

Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 14th March 2021 @7.30 in Stirchley Community church and online by Zoom

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

1. Rob Morris (RM Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that the Committee had decided to hold the meeting in person and online in view of the current COVID situation.

2. **Apologies** None

3. **Minutes of meeting 14th February 2022**

The Minutes were accepted as being a true record

4. **Matters arising from meeting 14th February 2022**

Commonwealth Games funding applications were the subject of a separate meeting held on 1st March where all funds were allocated.

Pioneer Places funding opportunity.

Following consultation a sum of £1,000 was applied for and granted.

Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum will commission work from Picture This Media CIC which will result in young people investigating Stirchley and organisations operating here. A series of short films will then be produced by the young people which will be premiered in September.

Enterprise

Issues with Enterprise parking their vehicles in Twyning Road.

After the meeting Cllr Locke spoke with Enterprise re the parking issues and was told that negotiations to use parking nearby were at an advanced stage (a local resident was told the same thing).

There is no evidence that this has been put in place.

Cartland Road Roadworks have come to end.

Library consultation

No one from BCC was available to attend this meeting. Consultation ends on 7th April.

5. **Police Update**

It was noticed that there was no police presence.

At the recent Councillor's Ward Forum meeting concerns were raised about a recent spate of house burglaries.

There was an observation that there could be an increase in thefts of fuel from fuel tanks. Maybe WM Police could suggest security measures?

A resident said that they had recently met PCSOs in Stirchley who had stressed to her that suspicious activity should be reported which can be done through live chat or ringing 101.

The next police tasking meeting is on 7th April in Dame Elizabeth Cadbury Hall, Oak Tree Lane.

6. Planning issues

Sandra Cooper, Planning Officer updated items from the February meeting;

Taylor Wimpey

Nothing new to report.

Building work continuing.

Lidl (former Fitness First site)

Cllr Locke reported that nothing further has been heard from Lidl.

Clonmel Road Business Centre -

No news on enforcement

2021/10881/PA Land off Pershore Road/Hazelwell Lane

Forum comments were submitted as agreed.

Nothing further heard from Aldi.

Decision awaited.

2021/10882/PA 1 Ash Tree Road

Wickes

Approved

2022/00257/PA Morrisons

Installation of 2 vinyl banners on the frontage to Hazelwell Street

Approved for a period of 5 years.

2022/00695/PA 1386-1392 Pershore Road

Demolition statement

Permission granted in accordance with the application.

There have been a series of applications in relation to domestic properties throughout the Ward.

7. Networking

Stirchley Community Church

Paula Aubrey said that the Church had delved into the Archives for information but were happy to hear from anyone with their memories of the building.

Kerry Leslie stated that the **Old Post Office** co-working space would shortly be reopening.

Councillor Forum on 7th March in person.

Sandra Cooper, Paula Aubrey and Margaret Walker were present on behalf of the Forum. There was a representative of West Midlands Rail Executive to update on the new train station.

The Forum has also been contacted by them. They are happy to update Forum members. Unfortunately Garry Peal was not able to be present to discuss arrangements for this year's Great Birmingham Run as they had yet to be finalised.

Rob Morris and Sandra Cooper (along with Cllr Locke) have been invited to meet the organisers.

The following issues were raised by those present at the meeting;

Access to business premises in Stirchley, although it was noted that, the past, this had caused issues with traffic trying to access Maryvale Road through Charlotte Road

This also is an issue when vehicles access Hazelwell Road, Hunts Road and Twynning Road, also attempt to access Bournville Lane through 'little London'.

Further signage and road closure signs are needed.

Local people not being involved in security (people employed have no knowledge of the area or what to tell car drivers who are lost)

Possibility of use of part of the closed part Pershore Road (near to the school) to be used for a street party, although it was acknowledged that there could be issues with emergency vehicle access to the course.

Rail replacement bus service scheduled for the day and first train leaving later than usual so getting to the start from Birmingham using public transport will be difficult.

It was thought that these issues could be raised and discussed at next month's Forum meeting.

Use of empty retail premises

The possible free use of empty retail premises on an occasional basis was noted.

There is electricity but no running water.

There is a possibility of use on Sunday 27th March by Fruit and Nut Village for propagating. They need the loan of some tables and chairs as the building is empty.

Circle 2022

A representative explained that this would be an informal meeting in the café area of Stirchley Baths on Friday mornings 10am - 11.30am from 1st April. Some speakers have been lined up.

Flyers were distributed to those present in the room.

8. Any other business

There was a question about the position of defibrillators in Stirchley.

It was acknowledged that there is one outside Morrisons and another outside Coop Funeral Home but no signposts to show their presence. It was also noted that there were none in the middle or at the other end of Stirchley Village.

Maybe local businesses such as Wickes could be approached.

The question of a lack of designated parking bays for disabled people on Pershore Road was raised.

It was agreed that this was an issue that needs to be tackled if Stirchley is to be an inclusive High Street area.

Cllr Locke said that she had been informed that the 'Firework Shop' on the corner of Pershore Road and Fordhouse Lane would remain part of the designated Highways Improvement Line. The owners' local agents had now been traced and would be contacted about insecure fencing.

Cllr Locke also said that the public toilet opposite the Coop Funeral Home has been decommissioned due to misuse and the end of the contract and would shortly be removed.

The aim is to host a husting for elections to Stirchley Ward but the list of candidates would not be confirmed until the beginning of April. Hustings are likely to be held on a different night to the usual Neighbourhood Forum meeting.

It was noticed that, at the next meeting, a roving microphone in the room would assist those attended via Zoom.

The Chair brought the meeting to an end at 8.35.

Date of the next meeting - Monday 11th April 2022

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.