

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Environment & Community  
Committee meeting held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 10am in the Beechfield  
Centre, Beechfield Road, Fremington**

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

Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer

2403/12 **Apologies**  
Cllr J Bridgeman.

2403/13 **Declarations of Interests**  
None.

2403/14 **Public Participation**  
None.

2403/15 **Minutes**  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, that the minutes of the meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

2403/16 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**

2403/17 **Muddlebridge Allotments**  
a) To receive an update relating to the renewal of the lease and consider proposed terms.

Members were informed that confirmation had been received from the land Agents that the Exeter Diocese has agreed to a new three-year lease for the site providing the Muddlebridge Allotments, the rent will continue to increase by £100 per year. Members were informed that enquiries had been made as to the possibility of increasing the term and/or removing the additional land from the lease that is not used as allotments. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to renew the lease for the land and to try and increase the term and remove the additional land from the lease if possible.

b) To review rents for the Muddlebridge Allotment Plots.

Members reviewed the rents for the Muddlebridge Allotment Plots. It was noted that the rents had been frozen for the last six years with no increase, Due to the lack of increase and site maintenance costs the Ear Marked Reserve for the Muddlebridge site was now in deficit. Members considered the estimated maintenance costs over the proposed three-



year lease period along side the deficit, it was agreed that the Parish Council could not continue to subsidise the site and the rental increase would need to clear the deficit and provide for future maintenance, members were also concerned about the clearance costs of the site should the landowners not renew the lease in the future. After much consideration it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to increase the rents for 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to £6.75 per 10 square meters, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 to £8.10 per 10 square meters and 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 to £9.72 per 10 square meters. It was further **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to issue allotment tenants with temporary licences until the lease paperwork is agreed and signed, it was noted that any term of the temporary licence(s) should not exceed that of the Parish Council's lease.

Meeting ended at 10.35am.

Signed  Dated 28/3/24