

NEW FRANKLEY IN BIRMINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee held at the Parish Council Offices, 12 Arden Road, Frankley on Monday, 2nd June 2008 at 1930 hours.

Present

Councillor Eric Carter (in the Chair)

Councillors Ian Bruckshaw, Sid Grey MBE, Gareth Griffiths, Des Rogers and Stephen Trefor-Jones

Also in attendance Councillors Linda Banks and Joanna Walker

APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE

- 137 Resolution no. 1768 of the Parish Council appointing the membership of the Committee and Councillor Carter as Chairperson was noted.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 138 The following Terms of Reference of the Committee were noted –

(Interleaved document no. 1)

SUGGESTED DATES FOR MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

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

- 139 RESOLVED: That meetings of the Committee be held at 7.30pm at the Parish Office on the following dates –

30th June 2008; 4th August 2008; 1st September 2008;
29th September 2008; 3rd November 2008; 1st December 2008;
2nd February 2009; 2nd March 2009; 30th March 2009.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Stephenson.

MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Bruckshaw, seconded by Councillor Grey, and -

- 140 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meetings of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee held on 25th February 2008, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

RESPONSE TO THE LONGBRIDGE AREA ACTION PLAN

Councillor Grey reported that the Council's statement relating to the AAP had been submitted to the City's Planning and Regeneration Department. He added that it was interesting to note that of the statements submitted by the major supermarkets, all except Asda had queried the need for a supermarket on the site – whereas Asda wanted a bigger store on the site. Additionally, several of the statements echoed the concerns which had been raised by the Parish Council. The Council was now waiting for notification of the date for verbal presentations to the Planning Inspector.

Councillor Trefor-Jones reported that at a recent Constituency Labour Party meeting the local MP had stressed that in his opinion the consultation process had been conformed to the requirements of the AAP and that the Council's submission could stall the process by two years should the Planning Inspector accept the Parish Council' submission.

Councillor Grey stated that, if the Planning Inspector, after considering all the submissions, determined that the AAP process was flawed, the City could be instructed to repeat the process which, in his opinion, should have been carried out correctly in the first instance.

PROPOSED NEW BUS SERVICES FOR FRANKLEY

Councillor Grey stated that he was quite impressed with the CENTRO officers' proposals at the recent public meeting in that they appeared to have similar reservations as the Parish Council regarding the AAP. They had agreed that rather than a narrow approach to a transport strategy for the AAP which was centred around getting people into the Longbridge hub, a wider strategy for the south west of Birmingham was needed.

At the meeting Councillor Grey had put forward some proposals regarding bus routes serving Frankley which the officers had taken away to study. With regards to a proposed express bus service into the City Centre it was possible that a limited stop service during the rush hours could be introduced..

FRANKLEY REGENERATION

The Chairperson informed Members that an officer from the City's Urban Design team had recently visited the Parish Office and had discussed a number of proposals for the improvement of the shopping centre.

Council Grey advised that Cost Cutters had taken over the former OMCO store and were making improvements to the store. The initial signs indicated a great improvement.

**REVIEW OF THE CHANGES TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD CARETAKING SCHEME POST
SEPTEMBER 2008**

The Chairperson reported that, as a consequence of the replacement of NRF funds by a new fund targeted at Worklessness, the City Cabinet had agreed to transfer the responsibility for the Neighbourhood Caretakers. Initial details of how the new scheme would operate were sketchy but it appeared that there would be one team to cover the Longbridge Ward. Although the Council was trying to find out as to the details of how the new scheme would operate, from the information already available, the Chairperson was concerned that the new scheme would result in a loss of flexibility compared to the current system. He added that some of the current's scheme's flexibility had already been lost in that jobs had to be phoned to the housing officer who then entered the details onto computer for the caretakers to pick up; lost direct contact.

In response to Councillor Trefor-Jones' question regarding the Parish Council's financial contribution, Councillor Grey reported that it had been agreed with the Senior Constituency Officer that the Council would pay the contribution on a monthly basis which would give the Council the opportunity of approving each monthly payment.

TRAFFIC CALMING PROPOSALS FOR ORMOND ROAD

Councillor Grey advised that there had only been minor amendments made to the amended scheme compared to that which went out for consultation. It was anticipated that work would commence on the scheme in September after the school holidays.

Councillor Trefor-Jones reported that the Police had agreed to undertake speed checks before and after see if the scheme had made any difference.

The meeting ended at 2009 hours

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Chairperson