

**NEW FRANKLEY IN BIRMINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

At a meeting of the New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Council held at St Christopher's Church Centre, Holly Hill, Frankley on Monday, 21 August 2006 at 1930 hours.

**Present**

Councillor Gareth Griffiths (in the Chair)

Councillors Linda Banks, Ian Bruckshaw, Eric Carter, Sid Grey MBE, Bill Hollis, Len Lovett, Geoffrey Stephenson, Stephen Trefor-Jones, Joanna Walker and Geoffrey Williams

There were 2 members of the public present.

**MINUTES**

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for his inability to attend the meeting was submitted on behalf of Councillor Denny (Holiday).

**MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor Carter, seconded by Councillor Williams, and -

- 1388 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 17 July 2006, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

**CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Appointment to Frankley Environmental Watch Group**

The Chairperson advised that Frankley Resolve had requested that the Council appoint a representative to serve on the above group.

Councillor Carter indicated his willingness to serve and there being no other nominations it was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor Stephenson, and -

- 1389 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2007, Councillor Carter be appointed as the Council's representative on the Frankley Environmental Watch Group.

### **Frankley Garden of the Year 2006 Competition**

- 1390 The Chairperson reported that he had been invited to participate in the judging of the entries along with Richard Burden MP, Councillors Keith Barton and Bedser and Amy Watson, Mr Burden's constituency assistant. There had been 20 entries, the standard of which had been high.

### **QUESTIONS**

#### **Traffic Accidents – Ormond Road**

- 1391 Whilst acknowledging the difficulties facing the Council in addressing local issues because of the City's reluctance to devolve power to the Parish Council, Councillor Grey was concerned that, recently, it would appear that the Council was content to sit back and let other parties deal with issues which had arisen within the Frankley community. He reminded Members that there had been four road traffic accidents on Ormond Road in recent months, the last one resulting in a driver fatality. Notwithstanding the offer to forward the petition referred to in Minute 1374 onto Councillor Keith Barton, he considered that the Council should be taking a lead in the matter and writing to the Highways Department and the Police asking what, in the light of the 4 accidents, traffic calming measures they were proposing to introduce to reduce vehicles' speed on Ormond Road. He added that residents of Ormond Road and the surrounding Roads particularly between Shapinsay Drive and Rea Fordway were concerned over the speed vehicles, including buses, were travelling down Ormond Road.

During the ensuing discussion during which Councillor Trefor-Jones and Bruckshaw reported on the actions taken by the Police Liaison Board and the Neighbourhood Forum respectively in an attempt to address the issue of vehicle speed on the estate's roads, it was agreed that at future meetings, Members who were also members of other organisations serving the Frankley community would briefly report on the initiatives/projects those groups taking so as to ensure that the Parish Council was kept fully informed.

In addition it was also agreed that the Clerk write to the Highways Department and the Police expressing the Council's concern regarding the accidents and the speed of the traffic using Ormond Road and requesting to be advised as to what action those bodies were proposing to take in order to address the problem.

#### **Replacement Windows**

- 1392 Councillor Lovett said that he had received a number of complaints at the apparent lack of action regarding the replacement of windows with double glazed units. In response, the Chairperson advised that the survey of the properties should have been undertaken by now and that he would raise the matter with Steve Ashton the following morning.

#### **Housing Department's Letting Policy**

- 1393 Councillor Grey urged that the Council write to the Housing Department requesting a meeting to discuss the situation which had arisen due to the

current letting policy. He felt that the policy of letting flats to young men with their associated anti-social behaviour and who appeared to have no home making skills was unsettling to their neighbours. He was aware that, with regard to the tenant in Quarry House Close, the Tenancy Support officer had made three attempts to visit the tenant but had only managed to see him on one occasion. He reminded Members of the recent firebomb attack on one of the properties in Quarry House Close which had occurred during broad daylight at approximately 1620 hours. As well as the Police visiting the properties on a regular basis there were other visitors to the properties at all hours of the day and night causing disturbance to the neighbours. Additionally, each time the flats were vacated because the tenant had 'disappeared', the Housing Department had to refurbish the property.

It was agreed that the Clerk write to the City Council's Director of Housing advising of the concerns expressed above and requesting a meeting with the Parish Council.

## **APPLICATION FOR FUNDING**

### **Frankley Garden of the Year 2006**

The Clerk explained that Frankley Resolve had promoted a Best Kept Garden competition in Frankley, details of which were now submitted, and had requested that the Parish Council contribute £100 towards the prize fund.

(Interleaved document no 1)

It was proposed by Councillor Grey, seconded by Councillor Williams, and –

- 1394 RESOLVED: That the Council, in accordance with its powers under Sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, agree to incur the following expenditure, which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or of its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure; a grant of £100 towards the prize fund of the Frankley Garden of the Year 2006 Competition.

## **ANNUAL RETURN 2005/2006**

- 1395 The Clerk advised that the External Auditor had given an unqualified audit opinion in respect of the Council's Annual Return for 2005/2006 and that there were no matters which he required to be brought to the Council's attention.

## **PLANNING APPLICATION**

### **Pre-Application Consultation – AAP Consulting Ltd – Agents for Hutchison 3G UK**

- 1396 The Clerk referred to the last meeting of the Council at which Councillor Keith Barton reported that he had received a pre-application consultation document from agents acting for Hutchison 3G UK regarding a proposal to erect a mobile telephone mast on land at Holly Hill Road. He had advised that he would be writing to the agents to advise that he would object the proposed installation

but, should Hutchison decide to amend their proposal and agree to site the mast at either of the two alternative sites, the Severn Trent Water Treatment Works on Egghill Lane or Off Hill Lane Frankley, he would not object to the proposal.

Although the Council had not, at the time of the last meeting, received formal notice of the proposal, it was agreed to support Councillor Barton's proposal. Accordingly, when the notification letter was received a few days later, the Clerk wrote to the agents advising that, if an application for a mast was submitted for Holly Hill then the Council would object but if would not object if an application was submitted for either of the two alternative sites.

### **DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were none.

### **FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT**

- 1397 The Clerk advised that a report on the Development proposals for the Centre was to be considered by the Developments Officer's Group on 13 September at which it was hoped that a decision on the development would be made.

### **CROSS CITY LINE EXTENSION**

There was nothing to report

### **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

#### **Christmas Meal**

- 1398 In response to a comment from Councillor Hollis, and after some discussion, it was agreed that Councillor Grey would liaise with the caterers and Councillor Denny with regard to the suggestion that this year's Christmas Meal be held at St Leonard's Church hall.

#### **Frankley Community Awards Night**

- 1399 Councillor Hollis extended his congratulation to all the Award Winners and advised that the raffle had raised £65 which was being given to the Macmillan Cancer Relief Charity.

#### **Police Liaison Board**

- 1400 Councillor Trefor-Jones advised that the next meeting of the PLB would be held on Thursday 14 September at the Reaside Centre.

#### **Installation of Benches – Holly Hill Shopping Centre**

- 1401 Councillor Carter reported that 4 benches, which had been paid for by the Housing Liaison Board were being installed, free of charge by Mitie on the mound at the Holly Hill shopping centre. Additionally he advised that he had asked whether Frankley Resolve would plant a Christmas tree at the centre of the mound which could then be decorated at Christmas and be the focus of a

community carol service.

**PAYMENTS**

**(i) Business Visa Credit Card**

The following Business Visa Credit Card Statement was submitted -

(Interleaved document no 2)

It was proposed by Councillor Carter, seconded by Councillor Williams, and -

1402 RESOLVED: That the VISA Credit Card Statement, as now submitted, be approved.

**(ii) Schedule of Payments**

The following Schedule of Payments was submitted -

(Interleaved document no 3)

It was proposed by Councillor Carter, seconded by Councillor Trefor-Jones and -

1403 RESOLVED: That the payments, as set out in the Schedule now submitted, be approved.

**LOCAL ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

**At 2016 hours, the meeting adjourned to enable the Members of the Public to raise issues of concern.**

**Tenants' Anti-Social Behaviour**

Mr Coach, 53 Hayling Close, complained of the Anti-Social behaviour of some of his neighbours. One, who had since moved, constantly played loud music despite being asked to keep the volume down. He requested that the Housing Officer for the area investigate his complaints. Additionally, there was another flat from which the tenant was supposed to have been evicted but it appeared that the lights were on all night and one of the new double glazed units had been smashed. Councillor Griffiths undertook to speak to Steve Ashton the next morning.

**There being no issues to be raised by the public the meeting was reconvened at 2023 hours**

The meeting ended at 2023 hours

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Chairperson