

Minutes of the
Fernwood Central Residents' Association (FCRA) Committee Meeting
Held at 19:15 hrs on Wednesday 29th January 2025
Fernwood Village Hall

1. Attendance:

Present		Apologies
John Newton (JN)	Brenda Wright (BW)	Henry Micah (HM)
Barry Smith (BS)	Terry McSwiney (TM)	
David Heath (DH)	Nick Roberts (NR)	AR = A Resident

2. Chairman's Report

JN expressed concern that the Parish Council had still not provided the information requested many months ago under the Freedom of Information request regarding the Central Fernwood land transfer.

BS pointed out that all "due diligence" had been completed by the previous Parish Council and that the transfer arrangements were in place when the new Parish Council cancelled the transfer. He explained that the land owner had a measure of control over FirstPort and was able to bring pressure to bear over points of discontent. Not only would it be easier to hold events without prior consent and easier to run the facilities such as the playpark but also, if FirstPort had significant failings, they could more easily be replaced.

It was agreed that JN would write to the Parish Council to remind them of the need to supply the documents regarding the land transfer and also that a letter be sent to the Information Commissioner regarding the failure of the Parish Council to comply with the Freedom of Information request.

JN said that he had written to Tallents to obtain a view on the latest wording of the Deed of Variation document and was awaiting a response.

JN thanked BS for his work over the years for the FCRA both as Chairman and now Treasurer and also for his work as Chairman of the Parish Council where he also greatly assisted JN when he was a new Councillor. Thanks for his knowledge and support were also echoed by the rest of the Committee.

4 Treasurer's Report

BS reported on his previously circulated accounts for FCRA that the only transaction since his last report was £2.99 for the internet hosting of our web site.

5 Secretary's Report

DH reported that he had updated the FCRA web site with information from FirstPort including the guide to the Creatio system and the complaints procedure. Other updates included FirstPort fees, notes from meetings with FirstPort plus a

guide to the Deed of Variation together with news and events. He reminded all to check www.myfernwood.org

6 Questions from Fernwood Residents

The committee were asked if they had noticed the increasing amount of dog mess, not only on pavements but also on green open spaces. A resident suggested that dog walkers with long leads were often seen using their phones, oblivious to what their dogs were doing. It was felt that there were sufficient dog mess bins and that an information reminder campaign by the Parish Council was required.

It was agreed to write to the Parish Council to this effect.

7 Nominations for Post of Treasurer's

BS outlined the duties of Treasurer and explained that the work was straightforward. DH reminded members that this post was an essential one for the Association.

No nominations were received.

8 Communications

It was agreed that more use would be made of the FCRA Facebook page and linked to the other Fernwood pages. JN offered to do this. BS suggested that Google could be used to circulate brief questionnaires and JN agreed to investigate.

9 Playpark

JN raised the issue of the lack of consultation with FCRA over the Playpark. This was despite a previous letter to the Parish Council requesting consultation and no consultation with residents either.

It was agreed that this would be included in the letter from JN to the Parish Council.

DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Committee Meeting - Wednesday 26th February 2025 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Committee Meeting - Wednesday 26th March 2025 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Committee Meeting - Wednesday 30th April 2025 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Meeting Closed 20:40 hrs