

**Minutes of Fremington Parish Council Meeting
Held on Monday 7th April 2014 at 7.00pm at Fremington Parish Hall,
Higher Road, Fremington**

Present: Cllrs R Cann (Chairman), Mrs Flynn, C Bell, J Bell, F Biederman, B Clifton, D Brailey, D Harris, B Hockin, Mrs C McCormack-Hole, Mrs S Kingdom, Ms M Scott, B Sherborne, C Turner and T Wood
Mrs V Woodhouse, Parish Clerk, and Mrs E Badcock, Services Officer

In Attendance: 5 Members of the public

- 1404/14 **Apologies**
Apologies were received from the Police.
- 1404/15 **Declarations of Interest**
None received.
- 1404/16 **Chairman's Announcements**
The Chairman congratulated Cllr Hockin on his appointment as Vice-Chairman to the North Devon Council and announced the following: -
- The Clerk had spoken to North Devon Homes following Devon County Council's review of Youth Services and subsequent letter from the Parish Council. North Devon Homes are looking at ways to make their projects sustainable and, although they cannot make any promises at this stage, they will try to include Fremington where possible but they would require information on how many of their customers access the current youth club or would access a similar service.
 - From the 1st April 2014 the enforcement of on-street parking is no longer the responsibility of the North Devon Council and has reverted back to DCC, NDC will continue to enforce off-street parking in its car parks.
 - The North Devon Volunteer Service is holding a Good Mental Health Day and is encouraging voluntary groups to take part, particularly those who offer direct support to people with mental health issues.
 - Two planning applications (57074 & 57187) had been received which require recommendations before the next Parish Council meeting, it was unanimously agreed that these should be dealt with as a matter of urgency under North Devon Council - Planning Applications.
- 1404/17 **To agree the agenda between Part A and Part B (Confidential)**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree the agenda between Part A and Part B (Confidential)
- PART A**
- 1404/18 **To Receive a Report from the Police**
The Police sent their apologies. The District Crime Report was circulated, a copy of which is attached to these minutes as Appendix One. It was **resolved** to note the report. Members raised concerns that several sheds on the allotments had been broken into and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to place an item in the next Parish Council Newsletter about shed break-ins.
- 1404/19 **Public Participation Period**
A resident stated that twelve months ago a senior citizen had requested a pedestrian crossing in the village of Fremington and asked for an update on the situation. The Chairman reported that in light of the changes proposed by the Army Camp development it was felt to be a bit premature at that stage. It was agreed to investigate the possibility of a crossing in Fremington if it does not materialise through the

development and to note item 1404/28 given the proposed developments in the area.

Another resident raised continuing concerns about cars parking on zigzags and in front of people's drives in Beechfield Road, the resident was advised to ring 101; however, the resident expressed that the Police will not do anything about the situation. The Police and Crime Commissioner will be attending a meeting of NDC's overview and scrutiny committee and the resident was advised to attend this meeting. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to write to the Police Superintendent expressing the resident's concerns.

1404/20 **To approve and sign the following:**

Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10th March 2014 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 held on Monday 10th March 2014 as a correct record. Cllr Cann duly signed the minutes.

1404/21 **To receive, and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the following Committee meetings**

Copies had been circulated with the agenda.

- Finance & Personnel Committee held on Monday 10th March 2014
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to receive and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the Finance and Personnel Committee Meeting held on Monday 10th March 2014.
- Tews Lane Committee held on Wednesday 26th March 2014
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to receive and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the Tews Lane Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 26th March 2014.
- Parks & Playing Fields Committee held on Thursday 27th March 2014
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to receive and to ratify the decisions therein, the minutes of the Parks and Playing Fields Committee Meeting held on Thursday 27th March 2014.

1404/22 **Highways issues – update**

Cllr Harris raised concerns about drainage; County Cllr Biederman explained the pressures that DCC is currently under.

1404/23 **Matters to Note (all held in the office unless specified as enclosed)**

- Letter from Torridge District Council re refusal of application – Knapp House Activity Centre, Northam, Bideford (Copy enclosed)
- Email from Devon County Council re South West Heritage Trust (Copy enclosed)
- Email from Devon County Council re Flood Cleanup and Repair Work (Copies have been distributed to Cllrs)
- Email from SW Coast Path Association (Copy enclosed)
- Email from Devon County Council re Heritage Services Review results (Copy enclosed)

It was **resolved** to note the above matters.

1404/24 **County and District Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Brailey explained that the Woodville refurbishment is in the advanced stages there is a green area which North Devon Homes is in negotiations with the School to create a turning area.

Cllr Turner reported that the proposed Mead Park development had been on the way for a delegated refusal from the Planning Officer, however, reports had been received that a letter was on its way from the developers questioning the five year land supply, the Local

Plan is unlikely to be submitted until autumn of this year leaving the area vulnerable. Cllr Turner asked for an update on the flag poles; Cllr Biederman responded stating that he had spoken to a former member of the now defunct Twinning Association who had informed him a letter had been sent advising the Parish Council that they could assume ownership of the flag poles, it was agreed to place this item on the next agenda.

Cllr Biederman reported that he had met with John Hart about Oakwell and Scrutiny had confirmed that nothing would be done unless there was evidence of alternative care at the same standard. Cabinet has agreed to close all DCC run children homes and he had attended a licensing night time economy visit which highlighted joint working. At the recent HATOC meeting it had been highlighted that since Christmas there had been over 1,000 fallen trees, 4,000 floods and 7,000 potholes, DCC has recently secured £7million of Government funding.

Cllr Cann reported that he felt the Mead Park development should be resisted and expressed the importance of maintaining the green area. He had attended a meeting regarding the proposed development at North Lane and felt the second phase of 70 dwellings would be too much and visually impact on the Estuary. Cllr Cann had also met with McDonalds and secured sponsorship towards a litter pick.

- 1404/25 **To discuss Green Frog Energy Ltd** (Item requested by Cllr J Bell)
Cllr J Bell raised concerns relating to the planning applications and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, that Cllr J Bell would forward his concerns to Cllr Turner who would ascertain answers and report back directly to Cllr Bell.
- 1404/26 **To discuss the Yelland Ashbed Site** (Item requested by Cllr J Bell)
Cllr J Bell raised concerns relating to the clearance that had taken place at the Yelland Ashbed Site. The Planning Conditions for the site were discussed and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, and one abstention, to write a formal complaint to DCC highlighting the failure to comply with the planning conditions as set out in the Planning Approval.
- 1404/27 **To consider request from County Councillor to take over maintenance of an additional bus shelter**
Members considered the request to take over the maintenance of the proposed additional bus shelter at Chilpark and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to take over the maintenance subject to the design being agreed with the Parish Council and DCC carrying out consultations with residents.
- 1404/28 **To consider a request for a pedestrian crossing in Bickington and improve safety at the bus stop** (Item requested by Cllr Cann)
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the item following the discussions under Public Participation.
- 1404/29 **To discuss the Claypits at Tews Lane**
Following the previous meetings and the concerns raised by the Roundswell Residents' Association a letter had been sent to NDC's Planning Department which had confirmed it is not a planning issue but the issue should be brought to the attention of the Health and Safety Executive. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to write to the Health and Safety Executive expressing the concerns raised.
- 1404/30 **To receive response from Central Government to letter relating to Local Government Financial Cuts**
Members felt the letter to be rude and an insult which does not answer the questions raised.

Cllr Ms Scott left the meeting at 8pm and did not return.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to make representations to North Devon's MP with a courtesy copy to Torridge's MP.

- 1404/31 **To consider recommendation from Finance and Personnel Committee following a request from the Tews Lane Committee for financial assistance towards a new Water Heater**
 The Chairman of the Council, Cllr Cann explained that that the Andrews Water Heater at the Tews Lane Pavilion had failed to pass the service due to rusted burners and rails and the committee was requesting financial assistance of one third of the cost of replacing the water heater.

 The Chairman of the Finance and Personnel Committee, Cllr Hockin reported that the recommendation from the Finance and Personnel Committee was to agree in principle to contribute one third of the cost of a replacement water heater from General Reserves, it was further recommended to obtain a quotation for an alternative Water Heater.

 It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to accept the recommendation from the Finance and Personnel Committee and contribute one third of the cost from General Reserves and to obtain a quotation for a Rinnai Water Heater.
- 1404/32 **To consider request for support for motion submitted by Sevenoaks Town Council with regards to Parish and Town Councils being able to use the Sustainable Communities Act to obtain a proportion of business rates**
 Members considered the request and felt the support would be better placed with the District Council, it was, therefore **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the request and forward to the North Devon Council for consideration.
- 1404/33 **To receive update on Cemetery Extension**
 Members were informed that quotations were being sought to fence the area to allow legal proceedings to continue and were requested to defer the item to allow for the quotations to be presented to Council. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to delegate the decision for fencing to the Chairman of the Council, The Chairman of the Finance and Personnel Committee and the Parish Clerk to ensure the project does not stall unnecessarily.
- 1404/34 **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 NDDC 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.

 The Chairman proposed and it was unanimously agreed to move application forward to this point.

 A resident raised concerns about the following application which is having an adverse impact on residents' amenities there are concerns about noise, times of workings, light pollution and strong smells of substances. Residents are concerned that an application for the whole site was turned down at appeal and now they are retrospectively submitting components of that application.

 Cllr C Bell left the meeting at 8.15pm and did not return.

 57066 Proposal: Variation of Condition 1 (use class restriction) attached to planning permission 50465 to allow other uses within B1 use
 Location: Lower Yelland Farm, Yelland, Barnstaple
 Applicant/Agent: Prestige Marine

 It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to strongly recommend REFUSAL due to the impact on the amenity of residents.

If the North Devon Council is mindful to approve then a temporary permission should be granted to ensure the conditions of that permission are met and if they are not the permission should be revoked. The Parish Council would also like to express its concerns at the unplanned expansion of the site which is creating sporadic development, the impact this is having on residents and the visual impact on the Tarka Trail.

The resident left the meeting and did not return.

56996 Proposal: Extension to dwelling
Location: Meadow View Cottage, Bickington, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr & Mrs J Flanagan

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

57041 Proposal: Ground floor extension to rear of property
Location: 60 Lyddicleave, Bickington, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr J Yeo

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

57061 Proposal: Removal of Condition 36 (restriction of dwelling height) attached to planning permission 56054 to allow for no restriction on dwelling height
Location: Allenstyle, Yelland, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr L Tanner

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend REFUSAL, the removal of the condition would create a development out of keeping with the area which would have a visual impact on the Tarka Trail and Biosphere.

57063 Proposal: Extension to dwelling together with replacement of conservatory roof
Location: 38 Merrythorn Road, Fremington, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Ms C Vooght

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

57085 Proposal: Siting of 2 internally illuminated fascia signs & 2 non illuminated fascia signs
Location: 2 Lauder Lane, Roundswell, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mrs J Greasley

It was noted that this application should be for 4 non illuminated fascia signs as advised by the Case Officer at North Devon Council. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to recommend APPROVAL.

57097 Proposal: Extension to dwelling
Location: 51 Bickington Lodge, Bickington, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr & Mrs D Duncan

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

57123 Proposal: Extension to dwelling
Location: 3 Hornbeam Hollow, Roundswell, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr & Mrs De'Ath

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

57142 Proposal: Application for consent for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order in respect of removal of 15 Poplar Trees
Location: 18 Lagoon View, Yelland, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr P Thorn

The Parish Council could not recommend approval to this application without seeing a management plan for the future of the site.

57156 Proposal: Extension & alterations to dwelling
Location: 8 Rooks Farm Road, Yelland, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr & Mrs D Barker

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

57074 Proposal: Extension to dwelling
Location: 33 Linden Close, Sticklepath, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr M Garman

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

57187 Proposal: Erection of disabled ramp
Location: 16 Byeways Close, Fremington, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr & Mrs B Boulton

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

1404/35

North Devon Council – Planning Decisions

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

56900 Proposal: Retrospective application for extension to dwelling
Location: 44 Lynhurst Avenue, Sticklepath, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Graham Sturkey Associates

56905 Proposal: Conversion of garage to form additional living accommodation
17 Ley Meadow Drive, Roundswell, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr D Howlett

57002 Proposal: Demolition of conservatory & erection of extension to dwelling
Location: 28 Becklake Close, Roundswell, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Mr S J Berry

57103 Proposal: Application for consent for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order in respect of crown lifting of Oak trees
Location: Brannam Crescent, Roundswell, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: South West Water PLC

57121 Proposal: Application for consent for works to trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order in respect of pruning of various trees
Location: The Vicarage, Fremington, Barnstaple
Applicant/Agent: Wessex Tree Surgeons

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

1404/36 **Councillors Questions**
None

1404/37 **Close**
There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Signed Dated