

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Meeting  
Held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 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, C McCormack-Hole, B Sherborne, M  
Scott, T Steer and H Walker

Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer  
Cllr J Mackie, North Devon Council  
Mr J Bostman, Community Engagement Ambassador, Jurassic Fibre

**2210/01 Apologies**

Cllrs S Haywood and A Rennles.

**2210/02 Declarations of Interest**

None.

**2210/03 Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman asked members that if they receive an email from a member of the public and it is not within their ward could they provide the resident with the contact details of the ward member(s).

**2210/04 Public Participation Period**

None.

**2210/05 Minutes**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention, to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 as a correct record.

**2210/06 Committees**

To receive, and adopt the minutes, and note the decisions therein, of the following Committee meetings:

- Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary to adopt the minutes and not the decisions therein of the minutes of the Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

- Environment & Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary to adopt the minutes and not the decisions therein of the minutes of the Environment & Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

- Tews Lane Committee meeting held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary to adopt the minutes and not the decisions therein of the minutes of the Tews Lane Committee meeting held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022.



2210/07

**County and District Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Mackie reported that the consultation on the proposed changes to the council tax reduction scheme closes on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022. NDC now has a code of practice for short-term lets. Cllr Mackie encouraged members to read the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) and respond as individuals. NDC has an empty homes project to reduce long-term empty properties and help to address the housing crisis, enforcement has already taken place on some empty properties to reduce the negative impact on neighbours. Cllr Mackie and Biederman are aware of a consultation for Chilpark and have asked the agent and lead officer for a meeting. There is an application in to reallocate some of the Section 106 money for the Yelland Quay site that is not required for highway upgrades, the application will go before the Planning Committee.

Cllr Walker/Cann

Cllr Walker reported that NDC has now banned Chinese lanterns on its land due to the environmental impact. Work has started on the Barnstaple High Street scheme which is looking promising. Cllr Walker and Cann (along with the Chairman of the Parish Council) attended the Church Service for the late Queen and Proclamation for King Charles III. Cllr Walker reported that the Policy Committee had requested that they ask questions of South West Water and Cllr Walker requested that if anyone has any questions about any aspects of the service/business could they let her know asap. A grant of £500,000 has been awarded from the safer streets project and there will be street marshals in Barnstaple to help tackle anti-social behaviour. The Waste and Recycling service had been stretched over the summer but now operators have returned to work and summer holidays have ended it should be back to full service. NDC has £1.6 million to help rough sleepers which is a proper package to help get people housed, however, there is still a short supply of rental properties. Cllr Walker explained that we are now in an Avian Flu lockdown area and reminded people not to touch any dead birds but to report them to Environmental Health. People with domestic birds should have bio security in place to prevent mixing with wild birds. The new Head of Planning should be starting with NDC within the next week.

Cllr Biederman confirmed that LCWIP does affect the parish and includes linking up key links through the parish and from Bickington to the Tarka Trail. NDC has prosecuted two fly tipping incidents which relies on members of the public reporting information to the authority. A fund has opened to support youth organisations and Cllr Biederman will forward links to the Executive Officer, there is also a dedicated page on the cost of living on NDC's website. Devon County Council's Carbon Plan is available on its website. Cllr Biederman had recently met with the Deputy Chief Fire Officer after a very busy summer and urged anyone who had not to request a free fire safety check of their property. Retained fire fighters are also required and the number of hours you need to commit in a week has been reduced but you must be able to attend the fire station within seven minutes.



2210/08

**Police**

The report is attached as Appendix A. It was noted that there was no date range on the report, members requested that a date range is included on future reports.

2210/09

**Jurassic Fibre**

The Community Engagement Ambassador from Jurassic Fibre introduced himself and gave a brief overview of how the company provides superfast fibre broadband and the network in the parish, he stressed that if there are any issues in the area he is the direct contact and will try to resolve any issues swiftly.

Members explained that the contractors working to install the network were, at times, rude and messy. The public did not have notification of areas of the highway network that were being opened often resulting in residents being trapped on or off of their properties and/or unable to use pavements. Cllr Goodger noted that a resident in Barnstaple was left blocked on their driveway by a traffic light which other residents had to physically move and there was not any warning of the erection of these lights. Members asked if the contractors were providing guarantees on the reinstatement as some reinstatement works had not been carried out to a satisfactory standard. It was noted that the works had been carried out by sub-contractors, the Community Engagement Ambassador would report the comments to head office and enquire about the guarantees.

Cllr Biederman left the meeting.

Cllr Connell asked if Jurassic Fibre is working with developers on new sites, he explained that BT had laid the cables in Riverside Park/Waters Edge as a result residents had to stay with them as their provider for two years. The Community Engagement Ambassador confirmed that there was no contract.

Cllr Biederman returned to the meeting.

Members thanked the Community Engagement Ambassador for his time.

2210/10

**Planning Committee**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllrs Haywood, Kingdom, Adams, Bell and Rennles to the Committee. Members considered substitutes for the Committee, and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint the rest of the Council as substitutes who can be called upon if the meeting is likely to be inquorate.

2210/11

**Councillors Questions**

Cllr Biederman asked if there was an update on the MUGA. It was noted that no further correspondence had been received. Cllr Biederman urged people to get their flu/covid jabs.

Cllr Biederman recognised the efforts of the Chairman and staff in arranging the Proclamation at short notice on the Village Green which was well attended by around 95 members of the public he felt the service went

very well. Cllr Kingdom stated that she was really pleased to have been able to read the Proclamation.

Cllr McCormack-Hole asked if there was an allocated site for travellers and if so where it was? It was noted that there is a tolerance site on Severn Brethren for the whole of North Devon.

Cllr Walker asked if the banning of Chinese lanterns could be placed on the next Agenda.

Cllr Dixon asked if disposable BBQs could be included.

Cllr Biederman asked if Public Space Protection Orders could be included in the motion.

Cllr Walker asked if S106 funds had been received from the Anchorwood View development.

Cllr Cann asked everyone to look at the LCWIP and submit their views there will be some loss of green space which she has concerns about.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm

Signed .....

Dated .....7.11.22.....