#### Minutes of the Virtual Parks and Playing Fields Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 9.30am via Zoom.

- Present: Cllr S Adams (Chairman) Cllrs J Bell, F Biederman, J Cann, I Capon, I Crawford and McCormack-Hole. Also present Mrs K Graddock (Deputy Executive Officer) and Cllr S Kingdom.
- 2010/16 **Apologies** No apologies were received as all members were present.
- 2010/17 **Declarations of Interest** None received.
- 2010/18 **Public Participation Period** None received.

#### 2010/19 Minutes

It was **resolved** unanimously that the Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020 be approved as a correct and signed at a later date (due to Covid-19) by the Chairman.

#### 2010/20 Maybe Something Beautiful

Members received presentations from children at Fremington School, which unfortunately were unable to be played. The School have requested placing Artwork within the Parish on wooden boards. They have requested to site these around The Beechfield Car Park.

Queries as to the ongoing maintenance were raised and how they would be fixed. Suggestions of The Village Green, Bus Shelters, Green Lanes and Yelland were raised. Another suggestion about possible businesses getting involved.

After discussion it was **resolved** unanimously to authorise the Deputy Executive Officer and the Chairman to continue with the project and site artwork safely and appropriately in all wards of the Parish and to request permission for the videos to be circulated to members.

#### 2010/21 Climate Emergency Working Party (CEWP)

Members were circulated the Climate Emergency Working Party Notes, which are attached as Appendix 1.

Some members took exception regarding the comments made about the lack of involvement of ClIrs and felt the idea of the working party was to involve people in the community and that the group wasn't Parish Council led. Some members felt that the community are being put off from joining the Working Party due to the negativity being written by a ClIr to the press. ClIr Biederman explained that he was happy to help with any rewilding from his locality budget. It was unanimously **resolved** to receive the notes and thank the CEWP.

#### 2010/22 West Yelland Proposed Allotment Site

Members were circulated maps and information regarding a possible allotment transfer at the Tarka Ridge site in West Yelland. Members felt that they like to see them prioritised for Yelland Residents. Concerns over locker numbers, overhanging on the buildings for wet weather and the continued maintenance costs for the buildings were discussed and any future management of the site.

It was unanimously **resolved** to accept the adoption of the allotments as detailed in Appendix 2, seek advice from the South West Counties Allotment Association on the transfer and future management of the site and that once adopted they are prioritised for Yelland Residents in the first instance.

#### 2010/23 Removal of Play Equipment

Members were reported that the gym equipment at Beechfield needed to be removed due to health and safety concerns. Cllr Biederman had also mentioned about removing the Youth Shelter at the Village Green due to anti-social behaviour. It was also felt that the Village Green was not necessarily the right place for this structure. Costings were given to members from TK Play who have been working with the Council on all play area issues:

Removal of Gym equipment: £1160.00 +VAT Removal of Youth Shelter: £960.00+VAT Removal of the Gym Equipment & Youth Shelter at the same time: £1800.00+VAT

Members asked whether the shelter could be relocated to Beechfield. The DEO expressed her concerns regarding anti-social behaviour especially given the issues experienced already. She further suggested that she would want to seek Police advice on this suggestion. Cllr Biederman asked whether it could it be reused and what the cost of reusing it would be? After discussion, it was **resolved** to enquire with TK Play whether the shelter could be removed and relocated and recommend to the Finance and Personnel Committee that the gym equipment and the shelter are removed at a cost of £1800+VAT as the committee has no available budget but the removal cannot wait until the new financial year and that if accepted the DEO is authorised to continue with this work.

Meeting ended at 10.30am.

#### Appendix 1 Notes of the Climate Emergency Working Party Meeting held on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 6.00pm via Zoom

Present: Cllr I Capon, Cllr I Crawford, R Manning, J Gristwood, M Sosnowski and P Smith and Mrs K Graddock (Clerk)

# Welcome, Introduction and Apologies

Welcome to Mr Manning on his attendance at the first CEWP meeting. Everyone introduced themselves. Apologies were received from Cllr Lou Goodger.

# Rewilding of Verges

Roundswell - Roundswell Residents Association has been contacted re: identifying areas for possible rewilding.

Steve Jarvis is looking at west end of Bickington with Cllr Lou Goodger. Robert Manning volunteered to look at Fremington Village. Joan to contact Cllr Bell re: Yelland rewilding.

M Sosnowski asked whether anything is happening with an area on the Riverside Park that could be a natural area?

**ACTION:** That the Deputy Executive Officer to identify what is happening with the areas. Give Cllrs until 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020 to identify any areas in their ward and work with the CEWP.

The Working Party mentioned that they would like to see Cllrs more involved. The Council has set up a CEWP and declared a Climate Emergency but with little interest or involvement by Fremington Parish Councillors.

# Electric Car Charging point and Solar Panels on The Beechfield Centre

Electric Car Charging Points – Cllr Capon said that there are companies out there that you can have free charging points/solar panels, but they take the unused energy. Other option could be to raise funds to install them, but you would gain funding from unused energy.

The Deputy Executive Officer read out advice from the Architect in relation to viability of placing solar panels/car charging point on The Beechfield Centre and that they were not needed for the SBEM and the roof is the incorrect way so would be less effective and their could be issues with vandalism. Members felt that it needed to be explored and were disappointed with the response.

**ACTION:** That the Deputy Executive Officer investigate and contact companies that could provide free solar panels to come and audit The Beechfield Centre for potential provision of solar panels and she contact Sainsburys to enquire whether they have any plans for the future to install a car charging point.

# The Beechfield Centre Gas

The Deputy Executive Officer mentioned that the Council had now changed gas suppliers for The Beechfield Centre to a renewable energy company.

# Working with Other Local Authority Climate Groups

Cllr Crawford mentioned that he felt councils should be communicating to other town and parish councils about what initiatives they are doing. Mr Smith mentioned that he would like to be informed of the Carbon Emissions Reductions Programmes for North Devon Council and Devon County Council, especially given concerns about the Neighbourhood Plan and the lack of vision and they are the same writers of the Local Plan. It does not inspire and has a severe lack of acknowledgement and consideration for the climate and environment.

Martin asked whether consideration could be given to replacing the weekly recycling bins as they do not have lids and items can be blown all around.

The Deputy Executive Officer reminded members that North Devon Council have lead members for the Climate Emergency, but she has received limited communication and information on any other town and parish councils or from the Climate Team at North Devon Council. Cllr Crawford said they did a great event at the beginning of the year, but it was felt that they needed to be reminded about how important their communication is and their role as leadership.

**ACTION:** That the Deputy Executive Officer writes to North Devon Council to ascertain what the role of the Climate Emergency Team is, whether there is to be any further events and remind them of how important their role is in communicating and informing town and parish councils of projects and initiatives in the community.

**ACTION:** That the Deputy Executive Officer invite Cllr Lofthouse re: Severn Brethren Housing and about Carbon Emissions Reductions Programmes

# Action Plan

Members were informed that consideration should be given to compiling an Action Plan for the Council. Peter Smith felt that the Climate Emergency needs to be addressed properly in the Neighbourhood Plan as it does not reflect the CEWP's comments despite the group taking a considerable amount of time to read and suggest valid and important points that should be included.

**ACTION:** That the CEWP write to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to express their disappointment and concern at the lack of consideration towards the Climate Emergency and the comments submitted by the CEWP that have not been included.

**ACTION:** That the CEWP members consider items to be included within the Action Plan and email them to the Deputy Executive Officer, who will compile a draft plan to be brought back to a future meeting for consideration.

# Gas Appliances – 2030

Joan Gristwood raised concerns over informing the Parishioners about the cut off date of 2030 for gas appliances and whether the Council had any plans for cascading the information. Cllr Crawford mentioned that he thought it would depend on what communication comes from Government. Peter Smith said that he wasn't aware of anyone cutting the gas off by 2030 but it may be that the appliances are used with a different method of gas.

# Any other Matters

Torridge District Council have sent out communication re: bulk buy of solar panels etc.

Members were informed about communication that has been in the local paper. This was shared with the CEWP for information. Concerns were raised about the impact it has on potential new members joining and those that give up their time to attend the meetings and the Agenda states that 'everyone is welcome to attend' but the communication is now undervaluing Fremington Parish Council and the work that the CEWP are doing.

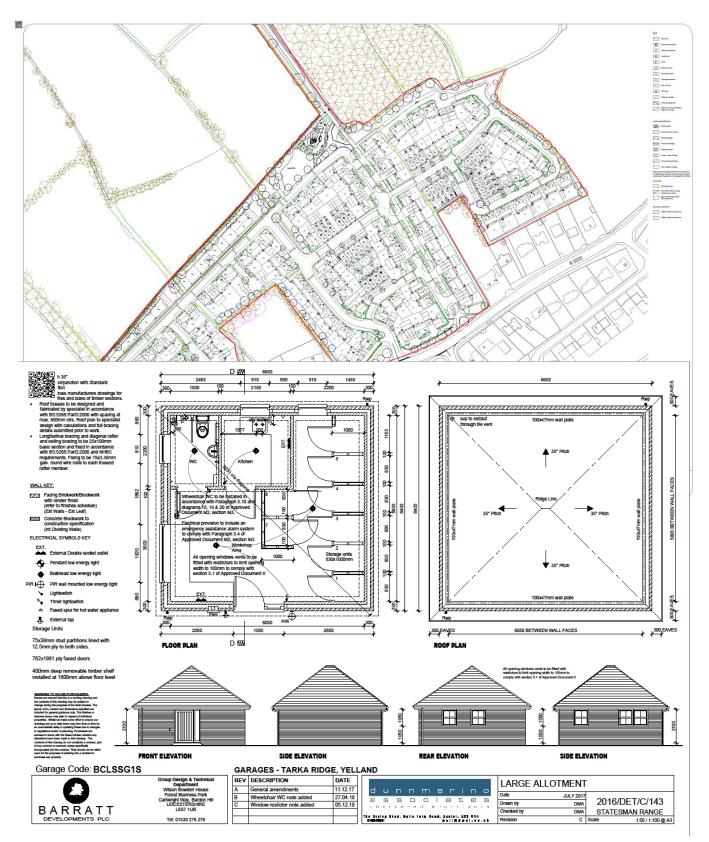
The Clerk suggested inviting the writers to a meeting to discuss their concerns regarding the group. Some members were not happy with this course of action and were disappointed with comments in the press particularly those that are from parish councillors. A concern regarding the Tarka Trail access was a focus of one article, however, both North Devon and Devon County Councillors agreed with the CEWP comments. Members stated that they have upmost respect for their rewilding initiatives but hoped that they could encourage people to get involved in the local environment. Roundswell residents are unhappy about being slated in the press given the amount of time and effort they put in for the community.

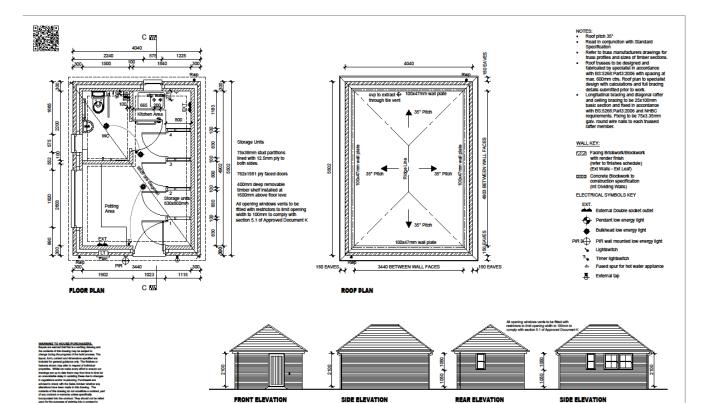
Members felt that writing a press release regarding the Climate Emergency Working Party and the good work it is doing would be beneficial and hopefully encourage individuals to attend and get involved. It was mentioned that other councils are getting front page headlines. CEWP need to focus on publicity and the good things that the Council do, and to stop councillors arguing amongst themselves.

**ACTION:** That the Deputy Executive Officer compile a Press Release on the CEWP and the outcomes and projects to date.

Meeting ended at 19.57pm.







purchase any property.							
Garage Code: BCLSSG1S		GARAGES - TARKA RIDGE, YELLAND					
	Group Design & Technical Department	REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE		SMALL ALLOTMENT	
	Wilson Bowden House	Α	General amendments	11.12.17	dunnmarino		
	Forest Business Park	в	Window restictor note added	05.12.18		ate JULY 2017	
	Cartwright Way, Bardon Hill LEICESTERSHIRE	_			lessociates	Irawn by DMA	2016/DET/C/142
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