

Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 8th March 2021 online by Zoom

Present: 24 including; Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Members of the Forum's management committee, Cllr Locke,

1. Rob Morris as Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting
2. There were no apologies

Jayne Smith of Taylor Wimpey attended at short notice and gave an update on the progress of planning for their site at Hunts Road/Ripple Road
The matter should be going to planning early in April and work will start very soon after if permission is obtained.

Rob Morris thanked her for attending, she then left the meeting

There was then a short presentation from David Barker about Baby Aid Birmingham which is based in Stirchley.

Items donated must be in excellent condition. Many items are new.

There is a referral form on their website for self-referrals.

Further information is available on their website <https://www.babyaidbirmingham.co.uk/>

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Rob Morris thanked him for attending and invited him to stay for the rest of the meeting.

3. Minutes of meeting 8th February 2021

The Minutes were accepted as being a true record

4. Matters arising from meeting 8th February

The link to report inappropriate parking of e-scooters was sent with the notice for this meeting

There were no other matters arising not appearing later in the meeting

5. Police Update

Rob Morris introduced PCSO Paul Blackford and warmly welcomed him to the meeting.

PCSO Blackford gave a general update of crimes within the Stirchley Ward

Since 1st January there had been 18 burglaries and 24 vehicle crimes.

Incidents of car key burglary were highlighted which largely occurred in the early hours of the morning.

A resident raised concerns about car crime and burglaries taking place on the Pineapple Estate.

PCSO Blackford said police patrols in the area has been increased (including plain clothes) and he would take residents s comments and concerns back to his superiors.

The increased prevalence of 'tagged' graffiti was noted.

He said that he would provide information for posters and also contact information.

He gave an outline of the StreetWatch scheme.

There need to be at least 2 people involved who patrol their own area, reporting anything suspicious to the police (time commitment is at least 2 hours per month).

He said that he very much hoped that the Forum meetings would have a police presence going forward.

Rob Morris thanked him for attending.

6. Planning issues

Sandra Cooper as Planning Officer updated applications from the December meeting;

1256-1258 Pershore Road (corner Twynning Road) - Decision awaited.

2019/10502/PA 1386-1392 Pershore Road - Approved,

2020/09221/PA Land Incorporating Former BT Telephone Exchange, 1048 - 1052 Pershore Road & 1-3 Dogpool Lane Stirchley Birmingham B30 2XN

No decision

2020/09122/PA Land at Hunts Road/Ripple Road (rear of Seven Capital site)

Application for 87 dwellings, matters reserved, except for access. Referred to as West Side Mews.

Cd 14/1/2021

See notes at the beginning of the meeting.

2020/10026/PA SBP Building Products Ltd, 1510-1518 Pershore Road

Demolition of existing building and erection of a new warehouse with mezzanine floor (former chapel)

16/1

Comments made on behalf of the Forum based on latest plans.

Decision awaited.

Methodist Chapel to be demolished but the replacement building aims to be sympathetic to the site and neighbouring property.

2020/10225/PA 46 Hunts Road

Demolition of existing garage and erection of 1 dwelling house

Approved subject to conditions

2021/00029/PA Land on western side of Pershore Road (near to Lifford Lane)

Illuminated advertisement panel

Approved for a period of 5 years, subject to conditions, related to intensity of illumination, no intermittent lighting, minimum length of time advertisements can be shown for and no flickering

2021/00505/PA 1224 Pershore Road. Single storey rear extension

Comments submitted - awaiting decision

2020/04099/PA Hazelwell House, Hazelwell Road.

Change of use from HMO to self-contained flats.

Refused. Appeal lodged.

New Applications

There are a number of new applications for domestic ground floor and first floor extensions

7. Opening up from lockdown

There was a general discussion about events that could be held once lockdown eases.

Cllr Locke raised the issue of whether hustings could be held for the forthcoming Mayoral and Police & Crime Commissioner elections.

Rob Morris said that the Forum would hold meetings in person when safe to do so and regulations permit. The Forum is interested to hear ideas for how we can continue to include people who find it difficult to attend meetings in person.

8. Networking

Pioneer Places meeting attended by Rob Morris, Sandra Cooper, Stacey Witcomb, Laura Creaven and others.

Information about how the COVID response funding had been spent

Information about City Council proposals to facilitate Parish councils if communities wanted to

Future meetings will include Ward data.

High Street Fund

Sandra Cooper, Stacey Witcomb and Laura Creaven (amongst others) attended a meeting with the High Street consultant.

Issues discussed included;

the need for a vision for the high Street which should record and respond to the requirements of the community

how difficult it was to find information about events and what is happening in Stirchley generally

the need to establish the boundaries of the High Street

A written report from the expert is awaited

Stirchley Together

Funding is now in the Forum bank account.

A simple and straightforward referral system is being devised

Items will be purchased

Items to start to be distributed with the next few weeks.

It was noted that joint working was the way forward.

Cllr Locke mentioned that funding associated with Commonwealth Games will soon become available.

9. Any other business

Cllr Locke brought her next Ward Forum to everyone's attention - 17th March 7pm
The Ward Forum after that will be in May, probably on Zoom, with information about the Commonwealth Games funding available.

It was noted that Stirchley High Street had figured in a Historic England video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3PJ503oL-S4>

Stirchley was mentioned on the BBC twice in the previous week.

There was a request that eScooters be featured in the Forum April meeting.

The Chair brought the meeting to an end at 8.45pm.

Date of the next meeting - 12th April 2021 online

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.