

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
12 November at 1930 hours.

Present

Councillor Eric Carter (In the Chair)

Councillors Linda Banks, Shelia Burton, Michael Denny
Sidney Grey MBE, Paul Kane, Reverend Derek Lewis,
Kathleen Lewis, Joanna Walker and Geoffrey Williams.

There were 3 members of the public present.

APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received on behalf Councillor Burton who was attending another meeting on behalf of the Parish Council.

MINUTES

With regard to Minute No. 271, the Clerk advised that the dates of the Democracy Conference were 8 and 9 December and not 1 and 2 as stated in the Minute.

Additionally, with regard to Minute No. 295, the second line should read "... Neighbourhood Renewal Funding..." and not "...Urban Renewal Funding..."

- 296 RESOLVED: That, subject to the foregoing amendments, the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 15 October 2001, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Conduct of Meetings

- 297 The Chairperson endorsed Councillor Denny's comments made at the last meeting regarding the conduct of meetings. He went on to emphasise that meetings of the Parish Council were formal meetings governed by standing orders and that it was impolite for members to talk among themselves whilst another member was speaking and additionally, it made it difficult for other members to hear what was going on. Whilst he did not want to make the meetings too formal, he

did ask that members desist from talking among themselves when another member was addressing the meeting.

QUESTIONS

Police Response Times

- 298 Councillor Grey, referring to Minute No. 273, confirmed that Councillor Burton had raised the matter of the lengthy response time to the Sub-Post Office robbery at the last meeting of the Police Liaison Committee. The Police had disputed that it had actually taken 15 minutes for the first vehicle to arrive at the scene, but undertook to investigate the matter and to report back to the next meeting of the Committee. Until the Police's response was known, no further action could be taken with regard to the Minute.

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING, ENVIRONMENTAL, HIGHWAYS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT

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

(see interleaved document No. 1)

- 299 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee held on 29 October 2001 be noted.

PAYMENTS

The following Schedule of Payments was submitted –

(see interleaved document No. 2)

- 300 RESOLVED: That the payments, as set out in the Schedule of Payments as now submitted, be approved.

BUDGET 2002-2003

The following report of the Clerk was submitted –

(see interleaved document No. 3)

The Chairperson referred to a Memorandum from Doug Hyde of the City's Transportation Department concerning the provision of Street Nameplates for the Pathways that had been considered at the recent meeting of the Ward Committee. The figure quoted for the provision of 12 Name Plates for the six paths was £1502.50. Additionally, the fee to name the Paths was £372. Unfortunately, Mr Hyde had indicated that the Transportation Department had been unable to identify a

Budget to carry out the work. The Chairperson was concerned that, should the Parish Council agree to fund the work, the responsibility for maintaining the Name Plates would fall on the Council and, accordingly, he suggested that the Clerk write to Mr Hyde to clarify the situation.

Councillor Grey was of the opinion that once the fee of £372 to name the paths was paid, the pathways would become part of the Highway and the responsibility for their maintenance would fall on the Highway Authority. As the Transportation Department had not identified a Budget to pay for the work then, if the Parish Council wanted the work to be carried out, it would have to be paid out of the Parish Budget. He considered that the proposal was of benefit to the community and was something that the Forum and the Parish Council had been pressing for for some time. The proposed Section 137 Budget already included provision of £1000 as a contribution towards the cost of providing nameplates – if the Transportation Departments could not identify a Budget for the work, he considered that the Parish Council should increase the Budget by £1000 so that the work could be carried out.

Upon the proposition of Councillor Grey it was -

- 301 RESOLVED: That the Budget provision “Contribution towards signage for Walks” within the Section 137 Budget Heading be increased from £1000 to £2000.

It was therefore –

- 302 RESOLVED:
- (i) That the Budget of £47,395 as detailed in Annex 1 to the report now submitted and as amended, be referred for Public Consultation at a Parish Meeting on a date to be arranged.
 - (ii) That it be noted that the Budget will be financed by a precept of £44,095.
 - (iii) That the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairperson, convene a Parish Meeting to consult on the 2002-2003 Budget.
 - (iv) That the Clerk write to the Transportation Department to clarify whether, should the Parish Council agree to fund the provision of Name Plates on the Walks, the maintenance of the Signs and the Paths would be the responsibility of the Transportation Department.

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION FOR THE COUNCIL

The following plan showing the proposed internal layout of the office was submitted –

(see interleaved document No.4)

- 303 Members were advised that subsequent to the Planning Application for the Change of Use being submitted to the City Council, a letter had been received from the Area Planning Officer requesting that the Council submit plans for the proposed internal layout of the office. As speed was of the essence, the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and the Clerk arranged to gain access to the premises in order to measure and agree a layout following which a scale plan was drawn up and forwarded to the Planning Department.

The Chairperson advised that he had constructed a model of the premises and at 1957 hours the meeting was adjourned to enable members to consider various options relating to the internal layout.

At 2023 hours the meeting was reconvened and it was agreed that the layout submitted should be accepted.

REMOVABLE BOLLARDS – PATHWAY FROM ARDEN ROAD TO RINGWOOD DRIVE AND BALAAM WOOD

The following letter from the Local Area Housing Manager was submitted –

(see interleaved document No 5)

Following a brief discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should write to Carole Woodall to ascertain what type of bollards had been proposed and the reason why the Transportation Department had objected to them.

- 304 RESOLVED: That the Clerk be instructed to write to the Local Area Housing Manager to ascertain the type of bollards it was proposed to install and the reason why the Transportation Department had objected to their installation.

FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS

Hereon, the Clerk reported that he had that day, received a telephone call and e-mail from a firm of Solicitors in Manchester advising that their clients intended to re-furbish and modernise the Coldstream Public House with a view to re-opening it. The Solicitors would be applying to the Licensing Justices in due course for new provisional

licences. Under the legislation, they were required to notify the Parish Council although the Clerk advised that formal notification had yet to be received. The Clerk indicated that it would be probable that the Parish Council would only have a limited time to respond to the notification and that it therefore might be necessary to call a special meeting of the Council. It was suggested by Councillor Denny that the meeting should be well publicised in order to attract a large number of members of the public so that any decision the Council came to would have the support of the public.

Members were generally opposed to the Coldstream Public House re-opening given its past history of drug problems and violence. It was suggested that, given the past problems with the Pub, the Police would most probably object to its reopening and it was therefore agreed that the Clerk write to Inspector Pearson at Rubery Police Station advising him of the proposal.

- 305 RESOLVED: That the Clerk write to Inspector Pearson, West Midlands Police advising him of the proposal to re-open the Coldstream Public House.

CROSS CITY LINE

There was no new information.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no Planning Applications.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

A Special Collections

- 306 Councillor Grey reported that at the recent meeting of the Ward Advisory Board, he had requested an additional 5 Special Collections for the Frankley Estate making 10 in total, which was enough to ensure that the whole Estate was covered. However, the Minutes of the Ward Advisory Board, as submitted to the recent meeting of the Ward Committee, only referred to 5 Collections for Frankley and he would be taking this up at the next meeting of the Ward Advisory Board.

B Dog Wardens

Councillor Reverend Lewis asked whether the information he had provided to the Clerk had been forwarded to the Environmental Health Department. The Clerk reported that the information had not yet been forwarded as he was waiting to see if any other members also had sites they wished to be patrolled. However, as it appeared that no other member was proffering such information, the Clerk undertook to

write to the Animal Welfare Section requesting that the Dog Warden patrol the following sites –

Grizedale Close; Holly Hill Road; Savernake Close; Brightstone Road; Boleyn Road; Car park at the side of Arden Road Shops; and the Play Area at the side of the Health Centre.

Additionally, the following sites were proposed for Dog Litter Bins –

Holly Hill Road in front of the bungalows; two bins on the play area at the side of the Health Centre; the Car Park in Arden Road.

- 307 RESOLVED: That the Animal Welfare Section of the Environmental Health Department be requested to consider patrolling the following sites -

Grizedale Close; Holly Hill Road; Savernake Close; Brightstone Road; Boleyn Road; Car park at the side of Arden Road Shops; and the Play Area at the side of the Health Centre.

Additionally, the Animal Welfare Section be requested to consider the provision of Dog Litter Bins at the following sites –

Holly Hill Road in front of the bungalows; two bins on the play area at the side of the Health Centre; and the Car Park in Arden Road.

C Problem Trees

- 308 The Chairperson reminded members that he had asked for lists of problem trees on the estate but, unfortunately the lists had not been forthcoming and therefore, without the information, he could not take the matter up with the Local Area Housing Manager. However, it was hoped that the problem trees on Frankley Estate could be included in a maintenance programme funded by the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund.

Councillor Grey referred to the City's Highway Tree Maintenance programme for the Longbridge Ward and pointed out that it did not appear that any of the Roads in Frankley had been included. He also hoped that the problem trees on Frankley could be included in a maintenance programme funded by NRF and added that it might be possible for the Parish Council to pump-prime a programme for Frankley from within the Council's Budget.

REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN ON ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS
OF THE PUBLIC

The following report of the Clerk was submitted –

(see interleaved document No. 6)

Minute No.154 – The Clerk to write again to Centro requesting an assessment.

Minute Nos. 155 and 258 – The Clerk to write to Birmingham Accord requesting that repairs to the dangerous broken slabs in front of the Gannow Shops and the Reaside Centre be undertaken as a matter of urgency. Councillor Shelia Burton reported that, recently, a young man in a wheelchair leaving the Reaside Centre had almost been tipped out of his wheelchair because of the broken slabs. It was reported that a number of the bollards meant to prevent vehicular access onto the pedestrian area were missing and delivery lorries were driving over the slabs making the situation worse. It was therefore suggested that the area needed to be redesigned by either replacing the slabs with tarmac and allowing vehicular access or, replacing the bollards to prevent vehicular access and renewing the slabs.

Minute No. 184 – The Clerk to write to the Local Area Housing Manager to find out when it was proposed to re-tarmac the Holly Hill shopping Car Park, the cost of which was to be funded from the Housing Liaison Board's Budget.

Minute No. 227 – See Minute No. 307 agreed earlier in the meeting.

Minute No. 242 – The Clerk to write to Tariq Mahmood requesting a response to the request for wheelchair ramps on the pavement by the Dingle Club.

- 309 RESOLVED: (i) That the action set out in the foregoing preamble be approved.
- (ii) That Minute No.227 be discharged.

LOCAL ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A Bollards on Pathways

- 310 Referring to the item considered earlier in the meeting (Minute No. 304 refers), Mr Stephenson reported that a precedent had been set as bollards had been placed on Caldly Walk to prevent unauthorised vehicular access. Access to the Walk by Transportation vehicles was by means of a lockable bollard.

B Right of Way – Frankley Community High School

- 311 In response to a question from Mr Stephenson regarding progress in resolving the problem relating to the right of way across the School's playing field, the Clerk reported that he had recently received a letter from the Transportation Department advising that it was considered that the School had had ample opportunity to act and they had not done so. The Department was, therefore, arranging for formal proceedings to take place.

The meeting ended at 2107 hours

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Chairperson