



ANNUAL REPORT 2021—2022



LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
QUALITY

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This has been another difficult year and although the restrictions have now been lifted we still have to live with the impact of Covid. We all have to be on guard and take responsibility for our welfare.

During this year we have welcomed a new councillor—David Dixon—who is representing Bickington Ward. Also, Eileen Badcock came back from retirement and joined us to cover maternity leave for the Parish Clerk.



The Parish Clerk, Victoria Woodhouse, gave birth to a baby boy who came much earlier than expected. Congratulations to Vicki and we look forward to welcoming her back in the future.

The Parish Council has moved from Zoom meetings to live attendance meetings which has caused some consternation as some Councillors have been exposed to Covid and therefore they have not been able to attend. We did appeal to the Government along with other Councils to be able to carry on with Zoom meetings but the Government rejected the appeals and said that there was not enough legislation time to enable this to continue. Members of the public can now attend the meetings in person.

As a result of Covid we are looking at our energy bills more closely and would suggest that you do the same. I personally had my supplier stop trading and I am now faced with substantially higher bills. This has probably happened to a lot of you and is not a comfortable situation.

The Planning Appeal for the Yelland Power Station site has recently finished. It happened over six days which included a site visit. A great many people spoke passionately over their fears for the site. We now have to wait for the Inspector's decision which I understand will take two months.

The situation in Ukraine has not helped, we have the country in our thoughts and hope the situation doesn't get out of hand.

Cllr Sue Kingdom
Chairman

FINANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

It has been a fairly difficult year with Government restrictions still in place for part of the year and the introduction of Face to Face meetings with the Covid situation still with us.

However, Council meetings did resume and it was good to see Councillors, Staff and members of the public able to join meetings in person. This also includes the return of the various groups that use the Beechfield Centre on a regular basis.

The Executive Officer commenced her maternity leave on the 6th August 2021 and had a baby boy on the 8th August. All is well with both mother and baby.

Mrs Eileen Badcock came out of retirement in August to cover maternity leave for Victoria Woodhouse and will leave the Council in August 2022 following Victoria's return to work.

Mrs Jude Wood successfully completed her probationary period as Projects and Administration Manager in September 2021. She has proved to be a great asset to the Council and looks forward to a good year in 2022-2023.

Miss Nieve Wuttke-Keary, Administration Apprentice, passed the first of her exams at Petroc and has two further exams to complete. We wish her every success in passing these also.

As reported in the Annual Report for 2020-21, an allocation of £30,000 that year has this year seen the replacement of Multi-Use Play Equipment at Babbages and Mulberry Play Areas and new wetpour at the Galleon at Fremington Quay.

I am pleased to say that the Committee has once again awarded around £2,400 to local groups to include a grant to the Records Office, which will be awarded in July 2022. It is hoped that more local groups will apply for a grant next year.

I would like to thank the members of the Committee and staff for the support they have given me over the year.

Cllr Frank Biederman
Chairman

GRANTS AWARDED IN 2020/21

TOTAL £2,400

Barnstaple Pilot Gig Club	£100.00
Bickington Brownies	£100.00
Elmfield Road Boat Painting Project	£100.00
Fremington Friendship Club	£100.00
Fremington Parish Hall Management Committee	£100.00
1st Fremington District Rangers	£200.00
1st Fremington Guides	£100.00
1st Fremington Rainbows	£100.00
2nd Fremington Rainbows	£100.00
1st Fremington Scouts—Cub Pack	£100.00
1st Fremington Scouts—Beaver Colony	£100.00
Go North Devon	£100.00
Instow Westleigh West Yelland News	£100.00
Lady Linscott Club	£100.00
Roundswell Residents Association	£100.00
Tomlin Hall Management Committee	£100.00
Torridge North Mid & West Devon Citizens Advice	£100.00
Records Office	£600.00

This Annual Report is available on the Council's website at www.fremingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk and in a large print version.

If you would like a large print copy please contact the Parish Council Offices on 01271 321063, or email admin@fremingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

FREMINGTON QUAY COMMITTEE



As Chairman of this Committee for only one meeting my report will be brief.

My meeting dealt mostly with the Fremington Quay Environment Group and the proposed improvements to the Heritage Centre.

This would include re-painting the Signal Box Tower and changing its colour, repairing the Tower Signal Boxes, proposed new signage for the Signal Box Tower, all in original railway colours. Fremington Parish Council has agreed to contribute £1,300 towards the cost of redecoration and repairs.

The Environment Group also proposed large changes to the content of the Heritage Centre, this would include audio visual kiosks enabling visitors to experience the history of the Quay on screens. In addition, a large Smart television would be placed on the end wall which will have four or five short videos that visitors can select for themselves.

Details of the proposed new layout for the Heritage Centre can be viewed on Appendix One of the minutes of the Fremington Quay Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 31st March 2022.

Cllr Jim Bell
Chairman

TEWS LANE COMMITTEE

I was elected as Chair of this Committee on the 30th of September 2021 taking over from Cllr Sue Kingdom.

Since that date three meetings have taken place and I am pleased to say that committees are now returning to face-to-face meetings after Covid19 restrictions were eased. I have chaired each of these meetings.

As we resume to normality, the usage of the facilities at Tews Lane has increased. This is very positive and hopefully will continue.

The Committee, along with the assistance of the Parish Council's Project & Administration Manager, Jude Wood, has dealt with several issues.

The installation of an access gate and footpath caused many problems. After several e-mails being sent to the developers it has now been addressed and as a Committee we are now able to report that issues have been dealt with satisfactorily.

There have been discussions around the extension of the Tews Lane Pavilion, this is still a work in progress and I am pleased to say it is moving forward in a positive way. Extra finances will still be required but Committee will look further into other avenues of funding to enable completion of the project.

Pitch drainage has been an issue for many years and one which limits the use of the site. Members were informed that S106 funding from a local development could be used to address this problem. Hopefully, in the future with this work being carried out, a greater part of the pitch will be fit for purpose.

It has been agreed after designs/quotes were viewed what type of Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) is to be installed at the site along with 2 pathways adjacent to the MUGA area.

If any member of the public requires a more detailed account of above, it can be sourced from minutes of previous meetings. These minutes will also include the discussions around proposed spending and approximate costs.

Cllr Joy Cann
Chairman

PARKS & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

Last year we were lucky enough to be able to update the play equipment at Babbages and Mulberry Play Areas. We were very grateful to have the opportunity to do this and hope to identify similar funding in order to rejuvenate the Ellerslie Play Area.

Additionally, we have replaced the wetpour under the galleon play area at Fremington Quay along with removal of the damaged wooden slats on the rope bridge and replacing it with a cargo net style bridge. We are confident that these items will enhance the area.

The Parish Council has also planted a selection of Mixed Hedging Hawthorn Base Saplings behind the dugouts in Beechfield Playing Field. We are grateful to have received a grant that allowed us to do this and look forward to seeing them grow in the years to come.

Griggs Field has been cut and the drainage ditch has been cleared. The path that was laid around the field appears to be holding up well and will see some maintenance as winter nears.

Both Nature Reserves within Fremington Leat Meadow and Lovells Field have seen volunteers from within the community along with guidance from representatives from North Devon Council carrying out management work on the land to maintain it.

Here's a link if you want any more information: http://www.northdevonbiosphere.org.uk/uploads/1/5/4/4/15448192/fremington_lnr_leaflet.pdf

Please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Council should you see something that doesn't look right or indeed you believe they might be able to assist with in relation to the local parks or open spaces. You can do this via social media, the website for the Parish Council also has contact information.

Cllr Sam Adams
Chairman

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

The Steering Group has met to discuss the plan several times by Zoom and in person and it has moved forward from the previous draft.

The Steering Group will meet shortly to incorporate all the evidence to support the Policies within the draft Neighbourhood Plan, having taken into account the Climate Emergency and the Housing crisis.

The steering group will then seek to publicise the draft plan, make any adjustments as they may be required to do so and submit it to the Local Planning Authority for their approval and submission to the Inspectorate where a referendum will be carried out.

The Pandemic has delayed the Neighbourhood Plan once again and it is hoped that it will move forward this year.

Again, we must thank the Steering Group for all their work on the draft plan.

Cllr Sue Kingdom
Chairman



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Fremington Parish Council
Income & Expenditure Account (Unaudited)
1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022

(Current) Year Ended
31st. March 2022

Income

Administration	963.04
Parks & Playing Fields	549.46
Precept	265,816.27
Fremington Quay	23,199.04
Dog Bins	35.00
Cemetery	14,378.00
Grants	320.60
Earmarked Reserves	
Allotments—Babbages	498.48
Allotments—Muddlebridge	1,754.41
The Beechfield Centre	5,139.50
Salaries & Inland Revenue	2,187.58
Parish Paths	450.00
Grass Cutting (Parks & Playing Fields)	3,201.00
Tews Lane	3,540.00
Former Army Cap	1,980.22
Section 106 Funding	6,553.15
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	£330,565.75

Expenditure

Grants	6,200.26
Administration	26,891.32
Parks & Playing Fields	8,600.72
Salaries & Inland Revenue	142,023.90
Insurance	7,560.95
Loans	16,708.42
Parish Paths	325.20
Fremington Quay	9,662.27
Dog Bins	9,519.66
Cemetery	4,142.99
Earmarked Reserved	39,289.66
Allotments—Babbages	10.00
General Reserves	1,808.57
Former Army Camp	3,166.43
Allotments—Muddlebridge	1,598.50
The Beechfield Centre	12,978.79
Section 106 Funding	6,460.49
Grass Cutting (Parks and Playing Fields)	15,733.38
Tews Lane	15,681.21
Parish Enhancements	350.00
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	£328,712.72

Balance Carried Forward	£263,000
Minimum Reserve	<hr/> £50,000
General Reserves	£24,000
Transfer/Allocated to Earmarked Reserves	<hr/> £188,000

Parish Councillors

Fremington/Bickington Ward

Cllr Susan Kingdom 01271 326914
s.kingdom@fremingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Joy Cann 01271 345813

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Cllr David Dixon 01271 377532

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Cllr Louise Goodger 07562 791139

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Cllr Sue Haywood 07890 549592

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Cllr Carol McCormack-Hole 01271 343176

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Roundswell/Woodville Ward

Cllr Alan Rennles 01271 376335

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Fremington/Anchorwood Ward

Cllr Bill Sherborne 01271 344816

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Fremington/Yelland Ward

Cllr Samuel Adams 07930 280489

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Cllr Jim Bell 01271 860989

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Cllr Frank Biederman 07595 988704

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Cllr Cole Connell 07970 751606

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Cllr Myka Scott 07857 548093

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Cllr Helen Walker 07480 702987

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Fremington/Maple Ward

Cllr Timothy Steer 07815 754153

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Parish Council Officers

Mrs Eileen Badcock

Executive Officer—Maternity Cover

Mrs Jude Wood, Administration & Projects Manager

Mrs Liz Steer, Administration Officer

Miss Nieve Wuttke-Keary, Administration Apprentice

Mr Nigel Tounson, Maintenance & Amenities Operative

Fremington Parish Council

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