

Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Environment & Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 19th October 2023 at 11am in the Beechfield Centre, Beechfield Road, Fremington

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

Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer

2310/27 **Apologies**
Cllrs J Bell.

2310/28 **Declarations of Interests**
None.

2310/29 **Public Participation**
None.

2310/30 **Minutes**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, that the minutes of the meeting held on the 28th September 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

2310/31 **Climate Emergency – Update on Action Plan**
It was noted that it would not be appropriate to replace the water heater with an air source heat pump at this stage but might be in the future.

Cllr Dixon reported that he is increasingly frustrated by the lack of progress from the whole country is making in relation to climate change. Members acknowledged that the cost of going green for the whole country is somewhere in the trillions of pounds as recently reported, along with not enough electricity being produced. It was noted that NDC will be looking at the offshore wind farm application next month and agreed that the Committee should continue to consider what it can achieve through its budgets.

2310/32 **Draft Budgets 2024-2025**
Members considered the draft budgets for 2024-2025.

Dog bin emptying

Members acknowledged that there would be a likely increase in the cost to empty dog bins, but this was unknown at this stage, members raised concerns about the location of some of the dog bins and litter bins and it was agreed to place an item on the next Agenda to undertake a “right bin right place” study.

After discussion it was also **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, not to provide dog bags once the current supply ends and not to provide any further dog bins but to review the locations and to place an article in the next newsletter to communicate the Parish Council’s policy on dog bins.



It was agreed to ask Finance and Personnel to place any underspend from the Climate Emergency budget into an EMR to use on environmental projects as they arise and future capital projects such as solar panels. It was further agreed to request an increase in the Environmental/Climate Emergency budget of £1,000 for the enhancement of natural areas including supporting the work of the Committee managing the nature reserves. As part of this support, it was agreed to ask the NDC Officer to attend a Committee meeting to discuss support and projects.

Riverside Park

Members were informed that the commuted sum for the MUGA on Riverside Park had been received and it was agreed to keep this and the EMR for the future maintenance of the MUGA separate.

Beechfield Centre

It was agreed to ask the Finance and Personnel Committee to place any underspend in the maintenance budget into a EMR for future maintenance of the facility and to undertake a survey of the building to understand maintenance requirements. It was also agreed to request that the maintenance budget is increased by £1,000 and to place an item on the next Agenda to discuss the hire charges.


The Committee asked for it thanks to be passed to the Administrative Officer for taking the lead on the P3 scheme.

2310/33 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

2310/34 **Lease of Storage Building at Riverside Park**
Members were informed that the Fremington Scouting Group was interested in leasing the storage building following the review of the draft lease, which would require some amendments to reflect the lessee. The group had asked if the lease could be a longer term than 7 years. It was noted that the term had been sent in response to the Football Club's request and resolved, with no votes to the contrary, that there are no objections to a longer lease and to look to tie the lease on the Storage building and Community building together if possible.

Meeting ended at 12pm.

Signed.......... Dated.....23/11/23.....