

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, New Street, Frankley on 15 January 2001 at 1930 hours.

Present Councillor Sidney Grey MBE (in the Chair)

Councillors Linda Banks, Karan Bolton, David Burton, Sheila Burton, Eric Carter, Michael Denny, Paul Kane, Reverend Derek Lewis, Kathleen Lewis, Joanna Walker and Geoffrey Williams.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

MINUTES

109 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 18 December 2000, as amended, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

QUESTIONS

School Governor: Beeches J&I School

110 Councillor Banks mentioned that there was a vacancy on the Beeches school Board of Governors and asked if the Parish Council would be nominating someone for the place.

The Clerk said that he had not been informed of the vacancy but when he was, the item would appear on the next Parish Council agenda. He explained that the Parish Council was entitled by law to nominate a governor to each primary school in its area.

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING ENVIRONMENTAL,
HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

The following Minutes of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee were submitted -

(see interleaved document No. 1)

- 111 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee held on 8 January 2001, be noted.

ACCOUNTS

The following draft payment list was submitted -

(see interleaved document No. 2)

It was moved, seconded and -

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

COUNCIL BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2001-02

- 113 The Clerk explained that a serious problem had arisen with the Council budget and precept. He had drawn these up on the basis of a taxbase of 2,367 equivalent Band D properties, a figure of which he had been notified in November 2000 by the City Finance Department.

On Thursday 11 January he had seen the City Council agenda for the January meeting, which had agreed a taxbase for this parish of 1,967 equivalent Band D properties. He had not been formally notified of this. It represented a reduction in the Council's taxbase of about 17%, and consequently any precept would have an effect on individual taxpayers 17% higher than expected.

- (iii) to appoint a working party to consider any necessary changes to the Council's budget for 2001-02 following discussions with the City Council, and report to the Council meeting on February 19,
- (iv) that, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2001, Councillors Banks, Bolton, David Burton, Sheila Burton, Carter, Grey, Kane, Derek Lewis, Kathleen Lewis, Walker and Williams be appointed to serve on the working party and that Councillor Grey be appointed Chairperson thereof.

FLOODING IN THE FRANKLEY AREA

115

The Clerk reported that Una O'Brien was no longer in post as Flood Co-ordinator and so could not come to the meeting.

The Chairperson expressed his regret that no officer of the Housing Department was present to answer questions, and the Clerk was asked to communicate this to the Area Housing Manager.

Councillor David Burton explained that he and Councillor Carter had spoken to the Area Housing Manager who had explained that there would be a committee to co-ordinate flood prevention work and a duty manager assigned to lead on the topic. He was concerned about this as he felt that the good work by the Flood Co-ordinator would be lost.

A discussion ensued in which several members expressed concern about the lack of funding for flood prevention measures.

It was proposed by Councillor David Burton, seconded, and:

116

RESOLVED: That the Chairperson write to the Leader of the City Council expressing the Council's dissatisfaction with the current situation and the lack of funding for flood prevention measures in the area.

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

117 The Clerk circulated a draft application form.

(see interleaved document No. 3)

Councillor Denny suggested a number of amendments to the form to improve contact details and other matters, and the addition of a request for a copy of the latest accounts of the organisation asking for funding.

118 It was agreed that the draft form should be amended in line with Councillor Denny's suggestions and the Clerk was requested to do this and present it to the next meeting.

APPLICATION FOR GRANT AID: HOLLY HILL LUNCH CLUB

119 (Hereupon, Councillor Denny declared a non-pecuniary interest as a committee member of Frankley Community Project).

Councillor Denny explained the purpose of the lunch club and the help it provided especially to disabled and elderly residents. The current Bingo machine was not ideal for its purpose and a replacement would be a considerable help to the club.

After further discussion it was moved by Councillor Carter, seconded, and:

120 **RESOLVED:** That the Council, in accordance with its powers under Sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure, which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure: £180 on grant aid to Holly Hill Lunch Club to purchase a replacement Bingo machine.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

121 At 2055 hours, on the proposition of the Chairperson, the meeting adjourned to allow members to view the drawings submitted with planning applications.

The meeting resumed at 2102 hours.

The following Planning Applications were submitted –

(see interleaved documents 4 and 5)

1. S/06138/00/OUT: Development within use classes A1, A3, B1, B2, B8 at New Street / Arden Road, Frankley.
2. S/06139/00/FUL: Construction of two units (use classes B1, B2, B8 and A1) and provision of access and 145 parking spaces at New Street / Arden Road, Frankley.

(see interleaved documents nos. 4 and 5)

It was agreed to discuss these applications together.

Councillor Kane, referring to the noise and nuisance caused by the factories in Tay Road, expressed concern at the application for heavy industrial use (Class B2) near to houses in Ringwood Drive and across New Street.

Councillor Denny asked what the large number of parking spaces were for, and also referred to the railings at the front of the site and the apparent lack of fencing at the rear. The Chairperson explained that at his meeting with the developer it had been explained that the car parking was for workers at the units and also for customers at any retail operations; he understood that the rear of the site would be properly fenced.

After further discussion, it was moved, seconded, and:

122

RESOLVED: That the Planning Department be advised that:

- (i) in general the Council welcomes these applications to develop this vacant and derelict area,
- (ii) that the Council is concerned at the possibility of heavy industrial uses on the site and believes that use class B2 should not be approved.

At 2115 hours, on the proposition of the Chairperson, the meeting was adjourned in order to allow members of the public to raise local issues.

LOCAL ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

(A) Action taken on local issues raised by Members of the Public

123 Mr. Stephenson asked, and it was agreed, that action taken on matters raised under this item be reported to future Council meetings.

(B) Rubbish bags left in Holly Hill Road

124 Councillor Derek Lewis referred to the problems caused by street cleaning refuse bags being left in Holly Hill Road near the corner of Windsor Close. This problem seemed to be happening regularly. The Clerk was asked to write to the Director of Environmental Services on the matter.

The meeting ended at 2128 hours.

Signed

Chairperson