

NEW FRANKLEY IN BIRMINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Council held at the Parish Council Office, 12 Arden Road, Frankley, on Monday, 16th January 2017, at 1930 hours

Present:

Councillor Ian Bruckshaw (in the Chair)

Councillors Linda Coates, Sam Goodwin, Sid Grey MBE, Bill Hollis, Malcolm Keating, Trevor Muddyman, Bruce Pitt and Joanna Walker.

Also in Attendance Ward Councillors Andy Cartwright and Carole Griffiths

MINUTES

4613 The Chairperson opened the meeting by wishing everyone a Happy New Year.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

4614 Apologies for absence for the reasons stated were submitted on behalf of Councillors Eric Carter (Hospital Visit) and Gareth Griffiths (Illness). The reasons for the absences were accepted.

NEW YEAR'S HONOURS LIST 2017

4615 Councillor Grey stated that the award of Medallist of the Order of the British Empire (BEM) was in due recognition of Councillor Carter's contribution to the Parish Council and the general community. Councillor Grey added that Councillor Carter was a major contributor in the formation of the Parish Council. Ward Councillor Cartwright confirmed that he also submitted Councillor Carter's name for the award. The award was unanimously agreed by members of the Parish Council.

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS (EXISTENCE AND NATURE) WITH REGARD TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

4616 There were no declarations submitted

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION WITH RESPECT TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

- 4617 There were no items raised by the Member of the Public with respect to items on the agenda.

MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Linda Coates, seconded by Councillor Muddyman, and, with none dissenting, was –

- 4618 RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 19th December 2016, having previously been circulated, were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

NOMINATIONS FOR ATTENDANCE AT A ROYAL GARDEN PARTY AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

It was proposed by Councillor Keating, seconded by Councillor Joanna Walker, and, with none dissenting, was –

- 4619 RESOLVED: That Councillor Ian Bruckshaw would participate in the draw to attend the Royal Garden Party on the 16th May 2017.

CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Building a Relationship with Balaam Wood School and the Local Community

- 4620 The Chairperson read a letter received from the school whereby the Head Teacher invited Councillor Pitt to attend, subject to agreement by the Parish Council, to be interviewed by a panel of 5th Form pupils regarding issues relating to Balaam Wood and the surrounding area, an exercise sponsored by the BBC.
Councillor Pitt suggested that this should be extended to include people with greater experience of the local area such as Penny Moore regarding Balaam's Wood. This suggestion was supported by Councillor Grey.
Councillor Muddyman is to visit Balaam Wood school as a resident and not as a member of the Parish Council.

Birmingham City Council Telephone Numbers

- 4621 The Chairperson reported that he had personally tested all numbers shown on the newsletter and three numbers were unavailable. The Chairperson added that he would circulate the revised list, and also forward a copy to Ward Councillor Cartwright who confirmed that he would process changes and advised that the Military College should be included in the correspondence.

QUESTIONS

Advertisement Consent

- 4622 Councillor Linda Coates enquired as to progress regarding the “I” Board. The Clerk replied that he had submitted a cheque for £300 to Birmingham Property Services to meet administrative costs and the licence, duly signed by the Parish Council and accepted by BPS would be sent to Planning and Regeneration Department for final approval.

Waste Bins at the Rear of the Shopping Precinct.

- 4623 The Chairperson confirmed that Birmingham City Council had offered assistance to the Parish Council regarding the emptying of waste bins at the rear of the shopping precinct.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER AUTHORITY BY THE CHAIRPERSON AND OFFICERS

- 4624 The following list of actions was noted –
(Interleaved document No. 1)

SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The following Schedule of Payments was submitted –
(Interleaved document No.2)

It was proposed by Councillor Hollis, seconded by Councillor Muddyman, and, with none dissenting, was –

- 4625 RESOLVED: That the payments, as set out in the schedule now submitted, be approved.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 4626 There were no planning applications for consideration.

DECISIONS MADE ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 4627 It was noted that a Planning Application for the retention of the beer garden for The Dingle Club, New Street, Rednal Birmingham B450BP had been refused.
(Interleaved document no 3)

Ward Councillor Cartwright expressed surprise at the decision as the reasons given were noise and the risk of people climbing surrounding walls, and that the Police had no complaints regarding the proposal.

Ward Councillor Cartwright added that he would like to visit the premises to identify possible solutions.

Councillor Grey suggested that any historical paperwork should be examined to identify who lodged previous objections and if the same person(s) have objected to the current request.

- 4628 Ward Councillor Cartwright and Councillor Bruckshaw will visit the site to ascertain possible solutions.

LONGBRIDGE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

- 4629 Councillor Keating reported that the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday week 26th January 2017.

Ward Councillor Cartwright added that he was arranging a half-hour meeting following the main meeting to discuss with other Ward Councillors and Councillors Grey and Keating, the possible usage of financial contributions received from the developers under Scheme 106.

CARNIVAL COMMITTEE, HOUSING LIAISON BOARD, STREET CHAMPIONS, BALAAM'S WOOD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, FRANKLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CO-ORDINATORS AND LONGBRIDGE TASKING MEETING

- 4630 The following briefing notes relating to the activities of voluntary organisations were submitted -

Frankley Carnival Committee – Nothing to report since the last Parish Council Meeting

HLB - The next HLB meeting is the AGM and will be held on Wednesday 25th Jan 6:00 pm @ Grizedale Sheltered Scheme. This will be an open meeting and all members of the community are invited. Arguably the most important work done by the HLB is projects funded by an annual grant of circa £15,000. Progress is slow due to the workload of active HLB members. If any tenant would like to take on this work they would be most welcome.

FSC - All the normal works continues. At this time of year it is possible to see and reach litter that is normally hidden by undergrowth. It is also a good time to extend access to difficult place such as bramble beds and river banks. Having obtained a grant from the Parish Council for more tools we now need to consider the detailed plans for use, storage and maintenance.

Following a meeting with various BCC officers, Sid Grey and Bruce Pitt are preparing a detailed plan for cutting back bushes and trees in our

walkways. The initial stage is to assess the work needed, this will be followed by discussions with Frankley Street Champions to allocate the work, set a timetable, train staff & assess H&S requirements.

We are still trying to find out if we can take our green waste to Cofton Park for chipping. There has been a change of staff so we shall have to start negotiating again. One idea is that we could have a chipper come to Frankley, we can use the chippings within the parish. The main reason for chipping is to make the waste less flammable.

Green Gym/Balaam's Wood LNR - A slow start to the year following the holiday period and bad weather. On Saturday we wassailed in our orchard, the choir had practiced and some of us were in tune. Today we collected some new trees to replace ones damaged over the past few months. We are concerned by the threat to reduce Parks income by 20%. Of particular notice is the part about stopping work with volunteers. This is the one labour multiplier Parks has. It seems that the people preparing budgets don't understand the role the community can and must play in the future.

We are due to return to Bourlay Wood next week to finish of clearing paths, dead hedging to deter fly tipping and treating the stumps of holly trees.

FNF - The next meeting will be held on Thurs 19th January 7:00 in the Parish Office, all are welcome.

NHW/Police Tasking - Sergeant Raf Khan has moved on to other duties, Sgt Lee Howard is his replacement. We hope to meet him this week to discuss how we are going to do business during his tenure. He comes highly recommended.

PCSO Sharon Hadley is chasing us to set some more dates for Street Watch Patrols.

TRANSPORT MATTERS

- 4631 Councillor Goodwin reiterated his position regarding an additional bus stop on the new X61 route, adding that, in his opinion, one more stop at the island near the Queen Elizabeth Hospital on the Selly Oak by-pass would be ideal for a direct link to the hospital.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Childrens Centre

- 4632 Councillor Linda Coates advised regarding a function on Friday 20th January 9.30am at the Children's Centre, whereby costumes are being made for the celebration of St George's Day, and added that there was a requirement for people to attend to teach younger mothers certain craft skills.

Community Use of New Frankley Library

- 4633 Councillor Keating reported that he had endeavoured to make an appointment with Richard Davies in order to gain access to the Library on either a Tuesday or Thursday for community use, thereby providing a facility for all groups of the community for interaction and learning.

Importance of the Parish Council

- 4634 Councillor Grey stated that with regard to issues around devolution, it should follow a model built around the Parish Council as it has the required statutory powers. Councillor Pitt added that problems are created within a Parish Council structure due to being relatively small with no middle management structure. Councillors Grey, Keating and Pitt are to attend a meeting regarding devolution at the Council House on Monday 23rd January at the request of City Councillor Marge Bridle.

OUTSTANDING MINUTES

The following schedule of Outstanding Minutes was laid on the table -

(Interleaved Document No.4)

The Assistant Clerk reported as follows: -

Outdoor Exercise Equipment

Minutes Nos. 3883, 4066, 4113, 4218, 4247

The Parish Council was still awaiting a response from the Education Department concerning use of land to the rear of the MUGA for an Outdoor Exercise Park.

- 4635 RESOLVED: That the current situation regarding Outstanding Minutes, as referred to above, be noted.

REPORTS OF WARD COUNCILLORS FOR THE LONGBRIDGE WARD

- 4636 The following document from Ward Councillor Ian Cruise was noted

(Interleaved Document No 5)

Acorns Hospice

4637 The Chairperson stated that to date, no details had been received from Acorns Hospice concerning the amount of the annual financial contribution from the Parish Council.

LOCAL ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

4638 There were no issues raised.

AUTHORITY TO CHAIRPERSON AND OFFICERS

It was proposed by Councillor Linda Coates, seconded by Councillor Joanna Walker, and, with none dissenting, it was -

4639 RESOLVED: That the Chairperson (or in his absence, the Vice Chairperson, if appropriate) is hereby authorised to act until the next meeting of the Parish Council, except in respect of the Council's functions in which case the appropriate officers are hereby authorised to act in pursuant of the powers delegated to them in consultation with the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson; further, that a report of all action taken under this authority be submitted to the next meeting of the Council and that such a report shall explain why this authority was used.

MEETING ENDED AT 2034 HOURS

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Chairperson

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Date