

Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Environment & Community Committee meeting held on Thursday 28th March 2024 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

2403/29 **Apologies**
Cllr R Jones.

2403/30 **Declarations of Interests**
None.

2403/31 **Public Participation**
None.

2403/32 **Minutes**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, that the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th March 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

2403/33 **Climate Emergency – Update**
Cllr Dixon reported that there was not anything new in relation to climate emergency, members were concerned about the amount of flooding in the local area lately.

Cllr Dixon reported that he had met with a representative from Rail Future and the target date to bring the Bideford to Barnstaple line back into operation is 2040 which marks 75 years since the last passenger train. There is a grant from GWR to assess the demand and revenue etc. It was noted that the route would not be able to follow that of the A39 as the gradient is too steep and they are aware of the potential for saw rise, there would have to be an engineering solution.

2403/34 **Riverside Park Community Building**
a) To consider request to add a drainage channel for the main door. Members considered the request, and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree to the request in principle, however, members would like to see a design for a soakaway as there were concerns that the water would just stagnate in the channel.

b) To consider request to install fibre broadband in the building.
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the request and to highlight that if a phone line needs to be installed they would need to seek approval from the Management Company.

c) To consider request to add two doors leading from the main hall into the changing rooms.

Members considered the request and the plans, and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the request, however, it would be the Scouts responsibility to check if planning permission would be required as the community building was delivered as part of the Section 106 agreement.

2403/35 **Wildflower Verges**

Members were informed that the verge at Lynhurst Avenue was within the ownership of North Devon Homes and, although permission had been sought, there had been no reply to correspondence. It was agreed not to proceed with a wildflower verge in this area.

Ellerslie Road – it was agreed to pursue wildflowers under the tree in Ellerslie Park and to extend the wildflower verges at the end of Ellerslie Road.

2403/36 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

2403/37 **Muddlebridge Allotments**

Members were informed that the land agent had confirmed that there was only instruction for a three-year lease and the land owner would not be willing to remove the additional land from the lease.

Meeting ended at 11.35am.

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