

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Meeting Held on Monday 5th July 2021
at 7pm in Fremington Parish Hall, Higher Road, Fremington**

Present: Cllrs S Kingdom (Chairman), S Adams, J Bell, J Cann, D Dixon, L Goodger, S Haywood, C McCormack-Hole, A Rennles, B Sherborne, T Steer and H Walker

Remote Attendance
Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer
PC Robinson
Cllr Scott (as a member of the public) and 1 member of the public

2107/01 **Apologies**
Cllrs F Biederman, C Connell and M Scott.
District Cllr Mackie.

2107/02 **Declarations of Interest**
None.

2107/03 **Public Participation Period**
A member of the public spoke as the Chair of the Public Participation Group for the Medical Centre and asked if the role the Medical Centre plays within the production of the Neighbourhood Plan could be reviewed with a view to being able to provide comment. The Chairman suggested that a representative contact the Executive Officer and requests to join the Steering Group.

The Chairman reminded members that the North Devon Volunteer Service is currently seeking nominations for the North Devon Volunteer Awards and the deadline for nominations has been extended until 30th July 2021.

2107/04 **To approve and sign the minutes of Fremington Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7th June 2021**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention, to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 7th June 2021 as a correct record.

2107/05 **County and District Councillors' Reports**
Cllr Walker reported for the Bickington Ward, Cllr Walker and Cann have met with the residents of the Terrace and North Terrace regarding confusion over the parking spaces allocated to them as part of the North Lane Development.

Cllr Walker is also meeting some of the residents of Mead Park and Mead Park Close regarding the Bovis Homes site and the issues it is causing them (dust, contractors parking on the road, working beyond the allowed time) with an agent from Bovis.

There are now three Residents Against Pollution groups in the parish which mainly undertake litter picking but also report fly tipping and have reported one instance of stream pollution. The groups are working with the environment wardens at NDC.

Cllr Cann reported that scams are on the rise and warned people to be vigilant especially as the latest scams claiming to be from Royal Mail and Amazon appear genuine. Cllr Cann was also concerned about the rise recently in anti-social behaviour around the parish.

Cllr Mackie's report was circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Mackie reported that it had been a busy time at the Council with so many major decisions being made – many of which have to remain confidential at this stage.

The NDC ward members have met with the buyer and officer regarding the completion of the Sunhouse area at Allenstyle and are optimistic that this time we have a buyer who will deliver. Also on Allenstyle there are a few groups of people who would like to provide more community gardening centred on the orchard at Allenstyle and the ward members are working along with them to secure permission and some funding.

Cllr Mackie took part in May's Early Member Engagement Workshop for the Local Plan Review views were expressed about how we and our residents felt on social, economic, and environmental aspects of future plans.

2107/06

Police

PC Robinson confirmed that there had been groups of young people causing issues around the parish, they have been identified and the Police have spoken to the parents they are also issuing letters as per the anti-social behaviour scale. PC Robinson reported that the damage to the dugouts at the Beechfield Playing Field was being pursued and the school in Fremington had recently been broken into the culprits had been identified and dealt with, Space has also been out engaging with young people in the Fremington area.

PC Robinson reported the crime figures for the last period and explained that there did not appear to be any patterns/trends or of wider concern to the public. PC Robinson did explain that there had been an increase in theft from shops and this was mainly due to less security and staff available in the shops.

Cllr Cann asked if the perpetrators were generally local or people visiting from other areas. PC Robinson explained that there did not appear to be repeat offenders and there were few "stranger" incidents.

The Chairman requested that the Parish Council receives written Police Reports for future meetings as well as verbal where possible. PC Robinson explained that this is not always possible due to workload, but she can direct Cllrs to the information online.

The Chairman thanked PC Robinson for her attendance and PC Robinson left the meeting.

2107/07

Neighbourhood Plan

Members were informed that the Steering Group had met with the Planning Policy Team at the North Devon Council as the Local Planning Authority to obtain comments on the initial draft of the Neighbourhood Plan and advice, support, and guidance on the next steps.

The main considerations for the Parish Council that were highlighted at the meeting with Planning Policy Officers was the cost of the deliverables that have been identified and the amount of development that would be required to achieve these deliverables. For example, it is estimated that the community hub for Yelland would cost in the region of £750,000 to build and the Parish Council needs to consider the amount of development that would be required to support.

The advice is that the Parish Council either needs to review these deliverables so that they are achievable or look at a longer-term plan. Planning Policy has confirmed that it will shortly commence a review process of the Local Plan for 2031-2040 and has suggested that the Parish Council could consider the Neighbourhood Plan being a part of that process and covering a longer period. This will mean that the parish could potentially be looking at the growth of the next 19 years within the parish.

As members are aware the Steering Group has investigated undertaking a “call for sites” to present possible site allocations to the Parish Council for consideration. The information available from the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) that was carried out as part of the current Local Plan can be used as a base, however, there is still a specific process to follow for site allocations which could take up to two years to complete. To confirm there is no requirement to allocate sites within the Neighbourhood Plan it is up to the Parish Council to decide on the approach they wish to take.

Members considered the above information and were concerned at the length of time the plan had taken to get to this stage, they did not wish to see further delays and felt that the Parish needed an adopted plan in place as soon as possible. Concerns were raised about developers being able to build wherever they like until a plan is adopted and it was felt that the plan was required to prevent development on sites the community do not wish to see developed.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to review the deliverables with a view to removing the Yelland Community Hub and not to allocate development sites but to identify green open spaces and areas where development will not be supported.

2107/08

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.

73543

Proposal: Outline application (with all matters reserved) for erection of four detached bungalows with garages together with construction of crossover and private access road from Cleave Park
Location: Land adjacent to Cleave Park, Fremington, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: P. Simon

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to an appropriate design and no adverse impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Signed

Dated