

Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 10th October 2022 @7.30 in Stirchley Community Church and online by Zoom

Present: 20 including; Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Members of the Forum's management committee

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. He commented on the new room arrangement.

2. Apologies

Laura Creaven, Tony Martin and Cllr Mary Locke

3. Minutes of meeting 12th September 2022

4.

The Minutes were accepted as being a true record

5. Matters arising from meeting 12th September 2022

Cllr Forum held on 28th September

Aldi attended. Store is due to open 24th November. They said that a number of jobs would be created for local people.

There have been some issues with the 2 units by the British Oak which may now become one unit.

Land on the other side, next to the Coop Funeral Care, will be tidied up. There are no plans at the moment.

The triangle site will be owned and maintained by Aldi.

A fence will be built along the boundary to the rear of the site with plants.

It was noted that the number of charging points may be increased if there is demand.

Access to Stirchley United WM Club will be maintained.

Houses of multiple Occupation.

SC referred to information and register of HMOs on BCC website

Cllr Locke has been informed that, if the property is not on the register, then Private Rented Sector services can be contacted with the details to look into the matter. Their contact details are:

- Private Rented Services
PO Box 16589
Birmingham
B2 2JB
- Telephone: 0121 303 5070
- Email: prs@birmingham.gov.uk

No news about Places of Warmth from Birmingham City Council. The meeting was informed that a number of local churches would be providing facilities. Thrive in Balsall Heath are

trying to develop a network to coordinate when and where services will be open. It was thought that there could be a role for BCC in coordinating local efforts.

The meeting was informed that a site visit to Pitcairn Close re flooding had been undertaken by an Environmental Engineer. Residents were able to show the problems with flooding in homes which the Engineer said they understood. There was agreement that there is a problem but there is no funding to put it right.

A resident remarked that they are no longer able to obtain contents insurance due to the frequency of flooding his home occurring.

6. Police Update

No direct information from the local police this month.

Follow up from last month's meeting. From Sgt Howell.

'He (Paul) didn't include shoplifting in the report as we focused on crime that affects individual residents and not businesses. There is shoplifting in the area but no more than any other part of the region with a 'high street' and retail parks.

In relation to the vehicles parked on the verge I would suggest:

- If a vehicle doesn't have a number plate then if the VIN number could be noted down and this passed to WMP either via 101 or WebChat as this will allow the operator to check if the vehicle is stolen. The VIN is normally displayed at the bottom of the windscreen on the dashboard on a plate with the number etched into it*
- If they are parked on private land then unfortunately it is down to the owner of the land to take action (towing them away etc)*
- If the vehicles are on a public road and have no TAX then the DVLA can be contacted to remove them*

I do understand that it is very difficult to contact WMP for non-emergencies, however this is the only way to ensure that if officers are available at the time then they are dispatched. If you email the NHT inbox there is a risk that we will be on rest days and it is not monitored all of the time.'

Cllr Locke attended the Tasking meeting on 5th October in Bournville.

She states that the meeting was informed that crime in Bournville has increased, but more so in Selly Oak.

There will be a Tasking Meeting in Cotteridge Church on Saturday 26th November at 2pm.

A resident said that there had been at least one incident of indecent exposure in Stirchley in recent weeks but this had not appeared in information released by WM Police.

It was not clear whether the police were doing anything.

There was a question about whether such incidents are under-recorded as women are often reluctant to report such incidents.

7. Planning issues

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

Former Powder Coatings site, Clonmell Road

2022/05717/PA

Change of use of units from industrial to gym

No decision

1270-1272 Pershore Road

2022/06106/PA

New application

2 offices to the rear of the retail units

Entrance to flats over from Pershore Road and dormers in the roof

Approved subject to conditions

1505-1507 Pershore Road (former TSB)

2022/06365/PA

Installation of kitchen ventilation extraction flue

No decision

Planning application in respect of 1750-1756 Pershore Road (opposite Cotteridge School) was refused.

1386-1392 Pershore Road (Cooperative site)

2022/07211/PA

Non material amendment to Planning Approval 2019/10502/PA for alterations to external facing and cladding materials primarily to rear elevations, specification change to windows, introduction of new windows to rear elevations, adjustment of finished floor levels to the rear ground floor residential section along Hunts Road

(Cllr Locke says that she understands that work will be starting imminently)

8. Networking

Online event to explain Ward Forum meetings and Ward Action Planning.

Online Thursday 20th October 6 - 7.30pm

Pineapple Road Station Drop In Session

On Wednesday 19th October 2022 There will be a drop in at St Andrews Methodist Church, Cartland Road Stirchley.

The drop in session is from 12 noon until 5 pm

There will be officers from West Midlands Railway Executive (WMRE) Contractors, BCC Highways

It is understood that the station will be opening December 2023.

9. Any other business

The Chair highlighted the importance of the Forum AGM to be held on 14th November and the need to move to re-establishing monthly meetings in person.

He said that the next 12 months was likely to be significant and highlighted the need for new people to contribute to meetings with new ideas.

The cost of living and other issues will provide challenges for which more people attending will be needed.

He also put out an appeal for new Committee members.

The issue of the need to spend s106 monies by next summer was raised. This could be an item for the AGM.

A resident highlighted an increasing number of cars going the wrong way up Hazelwell Street, it is thought that some are accessing Farmfoods car park.

It was thought that a camera would be a deterrent - perhaps on a temporary basis.

The issue of the development on the corner of Pershore Road and Dogpool Lane was raised.

It was thought that the road could be blocked for sometime.

SC said that she had put forward the issue of traffic problems in Stirchley due to the diversions in place.

It was confirmed that there didn't seem to be any plans for the former Dogpool Hotel on the opposite corner at the moment.

The issue of signs pointing out where to find the nearest defibrillator had not been addressed. Although it would be helpful to have more, at the moment signs showing where to find those we have would be helpful

Date of the next meeting - AGM Monday 14th November

Next monthly meeting - 12th December

The meeting ended at 8.45

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.