



## ANNUAL REPORT 2019/2020

### SUMMARY OF NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM ACTIVITIES

**OVER THE PREVIOUS TWELVE MONTHS THE FORUM HAS  
ACHIEVED:**

#### **STIRCHLEY LATE SUMMER BASH**

31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2019

(not held in 2020 because of COVID-19)

Once again we had a very successful day, with very positive feedback on many social media sites.

The weather this year at the late summer bash was a little mixed to say the least from beautiful sunshine to torrential downpours.

And we raised a whopping £1200.00, which is intended to be used in future events in Stirchley.

We would like to thank all of the traders / businesses and friends and residents who contributed to the world famous (in Stirchley) raffle

We would also like to thank the Friends of Stirchley Park, who along with some others, did an excellent job of helping us and also cleaned up the park after we left.

- CHAIR: ROBERT MORRIS (from 2019 AGM)
- VICE CHAIR: SANDRA COOPER
- TREASURER: PAULA AUBREY
- SECRETARY: ROWENA EVANS (Until March 2020)
- PLANNING OFFICER: SANDRA COOPER

ALSO

- MARGARET WALKER
- JULIE SAUNDERS
- ANN NEWBOLD (until December 2019)



## FORUM MEETINGS

These were held on the second Monday of the month, 7.30 – 9.00 pm, at Stirchley Community Church, Hazelwell Street, Stirchley B30 2JX when we were able to do so.

A Special General Meeting was held in March 2020 which extended the reach of the Forum to the whole of Stirchley Ward.

Meetings are currently being held online through Zoom.

- website: [www.stirchleyforum.co.uk](http://www.stirchleyforum.co.uk)
- Email: [stirchley.forumb30@gmail.com](mailto:stirchley.forumb30@gmail.com)
- Twitter: @stirchley\_forum
- City councillor has attended each meeting (when able)
- Community police officers attend meetings when available
- Committee only meetings are held as required

## THE FORUM REPRESENTS YOU AT THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS

- Birmingham Communities & Neighbourhoods Resilience Group
- High Street Fund (Stirchley)
- Pioneer Places (Stirchley Ward)
- City-wide Neighbourhood Forum meeting

## FORUM MEMBERS ALSO ATTEND THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS

- Selly Park South Neighbourhood Forum (invited)
- Selly Oak NNS
- With Mondelez concerning lorries in Bournville Lane



## **WE MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES, AFTER DISCUSSION AT FORUM PUBLIC MEETINGS**

- Planning
- Licensing
- Public Safety
- Environmental Issues
- Improvements for Stirchley
- Graffiti Removal
- Highways
- Street Lighting
- Waste Collection

## **SHOULD YOU HAVE VIEWS ON ANY OF THESE ISSUES, PLEASE CONTACT US**

- By coming along to our regular meetings
- By email: [stirchley.forumb30@gmail.com](mailto:stirchley.forumb30@gmail.com)
- Online: [www.stirchleyforum.co.uk](http://www.stirchleyforum.co.uk)

**FROM MARCH 2020 (AT OUR SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING)  
MEMBERS AGREED THAT THE FORUM AREA SHOULD INCLUDE  
THE WHOLE OF STIRCHLEY WARD, INCLUDING THE PART  
BEYOND THE BREEDON BRIDGE, WHICH WAS INCORPORATED  
AFTER THE BOUNDARY REVIEW**



## STIRCHLEY WEBSITE

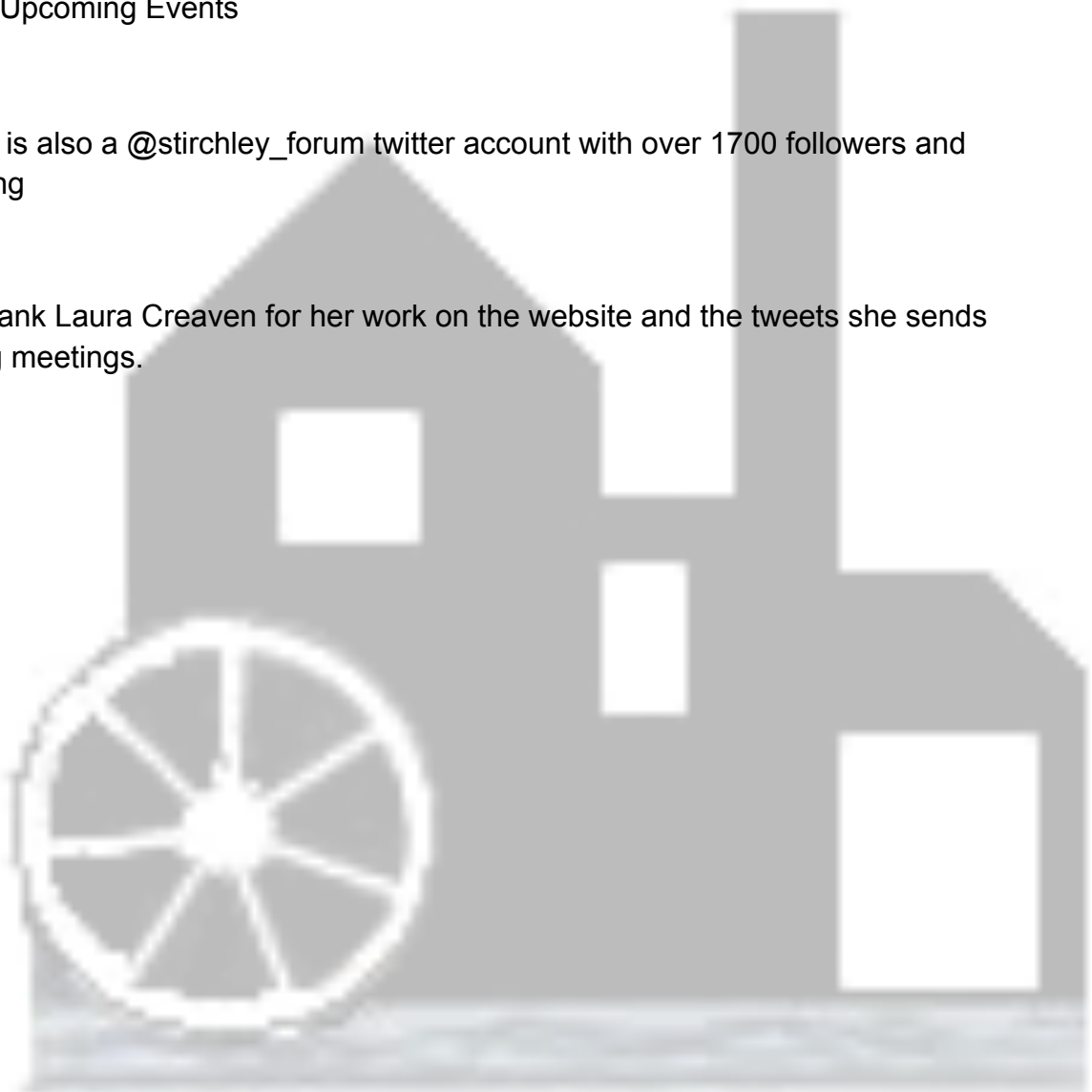
Future meetings and agendas are publicised on the Forum's new website [www.stirchleyforum.co.uk](http://www.stirchleyforum.co.uk) which is under development

Also on the website:

- Minutes of last meeting
- Local News
- Upcoming Events

There is also a @stirchley\_forum twitter account with over 1700 followers and growing

We thank Laura Creaven for her work on the website and the tweets she sends during meetings.





## ANNUAL REPORT FROM OUR PLANNING OFFICER

Comments have been submitted on planning applications in line with guidelines previously agreed by Forum members and comments given at the meetings.

My thanks go to Laura Creaven who publicises meetings and puts our newsletters on our website, and Kerry Leslie who volunteered to be my apprentice, like many things it didn't go quite as we planned but she intends to pick up the reins in the future when she can get some free time. Responses and discussions on Twitter are also invaluable (the Forum now has over 1700 followers).

### Applications

There have been a number of applications to consider this year. These include;

- Outline proposals for former Tesco site (retail development to Pershore Road and dwellings to the rear of the site at Ripple Road)
- A continuing number of applications involving houses of multiple occupation
- 1256-1258 Pershore Road, demolition of existing building & construction of student residence (again)
- 1326-1344 Pershore Road
- 77-79 Cartland Road, construction of day nursery

The Forum has continued to bring enforcement matters to the attention of the Planning Dept.

In the coming year there will be further consideration of the applications for the former Tesco sites and the Stirchley Cooperative Development site at 1326 – 1344 Pershore Road.

Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum will continue to make comments on applications that affect residents of Stirchley Ward.

Sandra Cooper, Forum Planning Officer



## **WOULD LIKE TO THANK:**

COUNCILLOR MARY LOCKE

KAREN CHENEY (Citywide Head of Service – Neighbourhood Development and Support Unit)

COMMUNITY POLICE TEAM

ROWENA EVANS who for many years shouldered the burden of being Forum Secretary

ANN NEWBOLD who retired from the committee after many years

## **AND THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS FOR THEIR INPUT INTO OUR MEETINGS AND THEIR SUPPORT:**

WMPCSO PAUL BLACKFORD

STIRCHLEY THE WAY FORWARD

STIRCHLEY COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT

MORRISONS

BOURNBROOK INN (formerly Three Horseshoes)

Residents who attended the meeting with prospective developers of Stirchley Gin Palace in Maryvale Road and who also attended the meeting of the Licensing Committee

Residents and businesses who assisted with the High Street footfall survey in March

Residents and organisations that came together to design a leaflet that was posted through the door of all Stirchley Ward residents during the first lockdown

**WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OUR GUESTS FOR ATTENDING OUR MEETINGS OFTEN AT SHORT NOTICE**

[WWW.STIRCHLEYFORUM.CO.UK](http://WWW.STIRCHLEYFORUM.CO.UK)



## CHAIR'S REPORT

We have all been through so much since the last AGM - and Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum is no different. We have had to learn new ways of working. We've lost so many ordinary informal ways of keeping in touch. Familiar patterns have gone or been put on hold. But new starts have grown and keep coming. We're now at a point where, however long they take, new possibilities open up. As a Neighbourhood Forum, we learn so much from local experience and action and from each other, long-standing residents or recently arrived. Some plans will work. Some will not. Together we shall continue as a place where all can share. Thank you to all who have done and to all who will.

Since our last AGM, the pandemic has affected us all - and there are other changes. The long substantial history of the Co-op in Stirchley ended in January. New life came with Morrisons in July. The Arvin Meritor site is all but complete. New businesses are opening alongside some closures. The Forum with others has engaged with public planning for High Street development and we work closely with our Councillor, Mary Locke and with Karen Cheney and her City Council colleagues at the Baths. We still wait, patiently watchful, for developments on the SevenCapital site and the former bowling alley/gym. Alongside all these, we reflect and build on vigorous partnerships with our police, Library, health services, schools and many other local groups and businesses.

Despite everything, Stirchley is growing! The way ahead is not clear. We know however that we need each other. We believe that we must continue to be a means of common meeting and, as we can, of finding a common mind so that all can go on growing together.

My special thanks to my predecessor Peter Walker for his lively, faithful work as Chair for 14 years and also to my committee colleagues, especially Paula Aubrey our Treasurer and Sandra our Vice-Chair and indefatigable Planning Officer. Thank you also to the very many residents and colleagues who share in what we do and hope for.

Rob Morris  
Chair, Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum