

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 18 June 2001 at 1930 hours.

Present Councillor Eric Carter (in the Chair)

Councillors Linda Banks, David Burton, Sheila Burton, Eric Carter, Sidney Grey MBE, Paul Kane, Derek Lewis, Kathleen Lewis, and Geoffrey Williams.

Officers in attendance: Andy Foster (clerk);
Chris Haynes
(Transportation Department);
Paul Cobain (CENTRO);
Peter Triplow (Robert Turley
and Associates)

9 members of the public attended the meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies was received from Councillor Michael Denny (attending a diocesan clergy conference) and Councillor Joanna Walker (on holiday).

MINUTES

211 **RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 21 May, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

QUESTIONS

- 212 Councillor Grey asked the Chairperson of the Council would be attending the Frankley Community Awards evening on 30 June as the representative of the Parish Council. The Chairperson said that he was intending to go the event on behalf of the Council.
- 213 Councillor David Burton expressed serious concern about policing in the area where he lived, and particularly the failure of police to respond to emergency calls. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Chief Constable expressing these concerns and also ask for Chief Superintendent Moore to attend the July meeting of the Council to discuss the matter.
- 214 Councillor Kathleen Lewis asked whether any progress had been made on providing an office for the Council. The Clerk reported that the Chairperson and he were going to meet the Chair of the Reaside Centre Committee on Thursday 21 June to discuss possible accommodation there.
- 215 Councillor Banks referred to the state of the fence alongside the path from Quantock Close to Beeches school. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Transportation Department drawing attention to the state of the fence.

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)

- 216 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee held on 4 June 2001, be noted.

ACCOUNTS

The following draft payment list was submitted -

(see interleaved document No. 2)

It was moved, seconded and -

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

EXTENSION OF THE CROSS CITY LINE TO FRANKLEY

- 218 Chris Haynes, Strategic Policy Manager, Transportation Department, introduced Paul Cobain of CENTRO and Peter Triplow of Robert Turley & Associates, consultants, who ere involved the current studies on the route. Mr. Haynes explained briefly the history of the proposals and the current studies which were due to report in July. Consultation with local people was built into these studies. He referred to two recent developments: the route was now being planned for six-coach train lengths, and the Health and Safety Executive had indicated that they were unlikely to approve a level crossing at Rubery Lane. The present consultations were looking at detailed alignments for the route.

- 219 At 2000 hours the Chairperson proposed and it was agreed that the meeting adjourn to allow councillors and members of the public to look at the route maps which were on display.

The meeting resumed at 2010 hours.

A discussion took place. Councillor Grey felt that there had been little or no progress. Mr. Haynes referred to the large amount of background work which had gone into resolving issues such as traffic from the Rover factory, the main line junction at Longbridge, and detailed surveying of the Rubery Lane to Frankley Centre section. He was concerned at the HSE attitude to the level crossing but said that no final decision had been received from them about the crossing.

- 220 The Chairperson proposed and it was agreed that standing orders be suspended to allow members of the public to ask questions.

In response to questions by members of the public, Mr, Haynes said that there was still the possibility of 300 car parking spaces for a park-and-ride scheme; also that officers were looking at alternative arrangements to replace the proposed level crossing. In response to a further question, Mr. Cobain explained that up to 3 trains each way per hour were envisaged, between the hours of 0600 and 2300, but starting later on Sundays.

WEST NORTHFIELD LOCAL LEARNING PARTNERSHIP: STREETWISE PROJECT

221

Ted Ryan from the South-West Birmingham Regeneration Team introduced himself and addressed the meeting. The project was targeting people without qualifications who were finding it difficult to return to education. Users of the project were asked what their specific problems were. He explained the activities which had taken place in early 2001 and that the team were seeking further funding for more activities in the future.

The Chairperson thanked Mr. Ryan for his informative presentation.

THE FORMER 'COLDSTREAM' PUBLIC HOUSE

Ashia McKay explained that the proposals were to be submitted to the European Regional Development Fund in the next bidding round in September 2001 to refurbish the 'Coldstream' for community use, training facilities, and possibly offices for the Parish Council. A previous bid in March 2000 had been turned down, partly because of lack of consultation, and this bid was being very fully discussed with many local organisations before submission. She hoped that recent developments such as the A38 corridor development proposals, the moves to develop the Frankley Centre, and the possible rail extension would result in a favourable decision on the proposal, but emphasised that its purpose was to serve local people. She suggested that the Parish Council might like to nominate one or two councillors to the working group which was developing the proposals.

After some discussion it was moved by the Chairperson, seconded and:

- 222 RESOLVED: That the Council supports the application to the European Regional Development Fund for money to refurbish the former 'Coldstream' public houses for community uses, and that Councillors Grey and David Burton be nominated to serve on the working party drawing up the proposals.

GRANT APPLICATION: LEARNING SUPPORT UNIT,
FRANKLEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. John Harbidge of the Learning Support Unit explained the purpose of the activities week as outlined in his letter supporting the application.

(see interleaved document no. 3)

The previous event in 2000 had had a very positive result. The unit was actively seeking funding from parents and others but would welcome support from the Parish Council.

After a short discussion it was moved by Councillor David Burton, seconded, and:

- 223 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: £600 towards the activities week at the Learning Support Unit at Frankley Community High School.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

None.

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

The following report was submitted:

(see interleaved document no. 4)

224 Action was agreed as follows:

Minute No. 185: to be discharged if the graffiti is removed.

LOCAL ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

(A) Potholes in Jubilee Road

225 Mrs. Ridler referred to this problem. Councillor David Burton agreed to inspect the road and give the locations of potholes to the Clerk, who would write to the Transportation Department..

(B) Green refuse collection

226 Councillor David Burton said that the Neighbourhood Forum had an offer of a vehicle for hire to collect refuse from elderly and/or disabled residents who could not take it to the collection sites. The Forum might have to ask the Parish Council for a contribution to the hire costs in the future.

(C) Notices about dog excrement

227 Councillor Derek Lewis referred to minute 200 of the Parish Council meeting held on 21 May 2001. The Clerk agreed to chase progress on this matter.

The meeting ended at 2108 hours.

Signed

Chairperson