

## **Fremington Quay Environment Group**

### **Report to Fremington Parish Council Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup>. March 2026**

#### **Introduction**

The Committee of the Fremington Quay Environment Group (known also as the Fremington Quay Heritage Centre) meet on a quarterly basis. The Group holds an AGM and all meetings are fully minuted.

Members of the committee (and specialist areas) are:

Mike Kelly	Chair
Mike Rendall	Treasurer
Sandra Rendal	Secretary
Cathy Chick	(Pottery)
Maureen Bennett	(Environment)
Kim Peeling	(Maritime and Railway)
Charlotte Lock	Fremington Quay Cafe
Paul Lock	Fremington Quay Cafe
Councillor Helen Walker	North Devon Council representative

The most recent meeting of the FQEG took place 28<sup>th</sup>. January 2026 and the next scheduled meeting is 16<sup>th</sup>. March 2026.

#### **Administration**

The Group reports to ENTRUST as administrators and following the most recent inspection in 2025 a Full Compliance Report was issued by ENTRUST with no concerns noted.

All documents of the FQEG are accessible to committee members on a shared hard drive and a physical archive of documents is also held by the Committee.

#### **Finance**

The financial position of the Group is sound. A Lloyds Interest Account in place.

HMRC regulations restrict what the FQEG can spend LCF grant monies on to tangible infrastructure projects.

FQEG are actively investigating other sources of funds including grants from the Lottery Heritage Fund and potentially, local grant giving organisations.

## Projects

All project work and associated spending by the Group requires the formal approval of ENTRUST prior to the activity being undertaken.

The current project (Heritage Centre Modernisation Project) comprises a refresh of the heritage space with interactive video displays / online software and interactive AV / storyboard and lighting in association with a Bideford company (Ace Holds the Space). The latter noted company specialise in developing interactive themed content and offer opportunities to local young people and those from disadvantaged groups to develop digital skills with a focus on engaging the local community. They have formed a partnership with Petroc College and have offered the services of their interns to help move our project forwards.

This reflects the Group's plans for wider community engagement which require development of improved interactive capabilities within the centre and expansion into online content that can be used for educational, historical and general interest purposes.

Current projects funded by LCF monies: -

- Replacement of the Fremington Quay sign at the top of the road to the quay. Completed in the Autumn.
- Repainting the exterior of the centre and cafe.
- Updating the centre's current audio visual experience as noted above.

The railway exhibit will be moved from its current location into the entrance hallway beneath the new welcome screen. The table it currently sits on will be re-purposed for use in future workshops and events.

The wooden panel displays on the far wall and the end wall displays will be updated and re-positioned.

The interior of the centre is to re-decorated.

All projects are undertaken in close liaison with Paul and Charlotte Lock of the Fremington Quay Café.

Further projects are the creation of a dedicated website and the digital publication of a book 'Freeman's Town' and possible video records to celebrate the local pottery industry.

Mike Kelly Chair FQEG 19<sup>th</sup>. February 2026