

Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on Tuesday 22nd July 2025 at 10am in The Parish Council Offices, The Beechfield Centre, Beechfield Road, Fremington

- Present: Cllrs, F Biederman (Chairman), J Bridgeman, S Kingdom, S Haywood and H Walker
- Mrs V Woodhouse, Executive Officer
- 2507/01 **Apologies**
None.
- 2507/02 **Declarations of Interest**
None.
- 2507/03 **Public Participation**
None.
- 2507/04 **Minutes**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary and one abstention, that the minutes of the Finance & Personnel Committee held on the 24th June 2025 be approved.
- 2507/05 **Staff Salaries**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the staff salaries, expenses, PAYE/NI and pension payments for the month of July 2025.
- 2507/06 **Accounts Due for Payment and Receipts for the period from the 21st June to 18th July 2025**
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to approve the payments totalling £25,628.26 and receipts totalling £1,244.23 copies of which are attached as Appendix One.
- 2507/07 **Budget Review**
The budget review for quarter one 2025/2026 was circulated prior to the meeting. Members discussed the budget allocation for Clarity and agreed to further pursue the one-to-one sessions for parishioners, and it was noted that the capital purchase was unlikely to proceed, and consideration could be given to vire the funds to another project once confirmation is received.
- 2507/08 **Tablets for Councillors**
It had been agreed at the previous meeting to purchase iPads to issue for use by Parish Councillors following discussions that the current tablets are not adequate, however due to the costs involved and some Cllrs intimating that they do not wish to have extra devices it was felt that further consideration should be given to the expenditure.

Members were presented with quotations for 15 iPads along with keyboard and folio cases with trackpad, as requested. Members discussed the requirement for tablets as some Cllrs had indicated that they did not require Parish Council issued tablets, the preference between Apple and Android systems was also discussed and considered. After discussion members felt that the unit price of the iPads was acceptable, however, cheaper protective cases should be purchased, and an audit of Parish Councillors requirements should be undertaken prior to purchase, it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to proceed with the purchase of tablets based on the results of the audit from Lineal and any iPads purchased will have a protective case, the cost will be met from General Reserves.

2507/09

Local Government Reorganisation

Members were informed that the engagement survey is now open on the Government's proposal to reorganise Local Government. Members discussed the proposal members expressed disappointment that the Government is forcing this on the area and felt that the proposals were far from localism but if the Government is going to push ahead then the area needs a local voice and an option that is financially and economically viable and therefore the Parish Council would have to support of the 1-4-5 model to ensure that the area is not disadvantaged. It was noted that the item was also on the Environment and Community Agenda, and it was agreed to encourage all Cllrs and staff to complete the survey and to submit a response from the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 10.45am

Signed.....



Dated.....

23/9/2025