

**Minutes of the Annual Fremington Parish Council Meeting
Held on Monday 13th May 2024 at 7pm at the Beechfield Centre,
Beechfield Road, Fremington**

Present: Cllrs S Kingdom (Chairman), J Bell, F Biederman, J Bridgeman, J Cann, N Denton, D Dixon, S Haywood, R Jones, C McCormack-Hole, B Sherborne, and H Walker.

Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer

- 2405/01 **Election of Chairman**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to elect Cllr Kingdom as Chairman for 2024/2025.
- 2405/02 **Declaration of Office – Chairman**
The Chairman read and signed the prescribed 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 2405/03 **Election of Vice-Chairman**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to elect Cllr Cann as Vice-Chairman for 2024/2025.
- 2405/04 **Apologies**
Cllr S Adams.
- 2405/05 **Declarations of Interest**
None.
- 2405/06 **Chairman's Announcements**
The Chairman confirmed that the informal meeting would take place on Tuesday 21st May 2024.
- 2405/07 **Public Participation Period**
None.
- 2405/08 **Minutes**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8th April 2024 as a correct record.
- 2405/09 **Committees**
To receive, and adopt the minutes, and note the decisions therein, of the following Committee meetings:
- Extraordinary Environment and Community Committee Thursday 18th April 2024
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to adopt the minutes and note the decisions therein of the minutes of the Extraordinary Environment & Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 18th April 2024.

- Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 23rd April 2024
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to adopt the minutes and note the decisions therein of the minutes of the Finance & Personnel Committee meeting held on Tuesday 23rd April 2024.
- Planning Committee Meeting held on Thursday 25th April 2024
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 Thursday 25th April 2024.
- Environment & Community Committee Meeting held on Thursday 25th April 2024
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to adopt the minutes and note the decisions therein of the minutes of the Environment & Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 25th April 2024.

2405/10

Annual Report

To receive Annual Report which includes the following reports from outgoing Committee Chairmen

- a) Chairman's Report
- b) Finance and Personnel
- c) Fremington Quay
- d) Environment & Community
- e) Tews Lane
- f) Parks and Open Spaces
- g) Planning

It was noted that the Finance & Personnel, Fremington Quay and Environment & Community reports had not been received and verbal reports were given along with the circulation of the other reports. The Annual report will be produced and circulated.

2405/11

Terms of Reference and Scheme of Delegation

Members reviewed the Terms of Reference and Scheme of Delegation, and no amendments were made.

2405/12

Membership of Committees

- a) To appoint seven Councillors to serve on the Environment and Community Committee.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllrs Bell, Bridgeman, Cann, Dixon, Jones, Walker and Kingdom to the Environment and Community Committee.

- b) To appoint seven Councillors to serve on the Parks & Open Spaces Committee.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllrs Adams, Bell, Bridgeman, Dixon, Jones, McCormack-Hole and Denton to the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.

- c) To appoint seven Councillors to serve on the Fremington Quay Management Committee.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllrs Dixon, Cann, Jones, Kingdom, Walker, Sherborne and Denton to the Feemington Quay Committee.

- d) To appoint five Councillors to serve on the Tews Lane Committee.
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllrs Cann, Jones, Kingdom, Walker, and Sherborne to the Tews Lane Committee.

2405/13 **Review of Standing Orders**

Members reviewed the Standing Orders and no amendments were made.

2405/14 **Review of Financial Regulations**

Members reviewed the Financial Regulations and no amendments were made.

2405/15 **Parish Council Representatives**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary to appoint the following representatives:

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|----|--|---------------------|
| a) | Fremington Parish Hall Management Committee | Cllr Biederman |
| b) | Tomlin Hall Management Committee | Cllr Walker |
| c) | Devon Association of Local Councils | Cllr Walker |
| d) | Fremington Quay Environment Group | Cllr Jones |
| e) | Muddlebridge & Babbages Allotment Association | Cllr Bridgeman |
| f) | Taw & Torridge Estuary Forum | Cllr Bell |
| g) | Fremington Local Nature Reserve Management Committee | Cllr Denton |
| h) | Police Advocate for Crime Commissioner | Cllr Bridgeman |
| i) | Plastic Free North Devon | Cllr Jones |
| j) | Tree Warden for Fremington/Yelland | Cllr Bell |
| k) | Tree Warden for Bickington/Roundswell | Cllr Jones |
| l) | Snow Warden Co-ordinator | Cllr Walker |
| m) | Healthwatch Assist Network | Cllr McCormack-Hole |

2405/16 **Members' Code of Conduct**

Members reviewed the Code of Conduct and no amendments were made.

2405/17 **Assets and Lease Arrangements**

The Asset Register and Lease Arrangements were circulated prior to the meeting. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the Council's Assets and Lease Arrangements.

2405/18 **County and District Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Walker/Cann - Bickington Ward

Cllr Walker reported that the planning application for Brynsworthy was rejected by the planning committee, however, there is a suggestion that the piece of land is included in the next Local Plan. North Devon Council

will meet half of the shortfall of funding for the Record Office and have asked Torridge District Council to do the same, however, this is only for this year. Two new electric vehicles are being leased by NDC, one tipper and one panel van. Cllr Walker has recently attended the presentation of British Empire Medals and two District Cllrs from Fremington attended the Mayor's Ball. Half hour charging for Brannams medical centre will be implemented soon.

Cllr Cann reported that the bus station café will be re-opened hopefully by July under franchise and works have started on Queen Street car park which is now closed, however, there are allocated spaces for the medical centre. There are a couple of areas of open space in Roundswell which were cut when wet and are now uneven.

Cllr Denton – Fremington Ward

Cllr Denton reported that there had been a lot of mud on the Yelland Straight which was dangerous and thanked DCC for providing a new bus shelter at West Yelland. There is flooding in Allenstyle which the ward members have been investigating and the MUGA on Riverside Park is well use.

Cllr Biederman – Fremington Ward

Cllr Biederman reported that two replacement bus shelters had been provided by DCC in West Yelland and CC voted to put forward a proposal to the Secretary of State with reference to the Combined County Authority. There was a briefing on the three new bus lanes that will be introduced to Barnstaple costing a total of £1.5million. Cllr Biederman could not see a need for the proposed bus lane in Roundswell and the consultation results did not support the bus lane, Cllr Biederman suggested a letter to the Secretary of State with reference to the consultation responses and bus lanes. There is a consultation open on the proposed family hub centres and families will be able to access the services rather than having to be referred. A replacement Leader for DCC has been appointed following John Harts retirement. Cabinet has put an extra £12million into repairing potholes and drainage.

NDC is waiting for further information on the Chilpark planning application and NDC might have to reconsult due to a technicality. The Community Group has carried out a 60 minute spruce in Fremington and will move through the parish.

Cllr Walker supported Cllr Biederman's proposed letter to the Secretary of State with reference to the consultation not supporting proposed bus lane(s).

2405/19

Police

No report received.

2405/20

Councillors Questions

Cllr Bell reminded members that there was a further consultation on the Whitecross Windfarm application at the Cricket Club on 22nd. Taw and Torridge Estuary Forum are giving out small grants each year to projects that enhance the estuary.

Cllr McCormack-Hole encouraged everyone to be a part of the public participation group for their medical surgery and gave details on Barnstaple Alliance Public Forums in the near future.

Cllr Dixon asked if it would be possible for the North Devon Athletics Club to have the flood lights from the MUGA at Riverside.

Cllr Biderman reported that the works to the Cedars Roundabout might finish earlier than planned in mid-June but there will be further nighttime closures.

Cllr Kingdom asked if anyone had any subject matters for the next Parish Forum. Members would like information on the five year housing land supply and more consultation with Parish Councils in drawing up Section 106 agreements.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed  Dated 17.6.24