

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Environment & Community  
Committee meeting held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 11am in the  
Beechfield Centre, Beechfield Road, Fremington**

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

Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer  
Mrs L Steer, Administrative Officer

1 Member of the public

2309/26 **Apologies**  
Cllrs J Bell and S Kingdom.

2309/27 **Declarations of Interests**  
None.

2309/28 **Public Participation**  
None.

2309/29 **Minutes**  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, that the minutes of the meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

2309/30 **Climate Emergency – Update on Action Plan**  
Cllr Dixon reported that July was the hottest in history and in ten years' time will become the average summer. The sea ice is the lowest it has ever been, in order to achieve 1.5% CO2 reduction by 2050 we need to cut by 45% by 2030 and are currently facing disaster. Hopefully there will be some drastic action at the forthcoming UN Climate Change Conference in the UAE.

It was felt that the Parish Council has declared a climate emergency and should continue to look for schemes to meet its declaration, the Parish Council will advertise schemes open for the public but noted that members are not aware of any grant funding available for the Parish Council at the moment. The Parish Council needs to continue efforts towards net zero.

2309/31 **Beechfield Centre**  
Members were informed that the Andrews Water Heater had been leaking for some time and now required replacement, unfortunately the system is not under warranty as the contractor went into administration. Quotations and options had been sought for the replacement, however, only two quotations had been received one for a replacement water heater and one for a cylinder system. Members felt that, although the cylinder system was more expensive it would be more reliable and interchangeable, it was also felt that the customer service would be reliable and noted that there was a five-year warranty with the cylinder.



Members discussed the possibility of an air source pump; however, it was felt that the system would drain too quickly and would not heat the water to the correct temperature to prevent legionnaires.

It was noted that £10,000 had been placed into an Ear Marked Reserve (EMR) with the intention of replacing the water heater, however, the quotation was almost £4,000 over this budget, the Finance & Personnel Committee had been made aware and had agreed to £2,000 being met from the Beechfield Cleaning Budget and £2,000 from General Reserves.

After discussion it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to ask Optimum if an air source pump would be a possibility and if not to accept the quotation from Optimum for the cylinder system at a cost of £13,943 + VAT it was further agreed to use the £10,000 from the Beechfield Centre EMR £2,000 from the Beechfield cleaning budget and the outstanding amount to be met from General Reserves.

2309/32 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.

## PART B

### 2309/33 Muddlebridge Allotments

Members were informed that a response had been received from the land owner's agent and, whilst they would need to seek instruction from their client but would think they would renew and asked if the Parish Council had given consideration to the length of lease, rents and costs would also need to be agreed.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to request a lease of up to seven years, with rent reviews built in for the Parish Council and to ensure rent reviews are built into the new licences for allotment holders.

Meeting ended at 11.45am.

Signed...  Dated.....19.../10.../2025