

Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 10th May 2021 online by Zoom

Present: 23 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, including residents of Pitleasow Close
2. There were a number of apologies including; Kerry Leslie, Rob Tilling and Linda Johnson

A representative of Taylor Wimpey was present to give an update on progress at the housebuilding site at the rear of the Seven Capital Hazelwell Lane site.

He confirmed that planning permission had been granted and that they were looking at a start on remedial works by a company called McCally's in about 2 weeks. There is likely to be some activity then there may be a period of inactivity with work starting on the build in November. Legal issues are due to be completed in June.

There was then a discussion about access to the site by large vehicles. Residents of Twynning Road put forward the view that it was not a suitable route due to restricted width, parking and the road not being straight. There was a suggestion that access could be obtained through Hazelwell Road and Plymouth Road. It was agreed that neither of these options were desirable.

It was confirmed that Taylor Wimpey are looking to obtain access through the Seven Capital site for as long as possible.

He then left the meeting.

3. Minutes of meeting 12th April 2021

The Minutes were accepted as being a true record

4. Matters arising from meeting 12th April

SC said that home testing kits are currently still available from the Test Centre behind Lifford House between 2.30 and 8pm Monday to Sunday

7. Police Update

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

PCSO Blackford gave an update on crime figures for the previous 4 weeks which included 9 burglaries and 16 vehicle crimes

He said that 2 cannabis factories had been found near to Stirchley.

PCSO Blackford said that WM Police are actively recruiting to Street Watch. Volunteers work in their local communities, as often as they want and are given fluorescent bibs to wear.

A resident raised the issue of beggars operating at major junctions which they found intimidating.

There was then a discussion about support available to homeless people and referral to Streetlink <https://www.streetlink.org.uk/>

Rob Morris thanked him for attending. He then left the meeting.

5. Commonwealth Games Funding opportunity

SC gave a short introduction and referred to documents sent with the Agenda and information available on the City council website. She said that bids should link in with and support the Ward Plan. She gave an indication of main headings in the Stirchley Ward Plan.

There was reference to online support sessions available for organisations which wished to make a funding bid.

Key date for initial funding application 1st June. Closing date for second (and final) round, beginning of January.

There was a discussion about possible areas for funding.

It was pointed out that green corridors should include the canal which is likely to involve liaison with Canal and River Trust.

It was said that it would be good to include Stirchley and Cotteridge schools which are both in the Ward.

There was a suggestion that a link could be made with the Glasgow Climate Change Conference to be held later this year.

6. A Stirchley Festival 2021

This would now be a series of events.

John Hemmings said that he was organising an arts festival in late August which had gained support.

Traders preferred to organise an event in the High Street at August Bank Holiday.

Heritage Open Day will be on Saturday 18th September, it was hoped that events could be held throughout the Ward.

8. Planning issues

New Applications

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

There is an application referring to 28 Bournville Lane. A lawful use application for a House of Multiple Application.

9. Networking

Pioneer Places

A presentation was given by Stirchley residents.

High Street Fund

A report has now been received which highlights the need for community involvement. Next steps are awaited.

Stirchley Together

Take up of cooking equipment has been slow. One issue is the need to show people why using a slow cooker is a cheap and easy way to cook.

Possible involvement in Royal Society of Arts Research Project

SC said that (along with several other areas in Birmingham) Stirchley had been put forward as a possible participant in this project.

Representatives of Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum and Stirchley the Way Forward had held a meeting and word of whether Stirchley will be involved is awaited.

Cllr Locke said that her next Ward Forum would be held online through Teams on 20th May at 7pm. There would be an item on Parks, a presentation from Leaf Arts and also one from Dads Lane Community Association.

Attention was drawn to the Dementia Action Day event to be held behind the Baths and the Library on Saturday 22nd May between 12 noon and 3pm.

Stirchley Library will be open on Saturdays from 15th May.

9. Any other business

Cllr Locke said that a resident had brought up the issue of noise from a local business and asked if anyone else was aware of issues.

The Chair brought the meeting to an end at 9.05pm.

Date of the next meeting - 14th June 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.