

Minutes of the
Fernwood Central Residents' Association (FCRA) Committee Meeting
Held at 19:15 hrs on Wednesday 26th March 2025
Fernwood Village Hall

1. Attendance:

Present			Apologies
John Newton (JN)			Nick Roberts (NR)
David Heath (DH)			Henry Micah (HM)
Terry McSwiney (TM)		AR = A Resident	

2. Previous Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th February 2025 were proposed as a true record and carried unanimously.

3. Chairman's Report

JN reported that following a request to FirstPort through the Joint Meeting, FirstPort had agreed to freeze the management fee part of the Annual Maintenance fee for the year 2025/2026.

4 Play Park Refurbishment – Presentation by Clr. L. Rixon

Clrs Rixon, accompanied by Clrs Mack and Shepherd made a presentation on the proposed refurbishment of the Central Fernwood Play Park. Due to the complexity and amount of expenditure involved, the process had taken a year. The tender documents were on the PC web site together with a scoring matrix to enable comparison of tenders. Eleven companies had expressed interest and many had spent up to 2 days on site. Six had submitted tenders and these had been reduced to the two that had been placed on display in the Village Hall. Comments on the designs were encouraged until the third week of April. A decision was expected shortly after this to enable work to be completed by the first week of August.

The enclosed play park was aimed at children age from toddler to 11 years. The Multi-Use Games Area would be improved and raised to reduce the chances of it being water logged. A children's trim trail would be added around the perimeter of the fenced area.

There would be a reduced maintenance cost as there would be a 3 year guarantee on moving parts plus a 10 year structural guarantee.

FCRA members commented favourably on the submitted designs and thanked the Councillors for their presentation.

5 Deed of Variation Process

The DoV process was discussed at the recent Joint meeting with FirstPort and BDW. BDW was keen to help to simplify the process and hoped to have more

news by the next meeting. FirstPort had rejected the request to reduce the charge for the provision of a DoV.

6 FirstPort

It was noted that the final accounts were still awaited for the year ending 2023/2024. Whilst there had been agreement to communications performance standards, the 3 days and 5 days responses were still not being achieved.

DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Committee Meeting - Wednesday 30th April 2025 at 7:15pm – Village Hall
AGM - Thursday 8th May 2025 at 7.00 pm - Village Hall
Committee Meeting - Wednesday 28th May 2025 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Meeting Closed 20:30 hrs