

Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 12th September 2022 @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 Mary Locke

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.

One minutes silence was held to respect the death of the Queen.

2. Apologies

Laura Creaven and Heidi Murphy

3. Minutes of meeting 11th July 2022

The Minutes were accepted as being a true record

4. Matters arising from meeting 11th July 2022

Commonwealth Games Marathon

The day seemed to pass off better than expected.

Cllr Locke asked that thanks to Co-op Funeral Care and to Sue Maclean for their roles in arranging alternative parking be recorded.

Cllr Locke also reported that the land to the rear of the 'Fireworks Shop' at the corner of Pershore Road and Fordhouse Lane is being sold.

5. What will be the likely effect of the cost of living and rising energy prices on Stirchley?

What can the Stirchley community do to help?

There was a general discussion around the topic.

The provision of Places of Warmth was raised. When and where are they likely to be? Should there be provision for somewhere where people do not need to participate in activities? Would it be possible to open the Library building without staff? Would local churches wish to be involved?

It was agreed that there was a need for joined up thinking to avoid duplication and make the best use of available resources.

It was pointed out that there are still a number of slow cookers available for residents in need, available from the Library. All monies had been spent so once the supply has been exhausted there will be no more.

There was a question about support available to local businesses.

6. Police Update

Sgt Howell has started to engage with the Forum.

A police operation was undertaken in Twynning Road in response to issues with drug dealing.

All officers are on leave this evening but they have told me;

There have been a number of burglaries and attempted burglaries in the area including; Lea House Road, Bournville Lane, Mary Vale Road, Newlands Road, Barn Close and Hazelwell Fordrough.

2 males have been arrested in connection with burglaries in Lea House Road and Bournville Lane

Twynning Road possession of Class B drug and Cartland Road possession of Class A drug

Hazelwell public house Criminal Damage (window)

There have been a number of offences concerning motor vehicles across the area including a catalytic converter theft in Greenoak Crescent.

Cllr Locke pointed out that there would be a local Tasking meeting in Cotteridge on Saturday 24th September.

Issues raised by residents.

The extent of shoplifting in Stirchley. There is a perception that it is more prevalent than elsewhere.

Cars parked on the grass verge in Cartland Road for a number of days with no number plates.

It was generally agreed that making contact with WM Police remains an issue. Residents said that they valued the informal contact with PCSOs.

The Vice Chair said that she would refer the issues to Sgt Howell.

7. Planning issues

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

Lidl (former Fitness First site)

Passed

Aldi

They will attend Cllr Locke's Forum towards the end of this month

Land adjacent to British Oak

Approved

Further application from Wickes

2022/04597/PA

Approved

New applications

Former Powder Coatings site, Clonmell Road

2022/05717/PA

Change of use of units from industrial to gym

It appears that there may not be any planning permission for its current use.

c/d 5/10/22

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

1505-1507 Pershore Road (former TSB)

2022/06365/PA

Installation of kitchen ventilation extraction flue

Courtesy of our colleagues at Selly Park South Forum I met with the developers of the site at the corner of Dogpool Lane and Pershore Road. The Planning Officer stated that she had expressed the view that the traffic diversions could impact people living and working in Stirchley Ward.

Cllr Locke mentioned the planning application in respect of 1750-1756 Pershore Road (opposite Cotteridge School).

8. Networking

Cllr Locke invited everyone to her Cllr Forum 7pm at Stirchley Baths on 28th September.

Representatives of Aldi will be present and there will be discussion of the new Ward Plan 2022-26.

The possibility of applying for CIL grants was mentioned. Further details to be obtained from Karen Cheney.

The question of networking for businesses was raised by the owner of business which had recently opened in Stirchley. He was welcomed to Stirchley and the Forum meeting. He assured that the Forum meetings are open to everyone with an interest in Stirchley.

9. Any other business

The issue of possibly unlicensed Houses of Multiple Occupation was raised. Cllr Locke said that she would obtain information about how this could be reported to Birmingham City Council.

The issue of flooding in Pitcairn Close was again raised. Measures to alleviate the problems are not working.

Cllr Locke said that she was arranging a site visit by Officers which would be by appointment.

Date of the next meeting - Monday 10th October

AGM Monday 14th November

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.