

**Minutes of the Fremington Parish Council Environment & Community  
Committee meeting held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 11am in the Beechfield  
Centre, Beechfield Road, Fremington**

Present: Cllrs H Walker (Chairman), J Bridgeman (Vice-Chairman), D Dixon, J Cann, N Tamlin, & S Kingdom

Mrs J Wood, Administration & Projects Manager

2604/12 **Apologies**  
Cllr S Haywood.

2604/13 **Declarations of Interests**  
None.

2604/14 **Public Participation**  
None.

2604/15 **Minutes**  
It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, that the minutes of the meeting held on the Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2026, be approved and signed as a correct record.

2604/16 **Climate Emergency**  
Cllr Dixon stated that we know that climate change is inevitable, but it's still not too late to mitigate the effects arising from that. Radical changes are needed in how we grow food, use land, transport goods, and power our economies.

Technological solutions already exist for more than 70% of today's emissions, and on behalf of our parishioners we must keep abreast of and adopt them as they are proven and become available.

However, we should be able to make a much greater contribution to decarbonization by supporting nature-based solutions such as those proposed in the Maintenance and Amenities Operative's report, which we will discuss later in the meeting. These solutions allow us to mitigate a portion of our carbon footprint while also supporting vital ecosystem services, biodiversity, access to fresh water, improved livelihoods, healthy diets, and food security. Nature-based solutions include improved agricultural practices, land restoration, conservation, and the greening of food supply chains.

As a Parish Council we have very limited financial resources to carry out this type of work, but we can encourage and support groups of individuals within the parish to undertake the kind of tasks envisaged. First of all, we would need to produce a detailed action plan based on the Maintenance and Amenities Operatives ideas, then publicise it both to individuals and to groups and organisations in the area. Once sufficient volunteers have been recruited then the ideas can be put into practise, possibly setting an example for other parishes to follow.

If governments, businesses, civil society, youth, and academia work together, we can create a green future where suffering is diminished, justice is upheld, and harmony is restored between people and planet.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to note the report from Cllr Dixon.

2604/17

### **Biodiversity within the Parish**

Members reviewed a project proposal submitted by the Maintenance and Amenities Operative in advance of the meeting, which supported the aims shown within the Climate Emergency Action Plan. They expressed their appreciation for his efforts and were very positive about the proposal, offering their full support.

Cllr Walker suggested looking at more sites for more wildflower meadows.

Cllr Dixon suggested putting an action plan in place, with time scales, as suggested in his report above, so that anything on the action plan is implemented over time.

Cllr Bridgeman included that costings for the proposal should be obtained.

The Administration & Projects Manager advised that, in relation to the potential creation of a wildlife pond, due consideration should be given to factors including health and safety implications, potential liability, associated costs, and whether the proposal would provide additional ecological value given its proximity to an existing open water source.

Cllr Dixon and Cllr Tamlin offered their help with the project.

After much discussion, it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, to endorse the project proposal provided by the Maintenance and Amenities Operative and to ask him to provide costings for the project and investigate the practicalities of having a pond and considering the above.

2604/18

### **Dog Fouling Campaign**

Members were provided with a link to information about North Devon Council's campaign to tackle dog fouling. Cllr Walker said that there had been some negative feedback regarding the spray painting of the 'no fouling signs on the pavement', she wanted to remind people that it is not permanent and does wash off over time.

Cllr Cann felt that the situation had gotten worse, she also felt that members of the public did not want to report it because they are worried about repercussions.

While discussing dog fouling, Cllr Tamlin noted reports—and his own observations—of dogs worrying with sheep and lambs. He highlighted the importance of keeping dogs under control, mentioning instances of dogs roaming without their owners close by.

Cllr Cann suggested that these incidents be reported to the Police, there is a specific department called, Rural Crimes Team.

Cllr Walker suggested the erection of signage and a Facebook post relating to both dog fouling and dog attacks.

Members noted the information from North Devon Council regarding dog fouling, and it was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary for the Administration & Project Manager to create a Facebook post and to investigate signage to be considered at a future Environment and Community Committee meeting, and to invite the Rural Crimes Team to the next Full Council meeting.

2604/19

**Pop Up Fraud Event & Take Five Week 27<sup>th</sup> April to 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026  
'Read Between the Lies'**

The event received some good feedback, but it was felt the public were not aware of why the Parish Council was there. Another event at Fremington Quay was discussed along with other areas. Suggestions for future events included more signage, and more Police presence and a time change from 11am – 2pm.

It was **resolved**, with no votes to the contrary, for the Administration & Projects Manager to investigate banners and A boards to stand alongside the gazebo and to ask the Executive Officer to add the item to the next Full Council Agenda for further discussion.

Meeting ended at 11.35am.

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