

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 8 April 2002 at 1930 hours.

Present

Councillor Paul Kane (In the Chair)

Councillors Linda Banks, Eric Carter, Sidney Grey MBE, Joanna Walker and Geoffrey Williams.

There were 3 members of the public present.

APOLOGIES

An apology for none attendance due to work commitments was submitted on behalf of Councillor Grey.

MINUTES

- 89 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Planning, Environmental, Highways and Public Transport Committee held on 4 March 2002, 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

90 Councillor Carter reported that the last meeting of the Flood Task Force had been held on 11 March and that he had been unable to attend due to other Parish Council commitments. However, he had since received the Minutes of the meeting and would report those items with relevance to Frankley.

- Ms Sam Probert (Environment Agency) had reported that the outstanding yellow flood warden jackets had been handed to Councillor Williams of Frankley Parish Council
- Ms Probert reported on a process for testing flood defence products which would commence in June or July. The service would be connected to the Flood Warning Centre in Bristol with Companies being able to take their products for testing and accreditation. Decisions should be made quickly but the Environment Agency had not yet decided on how lists of accredited products would be made available.

A "Flood Protection Association" had been formed in January and was made up of 15 manufacturers. Their products had not been officially tested or accredited in any way but the products were understood to be of good quality.

- Mr Clive Wright (Transportation Department) reported on the 26 January storm flows. Earlier flooding events had generally been as a result of short duration, high intensity storms. The storm of 26 January appeared to have been different in nature with prolonged rainfall on saturated ground causing water levels to rise to an alarming height. That did not have the same impact on roads previously affected but caused serious alarm to people on flood plain areas.
- Mr Wright further reported that the gully replacement and CCTV works in Crychan Close and adjacent roads had been completed (Councillor Williams confirmed that was the case). With regard to Oberon Close and Miranda Close, CCTV work had been ordered and the outline designs were complete for the initial phase of the works. A Topographical survey was also currently being undertaken. With regard to the Frankley Highway Drainage works, of the £120,000 allocated, £100,000 had now been spent and the work detailed at the previous meeting had been completed.
- Severn Trent Water had agreed to develop computer models for the private sewer systems on parts on the Frankley estate in particular at 26 Blackdown Close and 27 Cotswold Close.
- Following concerns expressed over the quality of the water in the river and environmental concerns, Mr Wright explained that Severn Trent Water were permitted to have sewer out-

flowing to the river from consented storm overflows as long as it was diluted at times of storms flows in accordance with their Environment Agency consent. The Environment Agency and OFWAT were the regulators of that and any complaints should be made to the water Company and the Environment Agency.

- The Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF) for a “River Rea/Millennium Cycle Route Ranger” had been passed to the seven Wards. The Leisure and Culture’s Park and Nature Conservation Service had said that they support the proposal in principle. However a staff appointment could not be made until all of the funding was in place. It was a matter for all that Ward Councillors and Ward Advisory Boards to consider the way in which their NRF allocation was expended.

With regard to the appointment of a River Ranger he was aware that the Longbridge Ward had already agreed to appointment a River Ranger but that it would appear that the Ward could also be contributing towards another Ranger. He would have to take the matter up with the Ward Advisory Board. He added that it was his intention to invite the Ranger to a future meeting of the Parish Council so that she could explain her duties.

- It was requested that the position of Food Co-ordinator be extended as the post was due to finish at the end of August. The proposal was unanimously supported by the meeting.

Councillor Carter stressed the need for a Flood Co-ordinator.

FRANKLEY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT

- 91 Councillor Carter reported that the Application for Site D was now due to go before the Development Control Committee on April 11. The consideration of Site A had been postponed in order to allow further discussions between the Developer and the Planning Officers regarding the siting of the supermarket on Site A.

The Chairperson suggested that a letter be sent to the Owners of the Coldstream Pub congratulating them on the opening of the Pub. He felt that now the Pub was open, instead of a derelict Pub which made the centre look unattractive, there was now a pub which appeared to be attracting the clientele the Brewer said it would.

- 92 **RESOLVED:** That the Clerk write to the owners of the Coldstream Public House expressing the Committee’s best wishes on the opening of the Coldstream Public House them on opening.

EXTENSION OF THE CROSS CITY LINE TO FRANKLEY

- 93 Councillor Carter said that although the Environmental Impact Studies had been completed, the consultation process has yet to be agreed.

The meeting end at 1955 hours

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Chairperson