

18th April 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, 18th April 2011 at 1930 hours.

Present

Councillor Ian Bruckshaw (in the Chair)

Councillors Linda Banks, Sue Barton, Eric Carter, Gareth Griffiths, Bill Hollis, Des Rogers, Geoffrey Stephenson, Stephen Trefor-Jones and Joanna Walker

Also in Attendance Ward Councillor Ian Cruise;
Dave Grant, Bruce Pitt (Local residents)

MINUTES

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2408 An apology for non-attendance for the reason stated was submitted on behalf of Councillor Len Lovett (Medical).

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

2409 There were no declarations.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

2410 No Member of the Public wished to speak.

MINUTES

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

2411 **RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 21st March 2011, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

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

2412 The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee held on 4th April 2011, as now submitted, were noted.

(Interleaved document no. 1)

18th April 2011

MINUTES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

- 2423 The Minutes of the meeting of the Audit Committee held on 28th March 2011, as now submitted, were noted.

(Interleaved document no. 2)

CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flood Mitigation Work

- 2424 The Chairperson expressed concern that it appeared that the flood mitigation works in Miranda and Oberon Closes had come to a halt. He assured the Council that he would be seeking answers as to the lack of progress.

Problem Drinking on Shopping Parade

- 2425 The Chairperson advised that the problem appeared to have abated since the Police had taken action and had visited the homes of the known culprits in order to give out warnings regarding their behaviour in public. The Chairperson reported that, due to the Police's actions, complaints of the nuisance caused by the drinkers in the area in front of the shops had decreased.

QUESTIONS

Code of Conduct

- 2426 Councillor Rogers referred to the letter recently sent to all Councillors by the Chairperson and questioned whether the content thereof was specifically aimed at him. The Chairperson stated that the letter was a general one to remind Members of their obligations under the Council's Code of Conduct.

RISK REVIEW LOG FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2011

- 2427 The following risk review, agreed at the meeting of the Audit Committee, was submitted and approved –

(Interleaved Document no. 3)

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2011

The following accounts for the year ending 31st March 2011 were submitted –

(Interleaved Document no. 4)

It was proposed by Councillor Trefor-Jones, seconded by Councillor Sue Barton, and, with none dissenting, -

- 2428 **RESOLVED:** That the Accounts for the Financial Year ending 31st March 2011, as now submitted, be approved that that the Chairperson and the Clerk be authorised to sign them on behalf of the Council.

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The following schedule of draft payments was submitted –

(Interleaved document no. 5)

18th April 2011

It was proposed by Councillor Sue Barton, seconded by Councillor Linda Banks and, with none dissenting, -

2429 **RESOLVED:** That the payments, as set out on the attached schedule, be approved

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL – DRAFT CORE STRATEGY 2

The following report of the Clerk was submitted –

(Interleaved document no. 6)

Following some discussion, the recommendation of the report was accepted together with a rider that due to the current flooding problems in the area, should any development take place on the land in question then the developer would be required to ensure that appropriate drainage provision be included in the development proposals.

2430 **RESOLVED:** That the Council support the views of the City Council regarding the development of the land with the caveats that

- any Section 106 monies accruing from the development is used to upgrade the proposed Forestdale Community Park; and
- any development on the land must include appropriate drainage provision so as to ensure that the current flooding problems in Miranda and Oberon Closes are not exacerbated.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A Application No: 2011/00143/PA

Address: 67 Cotswold Close, Longbridge, Birmingham B45 0BE

Proposal: Change of Use from vacant land to private garden with associated fencing and gates

There was no objection to the application.

B Application No: 2011/01930/PA

Address: Holly Hill Road, Forestdale Primary School, Public Open Space, Frankley, Birmingham, B45 0JS

Proposal: Renewal of planning permission 2008/01180/PA for change of use of playing field to part playing field and part public open space including erection of fencing, play equipment, earthworks and associated landscaping

(Interleaved document no. 7)

In response to Members' questions, the Clerk advised that, although it would appear from the proposal set out on the application that planning approval was to be sought for the whole of the former school playing field, as Members were aware, work had already commenced on that part of the field allocated to the new School Playing Field. Therefore, it had to be assumed that the work currently being carried out on the new School Playing Field was being carried out under the previous planning permission whilst the work that was proposed for the remainder of the former playing field was subject to the renewal of the planning approval.

18th April 2011

- 2431 **RESOLVED:** That the Planning Application as now submitted be supported.

DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no decisions.

LONGBRIDGE AREA ACTION PLAN

- 2432 Councillor Carter reported that no meetings of the Consultative Committee had taken place since the last Council meeting. He added that work on Longbridge Lane was continuing apace and should be completed by the end of May.

FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

- 2433 The Chairperson reported that work on the coping stones on the rear walls of the shops would be commencing that week. The Security Cameras were still to be installed. He felt that the refurbishment was a vast improvement.

TRANSPORT MATTERS

Bus Stop – Boleyn Road

- 2434 Councillor Carter referred to the lack of progress regarding the installation of the hard standing around the bus stop on Boleyn Road and requested that the Clerk write to Centro to ascertain progress.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Anti-social behaviour of some tenants

- 2435 Councillor Rogers expressed his concern at what he perceived to be a lack of action by Housing Officers against a number of tenants acting in, what he considered to be, an anti-social manner to the detriment of their neighbours. He referred in particular to a couple of houses in Fabian Close which were not being maintained to an acceptable standard by the families occupying the properties.

The Chairperson stated that it would appear that the City Housing Department were not enforcing the conditions of the Tenancy Agreement and were not taking appropriate action against those tenants who he believed were breaching the requirements of the Agreement. He was disappointed that whilst the Parish Council was attempting to enhance the community, the necessary support from the Housing Department was not forthcoming.

Councillor Cruise agreed to take the matter up with the appropriate officers. It was agreed that if no progress was made then the Clerk be instructed to write to the Strategic Director of Housing and Communities requesting the explanation as to the reasons why the City was apparently so reluctant to enforce the conditions of the Tenancy Agreement.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS FOR THE LONGBRIDGE WARD

There were none.

18th April 2011

LOCAL ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Frogmill Walk

2436 David Grant raised the matter of the overgrown hedges on Frogmill Walk, which, despite being cut back were still a problem.

The Chairperson stated that the hedges on Frogmill Walk had been cut back recently and he undertook to carry out a check.

The meeting ended at 2005 hours

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Chairperson

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Date