

Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 12th July 2021 online by Zoom

Present: 15 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. Apologies included John & Pat Pitcock & John Hemming
- 3. Minutes of meeting 14th June 2021**

The Minutes were accepted as being a true record

- 4. Matters arising from meeting 14th June**

Commonwealth Games Funding

It was expected that a meeting would be held to consider applications in late July or early August.

Heritage events

It was stated that events would take place in Stirchley Baths & Stirchley Library on Saturday 18th September and the Church of Ascension & Pineapple Grove on the afternoon of Sunday 19th September.

City Council Challenge

At least one City Council Challenge has been provided.
Rob Morris and Sandra Cooper met with residents of Pitleasow Close

5. 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.

There were 14 burglaries (residential and businesses) and 28 vehicle crime (12 theft from and 16 theft of vehicles).

A resident asked why other crimes were not reported, eg drug dealing. PCSO Blackford said that he would check what information he could give.

It was pointed out that there was website where information could be obtained. PCSO Blackford said that he would check for details.

It was also pointed out that a Freedom of Information request could be made to WM Police.

Answering a resident PCSO Blackford said that he did not know if any issues related to recent televised football matches.

SC said that, following the last meeting, Cllr Locke had been informed that Bham City Council had no reports of problems at the crossing at the bottom of Umberlade Road. There was no further information about the other crossings mentioned.

Rob Morris thanked him for attending.

6. Licensing applications

Unit 19 Clonmell Rd Business Park - retail sales of alcohol

PCSO Blackford then left the meeting.

7. Planning issues

Taylor Wimpey have reported that changes to the Construction Management Plan agreed with Bham City Council meant that, wherever possible, deliveries to the site would be via Hazelwell Lane. Start time would now be 8am (previously 7.30am) and until 1pm on Saturday. If work needed to be carried out outside these hours, notice would be given to neighbouring properties. There were also various conditions concerning noise reduction.

Application for 'tunnel back infill' 143 Cartland Road, refused on the basis did not comply with 45degrees code & would lead to loss of light & outlook for neighbouring property & design out of keeping

A similar proposal in another nearby road was approved last year

239 Cartland Road, similar tunnel back infill of 'tunnel back' 2021/04945/PA
Permitted development therefore approved

Retention of ATM & illuminated surround 1497 Pershore Road
2021/02743/PA & 2021/02743PA
Approved subject to conditions

Developer of 1256-1258 Pershore Road, who spoke to the Forum earlier this year, has intimated that he is looking at various alternatives for the site which will shortly go on the market.

Hazelwell Lane - Seven Capital site,
2021/00196/PA
Planning Officer said that -

Following last month's meeting a representative of Seven Capital had been invited to the meeting but they declined as they said that further announcements were expected in the next few weeks.

Questions asked of Seven Capital representative;

Are the premises to be used by Aldi or is this just an example of the company who may want to take it over?

Why has this application been brought forward separately to the other 2 applications for gym and retail use? The original application assumed some synergy between the various uses which is likely to be lost with separate applications.

Why is it a generic building design? The design and siting of the building is not sympathetic to the site (especially the dwellings shortly to be under construction by Taylor Wimpey). The design is not sympathetic to surrounding buildings (including the Grade 2 listed British Oak public house). Having waited so long Stirchley deserves better. A recent application by an established trader resulted in the provision of red brick facades to complement neighbouring property and the area.

There are concerns that local residents may be disturbed by deliveries to the building due to the new orientation of the building and times of delivery.

There are also concerns about pedestrian and cyclists safety when crossing the entrance of the site and moving around it.

Could some provision be made for a piece of public art, designed in conjunction with local people and placed near Pershore Road, to provide a distinctive feature?

Reply -

Unfortunately, there are some of these that I cannot answer as mentioned because of confidentiality. The timing of your meeting is just a few weeks premature.

Some items I simply don't have time to consult the relevant consultants/parties to be able to give you a considered response.

As for the design of the Taylor Wimpey units, this is out of our control as we do not own this portion of the land.

In regards health and safety is concerned these will be fully audited as expected and a construction traffic plan will be in place.

Again, I am very sorry we cannot provide further information at present, but will hopefully be able to do so in the nearest future.

There was some discussion about the application.

It was agreed that Forum comments, in addition to points made above, should include concerns about;

Relocation of the store on the plot

Absence of electric charging points in the car park

Need for more disabled spaces

Use of permeable tarmac to reduce run-off

Possible use of green renewable energy & insulation

Hours of deliveries

Hours of opening

Width of the throat access which it seems is to be used by gym too

Provision of a raised surface crossing

Seats to be provided near the entrance

Stainless steel bollards should have contrasting colour
Absence of soft landscaping details.

Other recent planning applications:-

2021/02280/PA 25 Warren Road - amended plans - part ground floor infill

2021/02570/PA 84 Windsor Road - ground floor infill

2021/05631/PA 55 Oxford Street - ground floor infill

It was noted that these may come under the category of permitted development

2021/03702/PA 1551-1553 Pershore Road - second floor rear extensions c/d 21/7

2021/04699/PA 1497/1499 Pershore Road - change of use of ground floor to restaurant and drinking establishment

1499 service counter, 1497 restaurant (28 covers) and toilets

c/d 25/7

It was noted that an amendment had been filed which now indicates that the use would be retail and drinking and c/d was now 3/8

2021/04987/PA 1266/1268 Pershore Road - single storey rear extension, dormer windows and new shop front

c/d 26/7

2021/04996/PA Dads Lane Community Centre, 171 Pineapple Road - inclusion of café and provision of accessible access and 2 parking places

c/d 4/8

2021/05464/PA 1377/1379 Pershore Road - extension of restaurant into rear of 1377 and reconfiguration of domestic accommodation

c/d 2/8

2021/05679/PA 1511 Pershore Road - erection of rear extension

NB no plans submitted. Previous application submitted last year was withdrawn. Local people contended that this had been a family home not HMO

c/d 19/7

8. Networking

Pioneer Places

Meeting attended by Sandra Cooper.

Further information was given about the Welcome Back to the High Street Fund

There were various updates.

High Street Fund

Next steps are awaited.

9. Any other business

Cllr Locke said that she would be holding a Ward Forum meeting on Zoom on Wednesday 21st July @ 7pm.

She intended to hold her surgeries face to face whenever and wherever possible.

The Chair brought the meeting to an end at 9.00pm.

Date of the next meeting - Monday 13th September

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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.
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