

Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Environment & Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 26th January 2023 at 11am in the Beechfield Centre, Beechfield Road, Fremington

Present: Cllrs H Walker (Chairman), J Bell, J Cann and D Dixon

Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer
Mrs J Wood, Administration and Projects Manager

2301/17 **Apologies**
Cllr S Haywood.

2301/18 **Declarations of Interests**
None.

2301/19 **Public Participation**
None

2301/20 **Minutes**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention, that the minutes of the meeting held on the 24th November 2022 be approved and signed as a correct record.

2301/21 **Climate Emergency – Update**
Cllr Dixon reported that he would produce a quarterly energy report but noted that they were being compared with the COVID period and would need to review the long-term trend in due course, it was likely that capital expenditure would be required to see significant savings and therefore the only way forward is to save energy where possible. It was agreed to investigate the off-peak energy rebate scheme and advertise if appropriate.

Members were made aware that NDC is looking to reintroduce the climate week and has asked the Parish Council to provide leaflets and links on the Facebook page in the lead up to this, members were encouraged to consider the Parish Council's contribution towards an event.

2301/22 **Wildflower Verges**
Cllr Walker informed members that she had been approached by the PTFA for Sticklepath school and they were keen to be involved in a re-wilding project, Cllr Walker proposed the two verges at the end of Ellerslie Road which are raised and confirmed that the best time of year to sow for all year round wild flowers is March and September. The Administration and Projects Manager explained that she had produced guidance for the Climate Emergency Working Party and the same guidance could be followed to complete the project, permission from the landowner/manager would also need to be obtained. The Executive Officer had spoken to the Maintenance and Amenities Operative who would be happy to lead on the project.

Members were informed that there are two banked areas around the new MUGA at Tews Lane which are bare earth and would be good locations to sow wildflower seeds.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to proceed with a project to re-wild the grass verges at the end of Ellerslie Road, to ask the Maintenance and Amenities Operative to lead on the project in conjunction with Sticklepath School's PTFA and to sow wildflower seeds on the banked areas at Tews Lane.

Members asked for an Agenda item to be placed on the next Agenda to discuss a contribution to the Coronation of the King's festivities.

Meeting ended at 11.25am

Signed..... Dated.....