

Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Environment & Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 29th February 2024 at 11am in the Beechfield Centre, Beechfield Road, Fremington

Present: Cllrs H Walker (Chairman), J Bell, J Bridgeman, J Cann, D Dixon, R Jones and S Kingdom

Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer
Mr T Steer, Vice-Chair Tarka Rail Association

2402/25 **Apologies**
None.

2402/26 **Declarations of Interests**
None.

2402/27 **Public Participation**
None.

2402/28 **Minutes**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, that the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th January 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

2402/29 **Climate Emergency – Update**
Cllr Dixon reported that globally we had reached 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels right through last year and if this continues it could be the tipping point with extreme weathers becoming a trend. In the last five years to 2023 the UK has reduced its CO2 emissions; however, we should not become complacent and should increase our efforts.

2402/30 **Bideford to Barnstaple Rail Link**
The Chairman welcomed Mr Steer, Vice-Chair of the Tarka Rail Association to the meeting. Mr Steer's presentation is appended to the Minutes as Appendix One.

Whilst members were supportive of the scheme concerns were raised about the location of stops and facilities available. Concerns were also raised about funding for the project. It was noted that if the project does progress it will affect Fremington and It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllr Dixon as the Parish Council's representative.

It was noted that it was too late to provide any reference in the Neighbourhood Plan but the Council could consider inclusion in the revised version. The Parish Council does have a line in the plan/Strategic Review to improve public transport. Members thanked Mr Steer for the informative presentation and asked if he could provide a further presentation once the Strategic Business Case has been drafted.



2402/31 **Right Bin Right Place**

Cllr Bridgeman confirmed that he had requested a large parish map from the office and would map the current provision. It was agreed to leave this item off of the Agenda for three months.

2402/32 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.


Mr Steer left the meeting.

PART B

2402/33 **Muddlebridge Allotments**

Members were informed that no information had been received from the agents despite several requests to obtain confirmation and details of a lease renewal for the site. It was agreed to write to the Diocese to highlight the issues encountered with the agent.

Meeting ended at 11.55am.

Signed.......... Dated.....25/3/2024.....