

**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  
17 June 2002 at 1930 hours.

**Present**

Councillor Eric Carter (In the Chair)

Councillors Linda Banks, Ian Bruckshaw, Michael Denny,  
Sidney Grey MBE, William Hollis, Paul Kane,  
Reverend Derek Lewis, Kathleen Lewis,  
Stephen Trefor-Jones, Joanna Walker and  
Geoffrey Williams.

There were 9 members of the public present.

**APOLOGY**

There were none.

**MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor Kathleen Lewis, seconded by Joanna Walker and -

- 454 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 20 May 2002, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

**CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Parish Council Office**

- 455 The Chairperson reported that the Office was now up and running with a lot of residents asking about green waste and trees. Many elderly and disabled residents were asking for help decorating their home or digging their garden and he was pleased to announce that there were a couple of teams who were willing to undertake such work.

**Ward Councillors**

- 456 The Chairperson welcomed newly elected Ward Councillor Fello to the meeting. Unfortunately action from the Ward Councillors had been

sadly lacking in the past and the Chairperson hoped we could now look forward to assistance from the Ward Councillors in the future. The facilities of the office were available for them to hold surgeries which would be to their benefit.

Photocopier

- 457 The Chairperson reported that the photocopier had been installed in the office.

MINUTES OF THE PLANNING, ENVIRONMENTAL, HIGHWAYS  
AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT COMMITTEE – 10 JUNE 2002

The following Minutes of the meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee held on 10 June 2002 were submitted –

(see interleaved document no. 1)

- 458 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee held on 10 June 2002 be noted.

DANGEROUS FENCING – FROGMILL JUNIOR SCHOOL PLAYING  
FIELD

The Clerk reported that the item was raised at the last meeting of the Parish Council, following which he was instructed to write to the Chief Education in order to bring the matter to his attention. The following response had now been received for Mr Steve King, Area Team Manager (South) -

(see interleaved document no. 2)

The Chairperson reported that he had recently passed the playing field and had noted that the fencing had been pulled off the pavement.

- 459 RESOLVED: That the content of the letter be noted.

APPLICATION FOR GRANT AID

Frankley Library

The following application for grant aid and supporting letter were submitted -

(see interleaved documents nos. 3 and 4)

The Chairperson reported that he and Councillor Grey had made an informal visit to the library recently and had noted that a number of large print and talking books needed replacing.

Mrs Chute, Community Librarian, gave a brief presentation in support the application.

Councillor Grey considered that the service needed regular funding and suggested that a specific amount be included in the Council's budget for future years.

The Chairperson requested that something be placed in each book indicating that the book had been purchased through a grant from the Parish Council. Mrs Chute agreed that a book mark to that effect could be placed in each book so purchased.

It was therefore proposed by Councillor Reverend Lewis, seconded by Councillor Trefor-Jones and -

- 460 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 £500 towards the replenishing and the replacement of large print books.

#### PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE

Following an introductory commentary from the Chairperson, it was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor Reverend Lewis and –

- 461 RESOLVED: That approval be given to the purchase of a small vehicle.

#### APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR

The Clerk reported that the Audit Commission had recently appointed Clement Keys and external Auditor to the Council. The Auditor would be contacting the Council shortly to make arrangements for the audit up to 31 March 2002 and would be forwarding the official copy of the Annual Return to be completed by the Council.

- 462 RESOLVED: That the appointment by the Audit Commission of Clement Keys as the external Auditor to the Council be noted.

## APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

The Clerk reported that as part of the new Audit regime it would be necessary to subject the accounts to an audit by an External Auditor. Mr David Hale, BA FCCA MIMgt had written to the Council offering to undertake the role of Internal Auditor at a fee of £120 per day (8 hours) with additional work over and above the 8 hours at £15 per hour. In addition. Mileage would be charged at the Council's rate.

It was proposed by Councillor Denny and seconded by Councillor Reverend Lewis and

- 463 RESOLVED: That Mr David Hale be appointed as Internal Auditor to the Council.

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

### S/02714/02/FUL

Change of use to residential and the construction of 13 no. 2 and 3 storey houses, parking spaces, sewers and associated works Boleyn Road/Gannow Meadow Crescent, Frankley, Birmingham

- 464 Councillor Grey, Chairperson of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee, advised that the Committee had considered the above Application at its last meeting and had decided to oppose it on the grounds of the change of use from Public Open Space to residential. Local residents were also opposing the change of use and the proposed loss of a safe play area for children and, to date, had sent 164 objections to the Planning Department.

## DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were none

## FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

- 465 Councillor Grey advised that after two years of negotiating with Mr Pountney, the Developer, the City had now pulled the plug as they had recently advised the Developer that the Development Agreement had expired and he would not therefore get permission to build on Sites A and C. Although the Developer had Planning Consent for Site D, the conditions the City had placed on the Agreement were, the Developer considered, totally unreasonable.

Councillor Grey reported that the Chairperson, himself and the Clerk were due to meet Mr P Coyne and two Planning Officers on the coming Wednesday to discuss the matter. However, unless they had plans themselves which could be put in place without delay, he could

not see why the City had stopped Mr Pountney from building on the Sites, after all, Mr Pountney had been the only developer to have show any interest in the sites in 27 years. If however, the Planners did come to the meeting with acceptable alternative plans then the Parish Council should support them.

He hoped that the matter could be sorted out over then next few weeks although, in his opinion there were serious problems which needed to be sorted out.

Councillor Ffello said that he would support the Parish Council and if a satisfactory conclusion did not come out of Wednesday's meeting he would personally take the matter up with Councillor Coulson.

### CROSS CITY LINE EXTENSION

- 465 Councillor Grey reported that he had recently spoken to an officer of the Transportation Department who had advised that that the Department was still awaiting the Environment Impact Report although it was hoped that it would be received within a month.

Hopefully, if the report was received as anticipated, the Consultation Exercise would start by the Autumn of this year. Whilst the Parish Council supported the extension of the line to Frankley as part of the regeneration of the area, the Consultation Exercise had to include all interested parties who would be affected by the extension of the line.

### ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

#### Egghill Regeneration Site

- 466 Councillor Trefor-Jones requested that the Egghill Regeneration Site be placed on the agenda for the next meeting as residents living on the Frankley side of Frogmill Road were unable to get a seat on the Consultation Committee although part of the Regeneration Site was within the Parish of Frankley.

However, the Clerk pointed out that the Parish Boundary ran up the centre of Frogmill Road and therefore, none of the redevelopment site was within the Parish.

#### Frogmill Community Centre

- 467 The Clerk reported that he had had a telephone call from an officer of the Leisure Services Department in response to the letter he had written concerning the future of the Community Centre. It transpired that Leisure Services knew nothing of the proposal to use the Community Centre as a Nursery when the Beeches and Frogmill schools merged. Councillor Denny reported that he had spoken to the Property Officer of the Education Department who had indicated that

the request for Frogmill Community Centre to be converted into a Nursery had actually come from the school. The Officer had questioned the cost of converting the Community Centre into a nursery. Councillor Denny suggested that one got different stories depending on whom one spoke to.

It appeared that the two schools would be combined on the Frogmill site, however, if that happened he questioned where the nursery would be put.

The Chairperson indicated that the Council needed a representative on the Beeches Governing Body in order that it could keep track of what was happening. He therefore asked the Clerk to place the item on the agenda for the next meeting adding that he would become the Council's representative if none one else was prepared to do it.

### Frankley Housing Team

- 468 The Chairperson reported that it was probable that the Frankley Housing Team would be moved from Frankley to Reabrook Road, Longbridge in the near future. That would mean that anyone with a Housing problem which could not be solved at the Neighbourhood Office would have to go to Reabrook Road. The matter had been raised at the recent meeting of Longbridge Ward Committee when the two Housing Offices present had denied that a firm date for the move was to take place. Notwithstanding those denials the Members of the Longbridge Ward Committee had been annoyed that a move was proposed. Additionally, officers of the Housing Team had confirmed that the move was due to take place on 22 July.

Mr Dave Cussack, Operations Manager of the Housing Department, would be holding meetings with the politicians which showed that they were starting to discuss it. Mr Cussack was also in the process of arranging meeting with the Parish Council and Housing Liaison Boards – it appeared that they had realised that they had to fully consult on the process.

### Bromsgrove Area Committee

- 469 The Chairperson reported that he and the Clerk had attended a meeting of the Bromsgrove Area Committee which comprised of Councillors and Clerks of the Parish Councils within the Bromsgrove District Council area. However, as all the Parish Councils were Rural Parish Councils and New Frankley in Birmingham was an Urban Parish Council, the subject matter discussed at the meeting was not applicable to New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Council.

### Future Meeting

- 470 Wednesday 19 June 2002 – Meeting with P Coyne, Economic Development Department and two Planning Officers  
Thursday 27 June 2002 - Rover Consultative Meeting  
Friday 28 June 2002 - City Council's Standards Committee  
Saturday 29 June 2002 - Ward Conference

#### PAYMENTS

The following Schedule of Payments was submitted -

(see interleaved document no. 5)

It was proposed by Councillor Trefor-Jones, seconded by Councillor Kane and –

- 471 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.6)

#### Minute No. 154

It was agreed that the Clerk write again to Travel West Midlands concerning the provision of a 'Bus Shelter at the 'Bus Stop close to Titania Close.

- 472 RESOLVED: That the Clerk write again to Travel West Midlands concerning the provision of a 'Bus Shelter at the 'Bus Stop close to Titania Close.

#### LOCAL ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

##### Egghill Redevelopment Site

- 473 A Member of the Public sought to raise a matter concerning the Egghill Redevelopment Site but was advised that the matter was not within the Parish.

##### Right of Way

- 474 In response to a question from Mr G Stephenson regarding the action taken by the Transportation Department against the School obstructing the Right of Way, the Clerk reported that he was currently in correspondence with the Transportation Department regarding the matter.

The meeting ended at 2052 hours.

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Chairperson