

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Parks and Playing Fields Committee
held on Thursday 30th July 2015 at 11.00am
at the Parish Council Offices, 12 Higher Road, Fremington**

- Present:** Cllrs T Wood (Chairman), J Bell, F Biederman, D Chalmers and G Turner
Mrs Victoria Woodhouse, Parish Clerk, Cllrs A Rennles and D Brailey, Mr Derek Beechey, Treasurer Muddlebridge Allotment Association and Cllr D Jones
- 1507/33 **Apologies for Absence**
Cllr K Groves and B Sherborne.
- 1507/34 **Declarations of interests**
Cllr Biederman declared a Personal interest in Item 1507/41 and Item 1507/46 as Chairman of the Fremington and District Community Group and a Personal Interest in 1507/43 as he is loosely involved with the group.
- 1507/35 **To agree the agenda as published**
Agreed.
- 1507/36 **Chairman's Announcements**
Members were informed that there was a problem with the new roundabout in the Ellerslie play area, the contractor had ordered a new replacement roundabout from the manufacturer and it would be installed in due course.
- An update on the replacement of the Beechfield Centre was provided to members. It was noted that the bat survey had recently been completed and the report was due to be received by the office in the near future, it was further noted that funding was being sought.
- 1507/37 **Public Participation Period**
None.
- 1507/38 **To approve and sign the minutes of meeting held on 25th June 2015 as a correct record**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 25th June 2015 as a correct record. Cllr Wood duly signed the minutes.
- 1507/39 **To note correspondence from Phillips Smith and Dunn relating to the renewal of the lease for the Muddlebridge Allotment Site**
Members were informed that e-mail confirmation had been received stating that the Parish Council's lease would be renewed and terms were yet to be discussed. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the information.
- 1507/40 **To receive update and consider options to tackle dog fouling in the Ellerslie Road Play Area**
Cllr Jones reported that he had received complaints about dog fouling in the vicinity of the play equipment in the play area at Ellerslie Road. He was aware that the Committee had resolved to ask the Dog Warden to undertake additional inspections of the area and asked if the Committee would consider fencing the area around the play equipment if funding could be secured through the Community Fund. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree to fencing off the play equipment within the Ellerslie Road Play Area to prevent dogs from entering the area, subject to the cost being met by external funding, it was further **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to accept the cheapest most suitable quotation for fencing.

- 1507/41 **To receive quotations for replacing worn parts on the Multiplay at the Babbages Play Area and a quotation for repairing a broken part**
Members were informed that the net on the multiplay requires replacing and the access board requires either replacing or repairing, associated quotations were received and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to replace the net and repair the access board. It was further **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to write to the District Councillors, County Councillor and Fremington and District Community Group to request financial assistance towards the replacement and repair.
- 1507/42 **To receive update on the proposed consultation event at Babbages Play Area**
Members were informed that the item had been referred back from the last Full Council meeting as members had raised concerns about the location. In the meantime correspondence had been received from NDC refusing permission for an event at Babbages due to parking and access concerns. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the information.
- 1507/43 **To consider NCS Team Community Action Project for the Beechfield Centre**
Cllr Biederman reported that the National Citizenship Service is run by Petroc so all insurances and risk assessments and relevant checks are in place, the scheme is a four week course for young people during the summer holidays the young people are required to plan, fund raise and deliver a project within the community. One of the projects identified by a group was the repainting and tidying up of the Beechfield Centre, however permission for such a project could not be given under delegated powers and within the time limit. Cllr Biederman stated that if the Council's permission was given a future group may like to choose the centre for their project. Given the state of the centre it was felt that very little damage could occur and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to allow a group from the NCS project to use the Beechfield Centre as a project. The Parish Council would not allow the project to include the football changing rooms and it would be subject to them being aware that the centre is the subject of a replacement project and will hopefully be demolished in the near future.
- Cllr Turner indicated that the Roundswell Residents' Association may have some projects the NCS team could undertake.
- 1507/44 **To consider future maintenance of the pathways around Griggs Field**
Members were informed that the pathways around Griggs Field had recently been widened due to the encroaching vegetation, the recommendation from the contractor is to spray the sides of the pathways with weed killer every 4 – 6 weeks at a cost of £50 a time, members noted that the budget did not allow for such a cost and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to investigate the costs and feasibility of a volunteer group undertaking the spraying twice a year or including two sprays a year in the current grass cutting contract.
- 1507/45 **To consider replacement of the litter bin in the Beechfield Play Area**
Members were informed that the litter bin in the Beechfield Play Area was in a bad state of repair and in need of replacement, members considered options and costs for replacement and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to ask if McDonalds would be able to supply a litter bin for the area. If a bin is not available it was agreed to replace the bin with a suitable replacement up to the value of £250.
- 1507/46 **To receive further information relating to Section 106 money in the Parish**
At the last meeting it was agreed to ask for details and a copy of the contracts so the Parish Council is aware what the money can be spent on and any restrictions. It was further agreed to enquire if there was an allocation from Taw Meadow and if so what it was spent on and the details of the return of the £70,000 that was lent to Barnstaple for the completion of the skate park.

Members were informed that all the contracts are available on the District Council's website. There was an allocation of approximately £39,000 for Taw Meadow which was for maintenance; it is now believed to stand at around £36,000 and Cllr Jones would like to create a scrape within the Nature Reserve for the wildlife.

The £70,000 S106 money was transferred to the skate park project in Barnstaple following a democratic agreement and was required to complete the project. The park benefits young people in both Barnstaple and the surrounding area. It was said that if funding was later available it could be replaced but this has not materialised.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the information and ask NDC if the Taw Meadow agreement can be varied to allow the money to be spent elsewhere, such as the Village Green project.

1507/47

Close

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.05pm.

Signed.....

Dated