

# Frankley Parish Council

Thursday 11 April 2024  
St Leonard's Church Hall

## MINUTES

**Present:** J Gwinnett (JG)  
P Smith (PS)  
P Morgan (PM)  
K May (KM)

N Bailey (NB)

Simon Nock (SN) – Ward Member Belbroughton & Romsley

**Apologies:** J Jarrard (JJ)

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed those present.

### 2. Declarations of Interest

The Declaration of Interest form was signed off.

### 3. Public Session

No members of the public were in attendance. The time was utilised to discuss concerns raised within the Parish regarding off-road motorbikes speeding and performing wheelies on Church Hill Lane and Frankley Green Lane. The bikes head towards Oxwood Lane where there appears to be an off-road track. The Police have been notified.

Details of speeding have been placed on the Parish Charter, North Safety Team and the Police.

At the weekend, vehicles part at the gas station – a lot of empty alcohol bottles are found there. This has been reported to the PSCO.

### 4. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The October 2024 Minutes were approved by PM and PS.

### 5. Chairman's Report

5.1 Sewer – KM advised awaiting legalities from BDHT. There should be an update within six weeks.

5.2 Grit bin – JG to check content of grit bins.

5.3 Fly tipping – litter pickers found a large number of pamphlets scattered in Frankley Green Lane. A folder was found containing more pamphlets and a form with a name and address for an NHS appointment. The Enforcing Officer advised he would collect the evidence; this did not materialise.

KM outlined capacity issues within the team. Romsley and Clent are experiencing problems re litter. JG to send details of calls logged this year re flying tipping to KM.

Birmingham has closed a tip, which has resulted in a predicted increase in flying tipping.

5.5 Speeding – JG has still not carried out a speed check on Church Hill. It cannot be conducted in the rain.

### 6. Finance

6.1 The bank statement and reconciliation spreadsheet were reviewed by all Councillors.

6.2 Timesheets and invoices are now submitted via an on-line portal. The budget for 2024/25 for the lengthsman is included on the portal.

6.3 JG thanked KM for the £1000 contribution towards a Parish noticeboard.

6.4 Councillors are happy to renew insurance with Zurich.

**7. Planning Matters**

**8. Outside Meetings**

JG met with PSCO Garvey on a street walk. More street walk volunteers are required.

**9. County Councillor Update / District Councillor / Ward Member for Belbroughton & Romsley Update**

The budget deficit has been reduced from £35 million to £7 million for the County. Cabinet papers for February 2024 the projected General Fund Reserves at the end of 2025/26 are £5.7m with Earmarked Reserves totalling £5.8m.

Work is on-going with the police and ambulance service regarding suicide prevention.

It is the last year of administration. Reviewing plans and strategic aims of the population. There is a need to stick to statutory duties.

Monies are available for the demolition of the fire station. The old Dolphin Centre is to become housing. The old market will be redeveloped into community hub and office block.

**10. Correspondence**

Nothing untoward.

**11. Any Other Business**

**12. Items of Parochial Interest**

The meeting closed at 21.05.

***NOTE.** Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights.*

**Distribution:**

Karen May

John Gwinnett

Jane Jarrard

Phil Smith

(Chairman)

(Councillor)

(Councillor)

Nancy Bailey

Pamela Morgan

(Acting Clerk & Councillor)

(Councillor)

**Dates for future meetings:**

Thursday 11 July 2023

Thursday 12 October 2023

Apologies sent by Simon Nock, 11 July 2024:

Update from Simon Nock:

You will be aware that Bradley Thomas was returned as our new MP on 5 July 2024. Both Cllr May and I attended the count. It was a very long day as the result was not returned until 5am.

Other news is that work on the District Plan to 2041 has now resumed post the Election. The political groups at BDC are currently being briefed. The plan will go to Cabinet and then Full Council. There will be public consultation.

As you may be aware Rachel Reeves, the new Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced mandatory housing targets and an end to the onshore wind ban in one of her first speeches. The Government has an ambitious target to build 1.5m homes over the next 5 years. We have yet to establish how this will affect us in Bromsgrove. The current target is to build approximately circa 6.5k homes up to 2041 of which sites have already been identified for circa £3k. This leaves us with circa 3.5k to find or circa 210 houses per annum. Options to achieve this are being developed in the Local Plan.

There is also a suggestion the NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) will be revised by the end of July to accommodate the Government's ambitions.

Both Cllr May and I are lobbying Officers about the new sewage facility in Frankley. We are extremely disappointed with the apparent lack of progress and have made our feelings known in no uncertain terms.

I hope this gives you an overview of the current position but if you would like any further information or have any queries whatsoever, please do not hesitate to contact Cllr May or me.