

Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 9th January 2023 @7.30 in Stirchley Community Church

Present: 8 including; Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Members of the Forum's management committee

1. Rob Morris (RM Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a warm welcome a resident who has recently moved to the area attending for the first time.

2. Apologies

Cllr Mary Locke, Margaret & Pete Walker, Laura Creaven & Diane Johnson

3. Minutes of meeting 12th December 2022

The Minutes were accepted as being a true record

4. Matters arising from meeting 12th December 2022

SC said that she understood that work had been undertaken to alleviate the flooding at Pitcairn Close. It is acknowledged that further landscaping works are required which will be undertaken soon.

The hard work undertaken by Cllr Locke and a local resident was acknowledged.

Cllr Locke had informed residents that there may be a solution to the signage of defibrillators along Pershore Road and she would report back when progress is made.

RM proposed that discussion about the Stirchley Ward Plan should be undertaken under Networking.

5. Police Update

There was no direct information from the local police this month.

RM reported that Sgt Howells has moved to a new post within West Midlands Police.

The Forum will try to keep in touch and make contact with the new Sergeant

6. Planning issues

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

Former Powder Coatings site, Clonmell Road

2022/05717/PA

Change of use of units from industrial to gym

No decision

1505-1507 Pershore Road (former TSB)

2022/06365/PA

Installation of kitchen ventilation extraction flue

Approved subject to conditions & restaurant is now open.

1386-1392 Pershore Road (Cooperative site)

2022/07211/PA

Latest applications were approved. Cllr Locke says that she understands that work will be starting imminently.

It was thought that it would be helpful if someone could come to the Forum and give an update.

There have been a number of planning applications for the Aldi site in respect of reserved matters such as drainage.

There are a number of planning applications which were submitted between March & July last year and have not yet been decided.

2022/07472/PA in respect of 1386-1392 Pershore Road relates to details, including a construction method statement.

A decision has yet to be made.

There are a number of applications for residential extensions.

As yet there has been no detailed Planning Applications in respect of the other Hazelwell Lane site (next to Coop Funeral Home).

Residents have raised the issue of the land to the rear of the 'Firework Shop' fronting Fordhouse Lane.

The land has recently been sold and has been cleared and a metal cabin installed.

Neighbouring properties are concerned about future use and also that their properties have been left insecure.

Cllr Locke is trying to contact the new owners.

7. Networking

Stirchley Ward Plan

There was some uncertainty about the dates involved and whether and how residents would be able to influence the contents.

SC said that she would check with Cllr Locke.

SC mentioned a concern she has under the Governance heading.

There is a lot of disquiet in the City about single Member Wards such as Stirchley which are seen as not ideal. Should this change then Stirchley will lose its status as a Council Ward. Should we be looking at establishing some mechanism that would survive such a change and reinforce Stirchley's identity?

SC said that, when looking through Forum and Residents' Association records, she was reminded of how many local Committees and discussion and decision making arenas they had been represented on. As the number of such Committees, etc. has been reduced opportunities to influence Council decision-making has reduced.

It was noted that the Ward Plan is on the Agenda of Cllr Locke's meeting which will be held online on 8th February.

Pineapple Road Station Drop In Session

There will be a Drop In session on 1st February between 5pm and 7pm at Stirchley Baths to obtain updates and to raise queries.

Friends of Stirchley Park.

PA said that she understood the organisation is planning to rejuvenate. This was welcomed by those present.

Pioneer Places

RM said that things had been quiet recently. He would check with Karen Cheney of Birmingham City Council what is happening.

8. Any other business

SC said that she had recently noticed vehicles still going the wrong way up both sides of the Stirchley Gyratory (ie Hazelwell Street and Pershore Road one-way system). She will ask Cllr Locke what progress is being made in establishing prevention measures.

Recent heavy rainfall had highlighted the issue of blocked drains with large puddles forming (mainly at road corners).

Date of the next meeting - Monday 13th February

The meeting ended at 8.35

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.