

NEW FRANKLEY IN BIRMINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Planning,
Environmental, Highways and
Public Transport Committee held at
St Christopher's Church Centre,
Holly Hill, Frankley on 1 October
2001 at 1930 hours.

Present

Councillor Paul Kane (In the Chair)

Councillors Linda Banks, David Burton, Eric Carter, Joanna Walker
and Geoffrey Williams.

There were 3 members of the public present.

APOLOGIES

There were none.

MINUTES

It was pointed out that both Councillors Burton and Joanna Walker
had submitted apologies to the last meeting, which had been
recorded, but in error they had also both been listed among those
Councillors present at the meeting.

- 61 RESOLVED: That, subject to the amendment referred to above, the
Minutes of the meeting of the Planning,
Environmental, Highways and Public Transport held
on 3 September 2001, having previously been
circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were none.

DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were none.

FLOODING IN THE FRANKLEY AREA

62 Councillor Carter reported that he had attended a recent meeting of the Flood Summit which had been Chaired by Richard Burden MP. He advised that Mr Fletcher of the City Council's Transportation Department reported that most of the work on the main drains on the Frankley Estate had been completed. He had questioned Mr Fletcher as to what was going to happen to the drains in the closes in the event of the Housing Stock Transfer taking place as this was causing some concern as the Housing Department had no money available to carry out the necessary work. Councillor Carter was told that there was funding available for the work and that the Parish Councillors should identify those drains which still required cleaning out.

Councillor Burton reported that he had spoken to Mr Fletcher who had confirmed that there was a sum of money available to clean out the worst affected drains and Mr Fletcher had requested that Councillor Burton to arrange a site visit to look at the worst affected areas. These were thought to be Miranda Close, Oberon Close, Cranbourne Close, Radnor Close, Crychan Close and part of Cotswold Close. Councillor Burton would be making arrangements with Mr Taylor of the Transportation Department to meet Councillors and look at the worst part of the area.

Councillor Carter reported that he had raised the problems caused by sewage coming out of the drains during flooding with Mr Fletcher and had been informed that the Transportation Department and Severn Trent would be carrying out an evaluation of the sewage pipework on the Frankley Estate in order to sort out who was responsible for which part of the sewer system.

Councillor Carter then referred to the proposal to block off the underpass on Boleyn Road. If it went ahead, it would create a deep pool at the top end of Princess Diana Walk. Mr Fletcher had suggested that the underpass, with some engineering, could be used to control the flow of water from the land adjacent to the M5. Additionally, they would also be looking at the amount of water flowing off the M5 onto the adjacent land owned by Bromsgrove District Council which then flowed onto the estate causing flooding. It was hoped to persuade Bromsgrove District Council to install balancing pools on their land to alleviate the problems of flooding.

Councillor Carter then advised that the new Chair of the Community Task Force was Brian Johns and the new flood co-ordinator was Vicky Smith. He added that Ashy McKay was still looking into the question of compensation for damage cause by flooding. However, what was of some concern was that it was believed that Insurance Companies were gaining access to the reports on the flooding which

were being circulated and were using the information contained in them to load insurance policies.

Councillor Carter concluded by advising members that it had been suggested by Councillor Green that the work of the Flood Summit meetings, currently Chaired by Mr Burden, should be taken over by one of the City's Scrutiny Committees.

FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

The following plans of the Frankley Centre Development were submitted –

(See Interleaved Document No. 1)

Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that the amended plans for the centre as now submitted be supported.

Hereon, Councillor Carter referred to a letter received from Property Services regarding the proposed rental of 12 Arden Road. He was disappointed to note that Property Services were not prepared to offer a rent-free period, the reason being was it was felt that the reduced rental reflected the current condition of the property. Members reiterated comments made at earlier meetings that consideration should be given to the fact that the Parish Council was not a commercial organisation and that the rental should reflect that fact. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Mr Collins, Assistant Director, Economic Development Department, seeking a Grant to assist with the running costs of the proposed office.

- 63 RESOLVED: (i) That the City Council's Planning Department be advised of the Parish Council's support for the amended plans submitted by Mr G Pountney in respect of the Frankley Centre Development.
- (ii) That the Clerk write to Mr L Collins, Assistant Director, Economic Development, seeking a grant towards to running cost of the proposed office.

EXTENTION OF THE CROSS CITY LINE TO FRANKLEY

- 64 Councillor Burton reported that he had discussions with Mr Burden during the previous week. Mr Burden had advised him that he was still waiting for the environmental impact report to be made available and that he would chase it up. Councillor Carter added that the rumours that residents in Longbridge, Rednal and Rubery were against the extension of the line to Frankley were not true. It was agreed that, in

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supporting the extension, account would have to be taken of the findings of the environmental impact report.

The meeting ended at 2020 hours

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Chairperson