

NEW FRANKLEY IN BIRMINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the New Frankley In Birmingham Parish Council held at St Christopher's Church Centre, New Street, Frankley on Monday, 17 January 2005 at 1930 hours.

Present

Councillor Carter (in the chair)

Councillors Linda Banks, Ian Bruckshaw, Michael Denny, Gareth Griffiths, Bill Hollis, Geoffrey Stephenson, Stephen Trefor-Jones, Joanna Walker and Geoff Williams.

Also in Attendance Rachael Goodman, Safer Neighbourhoods Coordinator

There were 2 members of the public present.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies

MINUTES

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

- 1051 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 20 December 2004, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

A Safer Neighbourhood Steering Group

Upon receipt of a nomination it was proposed by Councillor Linda Banks, seconded by Councillor Trefor-Jones and –

- 1052 RESOLVED That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the

Parish Council in May 2005, Councillor Griffiths be appointed to serve as the Council's representative on the Safer Neighbourhood Steering Group.

B Environmental Services Review

Upon receipt of a nomination it was proposed by Councillor Hollis, seconded by Councillor Linda Banks and –

- 1053 RESOLVED That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council in May 2005, Councillor Carter be appointed to serve as the Council's representative on the Member Group overseeing the Environmental Services Review.

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

Hereon, Ms Goodman circulated the following handout outlining the themes of the Safer Neighbourhood project –

(see interleaved document no. 1)

Referring to the document, Ms Goodman highlighted various aspects of the four themes of the Frankley project – Burglary, Young People, Drugs/Underage Drinking and the Environment. She added that each of the projects had detailed action plans which were available upon request.

The Chairperson, referring to the recent part-funded Neighbourhood Caretaking pilot, requested that action was taken so as to ensure that all the agencies were working as one and that there was no duplication. Ms Goodman stated that she was aware of the Caretaking pilot scheme and would be liaising with Housing to ensure that there was no duplication of effort. In response to the Chairperson's comments regarding the instances of underage drinking outside the Lickey Banker public house, Ms Goodman reported that the Sergeant Chater had spoken to the landlady of the public house regarding the problem. Councillor Bruckshaw commented that the youths around the shops in Wareham Road were beginning to become a problem as they were intimidating elderly shoppers in attempt to get them to purchase cigarettes for them. Ms Goodman indicated that she was aware of the problem but the culprits had to be caught actually intimidating the shoppers before action could be taken. In response to a request from Councillor Bruckshaw, Ms Goodman undertook to attend the next Neighbourhood Forum meeting on 14 February.

- 1054 RESOLVED: That the progress report be noted.

CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Williams and unanimously –

- 1057 RESOLVED: That a permanent acknowledgement be purchased as a tribute to Mr Grey's work during the last 26 years on behalf of the community.

Use of Reaside Centre as an Emergency Centre

- 1058 Councillor Hollis questioned whether the Reaside Centre was still recognised as evacuation centre in the case of a local emergency. The reason why the question was now being brought up was because, towards the end of last year, Reaside School had a gas leak and the children were evacuated to the centre until the school had been declared safe.

The Chairperson pointed out that, shortly after the Parish Council had been formed, it had been agreed that both Frogmill and Reaside Centres would be declared evacuation centres in the event of residents having to leave their homes in an emergency. Arrangements had been made with the then manager of Safeway's to provide basic provisions, the cost of which would be covered by the Parish Council. However, he was not certain whether any formal agreement had been set up, and he suggested that the Management Committee talk to the Parish Council to set a system up on a formal basis.

CASUAL VACANCY

The following report of the Clerk setting out a suggested procedure to be adopted when filling a Casual Vacancy by co-option was submitted –

(see interleaved document no. 2)

During the discussion on the procedure, Councillor Trefor-Jones suggested that the vote should be a secret. The Clerk pointed out that such a decision would have to be made prior to the vote actually being taken.

It was suggested, and agreed, that the interviews should be held as part of the normal Parish Council meeting, but that such a meeting to commence half-an-hour earlier than normal.

- 1059 RESOLVED: (i) That the Public Notice advising of the Casual Vacancy and inviting interested residents to apply, as now submitted, be approved;
- (ii) that, candidates be invited to submit a brief résumé outlining why they want to join the Council and the qualities that they think that they could bring to the Council; such résumés to be circulated to all members

prior to the Council meeting;

- (ii) that the interviewing process be part of a regular Council meeting but that such a meeting to commence at 7.00pm rather than 7.30pm

FINANCIAL STATEMENT – 31 DECEMBER 2004

The following report of the Clerk setting out the financial position of the Council as at the end of December 2004, was submitted –

(see interleaved document no. 3)

- 1060 RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

TRAINING

There was nothing to report.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were none.

DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

S/05521/04/FUL

41 Bute Close, Rubery B45 0NT

Erection of 2 storey side extension

- 1061 It was noted that, following consideration and using the powers delegated by the Development Control Committee, planning approval had been granted for the above development.

FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

- 1062 The Clerk reported that since the last meeting of the Council there had been no further meetings of the Regeneration Group.

CROSS CITY LINE EXTENSION

- 1063 There was nothing to report.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Neighbourhood Caretaking Pilot Scheme

- 1064 The Chairperson reported that since the last meeting of the Council the pilot Neighbourhood Caretaking scheme had been operational and that

progress in clearing the litter and fly-tipped rubbish from around the parish had been made although it would probably be the end of the month before the area was totally cleared and a regular inspection scheme put in place.

Street Lighting

- 1065 The Chairperson reported that the replacement street lighting columns in Rea Fordway, funded from the City's Clean and Safe budget, had recently been installed at a cost of approximately £26,000. The requests for NRF funding for replacement lighting in Quarry House Close, High Timbers and Old Stone Close were currently being considered.

Office Equipment – Replacement Computer

- 1066 Councillor Griffiths drew Member's attention to the need to update the computer equipment in the office which was now several years out-of-date. The Clerk agreed to obtain an estimate of the probable replacement costs for a new up-to-date Central Processor Unit and Monitor for consideration at the next Council meeting.

PAYMENTS

The following Schedule of Payments was submitted -

(see interleaved document no. 4)

It was proposed by Councillor Linda Banks, seconded by Councillor Bruckshaw and –

- 1067 RESOLVED: That the payments, as set out in the Schedule now submitted, be approved.

LOCAL ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

At 2039 hours the meeting adjourned so as to enable the Members of the Public to raise issues of concern.

There were no local issues raised

The meeting was reconvened at 2040 hours

The meeting ended at 2040 hours.

Chairperson

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