

**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, 19th May 2008 at 1930 hours.

Present

Councillor Gareth Griffiths (in the Chair)

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

Also in Attendance Susan Trefor-Jones

**MINUTES**

**ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**

It was proposed by Councillor Griffiths, seconded by Councillor Trefor-Jones, that Councillor Grey be appointed Chairperson of the Council for the forthcoming year.

There being no further nominations, it was, *nem con* –

1756 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, Councillor Grey be appointed Chairperson of the Council.

**COUNCILLOR GREY IN THE CHAIR**

1758 Hereon, the Chairperson made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairperson of the Parish Council.

**ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

It was proposed by Councillor Bruckshaw, seconded by Councillor Carter, that Councillor Griffiths be appointed Vice-Chairperson of the Council.

It was also proposed by Councillor Stephenson, seconded by Councillor Karan Bolton, that Councillor Trefor-Jones be appointed Vice-Chairperson of the Council.

The nominations were put to the meeting and it was, on a show of hands-

1759 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, Councillor Griffiths be appointed Vice-Chairperson of the Council.

## **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of City Councillors Sue Barton, Keith Barton and Woods

## **APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

### **(i) Longbridge Ward Advisory Board**

Upon receipt of a nomination, it was -

- 1760 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, Councillor Carter be nominated to serve as the Council's representative on the Longbridge Ward Advisory Board.

### **(ii) Frankley Church Community Project**

Upon receipt of a nomination, it was -

- 1761 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, Councillor Banks be nominated to serve as the Council's representative on the Management Committee of the Frankley Church Community Project.

### **(iii) City Council's Standards Committee**

The Clerk advised that, due to a change to the legislation the Standards Committee was required to establish two sub-committees each having different membership to determine allegations of misconduct against City and Parish Councillors. Therefore it was necessary to appoint two Parish Councillors to serve on the City's Standards Committee.

Upon receipt of nominations, it was –

- 1762 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, Councillors Carter and Griffiths be nominated to serve as the Parish Council representatives on the City Council's Standards Committee.

### **(iv) Northfield Constituency Committee**

Upon receipt of a nomination, it was –

- 1763 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, Councillor Trefor-Jones be nominated to serve as the Parish Council representative on the Northfield Constituency Committee.

### **(v) Northfield District Strategic Partnership Executive**

Upon receipt of a nomination, it was –

- 1764 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, Councillor Griffith be nominated to attend meetings of the Northfield District Strategic Partnership Executive as a representative of the Parish Council.

**(vi) Northfield District Governance Commission**

No nomination was made to this organisation as it had not met for some time.

**(vii) Safer Neighbourhood Steering Group**

No nomination was made to this organisation as it had not met for some time.

**(viii) Environmental Services Review**

No nomination was made to this organisation as it had not met for some time.

**(ix) Association For Neighbourhood Democracy**

Upon receipt of nominations, it was –

- 1765 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, Councillor Grey together with the Clerk be nominated to serve as representatives of the Council at meetings of the Association.

**(x) Longbridge Consultative Group**

Upon receipt of nominations, it was –

- 1766 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, Councillors Carter and Grey be nominated to attend meetings of the Longbridge Consultative Group as representatives of the Parish Council.

**DATES OF MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 2008/2009**

- 1767 RESOLVED: That meetings of the Parish Council for the forthcoming Municipal Year be held on the following Mondays at 1930 hours at the St Christopher's Church Centre –

16<sup>th</sup> June 2008; 21<sup>st</sup> July 2008; 18<sup>th</sup> August 2008;  
15<sup>th</sup> September 2008; 20<sup>th</sup> October 2008; 17<sup>th</sup> November 2008;  
15<sup>th</sup> December 2008; 19<sup>th</sup> January 2009; 16<sup>th</sup> February 2009;  
16<sup>th</sup> March 2009; 20<sup>th</sup> April 2009

with the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and the Annual Parish Assembly on 18th May 2009.

**PLANNING, ENVIRONMENTAL, HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT COMMITTEE**

The Chairperson proposed that, in view of the Centre Development and the development of the former MGRover site, the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee should meet monthly, two weeks after the Council. The Committee should also consider other matters which were included within its remit.

Additionally, in order that all Members of the Council be kept up to date of Council activities, the Chairperson proposed that all Councillors not on the Committee be invited to attend an informal meeting at the conclusion of the Committee meeting.

Following receipt of nominations, it was -

- 1768 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, Councillors Bruckshaw, Carter, Rogers, Stephenson and Trefor-Jones be appointed to serve on the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee, together with the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson of the Council as ex-officio members of the Committee and that Councillor Carter be appointed Chairperson of the Committee; further that the Committee meet on the following dates –
- 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008; 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008; 4<sup>th</sup> August 2008; 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008; 29<sup>th</sup> September 2008; 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2008; 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008; 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2009; 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009; 30<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

#### **STAFFING COMMITTEE**

Following receipt of nominations, it was -

- 1769 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, Councillors Carter, Lovett and Trefor-Jones be appointed to serve on the Staffing Committee and that Councillor Trefor-Jones be appointed Chairperson of the Committee; further, that meetings of the Committee be at the call of the Chairperson as and when there is business to transact.

#### **APPEALS COMMITTEE**

Following receipt of nominations, it was -

- 1770 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, Councillors Linda Banks, Bruckshaw and Stephenson be appointed to serve on the Appeals Committee and that Councillor Linda Banks be appointed Chairperson of the Committee; further, that meetings of the Committee be at the call of the Chairperson as and when there is business to transact.

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Following receipt of nominations, it was –

- 1771 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May

2009, Councillors Karan Bolton, Hollis and Joanna Walker be appointed to serve on the Audit Committee; further that meetings of the Committee be held quarterly at the call of the Chairperson.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS (EXISTENCE AND NATURE) WITH REGARD TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

1772 Hereon, the under mentioned Member declared his respective interest in the Agenda Item indicated below –

Councillor	Agenda Item	Interest
Sid Grey	Chairperson's Allowance	Prejudicial – Determination of Chairperson's Allowance for the forthcoming year

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were no matters raised.

**MINUTES**

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

1773 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2008, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

Hereon, the Chairperson withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the following item and the Vice-Chairperson took the Chair.

**COUNCILLOR GRIFFITHS IN THE CHAIR**

**CHAIRPERSON'S ALLOWANCE**

It was proposed by Councillor Rogers, seconded by Councillor Trefor-Jones and –

1774 RESOLVED: That the Chairperson's allowance be increased to £689 for the forthcoming Municipal Year and that the payment thereof be in 10 equal monthly instalments commencing at the end of May 2008.

Hereon, Councillor Grey returned to the meeting and resumed the Chair.

**COUNCILLOR GREY IN THE CHAIR**

**CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **The Future**

- 1775 The Chairperson stated that the recent elections had been a wake up call for the future and, accordingly, the Council needed to be more proactive in its approach in the future. With the uncertainty as to the continuation of the neighbourhood caretakers and the associated problems of fly tipping, refuse and recycling collections there was a need for the Council to make more efforts to take control, or at least have a greater say, in the provision of services on Frankley.

Additionally, the Chairperson felt that there was a need for all Councillors to become more involved in the day to day operations of the Council. While accepting that several Councillors were in full time employment, he felt that there was a need for all Councillors to meet more often in order to be kept up to date on the work being undertaken by the Council and to provide an input into that work. For that reason he had suggested that there be an informal get together after the meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee. There was also a need to keep the Office advised of any contact Members might have with the MP, Ward Councillors and City Council Officers. Whilst Councillors had right to deal with issues which might arise, it was vital that they advised the Office of any action they took.

Finally, he reported that he had received complaints from Ward Councillors that there appeared to be a duplication of effort between the community groups on Frankley on certain issues. He pointed out that there was an item on the agenda during which Councillors who are Members of other organisations had the opportunity of making the Council aware of the activities of that group. Duplication of effort, in his opinion, compromised the credibility of the community groups on Frankley.

## **QUESTIONS**

There were none.

## **ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2008**

### **A Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2008**

The Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008 were submitted –

(Interleaved document no. 1)

It was proposed by Councillor Trefor-Jones, seconded by Councillor Bruckshaw, and –

- 1776 RESOLVED: That the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008, as now submitted, be approved and that the Chairperson and the Responsible Finance Office be authorised to sign them on behalf of the Council.

### **B Risk Review Log for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008**

The Risk Review log for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008 was submitted –

(Interleaved document no. 2)

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

- 1777 RESOLVED: That the Risk Review Log for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008, as now submitted, be approved.

**C Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2007**

(i) Statement of Accounts

Section 1 of the Annual Return, the Statement of Accounts was submitted -

(Interleaved document no. 3)

(ii) Annual Governance Statement

Section 2 of the Annual Return, the Annual Governance Statement was submitted –

(Interleaved document no. 4)

It was proposed by Councillor Trefor-Jones, seconded by Councillor Bruckshaw and –

- 1778 RESOLVED: That Section 1 of the Annual Return – The Statement of Accounts and Section 2 – The Annual Governance Statement, as now submitted, be approved and that the Chairperson and the Clerk be authorised to sign the documents on behalf of the Council.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were none.

**DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were none.

**LONGBRIDGE AREA ACTION PLAN**

The following submission from the Council regarding the LAAP was submitted –

(Interleaved document no. 5)

The Chairperson reported that the Council had made its submission setting out its concerns regarding the Longbridge AAP and was still lobbying for full consultations to take place on the proposed development of the former MG Rover site to ensure that the needs of the Frankley community were not ignored.

- 1779 RESOLVED: That the submission be noted.

## **FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT**

- 1780 The Chairperson advised that the new owners of the OMCO supermarket were due to take over the premises on Wednesday. However, he was concerned that it appeared that the City officers were not telling the new owners as to what was being proposed for the Centre development.

## **TRANSPORT MATTERS**

- 1781 It was agreed to keep this item on Agenda as the proposals for the transport arrangements as part of LAAP needed to be kept under review.

## **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

### **Elections/Environmental Problems**

- 1782 Councillor Carter thanked the residents of Frankley who had supported their local candidates. He also thanks Councillor Grey for all his efforts on behalf of the candidates. As the Chairperson had mentioned earlier in the meeting, to build on the success, the Council had to be proactive and find out what the people wanted.

The Chairperson stated that it was important that the Council takes on board the lessons learnt from the election. Whilst the BNP Candidates had only polled approximately a third of the votes as those polled by the successful candidates, it was unlikely that they go away. Regarding the pre-election leafleting Councillor Joanna Walker pointed out that on this occasion the Council were fortunate to receive assistance from mainstream political parties but that at the next election that assistance may not be forthcoming and all the leaflet distribution and costs would have to be borne solely by the candidates.

Councillor Banks reported that, when distributing election leaflets, she had noted that some areas appeared unkempt and untidy – fly tipped rubbish, black rubbish bags and green waste bags left uncollected and garages damaged. The Chairperson pointed out that instances of uncollected rubbish should be reported to the Parish Office as should damage to Council property which could then be passed onto Housing Officers.

Councillor Trefor-Jones felt that in his experience there appeared to be some confusion regarding the collection dates with some residents putting out their green sacks in the blue box collection week. The Chairperson acknowledged that there was a problem particularly with green waste collection which resulted in the caretakers having to collect the uncollected bags – diverting them from their proper work. If the problem persisted, then he would contact Lifford Lane to discuss the problem.

### **Frankley Crime Stoppers**

- 1783 The Clerk reported that the Frankley Crime Stoppers telephone line was operational.

## **PAYMENTS**

### **(A) Business Visa Credit Card**

The following Business Visa Credit Card Statement was noted -

(Interleaved document no. 6)

**(B) Schedule of Payments**

The following Schedule of Payments was submitted -

(Interleaved document no. 7)

It was proposed by Councillor Griffiths, seconded by Councillor Rogers and –

- 1784 RESOLVED: That the payments, as set out in the Schedule now submitted, be approved.

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

**Neighbourhood News**

- 1785 Susan Trefor-Jones raised the matter of some of the dates of events in the Neighbourhood News being out of date when the magazine was delivered. The Chairperson responded that the Council was aware of the problem which occurred because of the time lag between the cut off date for submission of articles and the actual distribution date. For example, although the June/July issue had a cut off date of 23<sup>rd</sup> May it would not be printed and distributed to most properties until mid-June. The Chairperson however undertook to speak to Andy Ross regarding the problem.

The meeting ended at 2102 hours

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Chairperson