

New Frankley

Edition Two

Spring 2013

Community

News

**In times of need there is help,
don't be too proud to ask**

Life Line Food Bank

**Donations of food can
be handed in at the
New Frankley Parish
Council Office
Mon to Fri
8.30 to 11.30
PLEASE GIVE
GENEROUSLY**

South Birmingham Young Homeless Project

is an Advice and Resource Centre for young people age 16-24.

It can help with Accommodation, Benefit and Money/Debt Advice and most of the needs of young people. It is local, situated in BELTON GROVE LONGBRIDGE

[near to Colmers Farm School]

Registered Charity No 1015436

It is there for you so call in or Ring on 0121 457 8736

The S.B.Y.H.P. also offer Debt & Money advice for those aged over 25

Call in or phone Vanya on 0121 453 0606

Life Line Food Bank

We are currently experiencing the worst recession in living memory where very few, if any, of us are immune from suffering financial hardships. Even if we are not suffering hardship ourselves we probably will know people either in our family or circle of friends who are suffering hardship. We would ask you kindly if you might be able to help by gifting a food donation, large or small.

Life Line Food bank is based at Hollymoor Community Church in the former Hospital Chapel.

We are looking for volunteers to help in a number of ways [1] Individual donations [2] organizing a work or club based collection point [3] Volunteers to help make up food parcels at the Chapel [4] work in the coffee shop which operates alongside the Life Line Hub.

To make a referral for an Emergency Food Pack in the first instance

please email lifelinefoodbank@eternallifechurch.co.uk

Life Line Food Bank is part of Eternal Life Church Ministries, registered charity No 1141181

Frankley Street Champions and a Bit More

Has anyone noticed recently that despite the inclement weather that's been thrown at us over the last twelve months we have not had the usual flooding of so many roads or the threat to houses? Have you wondered why? Frankley Street Champions [FSC] and other agencies, the Parish Council, Ward Councillors, Rangers, Police, and other sectors of the community have been working together to keep the litter down, removing discarded supermarket trolleys from the river, cutting back trees and bushes from the riverside to ensure the free flow of water when heavy rain is about. We have also ensured that drains have been kept free from leaves and other debris. We do need more volunteers to help. Every little bit helps and makes our community a better place to live in. As more cuts are made in the City Council's budgets so less will get done by the City. It is up to us to keep Frankley looking at its best at all times. We have the tools available for use if you want to tidy or clear a footpath near you. Contact us via the Parish Office on 457 9410. If you have a problem let us know on the same number.

We regularly litter pick areas, but we do ask parents to ensure that their children take home their litter. We would also ask dog owners to clean up after your dog! Remember FREE dog poop scoops are also available at the Parish Office, Holly Hill Shops, [next to the POST OFFICE]

Stephen Trefor-Jones

Easter Egg Hunt

Look for more details on posters

A couple of quotes

The Happiest people don't have the best of everything, they just make the best of everything they have.

The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow

MUSIC

The part music plays in our every day lives is not measurable. Music has many genres. In almost all of them one instrument has an important contribution to make. The Guitar, where ever you go in the world you will find someone playing a guitar for it is the most versatile and easily transported instrument, much easier than a piano to carry. On Frankley you have the opportunity to listen to and learn how to play this great instrument

Frankley Guitar Club

Every other Wednesday at
St Christopher's Church , Holly Hill
6.45 –10.00pm
[Beginners to Intermediate]
contact David 0121 733 6066

Grace Community Church

Acoustic Café
St Christopher's Church Centre
Last FRIDAY of each month 7.30-9.30pm
Admission Two Pounds
16 years old + join us for live music and
refreshments open mic session ring
David 733 6066 If you would like to perform

A brief history of Frankley and its Parish Council [Part 1]

The estate originally straddled the border between Birmingham City Council and Hereford and Worcestershire Council with some services administered by Bromsgrove District Council, but with majority of the properties under the administration of Birmingham Housing Department. This arrangement of course created many headaches to residents and attempts to get housing and outside repairs and complaints dealt with proved extremely difficult. However, in 1995, following a Boundary Commission Review it was proposed that all of Frankley would be incorporated into Birmingham as part of the Longbridge Ward, within the Northfield Constituency. Nevertheless, despite that change, residents still felt that the way of life had not changed and the problems on Frankley were still being ignored and there was serious frustration with establishing channels of consultation with statutory bodies.

A means of establishing an organisation which would have to be listened to needed to be found and a Local Council was seen as a means of giving residents a voice that could stand up to the challenge of legitimacy and effectively representing their views. Using the provisions of Local Government and Rating Act 1997, a group of residents petitioned the Government through Birmingham City Council to form a Parish Council. After much hard work and dedication a charter was granted for New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Council. Elections took place in 2000 at which twenty local residents stood for election, with the twelve who were elected taking office in May 2000.

What is a Parish Council and what can it do?

A Parish Council is a democratically elected body and residents living within the Parish who are registered on the electoral register are entitled to vote. Elections are held every four years. Residents are also entitled to attend meetings of the Parish Council held every month [the third Monday at 7.30 at St Christopher's Church Centre, Holly Hill]. The Parish Council must also hold a Annual Parish Assembly at which local residents can question the Council over its activities during the year.

The Council has a considerable range of powers, but in effect has little in the way of duties, as the principal authority, Birmingham City Council is the responsible authority for most of the functions affecting Frankley. However, the Parish Council does have a considerable influence as a means of representing the views of the Frankley community. It is hoped that as the City Council adjusts to the reduction in service provision because of the reduction in Budget provision, it will be prepared to devolve some of the powers to the Parish Council so it can maintain some local services.

The precept [the money to run the council]

One important power of the Council is the requirement to set a "PRECEPT". The Precept is the amount of funding the Council considers necessary to carry out its activities during the forthcoming financial year. The Precept, in the form of the Council Tax paid by each householder, is collected by the City Council on behalf of the Parish Council and appears as an additional charge on your council tax bill. Part of the Precept is used to by the Parish Council to fund the costs of running the Parish Office located at 12 Arden Road, in the Holly Hill Shopping Centre. It also funds the salaries of the Parish Clerk and the Responsible Financial Officer, the only paid staff of the Council who are required to ensure that the Council operates within its legal framework. It is important to note that the charges for the office and all the cost of all the office equipment are paid for by Frankley Parish Residents. **It is important to note that all monies from the precept can only be spent on projects within the New Frankley Parish area.**

By Eric Carter

Articles and Letters Required

Dear readers, do you fancy yourself as a budding columnist?. Have you got something interesting to say? Here is your chance to say it. Write you article or letter and send it to
newfrankleycommunitynews@outlook.com or nfcn@outlook.com

You don't need to be Shakespeare or Dickens, to be or not to be is definitely not the question. Use the KISS principle, keep it simple. Articles for the next edition must be in by May 1st please, with publication on June 1st Above all else, don't waffle , if you do , the editors are likely to cut you off in mid.....

Important local Information

Forestdale Primary School, Wareham Road, Frankley, Birmingham, B45 0DS

The children have nominated and elected School Councillors for each class. The hall was set up as a polling station and voting papers put in a ballot. A great experience for all the children.

Mrs Halpin will be running her ever popular Easter workshops for parents in March.

To find out more about Forestdale Primary School please visit our website : WWW.forestdale@bham.sch.uk

Editors Comment : It so important to see young people be taught the basics of democracy.

Many adults in our community do not know how to vote so miss the chance to have their say in local decision making.

Perhaps the youngsters will pass on their new skills

Sid Grey

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR LOCAL GROUPS

Longbridge Community First, Funding Available

We still have match funding grants available up to 500 pounds until the end of March 2013 for use in the Longbridge Community. If you have a group/organization in the Ward which needs funds then why not apply on line at www.longbridge.wordpress.com were you will find all the information you need to know.

Contact your local Birmingham City Councillors

Councillor Ian Cruise [ian.cruise@birmingham.gov.uk] 07968530245

Councillor Andy Cartwright [andy.cartwright@birmingham.gov.uk] 0121 303 2039 [messages]

Councillor Jess Phillips [jess.phillips@birmingham.gov.uk] 0121 303 2039 [messages]

For all issues to do with Birmingham City Council or any local problems the above councillors hold the following advice bureaux's

New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Council Office LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH 3pm till 4pm

FIRST [1st] SATURDAY OF THE MONTH 12 noon till 1pm

Deelands Hall, Deelands Road

LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH 5.30pm till 6.30pm