

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Meeting
Held on Monday 6th March 2023 at 7.05pm at the Beechfield Centre,
Beechfield Road, Fremington**

Present: Cllrs S Kingdom (Chairman), J Bell, J Cann, C Connell, D Dixon, C McCormack-Hole, M Scott, H Walker, and S Adams.

Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer
Cllr J Mackie, North Devon Council

2 Members of the public

2303/01

Apologies

Cllrs S Haywood, A Rennles, F Biederman, L Goodger and T Steer.

2303/02

Declarations of Interest

None.

2303/03

Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman announced that she had attended the funeral service of the late John Gayton and it was a nice service.

2303/04

Public Participation Period

A member of the public raised concerns about the commencement of works at Yelland Quay, it was noted that there were several conditions attached to the planning permission which have to be met prior to works starting, however works have started and are really dusty/dirty and noise. The situation has been reported to NDC Planning and Environmental Health, but no response received, with around ten years of construction on site it was felt that NDC would need to be more proactive. It was noted that the Ward District Cllr would pursue.

2303/05

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 6th February 2023 as a correct record.

2303/06

Committees

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

- Parks and Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on 6th February 2023
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary to adopt the minutes and note the decisions therein of the minutes of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee meeting held on Monday 6th February 2023.
- Planning Committee Meeting held on 21st February 2023
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary to adopt the minutes and note the decisions therein of the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Tuesday 21st February 2023.

- Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting held on 23rd February 2023
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary to adopt the minutes and note the decisions therein of the minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on Thursday 23rd February 2023.
- Environment and Community Committee Meeting held on 23rd February 2023
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary to adopt the minutes and note the decisions therein of the minutes of the Environment and Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 23rd February 2023.

Cllr Walker confirmed that the Parish Council had been given the approval to re-wild the grass verges at the end of Ellerslie Road and this had been undertaken by the Maintenance and Amenities Operative in conjunction with children from Sticklepath School.

- Tews Lane Committee Meeting held on 23rd February 2023
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary to adopt the minutes and note the decisions therein of the minutes of the Tews Lane Committee meeting held on Thursday 23rd February 2023.

2303/07

County and District Councillors' Reports

Cllr Mackie presented on behalf of Cllr Biederman as well and explained that DCC has a "have your say" consultation open at the moment with a closing date of 8th April 2023 with referent to the potential closure of North Devon link drop-in centres and urged everyone to respond as it will have an impact on the mental health provision for over 18s.

At NDC the remodelling of the waste and recycling service is underway, the driver vacancies have been filled and there are now reserve drivers, the managers also have their HGV licence. They are also using appropriate vehicles for appropriate roads. The green at Littlemoor has had some further improvements and NDC has increased the scope for the better care fund.

Cllr Mackie confirmed that there is in the region of £330,333 from the Yelland Quay development for the off-site affordable housing and the Yelland polling station will be in a garage in Linscott Crescent this year.

Cllr Cann/Walker Cllr Walker explained that the better care fund can pay for things like good, insulated windows. The MUGA at Tews Lane has now been completed using Section 106 funds and a number of positive comments have been received, the facility appears well used already and the Cllrs would like to pass on their thanks to the Executive Officer and Administration and Projects Manager for the delivery of the project, it is a "superb" facility. There is a problem in Barnstaple with an increase in rough sleepers and working rough sleepers and the outreach team are doing a fantastic job. NDC has set its budgets and the charges for car parking has had to increase but it is the first time in five years.

Cllr Walker stressed the importance of Voter ID for the upcoming elections and explained that if you have a blue badge and are parked outside a polling station you can use your badge as voter ID and if you obtain a parking ticket you just need to tell them you were voting and the ticket will be cancelled. It was noted that people can still apply for postal votes, and this will not require voter ID.

It was noted that there was no update on the re-opening of the Cattle Market car park but options were being investigated using a multi-agency approach. Members suggested investigating the option of a drop-in clinic in an empty shop like in Glasgow.

2303/08

Police

No report received. It was noted that the Devon and Cornwall Police is in special measures.

2303/09

Councillors Questions

Cllr Adams asked if a response had been received from the Community Group with reference to the King's Coronation – it was noted a response had not yet been received.

Cllr Walker informed members that she had written to the DCC Cllr for the Ellerslie Road area following an offer to a parent of locality funding towards the refurbishment of the play area and Cllr Walker will follow up.

Cllr Scott asked for information on the trees that are being cut down along the main road from Cedars to Sainsburys. It was noted that this was a DCC matter and there had been a public consultation, visibility splays are required for the proposed crossing.

Cllr Dixon asked with the cost of the green waste collection rising to £55 a year has NDC considered the impact of less people using the service. District Cllrs explained that it is not a statutory service and was running at a loss, the budgets and figures have been considered in depth by NDC's finance team, nobody was happy with the increase but did need to make the service viable.

Cllr Kingdom asked those present about a volunteer thank you event in March and members were supportive.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.45pm

Signed

Dated