

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, 20th July 2009 at 1930 hours.

Present

Councillor Ian Bruckshaw

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

Also in Attendance Councillor Sue Barton and 17 members of the public

MINUTES

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2048 An apology was submitted on behalf of Councillor Karen Bolton (Family funeral).

It was agreed to send a letter of condolence to the Councillor on her loss.

SOUTH BIRMINGHAM BUS NETWORK REVIEW

2049 At the invitation of the Chairperson, Guy Craddock of CENTRO gave a presentation during which he outlined the details of the South Birmingham Bus Network Review currently being undertaken jointly by CENTRO and National Express West Midlands (NXWM). He advised that the consultation process regarding the proposed changes to the current routes had started in early July and had been the subject of considerable interest with many alternative proposals being submitted by the public. The main route on Frankley which had been revised from that proposed at the start of the consultation process was that of the proposed No. 20 service. Following suggestions from the Parish Council and the Ward Councillor for Longbridge, it had been agreed that the route of the No. 20 service through Frankley would now follow the route of the current No. 49 service.

Councillor Grey suggested that the proposed route for the No. 63 was of

little advantage to the Frankley community. He suggested that both the No. 61 service and the No. 63 service should be changed so as to cover a larger area of Frankley as follows –

No. 61 Route – Present route up to Frogmill Road. Then Holly Hill Road, New Street, Arden Road then either Ormond Road, Rubery Lane to the Great Park Terminus or, Ormond Road, Boleyn Road, New Inns Lane, Cross Farms Road, Rubery Lane to the Great Park Terminus.

No. 63 Route – Present route up to Callowbrook Road. Then New Inns Lane, Boleyn Road, Ormond Road, to the Arden Road Terminus.

Councillor Grey then referred to the route of the No. 20 service which was being promoted as a direct link to the city centre. However, in his opinion, the route of the No.20 through Weoley Castle and the QE Hospital was anything but direct.

In response, Simon Mathieson, Central Garage Manager explained that the original proposal was for the No. 63 service to terminate at the Arden Road terminus to free up space at the Great Park Terminus and because of the turning circle which was already there. However, with the changes proposed to the No. 20, the proposed extension of the No. 63 service to Arden Road appeared to be redundant and it was unlikely that the No. 63 would now terminate at Arden Road. The reason for the route changes to the No. 61 service was that NXWM had received numerous complaints from residents in connection with the use of the turning circle at Compton Road as a terminus so the opportunity had been taken to extend the No. 61 service and terminate it on the Great Park where informal facilities for the drivers were available and no adjacent residential properties. With regard to the No. 20, it was possible, as a result of the consultation, that the proposed route from Frankley through Weoley Castle to the QE Hospital and on to the city centre could be amended.

In response to questions from other Councillors, Guy reported that the proposed frequency of the No. 20 service would initially be half hourly. Guy then confirmed that CENTRO would provide a subsidised evening and weekend service as from the introduction of the new No. 80 service should NXWM consider that such services were not commercially viable. As to making the service limited stop after Northfield to the QE Hospital and non-stop from the QE to the city centre, because of the communities the service would be serving, at this time he did not consider that the proposal was feasible. The No. 202 was a social service supported by Worcestershire C C

and, at this time there was no change to the service envisaged. However it was proposed to revisit the service provision once the Longbridge Hub had been built.

At 2011 hours the meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public to question the officers.

Officers responded as appropriate to questions from members of the public regarding the proposed routes and frequencies of the new services, whether the 'buses would have wheelchair access and access to the Morrisons Store.

At 2025 hours the meeting was reconvened.

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

2050 Hereon, the under mentioned Members declared their respective interests in the Agenda Items indicated below –

Councillors	Agenda Item	Interest
Bruckshaw Grey Hollis	10 – Application for Funding	Prejudicial – Members of the Forum's Management Committee
Bruckshaw	11 (i) – Chairperson's Allowance	Prejudicial – Determination of the Chairperson's Allowance

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

No Councillor or member of the public indicated that they wished to make representations on any Agenda item.

MINUTES

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

2051 **RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 15th June 2009, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

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

- 2052 The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee held on 29th June 2009 were noted –

(Interleaved document no. 1)

CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flood Defence Work to Properties in Miranda and Oberon Closes

- 2053 The Chairperson reported that the City Council had successfully bid for funding from DEFRA to fund Flood Defence work on the properties in Miranda and Oberon Closes which had been affected by flooding in September last year. As part of the grant conditions the properties had to undergo a survey to ascertain what work was necessary to each of the properties. The previous Saturday, members of the Flood Team and the City's Resilience Team had visited each of the affected properties to explain to the occupiers what would be happening over the next few months.

QUESTIONS

There were none.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter from the Station Commander – Northfield Community Fire Station

- 2054 The following letter from the Station Commander was noted –

(Interleaved document no. 2)

At this point in the meeting the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Councillor Hollis withdrew from the meeting pending determination of the following application for funding.

It was agreed that Councillor Carter take the Chair *pro tempore*.

COUNCILLOR CARTER IN THE CHAIR

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING – FRANKLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

The following application from the Neighbourhood Forum requesting funding in the sum of £4750 to fund the publication of the Frankley

Neighbourhood News for 12 months (6 editions) was submitted –

(Interleaved document no. 3)

It was proposed by Councillor Rogers, seconded by Councillor Joanna Walker and –

- 2055 RESOLVED: That, the Council, in accordance with its powers under Section 142 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; the funding of the publication of 6 editions of the Frankley Neighbourhood News at a cost of £4750.

Hereon, the Vice-chairperson and Councillor Hollis returned to the meeting and the Vice-Chairperson took the Chair.

COUNCILLOR GREY IN THE CHAIR

ALLOWANCES

i) Chairperson' Allowance

The Clerk reported that, the City Council, at its meeting in June, considered the report of the Independent Remuneration Committee and, as recommended therein, approved an uplift of 2% in the Member's Allowances. It had been confirmed by the Director of Governance that the uplift would apply to Parish Council Allowances. Accordingly, it was recommended that the Chairperson's Allowance, currently £689 p.a., be increased to £703 p.a. with immediate effect.

It was therefore proposed by Councillor Trefor-Jones, seconded by Councillor Joanna Walker, and –

- 2056 RESOLVED: That, for the Municipal Year 2009/2010, the Chairperson's Allowance be increased to £703p.a.

HEREON, THE CHAIRPERSON RETURNED TO THE MEETING

COUNCILLOR BRUCKSHAW IN THE CHAIR

ii) Expenses and Subsistence Allowances

The schedule of proposed Expenses and Subsistence Allowances which had been recommended by the Independent Remuneration Panel and adopted by the City Council was submitted –

(Interleaved document no. 4)

It was proposed by Councillor Trefor-Jones, seconded by Councillor Joanna Walker, and -

- 2057 RESOLVED: That the Expenses and Subsistence Allowances, as set out in the document now submitted, be adopted and implemented with effect from 1st April 2009

PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT COMPUTER SYSTEM

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

- 2058 RESOLVED: That approval be given to the replacement of the Office Computer to a maximum expenditure of £750 and that the Clerk be authorised to make the necessary arrangements.

PLANNING APPLICATION

S/02819/09/BCC

**140 & 142 Holly Hill Road, 17 – 29 (odds), 61 – 71 (odds), 83, 93, 95 & 99
Miranda Close, 50, 52, 84, 86, 90, 92, 137 & 139 Lysander Road, Frankley,
Birmingham, B45**

External refurbishment of Existing dwellings

- 2059 The application was supported.

DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/01917/09/FUL

133 Miranda Close, Frankley, Birmingham B45 0EH

Installation of external passenger lift to front

- 2060 Advising the Council that the above application has been approved, subject to the conditions set out below.

- All building materials to be used (samples to be provided where requested by the Local Planning Authority).
REASON: In order to safeguard the visual amenity of the area.
- The development hereby permitted must be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.
REASON: To comply with Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, (this section limits the duration of the planning approval).
- Birmingham City Council grants Planning Permission subject to the condition(s) listed below (if appropriate). The reason for granting permission is because the development is in accordance with: Policies 3.8, 3.10, 3.14 and 8.39-8.44 of the Birmingham Unitary Development Plan 2005; and Places for Living (2001), which has been adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance.

LONGBRIDGE AREA ACTION PLAN

There was nothing to report.

FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

- 2061 The Chairperson reported that he had recently spoken to Mandy Houghton, the City Council Officer who was responsible for the regeneration of the Holly Hill Shopping Centre and was advised that the Cabinet had given its approval for detailed plans for the redevelopment to be drawn up during the autumn. The proposals for the development would then be put out to tender and hopefully the successful contractor would be appointed in the New Year with work on the centre starting in the spring of 2010.

TRANSPORT MATTERS

There was nothing to report.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Neighbourhood PACT Meeting

- 2062 Councillor Hollis reported that at the recent Neighbourhood PACT meeting the following issues were chosen by the public for action by the Police –

Cranbourne Close – Antisocial Behaviour and Football in the road

Charnwood Close – Vandalism

Balaam's Wood – Anti-Social Behaviour and Quad Bikes

Cofton Park – Quad Bikes

Noise from Motorcycle Scrambling

- 2063 The Chairperson reported that a resident of Durant Close had approached him requesting that action be taken to prevent youths using the land behind Durant Close for motorcycle scrambling. He had advised the resident to contact the Housing Department but that if they needed any further help to come to the Parish Office.

Holly Hill Shops Car Park

- 2064 Councillor Stephenson expressed concern that the Gulley Suckers had cleared the drains which were the cause of the flooding in the Holly Hill car park only for the car park to flood on the next occasion it rained heavily. The Chairperson advised that he had taken photographs of the flooding and had contacted Housing who had arranged for a Highway Engineer to carry out a site visit to assess the problem. If the Engineer did not come by the end of the following week then he would refer the matter to Councillor Keith Barton.

PAYMENTS

Schedule of Payments

The following Schedule of Payments was submitted -

(Interleaved document no. 5)

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

- 2065 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 2022 hours

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Chairperson

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Date