

Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum

Minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2020, Stirchley Community Church

Present: 28 including; Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Members of the Forum's management committee, Cllr Locke

Apologies: 2

Rob Morris took the chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th December 2019 were circulated and agreed as a true record.

Matters arising

Stirchley website: www.stirchley.co.uk, which was run by former committee member Mick Jones, has been closed down; the Forum has set up a new website: www.stirchleyforum.co.uk which is live but still under construction. A Mailchimp account has also been set up for emails.

BCC Pioneer Wards: an event is being held on 14/01; RM is planning to attend.

Bournville Lane Bridge: local residents reported lorries still driving the wrong way up Bournville Lane.

Policing update

PCSO Paul Blackford updated the Forum on recent activity.

Burglaries: 19 burglaries were reported across the Bournville area over the last month. PCSO Blackford recommended fitting anti-snap locks to doors and using disc locks to prevent car theft if keys are stolen.

Thefts of motor vehicles: 6 thefts were reported; Ford Cougars and Fiat 500s are particularly susceptible.

Thefts from motor vehicles: 10 crimes were reported.

Robberies: 2 crimes were reported, including the theft of £600 from Tesco Express by three males with knives; no arrests have been made.

Community Speedwatch: WMP continue to use a combination of education and enforcement; recent operations on Raddlebarn and Umberslade Roads saw them stop cars at a rate of one a minute.

New Sergeant: Sgt Danielle Hayes has replaced Sgt Sam Bonehill at Bournville Lane.

Parking: WMP continue to issue tickets to owners of cars blocking the pavement outside Enterprise; attempts to get Enterprise to change their behaviour have so far produced only short term success.

A local resident reported problems with parked cars blocking the pavement on Fordhouse Lane; PCSO Blackford suggested raising the issue with Cllr Locke, and also sending details and photos of any offending vehicles; WMP are able to issue tickets based on these reports.

Community Streetwatch: there are currently only 3 Streetwatch volunteers across the Bournville area; volunteers sign up for a minimum of 2 hours per month and patrol the area in groups of two. Anyone interested should contact PCSO Blackford for more information.

Planning update

Forum Planning Officer Sandra Cooper updated the meeting on the latest planning issues.

Kerrie Leslie has offered to help with preparing the monthly updates.

Three Horseshoes: SC is trying to contact the owner; there are concerns about the operation of the building as a hotel as kids have been spotted going in and out. Cllr Locke has reported to BCC Planning.

Hazelwell Station: no decision to date. Improvements to the highways access have been requested; the plans will be reissued once these have been made. SC suggested inviting a representative of BCC Transport to a Forum meeting to discuss local concerns. WMP do not comment on traffic issues and SC was unsure as to whether WM Fire had been consulted; the junction is an accident blackspot.

Land in front of Magnet: the application for an MOT station has been withdrawn.

Co-op: an application has been submitted for the demolition of the warehouse and motorcycle bays and erection of a new canopy. SC will suggest the provision of dedicated cycle parking as this is what the motorcycle spaces were used for.

The Co-op is due to close on 25/01; there is no confirmed date for re-opening. Stirchley History Group has a display about TASCOS in the store. The Forum has had no contact from Morrisons.

1469 Pershore Rd: the original application for a coffee shop was approved; a new application has been submitted that proposes extending the hours of opening to 10 pm Sun to Wed and midnight Thu to Sat; the application suggests this would bring it into line with other local businesses and benefit “discerning residents” of the area.

Development Management in Birmingham: BCC is running a consultation until 21/02. The plan will include policies on residential standards for residential development, HMOs, parking and servicing. A hard copy will be made available at Stirchley Library shortly; if people are interested the plan can be discussed at the next Forum meeting.

Birmingham Transport Plan: BCC is running a consultation until 27/03.

Student housing on corner of Mary Vale Rd: SC confirmed there had been no decision on the reserved matters and suggested the owners may be having second thoughts about the development. Cllr Locke has contacted Planning Enforcement about the state of the site but they advised it was a health and safety issue rather than a planning one.

Hampton Works, Twynning Rd: no news to report; although the building is locally listed this offers very little protection.

Former Roadhouse, Lifford Lane: no specific plans as yet; a local resident reported the partial clearance of the junkyard. Cllr Locke will look into it.

Illuminated hoarding opposite Lifford Lane: permission has been granted but with many conditions on light levels.

Future High Streets Fund: further information about the £25 million fund is awaited.

Seven Capital: a resident reported several hoardings had been blown over.

Networking

Stirchley Community Group: Su Jones invited residents to join up and reinvigorate the group. SCG has charitable status and a small pot of money, but needs to increase activity to maintain their status.

AOB

No.27 bus: TfWM officers have been invited to the Forum to discuss ongoing issues with reliability.

Indian Streetfood Café, Hazelwell St: this has now opened following a soft launch.

Meeting dates: these will continue to be the second Monday of the month.

Upcoming events

Stirchley History Group: 12th December, talk about Monument Rd Baths.

STWF Christmas Fair: 14th December 3 - 6 pm, Stirchley Baths

Date of the next meeting

Monday 10th February, 7.30 pm in Stirchley Community Church

Disclaimer notice on behalf of the Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum Management Committee

1. The Management Committee does not normally have prior knowledge of items which will be raised as Any Other Business, but the Management Committee will help facilitate such items where it does have prior knowledge, and which are in the interests of Stirchley.
2. The Forum is not aligned to any political party or one group and hence will hold a neutral stance in all political items which are raised at the meetings; the Forum may take a stance (positive/negative) on planning applications discussed at the meeting or on changes to community/neighbourhood services which affect the Forum area
3. The Forum's Management Committee will not allow a person or organisation to use the Forum's meeting as a means to any political end.
4. All residents and businesses within the Forum's area have the right to attend and speak at the meeting. Business owners, not resident within the forum area, have a right to attend and speak at SNF meetings, but they cannot make up quorum.
5. The Forum or its Management Committee will not be held responsible for leaflets or other media which is handed out by third parties either at or following the Forum's meeting. The views of any such leaflets or other communication are those of the distributor/publisher and not necessarily those of the Neighbourhood Forum.