

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday, 11th December 2019 at 7.00pm in
The Beechfield Centre, Beechfield Road, Fremington.**

Present: Cllr S Kingdom (Chairman)
Cllrs C McCormack-Hole (Vice Chairman), J Bell, F Biederman, I Capon,
C Connell, I Crawford, K Groves, B Hockin, A Rennles, M Scott, E Stevenson.
Mrs Kate Graddock, Parish Clerk

1912/35 **Apologies**
Apologies for absence, as recorded on the attendance sheet, were received
from Cllrs Sherborne, Adams and Cann

1912/36 **Declarations of interest**
None received.

1912/37 **Chairman's Announcements**
The Chairman investigated the malicious communication with the Chairman of
Personnel and Finance and after legal advice, no further action is necessary.

1912/38 **Public Participation Period**
No public were present.

1912/39 **Minutes**
RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December 2019 be
approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
(NC)

1912/40 **Committee Minutes**

a) **Parks and Playing Fields**
RESOLVED: To receive and ratify the resolutions contained in the minutes
of the Parks and Playing Fields Committee meeting held on Thursday, 28th
November 2019.
(NC)

b) **Finance and Personnel**
RESOLVED: To receive and ratify the resolutions contained in the minutes
of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on Thursday, 28th
November 2019.
(NC)

c) **Tews Lane**
RESOLVED: To receive and ratify the resolutions contained in the minutes
of the Tews Lane Committee meeting held on Thursday, 28th November
2019.
(NC)

1912/41 **Budget and Precept**
The Chairman of the Finance and Personnel Committee, Cllr Rennles gave a
brief outline of the reasons why the budget was proposed as it. He mentioned
the Fremington is developing, and is no longer a smaller village, it is a large
community with growing concerns and services that needed to be implemented
and delivered.



He further mentioned that Fremington Parish Council is able to provide a better community and better way of life for its residents by providing for them. The budget allows the Council to supply services to the local community.

Cllr Capon asked that the EMR's for bus shelters is ringfenced for a Yelland Bus Shelter. Some members felt that the money did not need to be ringfenced at this time. Cllr Crawford supported Cllr Capons statement that we need to look after our older population.

*** Cllr M Scott entered the meeting at 7.09pm. ***

Cllr Rennles reported that the budget allows for a new staff structure which incorporates a full time Outdoor Maintenance Operative (Lengthsman) and a vehicle for the Outdoor Maintenance Operative, support to the North Devon Records Office, the reduction of Parish Grant and Parish Grant Assistance from North Devon Council, the increase in facility and utility costs that are associated with a Community Building, loan repayments, the increase in dog waste collection services payments, fees to help deliver the Tews Lane Pavillion extension and the delivery of The Beechfield Centre. The result is an increase of 26p per week per Band D Property.

The Clerk explained that the budget is based on the sale of the Council Offices (12 Higher Road) in the 2020/21 financial year and that it is calculated on the 19/20 tax base but this is very likely to change in January, possibly resulting in a decrease in this figure.

Cllr McCormack-Hole asked if there was any way that the Council can explain this in words to the public to show them the reasons for the increase, as the services provided are important.

Cllr Biederman confirmed that Devon County Council will have further funding cuts next year but the demand for services are going up. The reality is that town and parish councils are left to pick up the services that are vital and really needed in the community and felt the Parish Council's value for money is outstanding.

Cllr Biederman confirmed that he would commit funds from his DCC Locality Fund for the Climate Change activities.

Cllr Rennles reported that the Council also has a golden opportunity during the Neighbourhood Plan consultation to communicate everything that we are doing to the public.

Members fully supported the proposed budget and precept request and it was **RESOLVED:** To increase the precept to £247,739. It was noted, that it will be an increase of approximately £13.59 a year or 26p a week per Band D based on last year's tax base, however, due to all the development within the area the tax base is likely to have significantly grown again and therefore the actual impact could be reduced.

(NC)



In addition, members had a discussion on EMR's, members agreed to the change in EMRs as below:

Beechfield Centre	0
Beechfield Pitch	0
Maintenance	
Bus Shelters	£5000
Dog Bags	0
Election Reserve	£3009
Fremington Quay Hire of Compound	£1776
Fremington Quay Repairs	£2503
Griggs Field Path	£1350
Maple Grove Maintenance	£1000
Neighbourhood Plan	0
Sinking Fund	£12000
War Memorial	£3500
TOTAL	£30158

RESOLVED: That the EMR's totalling £30,158 as detailed above are confirmed for 2020/21.

(NC)

1912/42

Grants 2020/21

Members received a recommendation from the Finance and Personnel Committee regarding the Grant Applications received for the financial year 2020/21. It was noted that the Parish Grant will not be available from April 2020, which included grants to the Fremington Parish Hall Management Hall Committee and Tomlin Hall. Grants proposed were:

Age Concern Barnstaple & District	£200.00
Barnstaple Disabled Fellowship Club	£100.00
Barnstaple Library Friends Group	£75.00
Barnstaple Pilot Gig Club CIO	£100.00
Bickington Brownies	£100.00
Citizens Advice Torridge, North, Mid and West Devon	£200.00
1 st Fremington Air Scouts – Beaver Colony	£100.00
1 st Fremington Guides	£100.00
50 th North Devon Scout Group	£100.00
Fremington Garden Club	£50.00
Fremington Parish Hall Management Committee	£0.00
GO North Devon	£100.00
Instow & District Social and Friendship Club	£50.00
Instow Westleigh and West Yelland Parish News	£60.00
Lady Linscott Club	£100.00
Slightly Different Singing Group	0.00
Tomlin Hall Management Committee	0.00
TOTAL	£1435.00
Additional budget for year	£565.00

Members also considered and wished to support the North Devon Records Office for £600.00 and it was

RESOLVED: To confirm the grants as above, totalling £2035 and additional budget of £565.00.

(NC)

1912/43

Planning Applications

70663 Outline application for the erection of 2 dwelling all matters reserved

Location: Hollybrook, Old Bideford Road, Roundswell, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr & Mrs Sparkes

Members raised concerns that the applicants may wish to take out the hedgerow.

RESOLVED: To recommend approval subject to safety of access on and off the site, consent from highways, appropriate drainage and maintaining original hedgerow and not being over intensity of the site and mitigate any biodiversity loss.

(NC)

70763 Erection of annex

Location: Rookabear Cottage, Lydacott, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr & Mrs McKenna

RESOLVED: The Council wishes to raise concerns regarding the appropriateness of an annexe being detached and question the suitability over the design in keeping with the area.

(11.1)

1912/44

Councillor Questions

Cllr McCormack-Hole mentioned regarding Debt control. She had some leaflets to distribute which could be given to anyone that may need help.

Cllr Biederman asked regarding the Night Landing. The Clerk replied that there had been an issue with the flood light, but that had now been fixed and will be operation soon.

Cllr Hockin mentioned regarding the condition of Fremington Quay wall. Cllr Biederman said that this was brought up at the Fremington Quay Meeting and is North Devon District responsibility and has been reported. The Clerk replied that she will chase this.

Cllr Crawford asked if the Council could consider who the representative would be to sit on the Patient Participation Group. The Clerk replied that she would put this on the January Agenda for nominations.

Cllr Groves thanked Cllr Biederman for the grant for the planting of trees. Cllr Hockin replied that he has 30 Ash Trees that need replanting.

Cllr Kingdom asked Cllr Biederman if it was possible to get DCC to review the chicanes and priority signage at Old Bideford Road. Cllr Biederman asked if there had been any accidents, as that is what DCC would ask, however, would investigate this matter.

Meeting ended at 7.59pm

Signed  Date 13.1.20