

NEW FRANKLEY IN BIRMINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Council held at St Christopher's Church Centre, New Street, Frankley on Monday, 20 March, 2006 at 1930 hours.

Present

Councillor Gareth Griffiths (in the Chair)

Councillors Linda Banks, Ian Bruckshaw, Eric Carter, Michael Denny, Bill Hollis, Len Lovett, Geoffrey Stephenson, Joanna Walker and Geoffrey Williams

Also in Attendance Ms Shakeshaft and Partner

PUBLIC MINUTES

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for their inability to attend the meeting were submitted on behalf of Councillors Grey (Work commitments) and Trefor Jones (Illness).

MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Stephenson, seconded by Councillor Bruckshaw and –

- 1294 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 20 February 2006, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1295 The Chairperson reported that Ifor Jones, the District Director, together with a number of District Officers and Mr Tim Williams, a senior advisor to the Communities and Local Government Minister, the Rt. Hon. David Miliband MP, visited the parish office that morning in connection with the Government's Community Engagement initiative. Mr Jones had undertaken to provide the Parish Council with a copy of the report of the visit.

QUESTIONS

There were none.

COMMUNICATIONS

A Bromsgrove Ambulance Station

The following letter from Mr R B Hamilton, Chief Executive, Hereford and Worcester Ambulance Service NHS Trust was submitted –

(see interleaved document no. 1)

1296 RESOLVED: That the content of the forgoing letter be noted.

B Proposed Merger of Ambulance Trusts

The following letter from Patient and Public Involvement Forum Coventry and Warwickshire Ambulance was submitted –

(see interleaved document no. 2)

1297 The Clerk explained that the reason why the letter had been sent to the Parish Council was that it had been sent to all members of WALC, the majority of which were located in Warwickshire. Therefore, while Members could comment on the proposed merger in general terms or its effect on Frankley in particular, he did not consider it appropriate to comment on the effect on the Coventry and Warwickshire Ambulance Service.

Councillor Lovett commented that the area to be covered by the proposed Ambulance Service was too large and possibly would not be able to react to the needs of the local communities which it would serve. There was also concern that should the current 5 control centres be reduced to two as proposed, that reduction could lead to dispatchers not fully knowing the areas which they covered. However, in terms of the effect on Frankley, it was felt that the removal of the artificial boundary between the West Midlands and Hereford and Worcester would be of benefit as, if the single unit based at Hollymoor was out on call, the next nearest ambulances would be those stationed at Bromsgrove and there would be no cross boundary call out problems.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – PUBLICATION SCHEME

The following report of the Clerk was submitted –

(see interleaved document no 3)

1298 RESOLVED: That the Publication Scheme, as now submitted, be adopted with immediate effect.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were none.

DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were none.

FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

The following Notes of a meeting between Members of the Parish Council and City Cabinet Members for Regeneration and Housing were submitted –

(see Interleaved document no 4)

- 1299 As an amendment to the Notes, the Clerk advised that Councillor Barton had requested that Mrs Barton be designated as Community Liaison Assistant rather than Conservative Candidate – Longbridge Ward.

Councillor Denny felt that those residents who had sent letters to Councillor Hardeman should be thanked and it was agreed that a suitable insert be included in the forthcoming edition of the Neighbourhood News.

CROSS CITY LINE EXTENSION

- 1300 The Clerk reported that during his attendance at the City Council's Transportation Summit held on 14 March, he had managed to have a brief conversation with Tom Magrath, CENTRO's project director. The Clerk had suggested that an approach be made to Advantage West Midlands for the remainder of the required funding for the extension. He had emphasised to Mr Magrath that, given the decline in the traditional industries in the south west of Birmingham, the work-force in Rubery/Frankley area needed easy access to the employment opportunities which existed in the east of Birmingham and which could only be reached conveniently by rail. Mr Magrath agreed to explore the possibility of such funding but had added that the extension was included in the redevelopment plans for the south west currently being drawn up by AWM.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

There were none.

PAYMENTS

A Business Visa Credit Card

- 1301 The following Business Visa Credit Card Statement was noted -

(see interleaved document no. 5)

B Schedule of Payments

The following Schedule of Payments was submitted -

(see interleaved document no. 6)

It was proposed by Councillor Carter, seconded by Councillor Lovett and –

- 1302 **RESOLVED:** That the payments, as set out in the Schedule now submitted, be approved.

LOCAL ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

At 1950 hours, the meeting adjourned to enable the Members of the Public to raise issues of concern.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Ms Shakeshaft, a resident of Shapinsay Drive, reported that she and her partner had been subjected to a series of anti-social incidents by a group of youths, some of whom lived in the Frankley community and some in the surrounding areas. The incidents had included the slamming of their garage door on their car, her partner being locked in the garage, stones being thrown at both their car and at them and their car being broken into.

Additionally, just after Christmas, the youths had broken their garage door and despite a number of requests to the Housing Department, it had still to be repaired.

In response to questions from the Chairperson, Ms Shakeshaft confirmed that the police had attended the incidents but would not take action unless Ms Shakeshaft could provide them with all the names and addresses of the alleged perpetrators. Additionally, the Housing Department required the names and addresses before any action under the Anti-Social Behaviour could be undertaken. While Mrs Shakeshaft knew several of the youths by sight she was unable to provide either the Police or Housing with all the details they sought.

The Chairperson requested that Ms Shakeshaft attend the parish office the next morning when he would take all the details and then pass them onto the Frankley Housing Officer for action which would include the urgent repair of the garage door. Additionally, the Clerk would write to Inspector Mayhew to bring the problem to his attention.

There being no issues to be raised the meeting was reconvened at 1958 hours.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

- 1303 RESOLVED: That, pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960, in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press be excluded for the meeting during the consideration of the following -

To Review the Remuneration of the Clerk

SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS HELD IN PRIVATE

(Minute no. 1304)

REVIEW OF THE REMUNERATION OF THE CLERK

In accordance with the Council's Standing Order No. 14, the Council agreed to

increase the Clerk's salary by one spinal column point within the Salary Range SCP 35 - to SCP 38 pro rata.

The meeting ended at 2002 hrs.

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Chairperson

DRAFT VERSION