

Minutes of the
Fernwood Central Residents' Association (FCRA) Committee Meeting
Held at 19:15 hrs on Wednesday 30th July 2025
Fernwood Village Hall

1. Attendance:

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

2. Treasurers Report

HM presented the Treasurers' report and commented that there were no transactions other than the regular monthly fees for web usage and the new bank fee.

3 Secretarys Report

DH reported that he had found that cases that he had reported on behalf of FCRA on the FirstPort Creatio system had been wiped of their content. He had complained about this and FirstPort acknowledged that there was a problem that would be resolved soon. When it wasn't resolved after a month, he checked Creatio again and found that the content of his complaint had also been erased. He checked with Fernwood users and the FirstPort group and a number had suffered from the same problem. He therefore complained again and this time, the content of the cases was restored but without any of the attached documents. He will keep an eye on this.

4 Questions from Fernwood Residents

A resident asked if the Committee knew when the FirstPort bills would be sent out. JN confirmed that the bills were late and said that the committee had been given a very short timescale to review and comment on the budget in order for the bills to be issued the first week in July, but had not been updated on when they may be expected. JN agreed to progress this with Vanessa Crane (VC)

5 Feedback and Progress from Joint Meetings.

JN said that the meetings were generally useful and that the input from Barratt David Wilson Homes was appreciated. JN and DH ran through the most recent meeting and expressed their dismay that none of the actions that were to have been completed by (VC) had been done:

The updated full list and explanation of legal charges was still outstanding from the previous year;

The Accounts and Draft Budget that had been promised for 10th and 11th of April had been supplied weeks after this date;

There were errors in the reserves of the final accounts.

The explanation of how income from work to other estates was included within the accounts was still awaited.

At this meeting, VC had agreed to consult with FCRA prior to any significant expenditure from Reserves.

Discussion ensued on Reserves and it was felt that any predicted expenditure, like significant tree work, should be included within the budget and should not come out of reserves except in exceptional circumstances.

It was agreed that FCRA would write to VC and her boss expressing the concerns of the committee on these matters.

6. Freedom of Information Request to Parish Council

DH informed the Committee that the 20th August would be the first anniversary of the submission of the FOI request to the PC regarding the decision on the ownership of the open spaces within Central Fernwood and asked what action the Committee would like to take. It was agreed that FCRA would write to the PC to request a date for when the information would be provided with JN attending the next Council Meeting to raise the issue in the public forum. Failure to provide an acceptable date would result in the FCRA writing a letter of concern to the Information Commissioner.

7. Date of Future Meetings

After discussion, it was agreed that the next meeting that was scheduled for Wednesday 27th August 2025 would not take place due to its proximity to the Bank Holiday. The next meetings would therefore be on:

Wednesday 24th September 2025 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Wednesday 29th October 2025 at 7:15pm – Village Hall

Meeting Closed 20:00 hrs