

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, 18 October 2004 at 1930 hours.

Present

Councillor Carter (in the chair)

Councillors Linda Banks, Karan Bolton, Ian Bruckshaw, Michael Denny, Sidney Grey MBE, Gareth Griffiths, Bill Hollis, Geoffrey Stephenson, Stephen Trefor-Jones, Joanna Walker and Geoffrey Williams

There were 5 members of the public present.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Griffiths, seconded by Councillor Bruckshaw and –

- 1000 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 20 September 2004, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 1001 Hereon, the under mentioned Members declared their respective interests in the Agenda items indicated below –

Councillor	Agenda Item	Interest
Karan Bolton	Application for Grant Aid – Reaside Centre – Refurbishment of Centre's Chair and Tables and updating of Kitchen Utensils	Prejudicial – Councillor is a member of the Centre's management committee – left the room during consideration of the item.

Bill Hollis	Application for Grant Aid – Reaside Centre – Refurbishment of Centre’s Chair and Tables and updating of Kitchen Utensils	Prejudicial – Councillor is a member of the Centre’s management committee – left the room during consideration of the item.
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CHAIRPERSON’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none

QUESTIONS

There were none.

COMMUNICATIONS

1002 The following letter from Lin Homer, Chief Executive, Birmingham City Council was noted.

(see interleaved document no. 1)

APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT AID

A The Cock Inn

The following application for Grant Aid to fund the purchase of kit and other football equipment was submitted –

(see interleaved document no. 2)

The Clerk advised that Mr Cull, the applicant had been invited to attend the meeting to support his application but unfortunately had been unable to do so. While supportive of the aims of the proposal, Members felt that they needed more details before determining the application and it was therefore agreed to defer determination of the application until the next meeting in order to allow the applicant to provide more detail and hopefully attend.

1003 RESOLVED: That the applicant, Mr Cull, be advised that whilst the Council supports the aims of the proposal submitted, Members consider that further details were required before they were able to determine the application. Accordingly, Mr Cull be invited to attend the next meeting of the Council

and to provide further details as to the proposed expenditure.

B Frankley Community High School – F1 in Schools Team

The following application for Grant Aid to enable year 9 pupils from the High School to participate in the F1 in Schools project was submitted –

(see interleaved document no. 3)

It was proposed by Councillor Carter, seconded by Councillor Trefor-Jones and -

- 1004 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 £200 to enable Year (pupils from the High School to participate in the F1 in Schools Project.

C Reaside Community Centre – Refurbishment of Centre Chairs, Tables and Updating Kitchen Utensils.

The following application for Grant Aid to fund the refurbishment of the centre's Tables and Chairs and the updating of kitchen utensils at the Reaside Centre was submitted –

(see interleaved document no. 4)

In response to questions from Members, Mr Joynes, a member of the Centre's management committee advised that the furniture at the centre was very much in need of refurbishment. He circulated a price list of the requirements together with prices taken from the Birmingham Business Supplies catalogue for 2003. The total cost, including delivery and VAT amounted to £1,962.01.

Councillor Grey suggested that, in order to save the VAT, the purchases be made by the Council and the items leased to the Centre on a long term lease subject to the Centre being responsible for the maintenance and insurance of the items. It was agreed that the Clerk liaise with members of the management committee to ascertain the Centre's requirements up to a maximum of £2,000 and that an order be placed with an appropriate supplier in the Council's name. Further, that the Clerk draw up an appropriate leasing agreement to be signed by the Centre.

- 1005 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 up to £2000 to fund the refurbishment of the centre's tables and chairs and the updating of kitchen utensils at the Reaside Centre.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT – 30 SEPTEMBER 2004

The following report of the Clerk was submitted –

(see interleaved document no. 4A)

- 1006 RESOLVED: That the report be noted

THE YOUTH AFFAIRS FORUM – CAMP REPORT – SUMMER 2004

The following report for the Youth Affairs Forum regarding the two summer camps was submitted.

(see interleaved no. 5)

Mr Chris Smith, Project Director of the Youth Affairs Forum introduced the report. He reported that all those involved had thoroughly enjoyed the experience and had all behaved well which, based on those attending the Boys Camp who had previously been in trouble, demonstrated the benefit of the Camp. Additionally, the improvement in the behaviour of those attending the Camps had continued even after they had returned home.

On behalf of those Forum Officers who had organised the Camps and all those who had attended, he thanked the Council for its generosity in contributing towards the cost of the Camps. In response to a comment for Councillor Grey, Mr Smith agreed to provide the Clerk with an estimate of the costs of the Summer Camps 2005 so that the amount could be included in the Council's 2005/2006 budget.

- 1007 RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

TRAINING

There was nothing to report.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were none.

DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were none.

FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

- 1008 The Clerk reported that arising from the observations/suggestions made during the 'Walking Audit' on October 9, the Consultants were now preparing draft proposals which were due to be submitted to the Officers/Consultants meeting on November 3. Following that meeting, an exhibition of the draft options would be displayed in the foyer of the Library, the Parish Office and, possibly, the two community centres. At each location, there would be forms available to allow residents to comment on the proposals.

Councillor Grey was concerned that the majority of those attending the audit were not aware of the background and that a number of City officers, who in the past had shown no interest in the Parish Council's efforts for the regeneration were now taking an interest. With regard to a comment from the Clerk that, because the City were given EU money for the decontamination of Site C, it was unlikely that the City would agree to anything other than Light Industrial/Office Use as any other Use would mean that the City would have to refund a percentage of the money, Councillor Grey asserted that the EU money had never been spent on Site C and therefore money should not have to be refunded if any other Use was approved.

Councillor Denny reiterated comments made at a previous meeting that any proposals for the Centre should include adequate parking facilities additionally so if the proposed Children's' Centre were to be built on the site of the Holly Hill Infant School car park. Not only was there a need for more parking at the Centre, but because of the number of football matches played at various locations during the weekend, there was a need for appropriate parking facilities for those locations as, currently, vehicles were parking on the road and the grass verges.

CROSS CITY LINE EXTENSION

- 1009 Councillor Bruckshaw referred to an item which he had heard on the local radio station regarding proposals to open up the Kings Norton, Kings Heath, Balsall Heath, Bordesley Line, currently used for freight, as a passenger line. It appeared that the SRA were considering spending £40 million opening up the line into Moor Street Station to relieve the pressure on New Street Station. Councillor Grey remarked that the line had formerly been used as a passenger line connecting with the western line at

Bordesley. He added that the congestion at New Street was one of the problems that would be exacerbated should the Frankley extension be opened up.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

2005/2006 Budget

- 1010 The Clerk reported he would be submitting the budget for the next financial year to the next meeting for approval. Therefore, if any member had any suggestions for activities to be included in the budget he would be pleased to receive them.

In response to the suggestion by the Clerk that the Bulk Collection no longer offered value for money and that he was therefore proposing that it be omitted from next year's budget, Councillor Bruckshaw felt that the money should be allocated in providing a regular rubbish collection across the estate. He felt that the Council should employ someone capable of driving the pickup and make regular collections of fly tipped rubbish across the estate.

In response Councillor Carter explained the difficulties in employing a person due to employment legislation, health and safety requirements etc. However, he pointed out that the introduction of the new Environmental Wardens would possibly make a difference to the amount of dumped rubbish.

Christmas Meal

- 1011 The Clerk reported that he had visited the Emerald Chinese Restaurant to enquire whether or not they would be putting on a special menu for Christmas and was told they would not. However, a number of Members expressed a preference to go for a Chinese Meal and it was agreed that the Clerk would find out more details.

Caldy Walk/Upper Caldly Walk

- 1012 Councillor Stephenson reported that when the signage for Lower Caldly Walk at its junction with Ormond Road had been recently replaced, it had been wrongly named Caldly Walk. It was agreed that the Transportation Department be advised.

Additionally, Councillor Stephenson reported that the undergrowth either side of the top of Caldly Walk had started to be cut back but that the job remained unfinished. He requested that the work be completed.

PAYMENTS

The following Schedule of Payments was submitted -

(see interleaved document no. 6)

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

- 1013 RESOLVED: That the payments, as set out in the Schedule now submitted, be approved.

LOCAL ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

At 2035 hours the meeting adjourned so as to enable the Members of the Public to raise issues of concern.

Litter Bins

A member of the public drew attention to the lack of litter bins in the area around Holly Hill Road which, he maintained encouraged the public to drop litter as there was no bins in which to place litter. Although there were a number of dog litter bins in the area, he requested that litter bins be placed.

The Chairperson agreed to take the matter up with the Environmental wardens.

Grit Bins

A member of the public requested that grit bins be provided on the walkways from Holly Hill Road which, in the cold weather, were dangerous for old people. It was pointed out that the Walkways were the responsibility of the Housing Department and it was therefore agreed to raise the matter at the next Housing Liaison Board Meeting.

The meeting was reconvened at 2040 hours

The meeting ended at 2040 hours.

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Chairperson