



At a meeting of
New Frankley-in-Birmingham
Parish Council, on 15 July 2024, at
7pm, 12 Arden Road, B45 0JA

Cllrs present: Jo Walker (in the Chair)
Linda Coates,
Sue Bradley,
Kate Strachan,
Mick Murphy,
Phil Johnston,
Marion Kenyon,
Tom Day.

In attendance: Rachael Anstey (Clerk),
Margarita Fackrell (RFO)

Members of
the Public: 1

Absent: Ray Price,
Sue Baker,
Alarra Cowie.

MINUTES

Apologies for Absences

6894 Apologies received on behalf of Councillors Baker and Cowie, both due to personal circumstances, they were passed on after hours to be accepted at the meeting.

New Councillor(s) Welcome

6895 The new councillor in attendance signed his Office of Acceptance Form.

The other candidate who had been invited to attend last month's meeting and this month's this evening had not turned up or communicated otherwise, in fact there had been numerous attempts to get in contact with him in various ways to no avail.

Declarations of Interests

6896 There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes

6897 It was **RESOLVED**: That, minutes of the previous meeting of the parish council held on 17 June 2024, be accepted and signed.

Chair's Announcements

- 6898 The Chair requested members to use their Webmail, so all their emails were in one place. It was still not working for everyone and that would be looked at if those encountering problems could come forward during office hours to help resolve it.
- 6899 'New Frankley Parish Council's Facebook page needed regular monitoring as there were unrelated comments being posted. The positive was there were a good number of followers, reaching in the thousands, hence it brought with it the negatives: that it could be hard to police. The suggestion was to report anything dodgy appearing to tackle the problem. Another might be to attend a course on how to deal with this deal with this common problem on business pages.
- 6900 The problem with the torsion bar along the tailgate was booked in on Friday with Netherton Garage, in Cradley Heath, for a repair after the Clerk phoned around. The administrator of the truck was prepared to drop off the truck first thing subject to being well enough following his treatment the day before and the hope was to get a lift sorted for the way back or failing that a taxi funded by the parish council. As the plan was for the truck to remain there whilst a part was sourced, at the early part of the week. With no other choice than to press ahead with it, it was -
- RESOLVED:** That, the cost of approximately £70-80 for the part then with the addition of labour costs coming in under £300, be approved.
- (Note, this was half the price quoted elsewhere - if it's a case of a straightforward replacement spring fix, not guaranteed until they have seen it).
- The garage had been asked if they could provide a LOLER test, although they could not provide this service, the office would approach again for their knowledge of any providers as this was a priority.
- Street Champions truck was consequently off the road and the administrator(s) along with Tuesday's crew had been notified.

Report of the County or District Councillor

- 6901 There was no report.

Financial Update

- 6902 It was **RESOLVED:** That, the new customised Financial Regulation 2024, be adopted.
- 6903 It was **RESOLVED:** That, the new Financial Reserves Policy, be adopted.
- Cllr Bradley left the meeting (due to personal reasons).
- 6904 The RFO informed that Scribe had not separated income and expenditure this year in their report and would seek their help on this. Cllr Kenyon pointed out as it was not necessary to name staff individually, due to personal data protection, and so for future reporting if salaries figure could be lumped together collectively when presented to the council so that they can't be identified. An internal auditor had

made the same recommendation to the Clerk, even as far as stating that it didn't have to be labelled salary when it came to employing one member of staff so not easily identifiable.

It was **RESOLVED:** That, the report presenting all expenditure and income to date, be approved.

- 6905 It was noted that the bank reconciliation was out by £300; the RFO needed more time to establish what the error was and address it before submitting a corrected version for approval.

Funding Micro Grants

- 6906 A discussion took place about the request to fund cakes for the over 60's coffee morning. It transpired New Starts already provided biscuits. They should be looking to fund cakes from donations, and aim to pay rent, this included refreshments.

The idea was that they look to becoming financially viable and sustainable. The idea was to put them in touch with Birmingham Community Matters, courtesy of representatives' attendance to the NNS Community Lunch, who were providing micro grants to projects, startups might not have a constitution to meet certain grant funding criteria but BCC required them to have their own bank account, funds could not be paid into a personal bank account. In this event, it could be paid to an umbrella organisation, such as New Starts, for their use.

Cllr Kenyon had the forms, but they would need help filling them out. The contact who would be willing to do this would be shared with other projects in Frankley seeking funding, especially good if it matched NNS's priorities in mental health, adults with learning disabilities, etc.

Administrations Matters

Parishioner's Correspondence

- 6907 Complaints had been received about fly tipping around Frankley, certainly evident in key hot spot areas getting people annoyed. It was proposed a generic letter circulated to key re-offending housing along the lines of "a lot of rubbish has been put out; is there a problem we can help you with? If you haven't got a bin, can you let the parish council know so we can sort one out for you."
- 6908 The other gripe mentioned was about the build-up under Boleyn Bridge, a drain needed unblocking to prevent future flooding in the area. BCC would be contacted

about their annual silt removal. Previously the gentleman residing at Fisher Close then complains it blocks his view for 6 months.

- 6909 Another issue receiving multiple complaints was regular missed bin collections in the area by the City Council and required representation of the collective voices reported to the Director of Services for that department.
- 6910 A list of bins has been circulated by the office to members. Councillor Day, who emptied bins daily, reported that some of the existing bins were not used, therefore, it was proposed to relocate them to areas in dire need whilst the HLB were looking into supplying replacement bins, this time fireproof ones were being costed.
- 6911 Councillor training was available, via a WALC course on 10 September, relevant for new members to book on.
- 6912 The Clerk was thanked for reporting the potential 'hazard to life' of a child falling into a pool of water, at the rear of the new walkway, to the City Council and the requirement for fencing it off.
- 6913 A quick boil kettle was being sourced for the office after the other one broke.
- 6914 A notice put up notified that the mobile recycling hub was due in Ormond Road on 13 August, 7:30am -12:30pm.
- 6915 Oakes Care home invitation received required a representative from the parish council to attend their event to mark their first anniversary. Sue Bradley, having been before, was nominated to attend on Friday 9th August at 3-5pm.
- 6916 A reminder about no meeting next month and the next meeting of the parish council was to be held on 16th September.
- 6917 To note with holidays booked cover in the office would be a consideration.

Planning Matters

- 6918 To note the planning application in the parish as the deadline to comment had passed:

Application no.: 2024/03870/PA

Application type: permitted development householder

Site: 86 Rea Fordway, B45 0HT

Proposal: Erection 5.5 m deep single storey rear extension, max. height 3.8m, eaves height 2.7m.

Parish Committees & External Bodies Update

Resilience Team:

- 6919 A build-up under Boleyn Bridge, a drain needed unblocking to prevent future flooding in the area. BCC would be contacted about their annual silt removal.

Previously the gentleman residing at Fisher Close complains when the pile of silt dumped on the bank outside his residence blocks his view for 6 months until it dries out and is removed. It would be good if the pile of silt removed from the drain was relocated to another bank avoid any further annoyance.

6920 In light of the fact that the Rangers were no longer and the parish council had willing volunteer(s) but currently the use power tools wasn't permitted, to undertake the job of sawing up green waste to take to the tip, without the approved BCC training. The Clerk would contact Parks to find out who they used as a training provider and if it was possible to utilise them to comply. In the meantime, it was-

RESOLVED: That, the expenditure of £450 to clear big build of green waste for mulching, obtained from Keith Felton, be approved.

6921 Street Champions: Regarding vandalism on the truck it had been reported to Police to see if caught on CCTV footage. They had been contacted about arranging another drop-in session, due to the high level of recent violent crimes: rape of teenager, attempted mugging, arson and hate crime(s), to be confirmed.

6922 Frankley Carnival Committee had not had their meeting to be able to report back on the event officially other than to comment it went well and they had not taken as much money as previously.

6923 Balaam's Wood Group: Fortem confirmed they would put the picnic benches in situ in the main woods.

Fortem would not be moving next door to become tenant of the vacant premises, as had been their intention to use it as a hub.

Members Reports - For Information Only

6924 Councillor training was available, via a WALC course on 10 September, relevant for new members to help book them on.

6925 The Clerk was thanked for reporting the hazard of children falling into a pool of water, at the rear of the new walkway, to the City Council and the requirement for fencing put up to make it safe.

6926 There was a requirement to source a new water boiler/kettle for the office.

6927 Mobile recycling hub was in Ormond Road on 13 August, 7:30-12:30pm.

6928 Oakes Care home invitation required a representative from the parish council to attend their event of being open a year, Sue Bradley was nominated to attend.

6929 A reminder about no meeting next month and the next meeting of the parish council was to be held on 16th September.

6930 To note with holidays booked cover in the office would be a consideration.

Members of the Public Representation

The member of the public present contributed areas for the parish council to focus:

- i. the beat sweep was back on light/ limited duties.
- 6931 ii. other areas had bins emptied twice a week, compared to Frankley just once a week. He proposed a request was made to the city council about another.
- 6932 iii. railings he reported vandalised and missing were still not fixed, with a barrier fallen over, at top of walkway (big black path) leading onto Rubery Lane. He proposed it was chased up, so it was fixed before the wintery conditions set in. In the meantime, the office staff has been made aware that he would forward photographs to be in a position to take up the matter with the City Council on his behalf.

Meeting closed: 8:12pm.

Chairperson.....

Date.....

DRAFT