

## **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 21 August 2000 at 19.30 hours.

### **Present**

Councillor Sidney Grey (In the Chair)

Councillors Linda Banks, David Burton, Sheila Burton, Eric Carter, Paul Kane, Reverend Derek Lewis, Kathleen Lewis, Geoffrey Williams.

### **APPOINTMENT OF CLERK**

Hereon, the Chairperson introduced Mr Andrew Foster who had been appointed Clerk to the Council with effect from 1 September 2000.

- 39 RESOLVED: That the decision of the Appointment Panel to appoint Mr Andrew Foster as Clerk to the Parish Council/Responsible Finance Officer be endorsed.

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received on behalf of Councillors Karan Bolton, Michael Denny and Joanna Walker.

### **MINUTES**

- 40 RESOLVED: That the public part of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 17 July, 2000, having previously been circulated, be noted.

### **CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 41 Hereon, the Chairperson advised Members that an invitation had been received from the Tudor Rose Centre for Members of the Council to attend a talk on 'Changeover' which was to be held at 11.00 hours on 25 August 2000. 'Changeover', a City-wide initiative, will look at the day service Tudor Rose Centre offers, its successes, problems and how to plan to achieve change.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### (A) Letter from the Area Planning Officer – Planning Applications

The following letter from the Area Planning Officer was submitted -

(see interleaved document No 1)

- 42 RESOLVED: That the contents of the foregoing letter be noted.

### (B) Letter from the Director of Social Services – Lyttleton House Elderly Persons Home

The following letter from the Director of Social Services was submitted -

(see interleaved document No 2)

It was agreed that a letter be sent to the Director requesting that the Parish Council be kept informed of developments regarding the future of Lyttleton House. It was also agreed that, if a Trust was formed to run the Home then the Council should request a seat on that Trust.

- 43 RESOLVED: That a letter be sent to the Director of Social Services requesting that the Parish Council be kept informed of developments regarding the future of Lyttleton House Elderly Persons Home.

## MINUTES OF THE PLANNING ENVIRONMENTAL, HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT COMMITTEE – 31 JULY 2000

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

(see interleaved document No 3)

- 44 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee held on 31 July 2000 be noted.

## ACCOUNTS

The following draft payment list was submitted –

(see interleaved document No 4)

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

## BUDGET ANALYSIS AS AT 31JULY 2000

The Clerk informed members that there was an error in the document circulated with the Agenda papers and that an amended copy had now been laid on the table.

The following amended report was submitted –

(see interleaved document No5)

Following a brief discussion it was -

- 46 RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

## THE SPIRIT OF BEST VALUE

The following guidance from the National Association of Local Councils for Councils with a budgeted income below £500,000 per annum was submitted –

(see interleaved document No6)

During the brief discussion the Chairperson emphasised that it was important to take on board the Best Value concept to ensure that best use was made of the precept.

- 47 RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

## LOCAL COUNCIL REVIEW

On the suggestion of the Chairperson, it was agreed to subscribe to 12 additional copies of the Local Council Review ie one copy per member.

- 48 RESOLVED: That approval be given to subscribe to 12 additional copies of the Local Council Review.

## OFFICE BASE FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairperson advised that during discussions concerning the precept for 2000/2001, the possibility of renting accommodation for the Parish Council was considered. However, due to the insufficient time to properly explore the various alternatives, the idea was not proceeded with at that time.

The options considered were as follows:-

- Renting an empty shop unit in the Holly Hill Shopping Centre. The City's Economic Development Unit had estimated the costs to be £6,000pa rent plus £2000pa rates.

- Renting office accommodation at one or both of the Community Centres in Frankley. In this option the money paid in rent would be re-cycled back into the community.
- Renting a Council Flat. With the average rent being approximately £40 per week the annual cost would be approximately £2,000pa plus rates.
- Renting Office space in the refurbished Coldstream Public House. However there was some doubt as to whether Advantage West Midlands had sufficient funding to offer the grant aid of £1¾ millions which was needed to refurbish the Public House.

The proposed re-development of the Holly Hill Shopping Centre had also to be taken into account.

In view of the various alternatives, the Chairperson now sought authority from the Council for himself and the Vice-Chairperson to explore all the options available and to report back with their recommendations to a future meeting of the Council in time to be included in the Budget for the 2001/2002 precept.

Following some further brief discussion it was -

- 49 RESOLVED: That the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson be authorised to explore all options regarding the provision of office accommodation for the Parish Council and to report their recommendations to a future meeting of the council.

At 19.50 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) Parish Council Website

- 50 Mr Stephenson reminded the Council that he still had not received the photographs of members or their brief biographical details which he intended to post on the website.

Councillor David Burton undertook to provide Mr Stephenson with the photographs and the Chairperson asked members to provide Mr Stephenson with the brief biographical details required.

(B) Paving Slabs – Holly Hill Shopping Centre

- 51 In response to a comment from Mr Stephenson concerning the poor state of the pavement slabs between the High School and the Coldstream Public House, the Chairperson undertook to look into the matter.

The Meeting re-convened at 19.55 hours.

PRIVATE MINUTES

- 52 RESOLVED: That the private part of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 17 July 2000, together with the public minutes submitted earlier in the meeting, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

The meeting ended at 19.57 hours.

Signed .....

Chairperson