

**Minutes of Fremington Parish Council Footpaths Committee Meeting
held on Tuesday 1st December 2015 at 11.00am at the
Parish Council Offices, 12 Higher Road, Fremington**

- Present: Councillors J Bell, D Chalmers, Mrs J Flynn and T Wood
Ms R Davies (Devon County Council Rights of Way) and Mr M Caddy (Public Rights of Way Warden, Devon County Council)
Mrs M Cooper, Mr D Harris, Mr D Jury and Mr P Mullen
Mrs V Woodhouse, Parish Clerk, and Mrs E Badcock, Services Officer
- 1512/01 **Appointment of Chairman for ensuing year**
It was **resolved** that Cllr Bell would be Chairman for the ensuing year.
- 1512/02 **Appointment of Vice Chairman for ensuing year**
It was **resolved** that Cllr Wood would be Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.
- 1512/03 **Appointment of P3 Co-ordinator for ensuing year**
Cllr Chalmers and the Services Officer agreed to share the role of P3 Co-ordinator for the ensuing year.
- 1512/04 **Chairman's Announcements**
The Chairman welcomed Mrs Ros Davies to the meeting.
- 1512/05 **Apologies for Absence**
Apologies were received from Cllr K Groves, Mr B Slade and Mrs C Smy.

Mr Martin Caddy arrived at the meeting.
- 1512/06 **Declarations of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest.
- 1512/07 **To agree the agenda as published**
It was **resolved** to agree the agenda as published.
- 1512/08 **To confirm and sign the Minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd December 2014 as a correct record**
It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd December 2014 as a correct record. Cllr Bell duly signed the minutes.
- 1512/09 **To receive an update on the P3 Scheme from Mrs Ros Davies, Devon County Council**
Ms Davies gave a brief outline of the P3 scheme and the changes which had recently taken place and advised that the P3 scheme had not suffered so badly in the recent DCC cuts. Mr Martin Caddy had replaced Mr John Baker as Public Rights of Way Warden.
Mr Caddy reported that Category 12 roads (tracks not used by normal vehicular traffic) have been taken on which has increased the workload with a reduced work force.
Ms Davies advised that Drop-in Sessions will be held this year in place of P3 Workshops.
Ms Davies thanked the Committee and volunteers for all the hard work carried out on behalf of the P3 Scheme.
- 1512/10 **Financial Report – Grant 2015/16**
The Services Officer reported that a grant of £400.00 had been received from Devon County Council for the maintenance and upkeep of the footpaths/bridleways network in the parish. It was noted that the current balance is £166.77 and that this money will be used for general maintenance of the footpaths/bridleways throughout the winter months.

- 1512/11 **Update on Footpath/Bridleway Surveying 2015/16**
The Committee was advised that Mrs Liz Steer has carried out 50% of the footpaths/bridleways surveys in the western part of the Parish this year on a voluntary basis and no problems were reported. She will be carrying out the remainder of the surveys, claiming mileage only, during working hours by arrangement with the Parish Clerk and subject to Parish Council work commitments.
- 1512/12 **Footpath Surveying 2016/17**
Members were advised that Mrs Steer has agreed to carry out the footpath/bridleway surveys on the same basis as 2015/16 surveys (as detailed in minute 1512/11). Members requested that thanks be relayed to Mrs Steer.
- 1512/13 **To consider the re-print of the Footpaths Leaflet**
Following discussion, the Committee agreed that 1000 leaflets should be re-printed at a cost of £516.00, plus a fee of £47.50 for a copyright licence. It was **resolved** to order a re-print of the leaflet as soon as funding is obtained from the Locality Budgets of the five District Councillors who have kindly agreed to support this re-print. It was also agreed that amended wording on the leaflet should read "For more information on footpaths/bridleways within the Parish, please contact Fremington Parish Council".
- 1512/14 **Vegetation clearance – works completed and required**
The Services Officer advised that vegetation clearance has been carried out on Footpaths 14, 30, 31, 33, 39, and 101 by local contractors.
- 1512/15 **To discuss ongoing issues with Mr Martin Caddy, Public Rights of Way Warden**
Mr Mullen was concerned that the diversion of FP 41 at Allenstyle was not in place and fencing had been erected, there were also no signs visible indicating that a diversion was in place. Mr Caddy agreed to visit the site and if necessary to contact the developers to ensure that the diversion and signs are in place.
- Mr Caddy referred to the item raised at last year's meeting relating to the provision of horse friendly barriers at the northern end of Bridleway 25, down to the foreshore at Fremington Quay, in order to prevent vehicles accessing the foreshore. There had been no significant problems in the area recently and he agreed to put this matter on hold for the time being.
- Mr Harris raised the question of blocked gullies on the northern side of the Tarka Trail at Penhill, which had occurred when contractors had cut the field. Mr Caddy advised that this was not within his remit and no funding is available for the clearance of the gullies. Although this is not a matter for P3 it was suggested that the local community group led by Cllr Groves, in liaison with the North Devon Biosphere Team, might be willing to take on the cutting back of the blackthorn and brambles and its removal next year. It was agreed that a meeting be arranged early next year to discuss this matter. Cllr Bell added that he will speak to the Taw & Torridge Forum at its next meeting.
- Mrs Cooper queried if kissing gates will be erected on FP 41 once the permanent diversion is in place. Mr Caddy advised they may not be necessary and should they not be required then they will be removed and used elsewhere. Mrs Cooper asked if the gate behind the transformer on Footpath 102 might be replaced as it is very difficult to open. Mr Caddy undertook to look into this matter.
- 1512/16 **Close**
The meeting closed at 12.00 noon.

Signed  Date 26.1.17