

Minutes of the
Fernwood Residents' Association (FRA) Committee Meeting
Held at 19:15 hrs on Wednesday 24th November 2021
Fernwood Village Hall

1. Attendance:

Present		Apologies
Barry Smith (BS)	Henry Micah (HM)	Mandy Knowlton-Rayner (MKR)
Dee Harrison (DVH)		
David Heath (DH)		

Two Fernwood residents attended the meeting

2. Previous Minutes

Proposed – HM

Seconded - DH

As a true record – Carried 4/4

3. Chair's Report

- Nothing to report

4. Secretary's Report

- Nothing to report

5. Treasurer's Report

- No expenditure to date
- FRA A/C £1823.00 Bursary A/C £3085.80
- HSBC recognise all signatories, documents (mandate) sent
- Debit card
 - Awaiting mandate
 - Required to pay for online services – (action DH)
 - Form will need to be completed to apply
- DWH project fund proposals
 - No proposals received

6. Maintenance Committee Report

- DH has spoken to John Jeys (JJ) Firstport and reported the following:
 - Will have meetings with every three months
 - Maintenance walkabouts to be more regular, HM ask to be included in these.
 - Trees
 - £10,000 worth of work required, only £4,000 available in the budget. Only urgent work will be carried out.
 - Next year, standard five yearly tree survey will be completed.
 - Balancing Pond
 - Fence to be removed.
 - Ditch to surround pond for ease of maintenance.
 - Reserves
 - Not had a statement of reserves, John Jeys to send a copy to the committee.
 - Children's play area equipment
 - Subject of climbing frame/slide/balance beam requiring stripping and repainting at a cost of £15,000 was discussed. Ground underneath also needs attention. JJ felt that a replacement wooden fort should be purchased. JJ also mentioned that some people feel that more facilities are required.
 - DH reported that having viewed the equipment, he felt that it was not that bad. Yellow paint needs re-doing however, the rest is in a good condition. DH to go back to JJ and discuss other options.
 - DH would like a member of the committee to view it with him, for consensus of opinion. £15,000 seems to be excessive under schedule 1 costs. JJ wants to replace with wood which DH, with the current issues of ASB in the area, feels it could be set alight.
 - The equipment there could be serviced for less, i.e., sand blast affected area and repaint.
 - DH mentioned that being that there was a possibility that the ownership of the open spaces may be transferred to public ownership, any major works in that area should be deferred for at least five years. The committee agreed that this was the best approach.
 - Hollowdyke Lane Ditch
 - Firstport and DH would like to find out who owns and maintain this ditch.
 - It was discussed that the belief was, the owners of the houses that back on to the ditch own half and the other half is owned by the farmer/landowner. Investigation is ongoing.

7. Conservation Report

- Still awaiting the transfer of the woods in the middle of Fernwood to be transferred from Mr Derry to the Parish Council.
- Pumpkins – should be taken to local farms, if they want them, or thrown away.

8. FRA Open Hollowdyke Lane Action Group (OHLAG)

- It was discussed that the group should ensure that after the building work has subsided that Hollowdyke Lane, should be reopened to traffic.
- It was identified that Fernwood does suffer from serious congestion issues at peak times, which can be made worse if accidents occur on the A1 or in Balderton\Newark. Fernwood needs a second egress/regress route and the installation of traffic lights at the end of Hollowdyke Lane, at the junction with Main Street Balderton, would resolve any possible safety issues. It was identified that the B3626 through Fernwood is one of the main spinal roads out of Newark to the A1 southbound.

9. Correspondence

- No correspondence received

10. Dates for Future Meetings

Committee meetings:

Committee Meeting - Wednesday 29th December - Cancelled due to closure of Village Hall

Committee Meeting - Wednesday 26th January 2022 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Committee Meeting - Wednesday 23rd February 2022 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Committee Meeting - Wednesday 30th March 2022 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Committee Meeting - Wednesday 27th April 2022 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Public meetings:

AGM - Wednesday 13th April 2022 – Village Hall

Meeting Closed 20:10 hrs