

Stirchley Neighbourhood Forum

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 12th May @7.30pm in Stirchley Community Church

Present: 9 including; Vice-Chair (RM), Treasurer (PA), Secretary (SC) and members of the Forum's management committee.

1. The Vice-Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

He drew attention to the statement on conduct which appears on the Agenda.

Stirchley's new vicar, Rev. Tariro Mukoja, was welcomed to her first meeting of the Forum.

2. **Apologies;** Cllr Mary Locke, Heidi Murphy. Kerry Leslie, Laura Creaven, Peter and Margaret Walker.

3. **Minutes of meeting Monday 14th May 2025**

The Minutes were approved as an accurate record.

4. **Matters arising from previous meeting**

The West Midlands Mayor's bus consultation had resulted in support for franchising been agreed.

This is likely to take 2 or 3 years to put in place.

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

PA attended the Police Tasking meeting on 29th April to represent the Forum.

Crime statistics were mentioned by WM Police. PA asked for them to be sent to the Forum email address but SC confirmed that nothing had been received to date.

The police were again asked about their reporting on a limited number of crimes.

It was agreed by those present that access to 101 phone number had improved, so it is likely that more crimes will be reported.

PA reported that WM Now reports are now sent out once a week and urged people to sign up.

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

SC said that it had been brought to her attention by residents that there had been 2 reports of indecent exposure in a matter of weeks. She understood that WM Police are investigating both. One apparently occurred by Aldi and the other on or by the Rea Cycle Path.

In view of the lack of communication by WM Police it was agreed that the WM Police & Crime Commissioner be requested to attend a meeting of the Forum.

Next Tasking Meetings will be Tuesday 1st July @7pm and Saturday 4th October 11am, both at Dame Elizabeth Cadbury Hall.

6. Planning issues

SC said that there were no new applications.

In view of the withdrawal of McDonald's there was a general discussion about the possible future use of the site in Hazelwell Lane.

It was felt that 24 hour operation and the volume of traffic expected to a Drive Thru facility were unacceptable at that location.

Alternative uses suggested included a store such as B&M which would attract shoppers into Stirchley or a retirement village (the new signage at the Coop Funeral Home might be more appropriate in this regard).

In terms of the District Office SC said that she understood that the deadline for submitting tenders had expired.

In general terms residents thought that a Wetherspoons might be welcomed by some residents but there was concern about the effect on existing businesses.

Residents will consider the matter and come up with more suggestions at the next meeting.

SC raised the issue of a Licensing application lodged by the proprietors of 1473 Pershore Road to extend its license to serve alcohol from midnight to 1am with the premises open until 1.30am (currently 12.30am).

Also a change of name.

It is understood that nearby residents are not happy about this.

It was agreed that comments should be submitted on behalf of residents expressing concerns.

The issue of the possible implications of the proposal to close to traffic Priory Road at its junction with Cartland Road (near the new station) were discussed.

There was concern about the effect on traffic flows on Cartland Road, Pineapple Road. Lewis Road and Newlands Road.

SC said that the Forum had not been informed of the proposals and there were no signs near the junction.

It was agreed that the concerns of the Forum should be made known to the Council Officer concerned.

[It has since been brought to the Forum's attention that a petition has been launched

https://www.change.org/p/no-to-ltn-road-block-priory-road-kings-heath?recruiter=26739059&recruited_by_id=1ced3930-cd13-012f-0e2f-4040496dccc&utm_source=share_petition&utm_campaign=starter_onboarding_share_social&utm_medium=facebook

Latest date for comments 23rd May.

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.

The proposed Ward Meeting due to be held in June has been postponed.

Some local organisations (including the Neighbourhood Forum) will be at the Selly Oak Constituency Market Place at Stirchley Baths between 1 and 3 on Wednesday 21st May. Everyone was urged to come along for information or advice, or to find out what's going on in the local area.

8. Any Other Business

PA gave an update on the Bourn Flood Risk Management Scheme.

It is expected that there will be some public consultation in July.

The meeting ended at 8.45pm

Next meeting will be held on Monday 9th June.

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.