

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Environment & Community
Committee meeting held on Thursday 30th March 2023 at 11am in the
Beechfield Centre, Beechfield Road, Fremington**

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

Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer

2303/24 **Apologies**
Cllr S Haywood.

2303/25 **Declarations of Interests**
None.

2303/26 **Public Participation**
None.

2303/27 **Minutes**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention, that the minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd February 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

2303/28 **Climate Emergency – Update**
Cllr Dixon informed members that the IPCC released a report last week if current trends continue the 1.5 degrees will be exceeded by 2030 which will lead to increased extreme weather events including droughts and floods if current events continue this could be reduced by the end of the 21st century, Cllr Dixon explained that globally we need to be considering mitigation measures to these extreme weather events, whilst trends are improving we are not acting quickly enough.

Cllrs agreed that as a Parish Council the aim should be to support developments that are carbon neutral, it was also agreed to review the action plan at the next meeting.

Cllr Dixon was thanked for his report.

2303/29 **Hedgehog Highway Project**
Members considered taking part in the Hedgehog Highway Project and felt that purchasing a box of hedgehog highway surrounds to make available to residents would raise awareness and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to purchase a box of 50 hedgehog surrounds for £150 which would be available free of charge to residents and purchase further boxes if required in the future.



- 2303/30 **Parish Grass Cutting**
Members considered the quotation for the contract for Parish Council Grass Cutting from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2026 which was circulated prior to the meeting. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to award the contract to Dave Budd Gardening Services.
- 2303/31 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

- 2303/32 **Riverside Park**
Members were informed that the Fremington Football Club no longer required the use of the facilities at Riverside Park and would therefore not be pursuing a lease on the storage building or the football pitch. It was noted that the Scouts do require use of the storage building.

Members considered the future management of the facilities and agreed that the Parish Council would continue to cut the grass on the pitch and maintain as an open space which would be available to hire if required. Members considered options for the storage building, it was noted that the Parish Council's solicitor had previously advised against licencing and felt that a lease on the property would be better. A draft lease had already been produced for the football club which could just be tweaked by the solicitor for the Scouting Groups.

Members noted that a lease would remove some financial liability for the Parish Council, and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to offer a lease to the Scouting Groups for a peppercorn rent with the provision to licence storage area within the building to other community groups.

Meeting ended at 11.30am

Signed *R. Walker* Dated 27/04/23