

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Meeting  
Held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at 7pm at the Beechfield Centre,  
Beechfield Road, Fremington**

**Present:** Cllrs S Kingdom (Chairman), S Adams, F Biederman, J Bridgeman, J Cann, D Dixon, D Harris, S Haywood, B Sherborne and H Walker.

1 Member of the Public  
Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer

2410/11

**Apologies**

Cllrs R Jones and N Denton, it was agreed to accept Cllr Denton's apologies for the foreseeable future.

2410/12

**Declarations of Interest**

None.

2410/13

**Chairman's Announcements**

The Chairman announced that Cllr Denton had recently been admitted to hospital and now faces several months of treatment, therefore, his apologies have been submitted and accepted for the foreseeable future the Parish Council has sent their best wishes.

A pew will be reserved at the Church for Remembrance Day and the Chairman hoped to see as many Cllrs there as possible.

2410/14

**Public Participation Period**

A member of the public asked where they could get a gazette. They felt that there should be central database of all the events in the parish and asked if there was a central designated place to advertise events. The member of the public raised further concerns about the parking along Beechfield Road and explained that a bus could not get through due to parking on double yellow lines and dropped kerbs etc and there is no where safe to cross the road. There is a van that has been living in one of the laybys at Fremington Quay since April. The member of the public then expressed their disappointment at the Minis in the Mini Run being separated by the traffic lights in Fremington especially as the Children's Hospice is their final destination.

Cllr Biederman confirmed that he could request some enforcement for the on-street parking from DCC and it was agreed for the Parish Council to write to Cllr Biederman to raise the concerns. It was noted that it would be down to the event organisers to apply for road closures to pass through the traffic lights altogether.

2410/15

**Minutes**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 as a correct record.

2410/16

**Committees**

To receive, and adopt the minutes, and note the decisions therein, of the following Committee meetings:

- Finance and Personnel meeting held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 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 and Personnel Committee meeting held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- Planning meeting held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 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 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- Environment and Community meeting held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 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 and Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
- Tews Lane meeting held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to adopt the minutes and note the decisions therein of the minutes of the Tews Lane Committee meeting held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

2410/17

**County and District Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Walker/Cann - Bickington Ward

Cllr Cann reported that she had joined plastic free for a litter picking event on the Quay which was a very clean area it is just the slipway where the rubbish blows in that required litter picking.

Cllr Cann thanked those who had helped with Saturday's 60-minute spruce but felt that 9am might be too early for some and that more advertisement would be beneficial.

Cllr Walker reported that NDC has agreed that the householder support fund will be used towards pensioners who have been affected by the withdrawal of the winter fuel allowance and has written to approximately 830 people who should be on pension credit but are not. It was noted that there will still be an emergency fund as part of the householder support fund and 361 energy can be contacted to undertake energy checks. Cllr Walker has attended several civic events recently and NDC is going to reintroduce its own pest control service – this will be a paid for service. A working group has been set up to look at budgets and car parking and Cllr Walker urged anyone with any comments to pass these to a member of the working group.

Cllr Biederman – Fremington Ward

Cllr Biederman reiterated that Cllr Denton is not well at the moment and asked that any District Council matters are referred to him for the foreseeable future. The road from Old School Lane to Lydacott Cross will be patched and resurfaced and there is currently a consultation out on the transport plan for Devon and Torbay, Cllr Biederman urged everyone to read

the consultation. The Devon and Torbay combined authority has been given the go ahead from the new Government and from April second homes will be liable for 100% Council Tax. The DVLA and District Council are working together to tackle abandoned vehicles, and the refurbishment of the Guildhall in Barnstaple looks fantastic.

Cllrs asked when the Hub in Greenlanes will open and it was noted this would be early next year.

2410/18

**Police**

No report received.

Cllr Walker explained that she had spoken to the Police and the reason Police Reports are not available is simply they do not have the man power, the website Police.uk is starting to become up to date and can be accessed by anyone. Members considered the item, and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention, to take the item off of future Agendas but to write to the Police and confirm that given the size of the parish the Parish Council would appreciate Police attendance once or twice a year.

2410/19

**Resignation**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the resignation of Cllr J Bell.

2410/20

**Membership of Committees**

a) To appoint one member to the Environment and Community Committee following the resignation of Cllr Bell.

It was agreed to defer this item following no nominations.

b) To appoint one member to the Parks and Open Spaces Committee following the resignation of Cllr Bell.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllr Biederman to the Parks and Open Spaces Committee.

c) To appoint one member to the Planning Committee following the resignation of Cllr Bell.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllr Bridgeman to the Planning Committee.

2410/21

**Parish Council Representatives**

a) To appoint a representative to Taw & Torridge Estuary Forum following the resignation of Cllr Bell.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllr Dixon.

b) To appoint a Tree Warden for Fremington/Yelland following the resignation of Cllr Bell.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllr Harris.

2410/22

### **Draft Devon and Torbay Local Transport Plan**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to refer this consultation to the Planning Committee with delegated powers to respond on behalf of the Parish Council using relevant information from the draft Neighbourhood Plan.

2410/23

### **Fremington Cemetery**

Members were informed that a request had been received by a non-parishioner with no-local connection to purchase a plot in the cemetery to place a memorial headstone on for a family member, who also was not a parishioner or had a local connection, whose ashes had been scattered elsewhere.

Members considered the request and felt that grave spaces should be available for those wishing to be interred in the cemetery (either burial or cremated remains), a deed of grant provides the right for interment and once interred the right to erect a memorial in line with regulations and/or a second interment. Plots are not available to purchase as a memorial space, members felt that space for interments is at a premium and should be available for parishioners and those with a local connection in the first instance (if they are not a parishioner this would be at an increased rate). Members noted that other options for memorials, such as a plaque at the crematorium, are available.

After discussion it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary:

- 1) To deny the request to purchase a plot in Fremington Cemetery to erect a memorial, members would be open to considering a plaque elsewhere in the cemetery such as on the shed if possible.
- 2) To amend the Cemetery rules and regulations to state that only parishioners and those with a local connection can purchase a deed of grant and be interred in Fremington Cemetery to ensure there is sufficient space for parishioners.

2410/24

### **Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2023 - 2024**

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note completion of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for 2023-2024 and External Auditor's Report.

2410/25

### **Councillors Questions**

Cllr Adams asked when the Cllr vacancy will be filled, it was noted that the Parish Council would not know if the vacancy is to be filled via co-option or by-election until 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024.

Cllr Biederman asked about the progress of the transfer of the Tarka Ridge Allotments. It was noted that the Parish Council's solicitor is still waiting for some details and answers to enquiries from the developer.

Cllr Kingdom asked for an update on the Neighbourhood Plan, it was noted that a meeting had been arranged with planning officers to discuss further comments. Members felt that even if the plan did not get adopted it would be used to drive activity and there is a lot of useful information in the plan.

The member of the public left the meeting.

2410/26 It was **resolved** that under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involves the likely disclosure of confidential information.

**PART B**

2410/27 **Re-Execution and sealing of a legal deed**  
Members were informed that the Parish Council's solicitor had thought that the Council would need to Re-Execute the lease of the Community Building at Riverside Park following a request from land registry to include two additional words, however, it had been confirmed that this is no longer required.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Signed .....

Dated .....