

17th January 2011

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, 17th January 2011 at 1930 hours.

Present

Councillor Ian Bruckshaw (in the Chair)
Councillors Linda Banks, Sue Barton, Eric Carter, Gareth Griffiths, Bill Hollis, Len Lovett, Des Rogers, Geoffrey Stephenson, Stephen Trefor-Jones and Joanna Walker

Also in Attendance Mr David Grant and Mr Bruce Pitt (Local residents)

MINUTES

Hereon, the Chairperson welcomed Councillor Stephenson upon his return to the Council.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2349 An apology for her non-attendance was submitted on behalf of Councillor Karan Bolton due to illness.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST (EXISTENCE AND NATURE) WITH REGARD TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

2350 Hereon, Councillor Rogers declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 5 – Minutes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

No member of the public wished to speak on any matter on the agenda.

MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Trefor Jones, seconded by Councillor Linda Banks, and, with none dissenting -

2351 **RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 15th November 2010, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

Renewal of Lease – Land Adjacent to the WMSNT depot

2352 Referring to Minute No. 2342 of the previous meeting, Councillor Rogers reported that although WMSNT had written to the City regarding the City's proposals for an increase in the rental of the land, a meaningful response addressing WMSNT's concerns regarding the proposed increase was still awaited. In response to his comment in his letter to the

17th January 2011

effect that, if the proposed cost of the lease was not reduced significantly, then, given the current financial constraints, WMSNT would not renew the lease and that the only parking for staff available in the immediate locality would appear to be the Arden Road shoppers' car park. The City's response to such a suggestion was that, if the WMSNT staff parked in the shoppers car park leaving no room for bona-fide shoppers' vehicles, then the City would have no alternative but to start charging for parking which would disadvantage the local shoppers.

Although the lease was not due for renewal until August, Councillor Rogers considered that the situation needed to be resolved as soon as possible.

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

- 2353 The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee held on 29th November 2010 were noted.

(Interleaved document no. 1)

CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Lights competition

- 2354 The Chairman announced that following consideration by several people, the three top houses with Christmas lights had been determined. The three winners would now be contacted with pictures of the winning displays included in the forthcoming Neighbourhood News.

Flood Mitigation Works

- 2355 The Chairperson reported that the Flood Mitigation Work had started in Miranda and Oberon Closes. Unfortunately, 2 householders had yet to sign up despite numerous reminders. As the mitigation works required all affected householders to agree to the work being done to their properties, if the outstanding householders continued not to sign the City would be left in the position of having to undertake the work without householders' permission.

Frankley Shopping Centre

- 2356 The Chairperson announced that the refurbishment of the Centre should be completed mid-March

Multi Use Games Area

- 2357 The Chairperson announced that the MUGA was almost complete, and that PC Chris Turner would be arranging an inaugural five-a-side football competition during the February half term.

Street Champions

- 2358 The Chairperson announced that Street Champions were to be introduced to Frankley through Frankley Neighbourhood Forum. Voluntary help groups in the Parish would undertake an improved method of reporting problems to the Parish Council and the City Council and ensuring the problems are dealt with. He added that more volunteers were needed.

QUESTIONS

17th January 2011

City Council Website

- 2359 Councillor Stephenson criticised that the revamped City Website was difficult to navigate. Clerk suggested that Councillor Stephenson contacted the City Council's Web Master to explain his difficulties.

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The following schedule of draft payments was submitted –

(Interleaved document no. 2)

It was proposed by Councillor Rogers, seconded by Councillor Hollis and, with none dissenting -

- 2360 RESOLVED: That the payments, as set out on the attached schedule, be approved

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were none.

DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application No.: 2010/03141/PA

Site: Land between Frogmill Road, Raven Hays Road, Lower Beeches Road, Longbridge, Birmingham

Proposal: Erection of 55 no. 2,3,4,5 bedroom houses (16 for rent and 39 for sale) with associated access, parking and external works

- 2361 It was noted that the aforementioned application was approved by the City's Planning Committee held on 22nd December 2010.

LONGBRIDGE AREA ACTION PLAN

- 2362 Councillor Trefor-Jones, referring to the response from CENTRO felt that the Council's concerns regarding the provision of a Park and Ride facility in the vicinity of Longbridge Station had not really been answered the question. He questioned whether the 'temporary' Park and Ride facility referred to in the final paragraph of the letter, was to be temporary until such time as CENTRO could afford to build a permanent facility or would the temporary facility remain a temporary facility with no or little hope of a permanent facility being constructed.

It was agreed that the Clerk write to CENTRO to clarify the situation.

FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

- 2363 See Minute number 2356

TRANSPORT MATTERS

- 2364 It was noted that the hardstanding around the bus stop on Boleyn Road, adjacent to Fisher Close has still to be completed.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

17th January 2011

Speed Checks – Frogmill Road

2365 Councillor Trefor-Jones reported that at the beginning of December speed checks on Frogmill Road had been carried out in conjunction with the police and accompanied by children from Forestdale School. During the check, a total of 8 drivers were stopped for excessive speed – each given a verbal warning and a ‘lecture’ from the pupils regarding the dangers of speeding.

However, of the 8 drivers stopped, 6 were WMSNT Drivers including the Victoria School Transport. Although no tickets were given out, Councillor Trefor-Jones was concerned at the number of WMSNT drivers caught. He added that subsequent visual checks would appear to suggest that the message has been circulated among the drivers at the depot as the speeds seems to have moderated. Councillor Rogers undertook to speak to the management and drivers at the Arden Road depot regarding the findings of the speed checks referred to above.

Councillor Trefor-Jones warned that the police would be carrying out further speed checks in the Frankley area.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS FOR THE LONGBRIDGE WARD

There were none.

LOCAL ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were none.

The meeting ended at 1958 hours

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Chairperson

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Date