

**NORTH FERRIBY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**  
**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**28 APRIL 2025**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Hookem (Chairman) J.Abraham, M.Abraham, Black, Blogg, Dennett, Holborn, Knight & Wood

**ALSO PRESENT:** Clerk J Haslope, Ward Cllr Corless and Ward Cllr Hopton

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – RESOLVED** –That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 22 April 2024 be confirmed as a correct record.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

I have pleasure in presenting the annual Chairman’s Report for 2024/2025.

Once again, and as usual, I have no apology for starting my report in offering my sincere thanks to all my fellow Councillors for their continued hard work and support over the past year, not only in general Parish Council matters, but also for their work in the individual committees, covering the environment, planning matters and the village playing field. Many thanks must as always also go to our Clerk, Jo Haslope, for her continuing commitment and enthusiasm for the role of Parish Clerk and also to our Ward Councillors for their support in our Parish matters. Thanks also go out to the many other volunteers who give their time in numerous and varied ways for the benefit of the village including our wonderful band of litter pickers who continue to keep our village looking clean and tidy. This help is always really appreciated and never taken for granted.

The work of our Environment Committee continues throughout the year, and hopefully you will have noticed the 27 new trees that have been planted in the verges around the village, along with over 200 new trees on the Riverside Walkway, not only enhancing the local environment, but also supporting biodiversity. Thanks here also go to those who help take care of our wildlife by feeding the birds, not only in their gardens, but also by topping up the new bird tables on the Riverside Walkway.

With regard to planning matters, the prolonged and continuing dispute over designs for the Open Space alongside Long Plantation Wood unfortunately continued to take up much of the Parish Council’s time, as we continued to fight for the retention of the original grassland meadow which was designed to protect the village from the development on the Amazon site, and which our survey of residents overwhelming showed a desire to remain as it was, ie an open space without bunds. Unfortunately, however, the developers are pushing ahead and have plans to start building the unwanted bunds over the coming summer months.

With regard to the Amazon site itself, one cannot help but notice that the large warehouse is now near completion, sadly obliterating what was the magnificent view of the Humber from the Wolds Way finger post junction adjacent to the A63, as was accurately portrayed in our ‘artist’s impression’ circulated in Village Newsletters. However, now it is here, the Parish Council continues to take an interest and sends a representative to the Amazon liaison meetings which take place on a monthly basis to give updates on progress on the site. For further information on these meetings, the Minutes, along with Community Liaison Newsletters can be found on the Parish Council’s website under the News and Events section.

Again with regard to planning matters, the Parish Council is also strongly objecting to the amended plans for an Energy from Waste plant at the Transwaste site on Gibson Lane, as detailed in our Spring Newsletter.

Residents can’t also help but notice that building has now commenced for the new Ferriby Meadows development along Ferriby High Rd, and it is expected that the first potential new members to the Ferriby community will start to move in towards the end of the year. I am pleased to report that one of the new roads is to be named in honour of our twinned village of Le Pellerin, speaking of which, in May, a group from our Twinning Association travelled over to Le Pellerin for their biennial visit, during which the group were invited to partake in the inauguration of a new square in the village, to be named after William Wilberforce. This was due to his local connections to both North Ferriby and also the nearby French city of Nantes where he is commemorated in the museum’s story of the French’s involvement in the slave trade. Disappointingly, we have since learned that the French are unable to make their usual return visit to us here this year, but they do hope to be with us again in 2026.

With all this construction work in and around the village, the Parish Council has been in consultation with

developers and requested that all relevant construction traffic arriving at and leaving sites to the east of the village do so by using Ferriby High Road, and for all vehicles arriving and leaving sites to the west of the village to do so by the grade separated junction, thereby keeping the centre of Ferriby free from any heavy goods vehicles.

This year past year, to add to our list of regular events such as the Remembrance Parade, lighting of the Christmas Tree, Carols Round the Lychgate, etc, we saw the first ‘Know your North Ferriby’ event, which was held in the Village Hall and showcased not only the Village Hall’s much improved and modernised facilities, but also the large number and diversity of local clubs, associations and activities for residents to get involved in - who knew so much went on in the village and surely there was something for everyone.

Ferriby Shed continues to be a success and now has its own new workshop on the Playing Fields. They continue to take on a number of projects such as making bird tables for the Riverside Walkway, a community bee friendly plant and seed swap stand located outside the RDA cafe, and seasonal decorations for Coronation Gardens, including this year’s delightful Easter display.

We also have some exceedingly talented knitters, who amongst other things have managed to raise a smile by topping our village post boxes with some wonderfully imaginative knitted and crocheted creations.

On 3 April, our library celebrated its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary – who knew we have been so lucky to have had a library in the village for so long, and it is not just there for books – it also offers free internet access and is also the venue for a number of different groups – full details can be found via the Parish Council’s website.

Another anniversary this year belonged to the Football Club – it is 10 years since The Villagers were down at Wembley and after what was a very exciting match, and going into extra time, came away with the FA Trophy. A very proud moment for all concerned. There was a huge local support for the team with what seemed like the whole village donning their green and white and travelling down to London.

Looking ahead, another anniversary is on 8<sup>th</sup> May, being the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day, where we not only reflect on the sacrifices made by our armed forces, but celebrate the unconditional surrender by Nazi Germany to Allied Forces in World War II. To commemorate this, there are a number of events being planned around the village, (full details of which can be found on our website), culminating in the lighting of a ‘beacon of peace’ on the Riverside Walkway.

Once again the Parish Council was delighted to be able to allocate a number of grants from the Wind Farm Fund to local community groups. Unfortunately the number of applications always seems to far outweigh the funds available and so some hard decisions have to be taken. In 2024 the successful applicants were, and as they say, and in no particular order:

Ferriby Heritage Trust towards the cost of maintaining the website and providing a new cover for the replica bronze age boat, North Ferriby Cricket Club towards the cost of two new refrigeration units, North Ferriby Village Hall for repairs to the flat roof, North Ferriby Hedgehog Recue to contribute towards the cost of medicine and food, Anne Turner Memorial Allotments Committee to replace one of the water butts, Ferriby Shed towards the cost of installing an accessible path to the new workshop, and finally North Ferriby Primary School towards the creation of a new allotment garden on site.

At the time of writing, the closing date for applications for the latest round of grants has passed, but if you would like to apply in the future, please keep an eye on our Newsletters and Notice Boards, as well as our website and Facebook page for details of when new applications are invited, as this is not the same time each year.

Finally I would just like to remind everyone that the Parish Council is here for you, and we are always happy to see residents at any of our Council Meetings, the details of which can be found on the Village Notice Board in Coronation Gardens and on our website.

*Belinda Hookem (Chairman)                      North Ferriby Parish Council                      28 April 2025*

**PUBLIC FORUM** – No questions were raised so the meeting closed at 6.40pm