

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Meeting Held on
Monday 4th October 2021 at 7pm in The Beechfield Centre,
Beechfield Road, Fremington**

Present: Cllrs S Kingdom (Chairman), S Adams, J Bell, F Biederman, J Cann, C Connell, D Dixon, S Haywood, C McCormack-Hole, B Sherborne and H Walker

Mrs Eileen Badcock, Executive Officer (Maternity Cover)
Mrs Liz Steer, Administration Officer
Miss Nieve Wuttke-Keary, Apprentice Administration Assistant
Cllr Scott (as a member of the public), District Cllr Jayne Mackie and 1 member of the public.

- 2110/01 **Apologies**
Cllrs Goodger, Rennles and Sherborne.
- 2110/02 **Declarations of Interest**
Cllr Biederman declared a Personal Interest in Minute 2110/54 as a member of Devon County Council.
- 2110/03 **Public Participation Period**
None.
- 2110/04 **Minutes**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve and sign the minutes of the following meetings:
- Full Council Meeting of Full Council held on 6th September 2021
 - Extraordinary Council Meeting held on the 14th September 2021
- 2110/05 **Committee Minutes**
To receive, and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the following Committee Meeting:
- Parks & Open Spaces meeting held on Monday 6th September 2021.
- It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to receive and ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 6th September 2021.
- 2110/06 **County and District Councillors' Reports**
Cllr Biederman reminded members that with the winter months coming on and the threat of potholes, the DCC portal is available to report any defects. If defects have not been actioned they should be reported to him. Improvements have been made in Sydhams Hill with road re-surfacing and clearance of the culverts.



Cllrs Walker and Cann reported that NDC Waste & Recycling has had issues with van breakdowns and driver absences. From the 1st October 2021 NDC will be leasing vehicles, which will enable fast replacement of vans should a breakdown occur. A document regarding the Housing Crisis has been put together, which will be forwarded to the Executive Officer, to be presented at a future Full Council Meeting.

Cllr Cann reported that NDC has agreed to assist two Afghan families with homes, in a property already donated by a member of the public and another donated property which is being sought by the same member of the public.

Cllrs Cann and Walker reported that they have asked NDC for some money for re-surfacing the car park in Bickington and will monitor the request.

Cllrs Cann and Walker have met with members of the Roundswell Residents Association and a member of NDC regarding volunteering for cutting back of vegetation and what can and cannot be actioned by the volunteers. They also advised that Cllr Steer, with the guidance of the Environmental team, is clearing underpasses on the Tarka Trail. They have also been dealing with the matter of flooding in Springfield Road, together with Cllr Biederman. Cllr Cann reported that the recent NDVS award presentation has received good feedback.

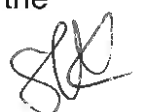
Cllr Mackie reported that she was pleased to see the new Tarka Ridge cycle link to the Trail is open and looks to be well used. It is the time of the year when we see a lot of complaints on social media about the under-the-cover-of-darkness dog fouling problem. The advice as always is, if it is safe, to call it out take photos and report it to Customer Services at NDC or report on-line. As mentioned in previous reports please be aware, and vigilant, that the Gaia Trust (split between Yelland and Fremington) is still having problems with dog owners, abuse to volunteers and fly-tipping. Lastly, she wondered how the Neighbourhood Plan was progressing as a Local Government Inspector Report has just overturned a council recommendation for refusal of 59 houses said "I understand that both Heanton and Braunton are producing Neighbourhood Plans, but these have not progressed to a stage that can be given meaningful weight". She has mentioned this as the Parish Council may want to discuss this.

2110/07

Police

PC Robinson sent her apologies for non-attendance and also that she was unable to provide a Police Report for the meeting.

Cllr Cann reported that she had recently attended a District Council meeting where Superintendent Toby Davies reported that overall crime is down 8% from 2019 although domestic abuse and drug crimes are up, 80 new officers have been recruited for North and West Devon, 999 calls are up, there were now two speed detection vans in use and Operation SNAP has been introduced which is a response to increasing submissions of video and photographic evidence relating to driving offences that members of the public have witnessed. Until now these reports have been submitted to the



Police in all sorts of ways and so a streamlined process has now been developed to deal with them. Anti-Social behaviour is on the increase, there is a StreetSafe section on the Police website to report any incidents.

Cllrs were concerned about 101 and 999 calling and the length of time taken waiting for 101 calls to be answered and 999 calls not being responded to as they should be. It was therefore **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention, that a letter be sent to the Police & Crime Commissioner outlining these concerns.

2110/08

Devon County Council – Planning Application

Devon County Council, the determining Authority, has asked for comments from this Parish Council on the following planning application:

County Matter Planning Application

Ref: BGX/DCC/4270/2021

Proposal: Variation of Condition 4 of planning permission DCC/4154/2019 for Waste Transfer Station including a waste transfer hall, single storey weighbridge office and welfare facilities building, hardstand including staff parking and external weighbridge, internal access road, new access from the existing highway, drainage, lighting and landscaping at Brynsworthy Waste Transfer Station, Brynsworthy, Roundswell, Barnstaple, EX31 3NS

Cllr Biederman advised that he has called this application in as County Councillor.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to REFUSE this application as it is totally against the spirit of the original application regarding operating hours and will have an adverse impact on the amenity of residents.

2110/09

North Devon Council – Planning Applications

North Devon Council, the determining Authority, has asked for comments from this Parish Council on the following applications:

73899 Proposal: Retrospective application for erection of building for livestock & storage

Location: Rooksbridge Farm, Old Bideford Road, Barnstaple

Application/Agent: Mr J Knight

Serious concerns were expressed by Councillors regarding the site and Ward Members have been requested to consult with the Planning Officer and to reinforce the Council's previous comments regarding this site.

73916 Proposal: Erection of 2 dwellings

Location: Plots 1 & 2, Highfields, North Lane, Bickington

Applicant/Agent: Landlink Ltd

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to the developer sorting out the S106 agreement regarding parking.



73917 Proposal: Erection of 2 dwellings

Location: Plots 12 & 13, Highfields, North Lane, Bickington

Applicant/Agent: Landlink Ltd

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to sorting out the S106 agreement regarding parking.

73935 Proposal: First floor extension above garage & single storey extension

Location: 19 Kew Cottage, Birch Lane, Roundswell

Applicant/Agent: Mr and Mrs Duffy

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

73956 Proposal: Demolition of conservatory together with extensions to dwelling and erection of shed

Location: 14 Potterswell, Roundswell

Applicant/Agent: Ms Capner

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend REFUSAL as it is over-intensification of the site and concerns regarding the impact on neighbours.

74036 Proposal: Installation of balcony on flat roof

Location: 22 Yelland Road, Fremington, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr & Mrs Wills

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

ANY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING ANY OF THE PLANNING APPLICATIONS TO BE CONSIDERED MUST NOTIFY THE PARISH CLERK NO LATER THAN 12 NOON ON THE DAY OF THE MEETING

2110/10 **Councillors Questions**

Cllr Kingdom spoke about bullying and harassment of Councillors and asked that any incidents be reported. She had recently been a victim of phone hacking and any incident should be reported to Action Fraud.

Cllr Walker has recently attended Cyber Training and outlined the various ways to change passwords to avoid hacking. She stressed that passwords should be changed on a regular basis.

Cllr Bell advised that there are blocks on the Yelland Quay Road, which is a private road. He has been in contact with NDC and the matter was to be handed to the Enforcement Officer but nothing has been heard to date.



Cllr Biederman asked for a report to be prepared regarding the cows straying from an adjacent field into Griggs Field. He suggested that a letter be sent to the Solicitor at NDC asking how the Parish Council stood legally on this matter.

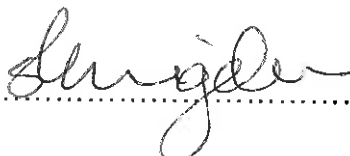
Cllr McCormack-Hole reported that Trade Waste is now being collected a day earlier.

Cllr Connell asked about progress on the MUGA at Riverside and was advised that information is still awaited from the developer. Cllr Dixon asked if the Council could get an accurate price for the MUGA surface.

Cllr Walker reported on a proposed personal safety emergency system on mobile phones for reporting to the Police. She undertook to draw up a guide on emergency assistance and was asked to liaise with the Executive Officer.

Cllr Cann asked if anything could be done about a grant to the Elmfield Boat Project.

Meeting closed at 8.16pm

Signed.....  Dated 1st November '21