

New Frankley Community News

Edition six : March 2014

Funded by New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Council

Green Waste. Can you afford £35 for it to be collected ? If the answer is NO. Then the alterative is COMPOSTING

You will remember that in the last edition of the Community News we explained what is going to happen to green waste as from February 2014. It was clear from those who attended the public meeting that cost was an issue.

So a group of Frankley residents, in collaboration with the Frankley Street Champions and the Frankley Neighbourhood Forum, have been looking for a cheaper and more practicable alternative. The basic cost is a one-off payment of £17 for a composter that is guaranteed for a minimum of TEN years. Not only can you put all your garden waste in, you can put in all your kitchen waste in so reducing your general waste that goes in your black bags. The composter is 30ins across so will fit into a corner of your garden; there is very little maintenance and it will take on average 9 to 12 months to fill. The residents group will install it for you, and help will be offered to empty it in the spring.

**If you would like more information or would like to be part of this project
fill in the form below and drop it into the Parish Council Office.**

We are looking for funding to give help where possible

STOP PRESS

COMPOSTING

ONE OFF SPECIAL OFFER

ONE BIN ONE BASE &

ONE ACTIVATER

FOR £ 15

THIS IS A LIMITED OFFER

RING SID GREY MBE

ON 0121 251 0655

Composting at Home

I would like more information []

I would like to be part of this project []

name _____

address _____

Telephone no _____

Email _____

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

MAKING FRANKLEY A CLEANER HEALTHIER PLACE

Frankley Neighbourhood Forum

Frankley Neighbourhood Forum is a local community group formed in 1997 to provide a voice for the residents of Frankley following the boundary change in 1995. Before that date Frankley did not have one group that could put forward issues for the whole community. The one outstanding issue not resolved by the boundary change was the loss of the Parish Councils [Frankley & Romsley]. In 1997, the Government published a bill that gave communities an opportunity to petition the Secretary of State to establish new Parish Councils.

The Frankley Forum, working with the Birmingham Association of Neighbourhood Forums, supported by Honorary Aldermen Sir Richard Knowles and Jim Eames, raised the required petition and presented it to the minister Hilary Armstrong on the steps of Parliament. The Forum's petition was successful and the New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Council was established in 2000. It soon became clear that there was a need for a group where open discussion could take place without the formality of a statutory body like a Parish Council.

The Frankley Forum meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm at the Parish Office with an open agenda. We take all concerns to the appropriate bodies on behalf of the community. This gives all our residents a chance to raise concerns when they cannot get to other meetings or the Parish office during the day. Representatives of other community groups attend this meeting and there are updates from the Street Champions, The Carnival Committee, HLB, Police Tasking, Balaam's Wood Nature Park, and feed back is then forwarded to those groups.

The Frankley Neighbourhood Forum also produces the FRANKLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS with funding from the Parish Council. Just over a year ago the News was a glossy, multi-page document costing £7,000 per year. The Forum, through its members, made the decision to cancel it and produce a single A3 page newsletter to go to every home at the cost of under a thousand pounds per year. The object of the Community News is to inform and keep residents up-to-date on local issues.

Frankley Neighbourhood Forum meets 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.30pm at the Parish Office

Frankley Street Champions

Residents who are trying to make Frankley a cleaner place. One group meets every **Wednesday, weather permitting, at end of Kent Road 10am till 12am.** If you'd like a cleaner environment and want to do something about it then come and join us. We will provide you with a litter picker, hi-vis vest, bag and exercise! We were stopped the other day by a lady who said she was amazed to see pensioners litter picking, 2 of them ladies. She thought it was "disgusting" that we had to do it as the council didn't bother, it's nice to be noticed and appreciated.

Following on from the above article, it is not the Council's fault that there is litter in our streets: it is the residents who drop it. Please don't blame it on the fact that there are no beat sweepers any more in our community: they did not throw down litter either.

There is another small group who have started picking litter on a **Thursday. We meet at 10.00am at the car park at the rear of the Arden Road Shops.** Again, all the equipment will be provided and we look forward to seeing you.

Northfield District Tenant Gathering – 2013

20th December, Greenlands, Longbridge Lane

The evening was a great success with the status of Housing Liaison Board (HLB) members broadcast and enhanced; it wasn't simply a 'jolly', it was a celebration of 12 months hard work and dedication. It also demonstrated a successful partnership between BCC staff and volunteers that does great credit to Housing & residents. Nadeen Justice, Northfield Tenant Participation Officer (TPO) persuaded local businesses to donate over £2,000 worth of prizes and services to the evening whilst the value of time & equipment donated by non-HLB volunteers is yet to be assessed; e.g. Pastor Stephen Merrick and a team from Holymoore Church did MC, sound system and recordings. Albert Harrison, Chair of Frankley and Cockhill HLB was well pleased, saying that "everything went off like clockwork". Frankley & Cockhill took the award for 'Best Partnership Working', an acknowledgement of the way in which individuals and organisations work together for the good of the community. A good example of this is the way Ian Bruckshaw uses his knowledge as Parish Councillor, Forum Treasurer, Street Champion organiser etc. in preparing circa £15,000 of HLB projects each year. Linda Coates was given a floral tribute specifically for organising an HLB work party at Cockhill quarry and generally for the huge amount of work she does for Frankley. We used the event to tell the world about what we do in Frankley; display boards prepared by Penny Moore and Linda Coates told the story of Balaam's Wood, Carnival, Street Champions and HLB. The event was organised by a team of HLB members from across Northfield Constituency, Stephanie Dudt represented Frankley & Cockhill. Didn't we/she do well?

If you would like to know more about your local Housing Liaison Board, contact Nadeen Justice on 07824 694 315, 0121 464 3492 or email nadeen.justice@brimingham.gov.uk. Tweet @frankleyhlb

Reaside Community Centre Events

The Monday Club for over 60s meets at 12pm to 2.30pm at a cost of £3 per person. Members take part in Bingo, Trips Out and have Fish & chip days.

Contact Karan or Sandra on 0795 533 1990

Wednesday 1.00pm to 3.00pm BINGO (over18only)

CASH PRIZES refreshments available. Just turn up.

**The centre is available for Hire. A two hour children's party £40 with Disco.
(a £10 non refundable Deposit is required)**

Contact Karan on 0781 709 0587 or Dave 0781 561 1251

Frankley Carnival

We are looking for more volunteers to help us, if you think you could be of help please come along to our meetings, we meet at the Parish Office, first Thursday of the month at 6pm. **Next meeting is March 6th at 6 pm.** Even if you can only help out on the actual day we are very happy to have you there.

Contact Linda on 0792 523 3738 or Bruce on 0777 949 7263.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

January 2014

Birmingham City Council

General Enquiries [Housing]	0121 464 7297
Repairs Call Centre	0800 073 3333
Repairs Complaints/ Queries	0121 303 1802
Repairs Complaints/ Queries Gas	0121 464 0470
Housing Benefit	0121 464 7000
Rent [Choose option 1]	0121 675 2006
Council Tax	0121 303 5440
Anti Social Behaviour	0121 464 4700
Vineyard Road Neighbourhood Office	0121 464 7850
Debt Advice	0121 303 2087

Environmental

Noise Nuisance	0121 303 5440
Pest Control	0121 303 6007
Bulk Collections	0121 303 1112
Dog Warden	0121 303 9900/ 9919
Councils Directory Enquires	0121 303 9944

Police non-emergency	101
local	0345 113 5000
Crime Stoppers	0800 555 111

Other Organisations

Jobcentre	0845 608 8657
	0845 604 3719
RSPCA	0300 123 0710
Homeheat Helpline	0800 33 66 99
Severn Trent Helpline	08457 500 500
Samaritans	08457 90 90 90

New Frankley Parish Council 0121 457 9410

**Meeting 3rd Monday month at St Christopher's Church
Centre, Holly Hill 7.30pm—All Welcome**

Police

DRUG BUST

A campaign to hit Cannabis Growers was undertaken over the Christmas period by the Longbridge Police Team. Four arrests were made for the possession and growing of Cannabis valued at £18,000. These people were caught with the help of the police helicopter using a heat seeking camera. The Longbridge Police team will shortly be acquiring a hand held camera to help them combat the number of people growing Cannabis in their homes.

Neighbourhood Watch/

Police Tasking Meetings

These are held at the Hol-
lymoor Centre, 6pm for Task-
ing followed at 7pm for
NHW. Our next 2 meetings
are on

24th March & 28th April