

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Environment & Community  
Committee meeting held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2024 at 11am in the Beechfield  
Centre, Beechfield Road, Fremington**

- Present: Cllrs H Walker (Chairman), J Bell, J Bridgeman, J Cann, R Jones and S Kingdom  
Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer
- 2405/28      **Election of Chairman**  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllr Walker as Chairman.
- 2405/29      **Election of Vice-Chairman**  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to appoint Cllr Jones as Vice-Chairman.
- 2405/30      **Apologies**  
Cllr D Dixon.
- 2405/31      **Declarations of Interests**  
None.
- 2405/32      **Public Participation**  
None.
- 2405/33      **Minutes**  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, that the minutes of the meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.
- 2405/34      **Climate Emergency – Update**  
Cllr Walker informed members that the tender process for the Tomlin Hall will be out in the next few weeks, the works include a new roof with solar panels and a battery along with a full refurbishment of the inside. The works will modernise the buildings whilst increase its environmental credentials.  
  
It was noted that the works to the wall at Fremington Quay had not been completed due to defects in the previous work.
- 2405/35      **Parish Paths**  
Members were informed that all of the P3 surveys had been completed and passed. Members asked for their gratitude to be passed to the Mrs Steer for undertaking the surveys and considered the provision for surveys for 2025 and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to agree to ask Mrs Steer to undertake the P3 Surveys in 2025 at a cost of £100.



2405/36 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**

2405/37 **Execution and sealing of a legal deed**

a) To receive update on the lease for Muddlebridge Allotment Site  
Members were informed that the land agent had confirmed a 5-year lease and had also asked the Executive Officer to sign a Statutory Declaration to say that the lease will not roll on at the end of the lease and it will terminate. The Executive Officer had raised concerns about the length of time the land agent has taken to complete negotiations and produce a draft lease and the disruption this would cause to allotment tenants and the Parish Council. Members noted that the Muddlebridge Allotments are not a statutory allotment site and were in favour of the five-year lease. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, not to agree to the Executive Officer signing a Statutory Declaration, this would not be in the interest of the Parish Council or allotment tenants and members did not agree with this course of action.

Cllr Bridgeman informed members that a request to meet with the Committee of the Association had been received to which he would agree, it had been suggested by the Association that tenants could cut the hedges. Members agreed that due to safety issues they would not be able to cut the roadside hedge but could cut the inside of the hedges, however, if this is not done to a suitable standard a contractor will be employed to undertake the work when required. If a contractor is not required the savings will be placed into the EMR and could mitigate future rent increases/costs but would not result in the rents being reviewed at present. Members did raise concerns about ensuing that tenants have due regard to bird nesting season etc.

b) To agree the Execution and sealing of a legal deed for the lease of the Muddlebridge Allotment Site.

2405/38 **Babbages Allotment Site**

Members were informed that the Parish Council's lease with NDC is due to expire at the end of September 2024. It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to negotiate the renewal of the lease.

Meeting ended at 11.50am.

Signed R. Walker Dated 27/6/24