

**Minutes of the Virtual Fremington Parish Council Meeting Held on Monday
1st June 2020 at 7pm via Zoom**

Present: Cllrs S Kingdom (Chairman), J Bell, F Biederman, J Cann, I Capon, C Connell, I Crawford, C McCormack-Hole, A Rennles, and B Sherborne
Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer
Cllr J Mackie, North Devon Council

2006/01 **Apologies**
Cllrs S Adams, M Scott and K Groves.

a) To consider approval of apologies for Cllr Groves due to work and home commitments during the COVID-19 pandemic

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the apologies from Cllr Groves.

2006/02 **Declarations of Interest**
Cllr Connell declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in Item 2006/12 as he lives on the estate.

Cllr Cann declared a Personal Interest in Item 2006/09 application 58356.

Cllr Rennles declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest in Item 2006/09 application 58356 as a family member owns the site.

2006/03 **Chairman's Announcements**
None.

2006/04 **Public Participation Period**
None.

2006/05 **County and District Councillors' Reports** - To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillors for information only.
Cllr Cann reported that the Government has an initiative to allow flexible working hours on construction sites, the site west of Tews Lane has applied for an extension to working hours to allow site work until 9pm, Cllr Cann feels this is too late, however, the Government is saying that applications should not be refused unless there is a very good reason. Therefore, Cllr Cann has asked if it is possible for the outside work to cease earlier and continue with inside works. Cllr Cann reported that the Rookbere application will be refused and is the subject of enforcement action. The Parks and Playing Fields Committee will be looking to secure s106 money from the Mead Park development to replace some broken and dangerous equipment in the Babbages play area, however, it has been fenced off in the meantime and Cllr Cann had spoken to a parent of a child that had recently returned to Fremington School and they were very happy with the measures that had been put in place.

Cllr Mackie reported that the Government expects the Local Authority to be supportive of applications to extend working hours so that they can work in shifts and have less people on site at any one time and explained situations

where objections could be raised. Cllr Mackie updated members on the changes to the recycling service and explained, that following a successful trial in Yelland, there would be a separate box for glass, the trial has shown that the change will significantly cut time collecting the recycling. Cllr Mackie informed members that NDC was consulting on “the new normal” which is a community survey and encouraged members to make individual responses and that a public space protection order had just been released on a 9-week consultation period.

Cllr Biederman reported on the funding from the Government to improve cycle routes and explained that, although it sounded like a substantial amount of money, by the time it is filtered down DCC’s share is small and priority will be given to urban areas. Cllr Biederman reported that NDC has lost around £3.4million of income and the new normal from July 2020 wont bring in the same level of income and after Government funding NDC will still have around £2.9million shortfall to find within a budget of £13million and will be looking to issue a 114 notice soon.

Members touched on the Public Space Protection Order consultation and it was noted that there is a code of conduct for the Tarka Trail which people should be made aware of.

2005/06 **To approve and sign the minutes of Fremington Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11th May 2020**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2020 as a correct record.

2006/07 **To receive, and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the following Committee meetings**

- Parks & Playing Fields Committee meeting held on Thursday 28th May 2020

It was noted that the minutes were not yet available. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to defer consideration to the next meeting.

- Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting held on Thursday 28th May 2020
Members were informed that the meeting had been adjourned and therefore the minutes were not available. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to defer consideration to the next meeting.

Fremington Quay Management Committee held on Thursday 28th May 2020
It was noted that the minutes were not yet available. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to defer consideration to the next meeting

2006/08 **To Receive an Update on the Neighbourhood Plan**

Notes of an update meeting between the Consultants, Chairman of the Steering Group and Executive Officer in March 2020 were circulated prior to the meeting, it was noted that it had been agreed for a draft Neighbourhood Plan to be produced for circulation by the 30th April 2020. Cllr Rennles explained that the current situation had hindered the production of the draft plan and the Government had confirmed that referendums for neighbourhood plans cannot take place until May 2021 and therefore Cllr

Rennles felt there was no strategic pressure. The Executive Officer confirmed that the consultants had been paid and, although she understood that they had been in touch with the Chairman of the Steering Group, they had not responded to recent correspondence.

Members noted that they had been waiting for a draft document prior to COVID-19, the consultants had been paid in full and the Council needs to see the work that has been undertaken to date and a draft document. Members felt there should be a paper trail and the consultants must contact the Executive Officer directly and not individual Cllrs.

The Executive Officer was thanked for pursuing the matter, however, Cllr Crawford felt that members kept receiving the same report from the Chairman of the Steering Group and the agreed timescales are not being met, it was noted that the draft was promised this time last year.

After further discussion about the lack of a draft document it was **resolved** to write a strong letter to the consultants clarifying that the Parish Council expects to see a draft document asap and the consultants should speak directly with the Executive Officer.

To Consider Application for Memorial Bench at Fremington Cemetery

Members considered the detail of the request and it was **resolved**, with one vote to the contrary, to approve the installation of the memorial bench at Fremington Cemetery.

To Consider North Devon Council's Draft Planning Compliance and Monitoring Plan

Members commended the contents of the document and felt that all aspects had been considered.

Cllr Capon left the meeting.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to accept the document.

2006/09

North Devon Council – Planning Decisions

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

58356 Proposal: Retrospective application for change of use of land to allow for car sales business & siting of portable building (amended plans) (amended description)

Location: Former petrol filling station, West Yelland

Applicant/Agent: Mr A Saye

71335 Proposal: Demolition of existing and erection of new attached garage

Location: 11 Linscott Crescent, Yelland, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr D Moore

71442 Proposal: Application for a non-material amendment to planning permission 65014 to allow for changes to elevations & additional WPD substation proposals
Location: Plot 5, Roundswell South Business Park, Roundswell
Applicant/Agent: Mr J Oakes

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

2006/10

Councillors Questions

Cllr Bell asked why a decision on application 58356 took so long.

Cllr Rennles declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest and left the meeting.

Cllr Bell was informed that the Planning Officer had confirmed she was happy to discuss with Cllr Bell.

Cllr Rennles returned to the meeting.

Cllr Crawford asked how the PC has an input into the reallocation of road space and active travel.

Cllr Rennles explained that all had asked to be involved and suggested Cllr Crawford contact him or Cllr Biederman for overall picture of Barnstaple.

Cllr Connell raised concerns that the stones on the verges near Midway Motors were a danger to cyclists and motorbikes. Cllr Biederman confirmed he would investigate.

Cllr Biederman reported that he had given an update on the reallocation of road space and funding earlier and he had not been officially informed about the proposals for the Longbridge in Barnstaple which would impact on the surrounding parishes trying to access the town. Cllr Biederman also raised concerns that when responding to planning applications the Parish Council was not focusing on planning reasons for refusal and asked if online training opportunities could be investigated. It was noted that Cllrs had received planning training at the beginning of the year and the Executive Officer would investigate further training and circulate information on material considerations.

Cllr McCormack-Hole reminded everyone that the hospital is open for business and people should attend if needed.

Cllr Rennles reported on the proposals and background to pedestrianize the Longbridge in Barnstaple.

It was noted again that neighbouring parishes had not been informed and it was agreed for Cllr Biederman to contact DCC and copy in the relevant parishes for the proposals and an opportunity to consult.

2006/11 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.

Cllr Connell left the meeting.

PART B

2006/12 **Riverside Park/Former Army Camp**

Members were informed that the solicitor required further instruction on some aspects of the lease after consideration it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to confirm the following with the solicitor:

- The either party break clause is to operate on 3 months' notice.
- The Scouts rent to be set at £900 for the first year with a review period at the end of the year and then every two years going forward.
- To append the Schedule of Condition to the lease.

It was further **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to seek further advice on the rental figures for the Football Club and consider these at the July meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.03pm.

Signed

Dated