

**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, 20 September 2004 at 1930 hours.

Present

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

There were 2 members of the public present.

In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, Councillor Griffiths took the Chair.

**COUNCILLOR GRIFFITHS IN THE CHAIR**

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Carter (Holiday) and Trefor-Jones (Holiday).

**MINUTES**

A Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 19 July 2004

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

981 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 19 July 2004, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed

B Public Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 16 August 2004

982 The Public part of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16 August 2004 were noted.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

983 There were no declarations of Interests.

**CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were none

**SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD STEERING GROUP**

Upon receipt of nominations and on a show of hands, it was –

- 984 RESOLVED: That, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2005, Councillor Karan Bolton be nominated to serve on the Safer Neighbourhood Steering Group.

**QUESTIONS**

There were none.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

A Adoption of Caldy Walk

The following letter from the City Council's Transportation Department was submitted –

(see interleaved document no 1)

Following a brief discussion it was agreed that not to pay the sum requested and to write to the Chief Executive expressing the Council's disappointment that a department of the City Council sought to charge the Parish Council for information which it was felt should have been provided free of charge.

- 985 RESOLVED That the Transportation Department of the City Council be advised of the Council's disappointment that it sought to charge for information which it was felt should have been made freely available to the Parish Council and that the Chief Executive be advised of the Council's concerns that the City Council department wanted to charge for information which should be available to the Parish Council.

B Cross City Line Extension

The letters from Councillor A G Clarke, Chair of the West Midlands Passenger transport Authority and John Edwards, Chief Executive, Advantage West Midlands, acknowledging the letters from the Parish Council regarding the Cross City Line Extension were noted.

In addition, a further letter from Mr Edwards setting out Advantage West Midlands' position regarding the extension of the Cross City line and advising that the SRA was due to publish its Route Utilisation Strategy for the West Midlands in late September which would then be followed by a Regional Planning Assessment for the West Midlands. It was hoped that those two documents would provide a platform for engagement between local providers, rail users and local authorities across the region.

- 986 RESOLVED That the letter be noted.

### **PARISH COUNCIL CREDIT CARD**

The following report of the Clerk was submitted –

(see interleaved document no 2)

Following an introductory commentary from the Clerk, during which he responded as appropriate to Members' questions, it was –

- 987 RESOLVED: That an application to the Co-operative Bank Ltd, for a Business Visa card on the terms set out in the report no submitted, be approved.

### **CONSULTATIONS ON (A) A DRAFT CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AND (B) A REVIEW ON THE RESTRICTIONS ON THE POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF LOCAL AUTHORITY EMPLOYEES AND PAY OF POLITICAL ASSISTANTS**

The following report of the Clerk was submitted –

(see interleaved document no 3)

The Clerk advised that of the two consultation documents the Draft Code of Conduct was likely to have more impact. In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Secretary of State, following consultation with the interested parties, would be issuing a Code of Conduct applicable to all local authority employees. Such a code, which was similar to that already applicable to Councillors, would be part of the terms and conditions of employment of an officer and any breach of the provisions of the Code would be a disciplinary matter.

- 988 RESOLVED: That the consultation Documents be noted.

### **TRAINING**

There was nothing to report.

## **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

At 1953 hours the meeting adjourned in order to allow Members to view the Plans associated with the planning applications.

A S/05805/04/FUL  
18 Arden Road, Rubery, Rednal, Birmingham B45 0JA  
Changes to Shop Front

989 It was agreed that the City Council's Planning Department be advised that Parish Council welcomed the proposed changes to the shop front, which, it was felt, will enhance the shopping centre.

B S/03856/04/FUL  
63 Thornthwaite Close, Rubery, Rednal, Birmingham B45 0DS  
Demolition of property and erection of 4 no. two bed dwellings with garages

990 It was agreed that the City Council's Planning Department be advised that the Parish Council welcomed the demolition of 63 Thornthwaite Close and sought an assurance that the current pedestrian access to the front of the proposed development would be maintained.

C S/05521/04/FUL  
41 Bute Close, Rubery, Rednal, Birmingham B45 0MT  
Erection of two storey side extension

991 It was agreed that the City Council's Planning Department be advised that the Parish Council has no objection to the above Planning Application.

## **DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

S/03028/04/FUL  
Tay Road, Frankley Industrial Estate, Rubery  
Erection of Boundary Fence and Portakabin

992 It was noted that planning consent for the above development had been granted under the powers delegated to officers by the Development Control Committee and subject to the conditions set out in the decision letter.

## **FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT**

993 The Clerk reported that the Consultants were now commencing the consultation process. A random telephone survey was to be undertaken and a 'walking audit' had been arranged to take place on Saturday 9 October during which invited stakeholders and residents would walk on

predetermined routes noting what they felt was good and bad about Frankley. The results of the audit would be fed into the process of producing a draft redevelopment strategy for Frankley that would be considered by the City Council's Cabinet sometime in November.

Councillor Grey suggested, and it was agreed, that the results of the survey currently being undertaken by the Safer Neighbourhood project should be incorporated into the Parish Council's response to the consultation exercise.

### **CROSS CITY LINE EXTENSION**

There was nothing to report.

### **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

#### **Annual Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2004**

- 994 The Clerk reported that the Council had recently received an Unqualified Audit Opinion in respect of the Accounts for the Year Ended 31 March 2004 and that the Auditors, both Internal and external, had no matters which they wished to bring to the Council's attention.

#### **Development on Land off Rubery Lane**

- 995 Councillor Grey reported that he had been advised that the developers had now withdrawn the planning applications for the proposed development off Rubery Lane and he requested that the Clerk clarify the situation.

#### **Christmas Meal**

- 996 Following some discussion, the Clerk agreed to circulate menus from the Chinese Restaurant located at the former George IV public house on the Bristol Road as an alternative venue for the Christmas meal.

### **PAYMENTS**

The following Schedule of Payments was submitted -

(see interleaved document no. 4)

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

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

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

At 2019 hours the meeting adjourned so as to enable the Members of the Public to raise issues of concern.

**Frankley Centre Redevelopment**

Mr L Lovett questioned why, as the Parish Council had been elected to represent the views of Frankley residents, it was undertaking further consultations as to what should be incorporated into the proposed Centre redevelopment. He understood that the majority of residents had previously indicated that they wanted retail development on the land behind the present centre rather than more light industrial units. However, Councillor Grey said that the Council wanted as many residents as possible to be involved in the survey so as to ensure a cross section of ideas. Additionally, he was not sure what the Consultants wanted to achieve at the Centre – a redevelopment of the existing Centre or merely a tidying up of the present Shopping Centre. The Clerk advised that in the meetings he had attended with the Consultants, it appeared that they would investigate the feasibility of all the suggestions put forward by Stakeholders and residents and would produce a draft regeneration proposal which suited Frankley.

Councillor Denny, whilst recognising the need for more retail development appropriate to Frankley, felt that consideration should be given to the possibility of further start up industrial premises that provided small industrial units for firms just starting up as well as providing jobs in the community. Additionally, he would like to see adequate car parking provided, not only in the Centre but at other points on the Estate enabling those attending football matches for example to park on designated car parks instead on the verges of the roads.

The meeting was reconvened at 2032 hours

**EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

- 998 RESOLVED That In view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, which includes the following exempted information, it is advisable in the public interest, that the press and the public be temporarily excluded from the meeting and they are therefore instructed to withdraw.

Agenda Item

Exempt Information

Private Part of the Minutes of  
the meeting held 16 August  
2004

Confidential Information  
relating to an employee of the  
Council

SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS HELD IN PRIVATE

Minute No. 999

The Private Minutes of the meeting held on 16 August 2004, were, together with the Public part of the Minutes submitted earlier in the meeting, having been previously circulated, taken as read, confirmed and signed.

The meeting ended at 2034 hours.

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Chairperson