. Davies for the Police presence. He suggested looking at the Community Safety Partnership as the low-level crime really affects our communities.

Supt. Davies replied that it is well worth asking for the Community Safety Partnership to provide responses aswell and encouraged members to look at attending the Community Safety Partnership.

Supt. Davies reported about road safety and Operation Snap, which targets bad driving. He informed members that if you see bad driving, there is a

simple way of reporting this via an app, which allows you to download reports/information to report bad driving.

Cllr Capon asked whether the additional 140 extra staff include PCSOs as they were the ears and eyes on the ground and whether things should be more proactive rather than reactive work.

Supt. Davies replied that PCSO's are an essential part of the policing structure and PCSO's are now protected to deliver their core role.

Members thanked Supt. Davies for attending and felt the Police presence at meetings was important.

1911/69

### **Stop Hate UK**

Members welcomed Mr Hookway from Stop Hate UK and Sgt. S Jepp from Devon and Cornwall Police, who gave members a presentation on Hate Crime. They informed members that hate crimes are incidents that are perceived, by the victim or any other person, to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards someone based on identity and breach criminal law. His presentation is attached to the Agenda as Appendix 1. Further to his presentation, he reported that there is still lots of work to do to raise awareness of hate crimes and in particular people with vulnerable characteristics.

Mr Harrison from the Police Crime Commissioner Office encouraged Councillors to look into the Councillor Advocate Scheme which welcomed members to attend Middlemoor a few times a year to discuss matters that are happening in the area, Policing updates and a change to raise any concerns.

Members thanked both Mr Hookway and Mr Harrison for attending and their informative information.

1911/70

### **Allenstyle development**

Members received a presentation from the developer of Allenstyle, who informed members that up until now, sales have been slow and has taken 2 years to ensure full occupancy. He was now looking at ways to successfully deliver the next phase as at present, this was unachievable due to financial pressures.

He presented to members that the housing on site will reduce and a new 64 bed care home bounded by a tree line is proposed. They would keep the same height that the developer already has consent for. The development will produce a scheme that will open up the site, provide services that are needed in the area and possibly reduce traffic. He reported that the site could possibly be fully delivered within 1 ½ years.

Cllr Biederman reported that he and Cllr Mackie met with the developer and Planning (North Devon Council) on 2<sup>nd</sup> August and felt that the plans needed to be displayed at Parish level, which is the reason why Mr Greenfield is attending the meeting. He further said to Mr Greenfield that he had promised to him and Cllr Mackie that the site would be cleared up, which did not

happen until a week before the meeting. Concerns were raised as to the trigger point to resurface the road and the actual resurfacing of the road that

the residents have been promised. Mr Greenfield replied that there was little point in resurfacing until the next phase had been completed.

\*\*\* Mr Greenfield left the meeting. \*\*\*

- 1911/72      **Minutes**  
**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. (NC)
- 1911/73      **Committee Minutes**
- a) **Tews Lane Committee**  
**RESOLVED:** to receive and ratify the resolutions contained in the minutes of the Tews Lane Committee meeting held on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019. (NC)
- b) **Parks and Playing Fields Committee**  
**RESOLVED:** to receive and ratify the resolutions contained in the minutes of the Parks and Playing Fields Committee meeting held on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019. (NC)
- c) **Finance and Personnel Committee**  
**RESOLVED:** to receive and ratify the resolutions contained in the minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019. (NC)
- d) **Fremington Quay Management Committee**  
**RESOLVED:** to receive and ratify the resolutions contained in the minutes of the Fremington Quay Management Committee meeting held on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019. (NC)
- 1911/74      **Matters to Note**  
**RESOLVED:** that the Parish Paths Newsletter – Autumn 2019 be received and noted. (NC)
- 1911/75      **Dress Code**  
The Chairman reported to members that she had reservations as to councillors attending meetings in shorts and flip flops and would like to encourage members to wear smart dress as they are representatives of the Council. There had been two complaints regarding Councillors dress at Full Council meetings. Members felt that a dress code was not necessary, but it was  
**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk email all members to make them aware of their dress at Full Council meetings and to encourage them to be mindful of perceptions from members of the public. (NC)
- 1911/76      **Presentation from Developers**  
Cllr Bell reported that he felt presentations from developers should not be allowed before the Planning Application had been submitted. Some members

felt that engaging developers from early in the planning process is a positive step for the community.

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Cllr Capon asked what would be achieved in allowing presentations?  
Cllr Crawford stated that he did not see any opportunity for input in tonight's presentation from the developer. He felt that the Council needed to consider a Planning Committee as the Parish is expanding and developing.

Cllr Biederman reiterated that Mr Greenfield was in attendance to share his proposals and that there had been a number of concerns from local residents regarding Allenstyle, so it was felt important to bring this to members attention.

Cllr Kingdom reported that the Council concentrated on the entrance way to the Army Camp but could have had much more of a say with regards to Section 106 and could have tried to make better use of the site if they were involved earlier.

Members were reported that the Parish needs to think about what they want to get out of planning as a community. The Neighbourhood Plan is key, and those aspirations need to be included, so you have a tool to go to the next developer who can they see the Council's wish list.

Cllr Bell reported that a presentation was held in January regarding the Power Station site and that comments were made from the Agents which were inappropriate. He also raised concerns over comments in the Annual Report. The Clerk confirmed that the Annual Report was approved and accepted by the Council before publication.

Some members felt that it was important to engage with developers as is identified in the National Planning Policy Framework. Good communication is key.

**RESOLVED:** That this item be deferred until the next meeting and the Clerk write a Policy for Pre-Planning Application Meetings with developers.

(NC)

1911/77

**Patient Participation Group (PPG)**

Members invited Mrs Adnams Hatch to respond to this request. She informed members that there has been difficulty in the past to get a two-way conversation between the Council and the PPG and a request from the PPG was if the Chair of the PPG would be permitted to attend Parish Council meetings to bring forward ideas/information. She further stated that there was an open invitation to the Clerk to attend any of their meetings.

Cllr Biederman felt that a Councillor should be elected to the PPG, which would fall in line with other community groups/organisation representatives. Mrs Adnams Hatch responded that it would probably be an observation role only.

\*\*\* Cllr Crawford declared a Personal interest as he is a member of the PPG. \*\*\*

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk writes to the PPG to propose sending a representative from the Council to attend the PPG meetings and following confirmation, that the Council appoint a representative at a later meeting.

(NC)

\*\*\* Cllr Groves left the meeting at 8.31pm. \*\*\*

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1911/78 **Devon County Council (Traffic Management) Permit Scheme Order**  
**RESOLVED:** That the information be received and noted.

(NC)

1911/79 **Kerbset at Fremington Cemetery**  
**RESOLVED:** That the Kerbset be approved.

(NC)

\*\*\* Cllr Biederman declared a DPI in the following item, left the meeting at 8.38pm and did not return. \*\*\*

1911/80 **Planning Applications**

**64203 Proposal: Erection of 34 bungalows (12 affordable & 22 open market) & associated works (amended plans)**

Location: 50 Oakland Park South, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Chichester Homes Development Ltd

**RESOLVED:** That the application is recommended for refusal on the same grounds as previously recommended.

(NC)

**The following applications were taken together.**

**70598 Proposal: Extension & alterations to Unit 5 including alterations to loading bay area, installation of refrigeration plant, partial reconfiguration of car parking and landscaping works**

Location: Roundswell Retail Park, John Penrose Road, Holewater, Roundswell, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Canada Life Investments

**70599 Proposal: Siting of 3 three-sided internally illuminated totem signs & 2 Non-illuminated way-finding signs**

Location: Roundswell Retail Park, John Penrose Road, Holewater, Roundswell, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Canada Life Investments

**RESOLVED:** That no comments are submitted as it has gone to Appeal.

(NC)

**70664 Proposal: Extension to dwelling with internal alterations to provide additional living accommodation.**

Location: 16 Meadowsweet Lane, Roundswell, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr N Bale

**RESOLVED:** That the application is recommended for refusal due to insufficient car parking and the parking of vehicles on the highway.

(NC)

**70716 Proposal: Reserved Matters for erection of 37 dwelling to include 11 affordable dwellings (phase 2) (outline planning permission 50265)**

Location: Land off Yelland Road, Fremington, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr C Kent

**RESOLVED:** That the application is recommended for refusal on insufficient information on drainage.

(NC)

1911/81

**Planning Decisions**

**70339 Proposal: First floor extension over garage**

Location: 53 Brynsworthy Park, Roundswell, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr & Mrs Andrews

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**70421 Proposal: Conversion of one dwelling to form two dwellings**

Location: West Penhill Farm, Fremington, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr & Miss Ward

**RESOLVED:** That the Planning Decisions as above be received and noted.

(NC)

1911/82

**PART B: Exclusion of Press and Public**

**RESOLVED:** That under section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items as it involves the likely disclosure of confidential information.

(NC)

1911/83

**Beechfield Car Park**

The Council's Architect gave a report on the progress to date with the contract and tenders for Beechfield Car Park. Members were reported that 7 tender quotations were received.

Quotations received were:

Company 1 £56,161.32

Company 2 £42,985.00

Company 3 £33,735.93

Company 4 £35,420.30

Company 5 £43,500.00

Company 6 £64,883.00

Company 7 £55,607.00

The Members of the Finance Committee met to open the tender quotations and recommended that the Contract be awarded, and it was

**RESOLVED:** That the tender for the Beechfield Car Park be awarded to Arrowbuild SW Ltd for £33,735.93 and the Council's Architect continue to oversee the project.

(NC)

Meeting ended at 9.15pm.

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