

**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  
18 March 2002 at 1930 hours.

**Present**

Councillor Eric Carter (In the Chair)

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

Mr Ian Bruckshaw, Mr William Hollis and Mr Stephen  
Trefor-Jones

There were 8 members of the public present.

**CO-OPTED MEMBERS**

The Clerk reported that it was necessary for the Council to formally  
vote on the Interview Panel's recommendations.

It was proposed that Mr Ian Bruckshaw be appointed a Co-opted  
Member of the Council and, upon a show of hands, it was  
unanimously -

- 381 RESOLVED: That for the period ending with the Municipal  
Elections to be held in May 2004, Mr Ian Bruckshaw  
be appointed a Co-opted Member of the Parish  
Council.

Hereon Mr Ian Bruckshaw made the Declaration of Acceptance of  
Office.

It was proposed that Mr William Hollis be appointed a Co-opted  
Member of the Council and, upon a show of hands, it was  
unanimously -

- 382 RESOLVED: That for the period ending with the Municipal  
Elections to be held in May 2004, Mr William Hollis be  
appointed a Co-opted Member of the Parish Council.

Hereon Mr William Hollis made the Declaration of Acceptance of  
Office.

It was proposed that Mr Stephen Trefor-Jones be appointed a Co-opted Member of the Council and, upon a show of hands, it was unanimously -

- 383 RESOLVED: That for the period ending with the Municipal Elections to be held in May 2004, Mr Stephen Trefor-Jones be appointed a Co-opted Member of the Parish Council.

Hereon Mr Stephen Trefor-Jones made the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

#### APOLOGY

An apology for absence due to illness was submitted on behalf of Councillor Denny.

#### MINUTES

It was proposed, seconded and -

- 384 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 18 February 2002, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

#### CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 385 The Chairperson welcomed the three new Councillors and expressed the hope that they would contribute towards the work of the Council.

#### QUESTIONS

There were none.

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

The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Public Transport and Highways Committee held on 4 March 2002 were submitted –

(see interleaved document no. 1)

- 386 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Public Transport and Highways Committee held on the 4 March 2002 be noted.

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2001

The following letters from the District Auditor and the amended accounts were submitted –

(see interleaved documents no. 2,3 and 4)

The Clerk reported that the Council had received an Unqualified Audit Opinion from the District Auditor in respect of the 2000/2001 accounts –the term ‘unqualified audit opinion’ meant that the accounts were by and large acceptable. However, the District Auditor had brought a number of minor matters to the Council’s attention and those were itemised in the letter and had already been acted upon or were to be acted upon. The amended accounts now submitted had been prepared by the District Auditor taking into account some of the matters raised in their letter.

- 387 RESOLVED: (i) That the letter from the District Auditor advising of the Unqualified Audit opinion be noted.
- (ii) That the matters brought to the Council’s attention in the letter from the District Auditor be noted and acted upon as required.
- (iii) That the amended accounts be noted.

PERIODIC ELECTORAL REVIEW OF BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

The maps showing the City Council’s options were submitted –

(see interleaved document nos. 5 and 6)

The Clerk advised that the Local Government Commission was currently undertaking a review of the electoral arrangements in Birmingham. Part of the remit of the Commission was to ensure that the numbers of electors within each Ward was roughly the same (within + or – 5% of the average for all Wards). Bearing that in mind, the City Council had proposed two options for the Warding arrangements in the City – an increase from 39 Wards to 40 Wards or alternatively, an increase from 39 Wards to 41 Wards. The Clerk pointed out that neither of the City’s proposals affected the Parish Boundaries but, as a Statutory Body, the City Council was consulting the Parish Council.

- 388 RESOLVED: That the City Council be informed that this Council has no comments.

### BROMSGROVE AREA COMMITTEE

The Clerk advised that he had received a letter from the secretary of the Bromsgrove Area Committee of the Worcestershire County Association of Local Councils extending an invitation for this Council to become a member of the Committee. It was thought that as a relatively new Council, although established in Birmingham but adjacent to Bromsgrove, the Council might appreciate the benefits of regular meetings with other Councils.

Councillor Grey felt that the proposal was a good idea especially as there were pockets of land on the estate that were still in the ownership of Bromsgrove District Council. The Parish Council would be able to take the opportunity of discussing those areas of land with adjacent Parish Councils.

- 389 RESOLVED: That Clerk write to the secretary of the Bromsgrove Area Committee thanking her for the Committee's invitation and advising that the Council would be pleased to accept the offer on the understanding that as the Council is already a member of the Warwickshire and West Midlands Association of Local Councils it would, therefore not wish to join the Worcestershire County Association of Local Councils.

### APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT AID

#### A Frankley Playscheme

The following application for Grant Aid was submitted -

(see interleaved document no. 7)

Ms Judith Hinton, Playscheme Organiser, gave a brief presentation in support of the bid. The scheme provided activities for the children of 5 to 16 years of age living on the Frankley Estate as an alternative to just hanging around during the school holidays. Parents were charged £3.50 per child per day but the costs of the scheme were rising – hence the reason for the grant application. Unlike other play-schemes, the parents paid on the day and not in advance so the numbers involved at any one time were not known although there were approximately 2500 places available each year. Staffing for the scheme came mainly for those living or working in Frankley – the scheme also involved those students in their final year from the High School.

Councillor Grey felt that the important activities of the scheme should be supported as they had in the past by the former Romsley and Frankley Parish Councils. He also suggested that provision to support the scheme should be included in future years' budgets.

Following further discussion during which Ms Hinton responded as appropriate to Members' questions, it was proposed, seconded and –

- 390 RESOLVED: That the Council, in accordance with its powers under Sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, agree to incur the following expenditure, which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or of its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure; a grant of £1200 towards the cost of running the Easter Playscheme and Summer Fun.

B Frankley and Rubery and Rednal Credit Union

The following application for Grant Aid was submitted -

(see interleaved document no. 8)

Whilst Members agreed the Credit Union was an organisation to be supported, the Council felt that it needed more detail in order to make a decision than was contained on the application form. It was therefore, agreed to defer determination of the application and that the Credit Union be requested to provide more information and attend the next meeting of the Council to make a brief presentation.

- 391 RESOLVED: That determination of the application for Grant Aid be deferred until the next meeting of the Council and that the Credit Union be requested to provide further information and attend the next meeting of the Council in order to give a brief presentation.

PLAYING FACILITIES FOR CHILDREN

The following letter from Mr Wheeler, headteacher of Reaside School was submitted –

(see interleaved document no. 9)

Councillor Grey suggested that as the only suitable areas of land that would be available for playing areas were in the ownership of Bromsgrove District Council it would therefore necessary to talk to either the adjacent Parish Councils to gain their support for the transfer of the land or talk to the District Council itself. The area that was formerly used by the children to play football was now fenced off following an arson attack on the school. He pointed out that the play equipment on the play area owned by Bromsgrove District Council had been paid for by the former Frankley and Romsley Parish Councils and he suggested that the Council should negotiate with BDC regarding the possible transfer of the land. If the Parish Council

owned the land then it could apply for grants from the Playing Fields Association.

Councillor Trefor-Jones suggested that the Outreach Worker should talk to the children concerned. In his opinion there were facilities within the estate available for children – the astro turf at the High School for example.

However, Councillor Grey pointed out that the astro turf was only available for organised groups not the informal groups that currently used the school playground. Additionally, during the winter, following heavy rain, a lot of the grassed areas were too muddy for children to play on and therefore the children needed access to an all-weather pitch.

Following some further discussion it was –

- 392 RESOLVED: (i) That the Clerk write to Ms Langford, Outreach Worker requesting that she talk to the children.
- (ii) That the Clerk write to Mrs Wheeler advising that in the opinion of the Council, the only way forward is to negotiate with Bromsgrove District Council or Worcestershire County Council regarding the possible transfer of land to the Parish Council.

At 2021 hours the meeting was adjourned so as to enable Members to view the Plans relating to the following Planning Applications.

At 2026 hours the meeting reconvened.

#### PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- A Planning Application S/01169/02/FUL  
New Church and Foyer Extension to Existing School and Church  
Centre at New Street, St. Christopher's Centre, Frankley,  
Birmingham

The following notification letter was submitted –

(see interleaved documents no. 10)

Following a brief discussion, it was –

- 393 RESOLVED: That Birmingham City Council's Planning Department be advised that the New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Council supports the Planning Application S/01236/02/FUL.

The Chairperson reported that since the agenda had been dispatched, the following application had been received.

B Planning Application S/01236/02/FUL  
Attached Garage at 15 Quantock Close, Rubery, Rednal,  
Birmingham B45ODT

The following Planning Application was submitted –

(see interleaved document no. 11)

Hereon, Councillor Linda Banks declared a personal interest in the application as a neighbour of the applicant

Following a brief discussion, it was –

- 394 RESOLVED: That Birmingham City Council's Planning Department be advised that the New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Council has no objection to Planning Application S/01236/02/FUL.

DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were none.

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION – 12 ARDEN ROAD, FRANKLEY

- 395 The Chairperson reported that the project was coming to end with the painting almost complete. There was still an amount of cleaning to do and he would welcome any assistance.

FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

- 396 Councillor Grey reported that the Developer had telephoned him recently concerning the development and had advised that the Planning Application in respect of Site D was due to go before the City's Development Control Committee at its meeting on March 28. However, there were still problems with Site A as the City Planners wanted the Developer to start on Site D before giving permission for Site A. Because of the delays, the Developer had said that there now problems with the pre-let on one of the Units on Site D, although he anticipated that once the building work commenced, that problem would be sorted out. Additionally, once he started building work on Site D the Developer hoped that the City would be prepared to talk about Site A. If every thing went according to plan the Developer hoped to start building work on Site D by the beginning of July.

CROSS CITY LINE EXTENSION

There were no developments to report.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- 397 Councillor Grey wished to take the opportunity on congratulating the Reverend Denny on his 25 years as the incumbent of Frankley Parish and proposed a vote of thanks for all the work in the community he had undertaken out during that time.

PAYMENTS

The following Schedule of Payments was submitted -

(see interleaved document no. 12)

In response to a question from Councillor Kane regarding the proposed payment to Bolton Brady, the Clerk explained that initially, the quotation for the repair of the roller shutter had been in the region of £700. However, when the shutter had been removed and taken back to the workshop for repair, it was found that the motor needed replacing at an approximate cost of an additional £500. When the repaired shutter was re-fixed it was found that a number of the slats had become bent and were catching on the guides and therefore needed replacement at an additional cost of approximately £600. However, following all that work the shutter was now working correctly.

It was therefore proposed, seconded and –

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

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

The following report of the Clerk was submitted -

(see interleaved document no. 13)

- 399 RESOLVED: That the report be noted

LOCAL ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A Member's Photographs

- 400 Mr Stephenson requested that the new members provide him with passport style photographs so that he could include them on the Council's website. The Chairperson also reminded the new members that they would have to provide a similar photograph for the Council's identity badge.

B Provision of Compost Bins

- 401 In response to a question from Councillor Joanna Walker regarding the provision of Compost Bins from the City's Environmental Services Department, Councillor Grey undertook to telephone Mr Jeremy Shields to ascertain the up to date situation. He commented that the response to the advertisement in the Frankley News Letter had been poor with not many people asking for a Compost Bin. Councillor Grey continued by saying that once the Parish Office was open, then the Parish Council could purchase a number of Bins and sell them on to residents at cost price.

The meeting ended at 2112 hours.

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Chairperson