Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum
Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 12th Janaury 2026 @7.30pm in Stirchley Community Church

Present: 20 including; Chair (SC), Vice Chair (RM), Treasurer (PA), members of the Forum's management committee & Cllr Mary Locke.

1. SC welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.
2. **Apologies**; Police Sergeant Cotterill, Kerry Leslie, Rev Tariro Makoja
3. **Minutes of meeting 8th December 2025**
   These were accepted as a true record
4. **Matters Arising**
   There were no Matters Arising that will not appear in items on the Agenda.

5. **Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour**

PA said that she had set out to attend the Tasking Meeting on Saturday morning but, due to adverse weather, the number 27 didn't go down Woodbrooke Road so she didn't get there. Cllr Locke said that she was unable to attend but she has been informed that 8 people attended (from Bournville). She hasn't been informed of any future meeting dates.

SC said that reported crime figures are posted on the WM Police website (put in your postcode and scroll down the section 'About Us'). Currently November 2025 were the latest figures (along with year to date). They show 156 offences in Stirchley in November 2025 which are broken down by the nature of the offence.
It was noted that the instances of car crime continue to be high.
Everyone was reminded to report crimes (101 or by email from the website) so that WM Police are aware of any issues.

There was a question about graffiti that seems to be worse in Stirchley than other areas. People were generally in agreement with this assessment but were not clear what could be done to prevent it.

There was a question about StreetWatch.
Cllr Locke said that volunteers visit Stirchley about once a month for around 2 hours.
SC she would ask Sgt Cotterill the present situation on StreetWatch generally and in Stirchley in particular.

6. Planning issues

SC said that no decision has been made on 2025/04212/PA 1726-1728 Pershore Road – change of use from shop to 6 bedroom HMO. The matter had gone to the Planning Committee and further information in support had recently been provided. She noted that the same company seems to be behind a number of other such applications in the area.

Heather Kelly (HK) said that there have been a number of domestic applications for house extensions (ground floor rear extensions and porches) which did not appear to be disguised HMOs.

Cllr Locke updated the meeting on the position re the premises in Ivy Road and possible change of use for the premises on Pershore Road previously used as an office.
She said that the Planning Inspectorate from Bristol had visited the site re non-compliance with Planning Permission granted. Unfortunately the site owners didn't attend.
She understands that some alterations may have been made.

Cooperative Housing (corner of Hunts Road). A representative confirmed that opening is now scheduled for end of February – there are problems with work that needs to be carried out by Severn Trent. They shared residents' frustration with delays to reopening the pavement.
SC said that it wasn't clear from the latest plans filed with the Planning Department where delivery vehicles would enter the site or park as the double gates onto Pershore Road are labelled 'walk way'.

Sparrey Drive.
Although the site isn't in Stirchley Ward it was agreed that what happens there has implications for residents of Stirchley Ward.
There was a brief discussion about the history of the site.
It was agreed that developments need to be monitored.

Pineapple Road station works

Cllr Locke confirmed that there was no fixed date for station opening. She understands that a meeting in Moseley is being proposed, in conjunction with Moseley Forum.
SC said she would contact Moseley Forum to obtain an update.

7. Networking

Cllr Locke will be holding an advice surgery on 4th Wednesday of every month at Morrisons Community Room between 4pm – 5.30pm
Her surgeries on the first Friday of the month 10.30 - midday at Stirchley Baths will continue. There may be changes to the dates in some months due to other commitments. August surgery will be the second Friday in the month.

Cllr Locke said the Mobile Waste collection service will be in Morrisons car park on the morning of 2nd February.
There will be a Jobs Fair in Stirchley Baths on 25th February.

RM gave an update on a proposal from local organisation Thrive Together in Birmingham which is based in Balsall Heath through their Near Neighbours initiative https://thrivetogetherbham.org/activity/near-neighbours/. They have recently worked with organisations in Bournville to promote community cohesion and communication.
The proposal is that it be called 'Reflection and Connection'.
It was thought that this was a good initiative to pursue and could lead to community involvement in the Big Lunch and/or Heritage Open Days.
SC asked to be informed of any organisations which people knew of who it would be helpful for them to be involved.

Any Other Urgent Business

Parking Issues

A resident raised the issue of lack of parking spaces for residents, especially in roads adjacent to Pershore Road.
There was agreement that it was a general problem with some local businesses promoting parking on adjacent roads in their websites.
There was some scepticism about how parking permit schemes would work.
A suggestion was made that the vacant site adjacent to Aldi could be utilised as a paid for car park. Cllr Locke said that, as far as she knew, this was owned by Aldi. There are proposals from a Cooperative Group to acquire if for a mixed use development.
Attempts will be made to understand the current position.

Bourn Flood Prevention Project.

PA said that we have been informed that measures proposed in Bournville will not be proceeded with and other measures are being explored. However, the availability of funding for the project was very uncertain.

Hazelwell Estate

A resident of the Hazelwell Estate (off Fordhouse Lane – adjacent to the River Rea) raised issues with drainage on the Estate.
There have also been issues with pollution in the River and from adjacent properties.
Severn Trent have been onsite but nothing seems to be happening.
In particular she raised issues in Breedon Way which have resulted in residents being unable to use their back garden. Cllr Locke asked for further details so that she could raise the issues with the appropriate authorities.
SC and HK said that they would look at the original Planning Application to check if drainage featured.

The meeting ended at 9.05.

Next meeting will be held on Monday 9th February.

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.