

Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 11th March 2024 @7.30pm in Stirchley Community Church

Present: 17 including; Vice Chair (RM), Treasurer (PA), Secretary (SC) members of the Forum's management committee and Cllr Locke (CML)

Vice-Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies

Heidi Murphy (HM) Chair, Julie Rynne,
Laura Creaven, Phil Banting, Kerry Leslie, Susan MacLean

2. Minutes of meeting Monday 12th February 2024

Minutes approved as accurate record.

3. Matters arising from previous meeting

CML confirmed that drainage issues at the bottom of Hazelwell Fordrough have been temporarily resolved but there is an issue with the underground pipework.

SC said that there was an issue with flooding of the Cycle Path near to the brewery entrance.

CML said that she would look into it.

CML also said that she would enquire about Easter refuse collection in Stirchley and get back to the Forum.

[CML has subsequently informed the Forum that Easter refuse collection in Stirchley will be carried out as usual.]

4. Crime & Anti Social Behaviour

PA gave an overview of emails received recently from WM Police including;

Issues around child exhortation

Crime Prevention webinars for viewing

An appeal for volunteers to assist with Junior Cadets

Measures being taken to reduce the risk of issues around Ramadan as experienced in the past

Issues raised by Birmingham Trading Standards

She urged people to sign up to receive the regular emails which can be done by visiting

<https://www.wmnow.co.uk/>

It is thought that the next Tasking Meeting is likely to be in April at Dame Elizabeth Cadbury Hall. Details will be circulated nearer the time.

CML raised the ongoing issues experienced by residents of Ivy Road. She gave a brief history of the issues which she understood had abated a little recently but feared that they would become more apparent with the lighter nights. Issues relate to the residents of the new houses which have been built on the factory site and sometimes spills out onto Pershore Road and the business premises nearby. CML said that she understands that the property is managed by Vanguard Supported Housing CIC. Residents at The Hazelwells at the rear of the property have also been affected.

CML said that there is a new Sergeant at Bournville.

5. Planning issues

2023/05470/PA Former firework shop on the corner of Pershore Road and Fordhouse Lane.

No decision

Co-operative development

CML said that she understands that work will restart at the beginning of April, meanwhile site security is being maintained.

Completion of the project is likely to be 12 months behind schedule.

SC said that the apartments being built on the corner of Twyning Road and Pershore Road are being marketed as luxury living rather than student accommodation as per the planning permission obtained.

CML confirmed that BCC Planning Enforcement are looking into the matter.

2024/01028/PA 1534 Pershore Road

Demolition of doctors' surgery and pharmacy to rear

Documents posted show that it is the building to the rear of the current surgery and pharmacy that is to be demolished in order to make 4 more car parking places (12 instead of 8).

SC asked if anyone knows about past uses of the building which has 2 large windows at first floor level.

PA said that she would ask her contacts.

A number of applications have been submitted for extensions, dormer windows, etc.

A number of applications made in 2022 and 2023 remain to be decided.

6. Networking

Next Advice Surgery Saturday 16th March 10:30-11:30 Ascension church Hall
Next MHRC Morrisons car park 20/3/24 7am until 12:30 – probably the last such visit
Stirchley Market 16th March at Stirchley Baths 10 – 3
Councillor Ward Meeting 19th March 7pm at Stirchley BATHs
Stirchley Connections 23rd March Stirchley Baths
Cost of Living Roadshow - Stirchley Baths Thursday 14th March 2 - 4

7. Birmingham City Financial Situation

CML introduced the item.

She said that issues revolved around Equal Pay claims and the introduction of Oracle (finance IT system)

She said that Birmingham City Council is selling property, including the freehold of the Riverbrook Surgery site.

Concerning Libraries – there are currently 27 in use and there will be consultations and meetings taking place. She has invited use of Ward Meetings and the Forum said that they would be happy for one of their meetings to be used for the purpose of a consultation meeting. Closures would be effected from April 2025.

Refuse collections would be fortnightly from April 2025, alternating with recycling. Food waste will be collected weekly.

There is a proposal to reduce the number of Ward meetings and Councillor Surgeries. It is not yet clear what this will mean in practice or when this will commence.

CML said that Council Tax bills will be coming out imminently.

She will look into whether the Single Person Discount phone number is still operational in the event of any difficulties.

She said that she had no knowledge about the future of Stirchley Baths.

The new railway stations are still scheduled to open by the end of this year.

8. Any other business

RM reminded people that the next meeting would be attended by the Environment Agency with a briefing on flood prevention works to help to prevent flooding in Stirchley.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Next meeting Monday 8th April

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.