

Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Environment & Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 27th July 2023 at 11am in the Beechfield Centre, Beechfield Road, Fremington

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

Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer

1 Member of the public

2307/26 **Apologies**
Cllr R Jones

2307/27 **Declarations of Interests**
None.

2307/28 **Public Participation**
A member of the public raised concerns about street lighting in Roundswell and asked if all street lights could be turned off from midnight, they were concerned about the impact on the Environment and explained that, whilst she had spoken to a Cllr who had informed them that there is an aspect of safety and also a high percentage of lighting in the area has been changed for LED, they would still like them switched off to help the planet and prevent harmful artificial light.

2307/29 **Minutes**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, that the minutes of the meeting held on the 29th June 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

2307/30 **Climate Emergency – Update on Action Plan**

a) To consider EV Charging Points

Cllr Dixon explained that there was a percentage that the Parish Council would need to underwrite for the fully funded charging points that were considered at the last meeting which could see the Council paying £53 a day if the usage is not high enough. Members considered and agreed that the Beechfield Centre car park is too small, members did not think the usage in this area would be high enough.

Cllr Walker explained that Motability has a charger it recommends for installation and agreed to investigate along with a bollard to prevent unauthorised use.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, not to proceed with a fully funded installation with the company and to look to install a 7kw charging point for use by the Parish Council when an electric van is leased.

Cllr Bridgeman felt that the Action Plan should be followed to ensure the Parish Council continues to reduce its carbon footprint given the targets around greenhouses gases and suggested that residents on Riverside Park should be surveyed to ascertain possible usage, although it was felt that it was more likely to be used by visitors than residents. It was agreed to investigate further and speak to NDC about how many and where it is installing charging points.

It was also agreed to encourage developers to install charging points on developments and to ask the District Cllrs to pursue through the joint Local Plan.

b) To consider locations for Bike Racks

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to install a bike rack at the Beechfield Centre and Tews Lane and to look to alter the pedestrian gate at the entrance to the Tews Lane site as it is a bit narrow for wheelchair users and bikes.

2307/31 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

2307/32 **Muddlebridge Allotments**
Members noted that the Parish Council's lease with the landowner ends in March 2024 and **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to write to the landowner's Agent to request that the lease is renewed.

Meeting ended at 11.40am.

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