

STIRCHLEY, the Way Forward

MINUTES OF THE MEETING - 13th February 2020

Meeting Held at Stirchley Baths.

Disclaimer re Minutes of StWF. Minutes are only approved at the next advertised meeting.

The minutes from StWF meeting may not accurately reflect the discussions that took place amongst the StWF participants. Statements are paraphrased and may oversimplify discussions, leaving out many nuances in conversation, and may inaccurately report facts.

If there are any objections then please make them known before or at the upcoming meeting where they can be rectified.

The meeting was presided over by Sue Fellows. Minutes were recorded by Michelle Piggott.

Present: Sue Fellows. Lisa Girling. Michelle Piggott. Susan MacLean. B Callaghan. S Fall. R Morris. R Assi. H Kaur.

Apologies: Martin Gallo. Mary Lock. Kerry Leslie. Laura Creaven. Dianne White. Wendy Mooney. Stu Ward. Fiona Cullinan. Adam Brossler.

Minutes of the Last Meeting, 19th November 2019 the minutes were agreed by those present. Matters Arising

Co-Operative Development

Discussed the land at the bottom of Hunts Road - this has now stalled and we have no further news.

Discussed objections surrounding the Co-Operative and Accord Housing proposed development on Pershore Road. The proposed height of the building and the material they plan on using was a concern as was the parking issues it will create, as it will affect the high street. So far it's in the hands of the planners. This led to a conversation on who owns properties on Stirchley high street. Sue explained some traders own their properties; others are rented from a singular landlord or someone who owns multiple properties. The council also owns part of the high street.

S106 Funds

No updates - still with the Council. Sue explained to the meeting attendees that the £127k of funding has to be spent by 2023. The survey StWF carried out was also explained and we highlighted that the idea was to help traders to do up their shop front and therefore cheer up the high street. Providing sites for planters for Stirchley in Bloom, bicycle racks for the high street and exercise equipment for Stirchley Park / back of the baths.

Future high street funding

Stirchley are 1 of 6 areas shortlisted for the funding. Last year Erdington received £4 million of funding! It would be extremely beneficial to Stirchley should we be chosen to receive the opportunity of submitting a further expression of interest for future funding. The Government is impressed with our ideas and can provide a bespoke advisor to help us obtain some of this funding.

Christmas 2019 Event

We had a successful and very busy Christmas event, Santa managed to see 153 kids in 2 hours.

AOB

'Megatap'

A newly proposed business called 'Megatap' for Mary Vale Road was discussed. The Neighbourhood Forum also discussed this at their latest meeting. We believe in quality over quantity and Attic Brew a stone's throw away. The planning permission for 'Megatap' is displayed on the railings nearby. The extent of the hours, although not exact, is not fair on residents or local traders in the same line of business. It seems like they are jumping on the bandwagon, given how well Attic Brew has done. Paul Blackford explained how the licensing website isn't like the planning website but the proposer would have to show how their business is different to what is here already. To be continued once we receive more information.

The Memory Cafe @ Stirchley Baths

B Callaghan explained how he volunteers for The Memory Cafe, a fortnightly event that runs on a Monday for people who suffer from dementia, Alzheimer's and other memory problems along with their carers. They also run a Memory Choir which takes place on the weeks that the Memory Cafe isn't being held, also on a Monday. The focus is on helping those living with memory loss but the carer too.

Our AGM is scheduled for 11th March 2020 - Agenda has been published on StWF website.

Sue thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.