

Minutes of the
Fernwood Central Residents' Association (FCRA) Committee Meeting

Held at 19:15 hrs on Wednesday 25th January 2023

Fernwood Village Hall

1. Attendance:

Present		Apologies
Barry Smith (BS)	Henry Micah (HM)	Clr Johno Lee
Dee Harrison (DVH)	Nick Roberts (NR)	
David Heath (DH)	Mary Heath (MH)	

2. Previous Minutes

Proposed – Nick Roberts

Seconded - David Heath

As a true record – Carried 5/5

3. Chair's Report

BS reported that he had set up a replacement Facebook page for FCRA to enhance communications with residents. It is not currently linked to the two main Fernwood Facebook pages but will be once content has been agreed.

4. Secretary's Report

Nothing to report

5. Treasurer's Report

No transactions had taken place since the last meeting with the current amount in the bank being £4870.48. Nothing further to report.

6. Maintenance Committee Report

- i. DH reported that whilst he had received a response from the site Manager, Vanessa Crane, she had only provided the present balance of the reserves and not the full statement of reserves for 2020/2021. Despite a further request, no further information had been received.
DH pointed out that the total reserves had grown from £115,953 in 2020 to £169,196 in 2022, an increase of 46%. There had also been an expenditure of £5,832 from the S1 estate reserves.
It was agreed that further reminders take place regarding the 2021 accounts and a request for further information regarding what the S1 reserve money had been spent upon. It was also agreed that explanation be sought for the reason behind the need for the overall increase in the Reserves held.
- ii. Members commented on the recent letter from FirstPort to all residents concerning Fire Safety and the front doors to flats. Numerous comments had been seen on Facebook from home owners who objected to receiving the letters and the waste of their fees in doing so. Members agreed that the letter should only have been sent to flat owners and not to all residents and was a repeat of previous lack of understanding by Firstport.
It was agreed that DH would contact FirstPort over this issue.

7. Conservation Report

DVH reported on the plans for the new wildlife area and will write a report that will feature in Fernwood Gazette and also on the FCRA web site.

8. Fernwood Highways

DH reported that discussions with Clr. John Lee had revealed that he had made a request to Nottinghamshire County Council for Fernwood to become part of the "20 is plenty" trial within Nottinghamshire. He had asked FCRA if it would write in support of this as it may provide an extra push to get it in place. Discussion confirmed that 20 mph would not be a legal maximum but a guide for drivers.

It was agreed that FCRA had previously been in favour of this measure and that DH should write in support of this initiative.

9 Correspondence

Members were made aware of a Facebook poll regarding the desirability of Yellow lines in front of the shops on Rubys Avenue. This had been run by David Heath on a personal basis to give residents the opportunity to express their views. The result was that from 402 responses, 307 (76.4%) were against having double yellow lines in front of the shops and 95 (23.6%) were in favour. Members commented on the excellent response to the poll and agreed that in view of the formal consultation that is due to take place by VIA, this be kept under review to ensure that all residents of Fernwood be enabled to express their view to VIA.

UPDATE – The day after the meeting, it has been confirmed that double yellow lines will only be introduced around the bend before the shops on both sides of the road and not in front of the shops.

9. Fernwood Community Action

Members had submitted ideas on how FCRA could engage with other bodies to help facilitate activities in Fernwood that would help engage the new areas of Fernwood that are outside the FCRA area. The ideas submitted are attached as an appendix to this minute.

The overall principle would be to identify existing groups within Fernwood to see if they would wish to help form a larger Community action group to help organise activities within Fernwood.

After an extensive discussion, it was agreed that DH would consult with the Village Hall committee about existing group contacts, use of the kitchen and bar and also on possible activities in the Village Hall. These would include:

- Bingo night
- Film night
- Indoor petanque
- Indoor games
- Bric a Brac
- Vintage sale

The activities were selected on the basis that would need a smaller number of volunteers to run and could be easily repeated if popular.

10. Dates for Future Meetings

Committee meetings:

Committee Meeting - Wednesday 22nd February 2023 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Committee Meeting - Wednesday 29th March 2023 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Committee Meeting - Wednesday 26th April 2023 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Committee Meeting - Wednesday 31st May 2023 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Public meetings:

AGM - (TBC)

Meeting Closed 21:10 hrs

DRAFT