

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Meeting Held on
Monday 10th January 2022 at 7pm in The Beechfield Centre,
Beechfield Road, Fremington**

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

Mrs Eileen Badcock, Executive Officer (Maternity Cover)
Mrs Jude Wood, Administration & Projects manager
Mrs Liz Steer, Administration Officer
Miss Nieve Wuttke-Keary, Apprentice Administration Assistant

Mrs Maria Bailey, Service Manager (Development Management), Strategic
Development & Planning Place Services, North Devon Council
District Cllr J Mackie (via Zoom)
3 members of the public (2 via Zoom)

2201/01

Apologies

Cllr Biederman

2201/02

Declarations of Interest

No declarations

2201/03

Chairman Announcements

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Maria Bailey to the meeting.

Cllrs were asked to consider PA 74439, 32 Seaking Road, under Minute
2201/11.

Cllrs were reminded to forward any comments/amendments/additions to
the draft Housing Crisis Declaration direct to Cllrs Walker and Cann.

2201/04

Public Participation Period

A member of the public spoke regarding Planning Application 74451. He and
neighbouring properties have forwarded letters of objection to NDC. He
outlined the reasons for the objection to the application, it is not in keeping
with the locality which consists of bungalows, the application is a
proportionately large building and is over-intensification of the site.

2201/05

Minutes

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve and sign the
minutes of the Full Council meeting held on the 6th December 2021 as a
correct record.

2201/06

County and District Councillors' Reports

Cllr Walker/Cann reported that some District Council Officers/Staff will be wearing bodycams as protection. Graffiti has been reported to the Police and it appears it is the same person carrying this out in the Parish. Nothing further has been heard about the resurfacing of the car park at Bickington, the money is available for the works to be carried out and a date is awaited. The Policy & Development Committee has issued a new eleven point plan for housing to bring into use unoccupied houses for key workers, student accommodation and also temporary accommodation. Cllr Cann is now the official Community Speedwatch Co-ordinator and anyone interested in volunteering assistance should contact Cllr Cann

Cllr Mackie reported that she has had a busy start to the year on the local front with issues at Allenstyle regarding land which is not built on and the Public Inquiry for Yelland Quay. The latter has now been put back to an unknown date due to the Inspector needing more information from the developers. With working from home being brought back in, this Inquiry will take place in a virtual format. She advised that all her £1,000 Community Grant was spent by the end of December on many and varied projects or charities and it now seems a long time until she is able to offer more in the next round. She looks forward to a very positive 2022.

2201/07

Police

The Police report was circulated to Cllrs, a copy of which is attached as Appendix one. Apologies were received from the Police for non-attendance at the meeting.

2201/08

North Devon Council Planning – General Update

Mrs Bailey outlined the problems which have been experienced by NDC Planning regarding the delay in registration and validation of planning applications due to shortage of staff and absences. She is actively working with the support staff and planning officers in order to get the situation resolved and was pleased to confirm that prior to Christmas the backlog was now down to two days. Some applicants were very understanding regarding consultation extensions, while others were not. There is a lot more to do and a shortage of planners, having tried twice to recruit but with no success. Training of enthusiastic staff resulted in them eventually leaving. A lot of the work is still done manually resulting in additional pressure. There is a need to put a planning system in place to include better communication, particularly with Parish Councils and also to include attendance at council meetings. Cllr Kingdom mentioned four applications received for discussion at the Full Council meeting held on the 6th December 2021 which had already been approved by NDC and therefore the Parish Council had not been able to make a decision on the applications.

Cllr Rennles left the meeting while the following was discussed.

Mrs Bailey reported on the consultation regarding the Yelland Quay appeal and a pre-meeting with the Inspectorate, they have come back and want more time to negotiate a new day for the consultation to take place, sometime in March, to include a Barrister, Planning Consultant and Biodiversity Officer. She is awaiting a time scale and keeping Cllrs Biederman and Mackie informed.

Cllr Rennles returned to the meeting.

Cllr Walker asked if planning training could be undertaken by Parish Councillors, Mrs Bailey confirmed that training will take place but this will for the moment be undertaken by District Councillors.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Bailey on behalf of the Parish Council for her visit and update.

2201/9

MUGA – Riverside Park – Carpet surface clean/MOT

Cllrs considered the dates suggested by Barratts for the carpet surface clean/MOT. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to carry out this work nearer to the completion date of the transfer of the MUGA to the Parish Council.

2201/10

Leave of Absence request

Cllr Scott and Cllr Goodger both attended the meeting following their leave of absence. Cllr Scott stated that she is still a little apprehensive regarding Covid and attendance at meetings as she works with school children.

2201/11

North Devon Council – Planning Applications

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

The following application could not be considered by the Council on the 6TH December 2021 due to the plans being unavailable on the NDC website.

74439 Proposal: Extension over existing garage, rear extension and erection of a Pergola

Location: 32 Seaking Road, Fremington, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr & Mrs Watson

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

73920 Proposal: Erection of a dwelling & a substation (amended plans, statement and ownership certificate)

Location: Plot 8 Highfields & Substation, Bickington

Applicant/Agent: Landlink Ltd

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to no impact on the original 106 agreement for the 15 houses already approved. Members have serious concerns about what is happening regarding the site and would ask District Council Ward members to take this up with the Planning Officer.

- 73968 Proposal: Retrospective application for a single storey stable
Location: Yelland Manor Farm, Yelland
Applicant/Agent: Mrs K Beer
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to no adverse impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties.
- 74382 Proposal: Proposed conversion of redundant funeral home and related buildings to form two dwellings and associated works
Location: Chapel of Rest, Lauderdale, Hopperstyle, Bickington
Applicant/Agent: W S Gayton & Son Ltd
Cllrs had no comments to make on this application as the applicant is the Parish Council's Burial Superintendent.
- 74451 Proposal: Demolition of garage and erection of annex and extension to dwelling
Location: 49 Lyddicleave, Bickington
Applicant/Agent: Mr & Mrs Groves
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend REFUSAL on the grounds of over-intensification of the site.
- 74448 Proposal: First floor extension over semi detached garage to form additional living accommodation
Location: 22 Seaking Road, Fremington
Applicant/Agent: Mr A Duncan
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to no adverse impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties.
- 74495 Proposal: Extension & alterations to dwelling
Location: 2 Birch Lane, Roundswell
Applicant/Agent: Mr and Mrs Sullivan
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to no adverse impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties.
- 74502 Proposal: Side extension, erection of new porch and creation of new driveway
Location: 1 Chilpark, Fremington
Applicant/Agent: Mr A Takel
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to the new splay being visible.
- 74530 Proposal: Flexible change of use of Unit 2 from Use Class E(a) to Class E (d) and/or Class E (a)
Location: Unit 2, Roundswell Retail Park, John Penrose Road, Roundswell, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Canada Life Asset Management Ltd
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to no adverse impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties.

74531 Proposal: Provision of a mezzanine floor
Location: Unit 4, Roundswell Retail Park, John Penrose Road, Roundswell
Applicant/Agent: Canada Life Asset Management Limited
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to no adverse impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties.

74532 Proposal: Variation of condition 1 (range of goods/use) attached to planning permission 56167 to enable Units 2 and 4 to be used for the sale of all comparison goods, along with the provision of ancillary cafes
Location: Units 2 and 4, Roundswell Retail Park, John Penrose Road, Roundswell, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Canada Life Asset Management Ltd
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to no adverse impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties.

Cllrs asked if there is a list of the different Use Classes for Planning and Mrs Bailey undertook to forward a link.

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

2201/12

Councillors Questions

Cllr Scott is concerned about pedestrian safety as there is no footpath by the Travelodge at Roundswell.

Cllr McCormack-Hole asked why the bus company has not attended a meeting to discuss the bus service delays and cancellations. The Administration & Projects Manager confirmed that a letter has been sent to Stagecoach but there has been no response to date.

Cllr Bell is concerned about trees being chopped down in Yelland. To date no response has been received following an email sent by the Administration Officer to the NDC Tree Officer.

Cllr Rennles outlined his concerns regarding the loss of parking spaces in Barnstaple South following Barnstaple Town Council's support for the planning application for 187 apartments at the Leisure Centre, he is concerned that anyone coming to Barnstaple South will have nowhere to park. The original plan was to have a Park & Ride at Roundswell but this had not come to fruition.

Meeting closed at 8.12pm

Signed..... Dated