

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Meeting  
Held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 7.00pm at Fremington Parish Hall,  
Higher Road, Fremington**

**Present:** Cllrs Mrs S Kingdom (Chairman), J Bell, F Biederman, D Brailey, R Cann, D Chalmers, Mrs J Dyson, Mrs J Flynn, B Sherborne and G Turner  
Mrs V Woodhouse, Parish Clerk and Mrs E Badcock, Services Officer

**In Attendance:** 4 Members of the public

1509/01 **Apologies**  
Cllrs T Wood, Ms M Scott, A Rennles, K Groves and Mrs C McCormack-Hole.

1509/02 **Declarations of Interest**  
Cllr Mrs Flynn declared a Personal Interest in Item 1509/19 application 59788 as the applicant is known to her.

Cllr Biederman declared a Personal Interest in Item 1509/12 as a member of Devon County Council and Item 1509/19 application 59788 as the applicant is known to him.

1509/03 **Chairman's Announcements**  
The Chairman informed members that there would be an informal workshop on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 7pm. Members were further informed that the Parish Hall Management Committee will be holding a defibrillator awareness evening for the Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> October and would like to extend the invitation to Councillors and members of the public to come along and see how a defibrillator works.

The Chairman drew members' attention to the planning decision for application 59562 and informed members that the Parish Council had not be consulted on this application.

1509/04 **To agree the agenda between Part A and Part B (Confidential)**  
It was **resolved** to agree the agenda between Part A and Part B (Confidential).

**PART A**

1509/05 **To receive a report from the Police**  
Members were informed that the PCSO had confirmed that a report would be available following the meeting and the Clerk will circulate. Cllr Cann reported that he is involved with several other Parish Councils such as Berrynarbor which is a much smaller parish and has had a Police presence at meetings, Cllr Cann felt that the Parish Council should apply more pressure for a Police presence at meetings and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to write another letter requesting a Police presence at Parish Council meetings.

1509/06 **Public Participation Period**  
None.

1509/07 **To approve and sign the minutes of Fremington Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2015 as a correct record**  
Copies were circulated with the agenda.  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> August 2015 as a correct record. Cllr Mrs Kingdom duly signed the minutes.

1509/08

**Highway issues – update**

Cllr Biederman reported that he had spoken to the DCC Officer with reference to Higher Road and Military Road and was assured that a stage 3 safety audit would be carried out by an independent company, however, it will not be carried out until the refuge islands are redesigned and the timescale for this is unknown. Cllr Biederman has requested that the Keep Clear sign in Higher Road is moved backwards to allow one car to progress past the sign in order to trigger the lights, this is especially important for those exiting the shops car park which are currently unable to trigger the lights. There is also an issue with a property flooding and remedial measures will take place to alleviate the problem and they would be happy to fit shields to the lights if they are causing a problem.

Cllr Mrs Flynn asked if the traffic lights could be turned off next year to allow the Mini Run an uninterrupted run through the Parish.

Cllr Cann felt the issues with the road layout need to be progressed with haste and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to write to the Chief Executive of DCC with a copy to John Hart.

1509/09

**Matters to Note (all held in the office unless specified as enclosed)**

- Letter from NDC re acceptance of Application for a non-material amendment to planning permission 59047 in respect of enlargement of window at 15 Mead Park Close, Bickington, Barnstaple
- Veterans World magazine – Issue 35
- Email from DCC re Bus Service Changes: North Devon (Copy enclosed for Cllrs only)
- Email from NDC Enforcement Officer re siting of mobile home at Lower Yelland Farm, Yelland (Copy enclosed for Cllrs only)
- Letter from NDC re Prior Approval not being required for a larger home extension at 53 Sampsons Plantation, Fremington, Barnstaple
- Letter from Mr J Hart, DCC, re disposal of the A39 Picnic Sites (Copy enclosed for Cllrs only)

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the information.

1509/10

**County and District Councillors' Reports** - To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillors for information only.

Cllr Brailey reported that the change of layout on the stones roundabout in Barnstaple has caught several people out. The Anchorwood Bank development will have a knock on traffic effect on the Parish and he has asked for the possibility of a one way system in and around Seven Brethren to be investigated, however, this might not be possible due to the effect it would have on the buses. There might be the possibility of creating another entrance/exit point for Lidl's. Everyone was concerned with the flooding of the Taw Bridge which was due to the drains being blocked, these are due to be cleared. Somerset and Devon have put in a bid to become a combined authority.

Cllr Cann reported that there have been a lot of problems with litter and fly tipping in and around Roundswell, warnings have been issued and a number of green wheelie bins which were being misused have been removed.

Members asked if the Local Plan had been submitted. Cllr Brailey informed members that due the Secretary of State losing a High Court decision the Local Plan has not been submitted and there are a few changes to be made which will be the subject of a further public consultation.

1509/11

**To consider drafting a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Fremington**

Members considered a report circulated prior to the meeting and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to draft a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Fremington and to apply for the necessary grant funding.

- 1509/12      **To consider siting of a compound for maintenance and painting of the Fremington Viaduct**  
 Members considered a request from DCC to site a compound at Fremington Quay to carry out maintenance to the Fremington Viaduct. Members did not feel that the two proposed locations from DCC (the Wildflower Meadow/Sheep Paddock and the grass area adjacent to the bridge) would be the most appropriate location for the compound. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree in principle and to delegate negotiations to the two District & Parish Council Ward Members (Cllrs Cann & Mrs Flynn), the Parish Council Ward Member (Cllr Chalmers) and the Vice-Chairman of the Council & Fremington Quay Management Committee Chairman (Cllr Biederman) to meet on site with the Clerk and DCC Engineer to agree the most suitable location. It was further agreed that if the proposed location was felt to be inappropriate, the Vice-Chairman would call an Extra-Ordinary Full Council Meeting.
- 1509/13      **To note completion of Audit for the year ended 31 March 2015 and consider the External Auditors Certificate and Opinion**  
 It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to receive and note the information.
- 1509/14      **To receive report from DALC Meetings and highlight issues of concern**  
 Cllr Chalmers reported that the DALC AGM would be held on 15<sup>th</sup> October in Exeter and two members could attend with voting rights. As the Parish Council's Representative, Cllr Chalmers would be attending the AGM and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to circulate the invitation for one other Councillors to attend.  
  
 Cllr Chalmers reported that he would be sitting on the Panel for the Local Council Awards.
- 1509/15      **To receive and consider Public consultation about Community Hospital Services in Northern Devon**  
 Members did not feel reassured that the proposals are in the best interest of local people and appear to be financially driven, concerns were raised at the speed of the changes and the lack of infrastructure that is in place before the closure of the community beds takes place. Members would like to highlight that community hospital beds are required especially in rural areas and the resources are not yet in place to take care of people in their own homes. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to forward these comments to the CCG.  
  
 Cllr Mrs Flynn left the meeting.
- 1509/16      **To receive and consider pre-submission consultation on the Devon Minerals Plan**  
 It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to highlight the importance of the Clay deposits at the claypits in Tews Lane. These deposits should be protected and a buffer zone maintained around the area.  
  
 Cllr Mrs Flynn returned to the meeting.
- 1509/17      **To consider taking part in Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth 2016**  
 It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to take part in the Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth 2016 with a small ceremony.
- 1509/18      **To receive update on the maintenance of the additional Cemetery land**  
 Members were informed that unfortunately a farmer willing to place sheep on the land to maintain the grass had not been identified, however, the grass could be cut in September along with the Quay Road at a cost of £60 and future maintenance of the site discussed at the next Burial Authority Meeting. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to have the piece of land cut at a cost of £60 and discuss the future maintenance at the next Burial Authority Meeting.

1509/19

**North Devon Council – Planning Applications**

North Devon Council, the determining Authority, has asked for comments from this Parish Council on the following planning applications:

*It was formally noted that participation of the Councillors who are also members of NDC in both the debate and subsequent vote (in respect of any of the above, were preliminary taking account of the information matters) was on the basis that the views expressed made available at the time to the Parish Council. The District Councillors were reserving their final views on the applications until they were in full possession of all the relevant arguments for and against*

59721 Proposal: variation of conditions 2 (approved plans) & 3 (design restrictions) attached to planning permission 58455 to enable amended design & repositioning of dwelling  
Location: Land off Beards Road, Fremington, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mazzard Investments Ltd

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to no adverse impact on the amenity of neighbours.

59752 Proposal: Erection of one dwelling  
Location: Victoria Cottage, Bickington, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mr C Lovell

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL subject to an appropriate design which respects the character of the area.

59758 Proposal: Application for consent for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order in respect of crown reduction of 1 Ash tree  
Location: 17 Lyddicleave, Bickington, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mr J Mills

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL as long as the works are in the interest of safety or good tree management.

59788 Proposal: Advertisement application for siting of illuminated & non illuminated fascia & hoarding signs  
Location: Old Barn Inn, Tews Lane, Bickington, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Enterprise Inns

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL.

59789 Proposal: Demolition of existing & erection of new semi-detached dwelling  
Location: 2 Chilpark, Fremington, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mr G Price

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL in principle subject to the site being able to accommodate a semi-detached dwelling and appropriate design to respect the character of the area. The Council does have concerns over the close proximity to the boundary with No.1.

59806 Proposal: Application for consent for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order in respect of crown lifting & selective reduction of 1 Beech tree  
Location: 34 Park Avenue, Sticklepath, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mr A Wade, Tarka Tree Care

The Council is reluctant to see works to trees in this area, however, if the District Council is mindful to approve it should only be approved in the interest of safety or good tree management.

59837 Proposal: Removal of Condition 45 & 46 & variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) attached to planning permission 55809  
Location: Land at Anchorwood Bank, Taw Wharf, Sticklepath, Barnstaple  
*Consulted as an adjoining parish*

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the information.

1509/20

**North Devon Council – Planning Decisions**

North Devon Council, the determining Authority, has APPROVED the following applications with conditions as filed:

59562 Proposal: Erection of conservatory  
Location: 3 Fremington Quay, Fremington, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mr P H Watkins

North Devon Council, the determining Authority, has REFUSED the following application:

58960 Proposal: Installation and operation of a single 500KW wind turbine & access track on agricultural land at Woolmers Farm with an overall maximum tip height of 74m  
Location: Land at Woolmers Farm, North Lane, Bickington, Barnstaple  
Applicant/Agent: Mosscliff Environmental Ltd

The following applications have been WITHDRAWN and will no longer be considered:

56535 Proposal: Discharge of Conditions 4,5,6,7,8,14,15,22,23,25 Application APP/X1118/A/12/2188898 – residential development of 277 dwellings with associated public open space, affording housing & associated works  
Location: Former Fremington Army Camp, Fremington, Barnstaple

56690 Proposal: Approval of details in respect of discharge of Condition 21 (play area) & 26 (roads, footpath, verges, visibility splays) attached to planning permission 53147 (APP/X1118/A/12/2188898)  
Location: Former Fremington Army Training Camp, Hill Top, Fremington, Barnstaple

59532 Proposal: Prior approval for change of use of agricultural building to 3 dwellings  
Location: Barn at Collacott Farm, Newton Tracey, Barnstaple

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the information.

1509/21

**Councillors Questions**

Cllr Cann was concerned about the withdrawal of the bus service from Roundswell to Park School and it was agreed to express concerns to DCC.

Cllr Turner asked for views on the brambles that are over hanging the walls on the footpaths from Cedars towards Sainsburys. It was noted that the issue has been reported.

1509/22

**Close**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm.