

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Meeting
Held on Monday 6th June 2022 at 7.00pm at the Beechfield Centre,
Beechfield Road, Fremington**

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

Mrs E Badcock, Executive Officer (Maternity Cover)
Mrs J Wood, Projects & Administration Manager
Mrs L Steer, Administration Officer
District Cllr J Mackie

- 2206/08 **Apologies**
Cllrs Adams, Scott and Steer.
- 2206/09 **Declarations of Interest**
Cllr Haywood declared a Personal Interest in item 2206/21 Planning Application 75373 as the applicant is known to her. Cllr McCormack-Hole declared a Personal Interest in item 2206/21 Planning Applications 75255/56 as the applicant is a neighbour.
- 2206/10 **Chairman's Announcements**
The Chairman thanked Cllrs who attended the Platinum Jubilee Church Service held on Sunday 5th June 2022 and would like to see more Councillors attending future services.
- 2206/11 **Public Participation Period**
None
- 2206/12 **Minutes**
To approve and sign the minutes of Fremington Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9th May 2022
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th May 2022 as a correct record.
- 2206/13 **To receive, and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the Committee Meetings**
 - Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on Thursday 26th May 2022
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to receive and ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on Thursday 26th May 2022
 - Environment & Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 26th May 2022
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to receive and ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the Environment & Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 26th May 2022

- Fremington Quay Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 26th May 2022

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to receive and ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the Fremington Quay Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 26th May 2022

2206/14

Annual Governance Statement 2021/2022

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree the Annual Governance Statement detailed in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/2022.

2206/15

Accounting Statements 2021/2022

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree the Accounting Statements contained within the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/2022 and receive the Internal Auditor's Report 2022.

2206/16

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/2022

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2021/2022 and submit to the External Auditor.

2206/17

Grants Presentation Evening

Cllrs considered holding a Grants Presentation Evening in July 2022 prior to the Full Council meeting. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to arrange a Presentation Evening on Monday, 4th July 2022 to commence at 6.00pm in The Beechfield Centre.

2206/18

Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) Riverside Park

Cllr Biederman advised that the adoption of the MUGA had been agreed by the Parish Council in November 2021 and is still awaiting completion. He added that the MUGA is a fantastic facility and young people are missing out on its use. He requested that the Executive Officer writes again to NDC Legal Services in order to obtain a completion date for the adoption.

2206/19

County and District Councillors' Reports

Cllr Biederman

A real concern of mine at the full County Council meeting is the rate of attempted suicides in young people. I do know that at Petroc, 68 young people have attempted suicide in the last twelve months. My challenge to the County Council is how we can help in joining up services as it is horrible what is happening and something I am not going to let go of. Social services are stretched. Some young people will go for an initial assessment and some will be passed on through the system. Those that are passed on then get stuck in the middle and are experiencing delays. Social Workers should carry a load of 15, but often are carrying many more.

On a more positive note, I would like to congratulate all community groups and members of the public in the Parish for their efforts regarding the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations.

The St Andrews Road planning application comes to the committee this week.

Cllr Cann/Cllr Walker

Cllr Cann reported that on a District level it has been fairly quiet. The opening of the Leisure Centre is now in sight. On a local issue we have been experiencing a lot of complaints regarding parking in Bickington car park.

Cllr Walker has spoken to the NDC Car Parking team and has been advised that anyone can park in the Bickington car park obviously on the basis of using Pay & Display and are being lenient if people park on the grass as long as they are not obstructing anyone else using the car park.

We have done all that we can including driving around to see if any land is available locally for parking but have not been successful. The developers need to be hurried to resolve this situation.

The District Council is pleased to note that the MUGA at Tews Lane is going ahead.

Thefts of catalytic converters have been taking place in Bickington itself and this is now happening in Yelland.

She thanked the Litter Picking Group for working so hard at Fremington Quay recently.

District Cllr Mackie

A Planning Committee site visit was carried out around St Andrews Road on the 25th May 2022 and a decision on that application is due this week.

I attended the Climate Action Team at NDC, which we are still attending online as an attempt to practise what we preach. Our main focus was on delivering the Council's Carbon, Environment & Biodiversity Plan and that went to Strategy & Resources and was passed. Also, from that meeting I noted that Rapid Charging for electric cars is being planned in each of the Council's car parks – a total of fifteen. Fast electric car chargers will be in use in three car parks from the 4th July. Energy surveys are being carried out on all North Devon properties.

Media campaigns for Climate Change have focussed on the Big Plastic Count which featured on Radio Devon and Celebrate the Queen – Keep it Green! That was the link I gave you in April about aiming for greener Community Functions. The Nature Recovery programme continues to be integrated into NDC Parks work – No Mow May being more successful year on year. Planting is complete at the new Leisure Centre which will open in just over a week's time.

Out of 38,000 eligible households for the Council Tax Energy Rebate Payment we have 68% of them which includes 92% of direct debit payers having now had their £150 payment with the intention they will all be paid by the end of June, even though the Government gave councils until September to pay them.

2206/20

Police

Cllrs were advised that a Police Report had not been received.

2206/21

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.

75255 Proposal: Repairs to an outbuilding and conversion to ancillary accommodation

Location: The Homestead, Bickington Road, Bickington

Applicant/Agent: N Little

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention, to recommend APPROVAL subject to no adverse impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties and the Conservation Officer's report.

75256 Proposal: Listed building consent for repairs to an outbuilding and conversion to ancillary accommodation

Location: The Homestead, Bickington Road, Bickington

Applicant/Agent: N Little

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention, to recommend APPROVAL subject to no adverse impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties and the Conservation Officer's report.

75263 Proposal: Extension to dwelling with terrace above

Location: Sunshine Cottage, Bickington Road, Bickington

Applicant/Agent: Mr M Richardson

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

75297 Proposal: Single storey extension

Location: 29 Penhill View, Bickington, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr David Atkins

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend REFUSAL. It is over-intensification of the site and will have an adverse impact on the amenity of neighbouring properties.

75309 Proposal: Loft conversion, single storey rear extensions and alterations to dwelling

Location: 29 Ellerslie Road, Sticklepath, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr Holdsworth

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

75372 Proposal: Prior approval for change of use of agricultural building to form two dwellings Class Q(a)(b)

Location: West Penhill Farm, Fremington

Applicant/Agent: Mr & Miss Ward

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend REFUSAL.

The proposal is over-intensification of the site and piecemeal development.

It will have a negative impact on the important public views of the wider countryside and does not reflect the local housing needs.

Cllr Walker and Cllr Cann advised that they will be calling in this application.

75373 Proposal: Demolition of garage and conservatory, extension to dwelling and associated works

Location: 17 Beards Road, Fremington, Barnstaple

Applicant/Agent: Mr Cockbain

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention, to recommend APPROVAL subject to sufficient off-street parking and no adverse impact on the amenity of the neighbouring properties.

2206/22

Councillors Questions

Cllr Biederman suggested that the Maintenance & Amenities Operative be invited to a Council meeting in order to meet all Cllrs and to thank him for his work in the Parish.

Cllr McCormack-Hole was concerned about lack of parking in Bickington as the car park is full.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.55pm

Signed

Dated