

Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Environment & Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 23rd November 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
Mrs J Wood, Administration and Projects Manager

- 2311/24 **Apologies**
Cllr J Bridgeman and R Jones.
- 2311/25 **Declarations of Interests**
Cllr Cann declared a Personal Interest in Item 2311/32 as a member of the NDC Licencing Committee.
- 2311/26 **Public Participation**
None.
- 2311/27 **Minutes**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, that the minutes of the meeting held on the 19th October 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.
- 2311/28 **Climate Emergency – Update on Action Plan**
Cllr Dixon reported that he was hoping that some drastic action would come from the United Nations Climate Change Conference being held soon as the outcome is currently looking catastrophic with a 3% rise in temperature by 2050.

It was hoped that by the end of next year the technology should be available to put solar panels on the roof of the Beechfield Centre. Members discussed harvesting rain water for flushing of toilets in the Beechfield Centre and Tews Lane and it was agreed to investigate.
- 2311/29 **Wildflower/tree planting area** (item requested by Cllr Jones)
Members considered the planting of wildflowers/trees on open space in Lynhurst Avenue and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to seek permission from the landowner and, if approved, proceed with wildflower planting on the open space.
- 2311/30 **Right Bin Right Place**
Members considered a review of the location of parish council dog bins and litter bins in the parish.

It was agreed that the Parish Council's policy is not to place dog bins on estates.



It was noted that the Parish Council holds a list of the locations of all its dog bins, however, the mapping tool on NDC's website for its litter bins did not appear to be correct. It was agreed to ask the Maintenance and Amenities Operative to map the location of litter bins when on his rounds and for Cllr Walker to speak to the NDC staff about the location of bins and which are well used.

Members considered the provision of a litter bin by the MUGA on Riverside Park and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to install a litter bin in the vicinity of the MUGA which will be emptied by the Parish Council.

2311/31 **Beechfield Hire Charges**

Members considered the hire charges for the Beechfield Centre it was noted that the charges had not been reviewed since the Centre opened in 2019. After discussion it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to implement the following charging structure from 1st April 2024:

Regular User: £12.50 per hour
Commercial: £20 per hour
Party: £16 per hour

2311/32 **Premises Licence**

Members were informed that a request had been received for the Centre to have a premises licence. Members considered the requirements for a licence and the costs involved it was felt that it would be onerous for the Parish Council and costly, after discussion, it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, not to apply for a premises licence for the Centre due to affordability and lack of a willing responsible person to become a licensee.

Meeting ended at 11.50am.

Signed.......... Dated..... 25 / 3 / 24.....