

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, 21st July 2008 at 1930 hours.

Present

Councillor Sid Grey MBE (in the Chair)

Councillors Eric Carter, Bill Hollis, Len Lovett, Des Rogers, Geoffrey Stephenson and Stephen Trefor-Jones

Also in Attendance Councillor Sue Barton (Longbridge Ward Councillor), Andy Ross (Frankley Church Community Project) and Dave Grant (Brightstone Road Resident)

MINUTES

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1805 Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Linda Banks (Family Illness), Karan Bolton (Holiday), Ian Bruckshaw (Illness), Gareth Griffiths (Holiday) and Joanna Walker (Holiday). The apologies were accepted.

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

- 1806 Hereon, the under mentioned Members declared their respective interests in the Agenda Items indicated below –

Councillor	Agenda Item	Interest
Des Rogers	Planning Application	Personal and Prejudicial – Consideration of planning application – employee of the applicant – Member left the room during consideration of the item.
Stephen Trefor-Jones	Application for a grant	Personal and Prejudicial – Determination of application for a grant – Member of the Managing Committee of the body applying. Member left the room during consideration of the item.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Frankley Community Church Project – Applications for Grants

- 1807 Andy Ross spoke in support of the applications which, if approved, would contribute towards the cost of providing transport for the members of the Monday and Wednesday Lunch Clubs which offered the members an opportunity to meet with their peers and was well appreciated by the members. With regard to the application for the transport for the Frankley Falcons, that would contribute towards the cost of transporting children from Frankley to go on a 2 week holiday in the peak district.

In response to a question from Councillor Rogers as to why the Project did not use the Ring and Ride service, Andy stated that hiring a mini-bus from Shencare enabled the members of the lunch club to be picked up as part of a regular arrangement while using Ring and Ride would be part of a general service.

Travel West Midlands Special Needs – Retention of Parking Facility, Arden Road, Frankley

- 1808 Councillor Rogers, Operations Manager of the West Midlands Special Needs Transport, reported that WMSNT had applied for permission to continue using the land for parking of employee's vehicles and that, once permission had been granted, the lease could be finalised.

Councillor Trefor-Jones objected to the application on the grounds that there was still a chance that the heavy rail link between Longbridge and Frankley would be reinstated which, if it was, would require the land to be used by WMSNT.

MINUTES

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

- 1809 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 16th June 2008, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none

CORRESPONDENCE

A Notice of Pre-examination meeting for the Longbridge Area Action Plan

The following letter from Lorraine Oliver, Programme Officer for the Longbridge Area Action Plan was submitted –

(Interleaved document no. 1)

- 1810 RESOLVED That the Chairperson and the Chairperson of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport together with the Clerk, be authorised to attend the pre-examination meeting scheduled for 5th August 2008 and the subsequent Examination due to be held in October.

B Public open space – Adjacent to Frankley Community High School

The following letter from Ms Sharon Lea, Acting Strategic Director of Environmental and Culture was submitted –

(Interleaved document no. 2)

It was agreed to approach Joe Hayden with a request that the field be mown on a more regular basis and that the riding stables from Frankley be requested not use the field as, when the ground was wet, the horses made deep hoof prints in the ground which could cause a danger to residents using the field; further, that the field be rolled to remove the existing hoof prints.

- 1811 RESOLVED: That the content of the letter be noted.

C Balaam's Wood Local Nature Reserve Management Committee

The Clerk reported that he had received an email from Joe Hayden, Northfield District Parks Manager, advising that the inaugural meeting of the Balaam's Wood Local Nature Reserve Management Committee was to be held on Tuesday 22nd July at the Frankley Community Leisure Centre between 1900 hours and 2030 hours. The Parish Council had been invited to appoint two representatives to serve on the Committee.

Upon receipt of nominations it was –

- 1812 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2009, Councillors Carter and Trefor-Jones be appointed to serve at the Council's representatives on the Balaam's Wood Local Nature Reserve Management Committee.

QUESTIONS

Parking – Romany Road

- 1813 In response to a question from Councillor Rogers, Councillor Trefor-Jones reported that the matter of excessive parking of vehicles in Romany Road had been discussed at the recent Police Liaison Committee. It had been agreed to take a low key approach to the matter with the Police reminding the owner of the vehicles in question the need for the those vehicles on the highway to be taxed and those vehicles off the highway to SORN registered. It was hoped that the above action would alleviate the problem.

Damaged Wall – Corner of Fabian Close/New Street

- 1814 Councillor Rogers reported that although he had raised the matter of the wall at the last meeting, it appeared that no action had been taken to repair it. However, Councillor Sue Barton advised that she had been given an assurance that the matter would be dealt with in the next few days.

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING, ENVIRONMENTAL, HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

- 1815 The following Minutes of the meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee held on 30th June 2008 were noted –

(Interleaved document no. 3)

REPORTS OF ACTIVITIES OF OTHER ORGANISATIONS TO WHICH MEMBERS BELONG

Police Liaison Committee

- 1816 Councillor Trefor-Jones reported that the first meeting of the Committee in Rednal had been successful. Of the three issues chosen by the meeting to be dealt with under the PACT procedure, one was speeding on Holly Hill Road which he welcomed. Additionally, although it had been originally agreed that funding from the Community Chest would meet the costs of the hire of the mini-bus to transport residents to meetings, the two Councillor Bartons had kindly agreed to meet the transport costs from their own pocket.

Housing Liaison Board

- 1817 Councillor Hollis reported that the HLB was funding the removal of the disused traffic island in Wide Acres at a cost of approximately £1000

Advisory Board

- 1818 Councillor Carter advised that at the last Board meeting, a number of applications for funding had been considered and that it had been agreed to release funding to the amount of £93,000.

Removal of Slabs – Outside the Reaside Centre

- 1819 In response to question from Councillor Hollis, Councillor Carter reported that the work would be undertaken at same time as Ormond Road Traffic Calming.

CHAIRPERSON'S ALLOWANCE

The Clerk advised that at the Annual Meeting of the Council in May, it was agreed that, in the absence of any definitive direction from the City Council at that time, to increase the Chairperson's Allowance by 2% (rounded up to the nearest pound) and that amount be revised once the City Council had reached agreement regarding Member's Allowances. In

this connection, he reported that he had recently been advised that, at the July meeting of the City Council, it had been agreed to increase Members' allowances (which included the Chairperson's Allowance) by 1.9%, back dated to 1st April 2008 with an additional increase once the Employee's pay claim was settled [So if the Employees were awarded a 2.45% increase (the current offer) then an additional amount of 0.55% would be paid].

1820 RESOLVED: That the foregoing information be noted.

APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

A Frankley Church Community Project – Lunch Club Transport

The following application for funding of £3,000 towards the cost of providing Transport for the Project's Lunch Club was submitted –

(Interleaved document no. 4)

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

1821 RESOLVED: That the Council, in accordance with its powers under Sections 22 to 23 and 106A of the Transport Act 1985 (as amended by Section III of the Local Government and Rating Act 1997), 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 £3,000 towards the costs of providing transport for members of the Lunch Club.

[Councillor Rogers requested that his name be recorded as having abstained from voting on the foregoing Resolution]

B Frankley Church Community Project – Frankley Falcon Camps

The following application for funding of £100 towards the cost of providing transport to take young people from Frankley to Ashborne for a summer camp was submitted –

(Interleaved document no. 5)

It was proposed by Councillor Hollis, seconded by Councillor Stephenson, and

1822 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 costs of providing transport for a group of young people and leaders to a summer camp in the Peak District.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/03141/08/FUL

Land at Arden Road, Frankley, Birmingham B45 0JA Continued use of site for parking and retention of fence

- 1823 Following a brief discussion it was agreed [with Councillor Trefor-Jones objecting] that the Planning Department be advised that the Parish Council had no objection to the proposed development subject to a caveat that no building take place on the site until the future of the reinstatement of the heavy rail link has been irrevocably settled.

DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were none.

LONGBRIDGE AREA ACTION PLAN

There was nothing to report.

FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

There was nothing to report.

TRANSPORT MATTERS

- 1824 In response to a question from Councillor Carter regarding feedback from CENTRO-PTA following the Public Meeting, the Chairperson reported that he had still to hear from CENTRO regarding the alternative transport proposals. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Geoff Inskip, Chief Executive of CENTO (with copies to Councillors Sue Barton and Councillor Gary Clarke, the Chair of CENTRO) requesting an update.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Aldi – Acquisition of Premises, Northfield

- 1825 Councillor Trefor- Jones reported that Aldi had acquired the former Co-op building in Northfield.

Bulk Collection

- 1826 Councillor Carter reported that the Council had recently received details relating to the bulk waste collections. As the first collections were scheduled for the beginning of August there was an urgent need for volunteers to distribute the leaflets.

PAYMENTS

(A) Business Visa Credit Card

1827 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 Trefor-Jones, seconded by Councillor Carter and –

1828 RESOLVED: That the payments, as set out in the Schedule now submitted, be approved.

LOCAL ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were none.

The meeting ended at 2034 hours

.....

Chairperson