

STIRCHLEY WARD MEETING NOTES

WARD: Stirchley	DATE: 19 th March 2024
VENUE: Stirchley Baths Community Hub, Bournville Lane	START/FINISH TIMES: 7pm – 8.30pm
COUNCILLOR Mary Locke	NOs OF ATTENDEES: 10
OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lauren Webster, Paulius Armanavicius, Ben Murphy - Public Health Noreen Akhtar, Senior Development Planning Officer Kerry Leslie, Community Support & Development Officer Kay Thomas, Community Governance Manager	

CURRENT WARD ACTION PLAN PRIORITIES:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Bold Prosperous Stirchley 2. A Bold Inclusive Stirchley 3. A Bold Safe Stirchley 4. A Bold Healthy Stirchley 5. A Bold Green Stirchley 6. A Bold Local Stirchley

MATTERS DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING INCLUDING LOCAL CONCERNS:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome & Notice of Recording Councillor Mary Locke welcomed all to the meeting and advised that members of the public/press could record and take photographs of the meeting, except where there were confidential or exempt items. 2. Measles Epidemic – Update from Public Health With the aid of a power point presentation, Laura and Paulius provided the key messages around the current measles epidemic, emphasising the

following –

- The disease was hyper infectious, air borne and infectious 4 days prior to symptoms.
- Non-pork immunisation was available via any GP.
- Health care setting must be advised before visiting GP if measles suspected.
- Those who were not immunised or had not taken up the second vaccination were at risk. GPs could advise but there was no risk of having a 3rd or 4th vaccination if unsure.
- Two doses of the vaccine offered protection for life.
- Stirchley uptake of the vaccination was 80-85% compared to the city average of 85.5%

In response to resident's questions/comments the meeting was advised –

- The NHS did not provide separate doses of the MMR vaccine. There was no link between the MMR vaccination and autism.
- It was acknowledged that concern over the link with autism had affected vaccine take-up.
- Public health did liaise with the universities and schools. Action cards had been sent to schools, the team was attending ward meetings, faith groups, had set up vaccination clinics in schools where infection rates were high and was spreading information through community engagement.

3. Neighbourhood Planning Discussion

Kerry and Noreen, with the aid of a power point presentation, explained what a Neighbourhood Plan was, what it did and how it worked. The process for setting up a Neighbourhood Plan was explained and the support and guidance available to residents wishing to embark on organising a Neighbourhood Plan. There were 3 existing Neighbourhood Plans covering Balsall Heath, 3B's (Perry Barr) and the Jewellery Quarter, with Soho & Handsworth and Small Heath coming up to the designation stage.

The process was lengthy, taking 3 years to reach designation but once designated a Neighbourhood Plan could guide and influence development in the following ways –

- Allocate sites for housing.
- Decide on mix of housing based on need.
- Design guidance.
- Regeneration proposals and local centre input
- Protect green spaces.

- Comment on planning applications.
- Attract funding.

The government provided funding to enable support from an independent planning consultant once the community had drawn up some proposals. Councillor Locke said that a Neighbourhood Plan for Stirchley could, amongst other things, work with the businesses on the high street, encourage empty shops into use and support new businesses. She felt the entire ward would benefit from inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan boundary, but this would be up to the Neighbourhood Planning Forum to decide. The meeting was advised that the boundary did not have to be co-terminus with the ward boundary if it was felt that a cross ward boundary would be beneficial. Existing groups were being encouraged to support emerging groups.

There were differing views expressed regarding the Neighbourhood Plan proposals and while there was a will in the community to move forward, and a suggestion of a sub-group of the Stirchley Forum to get the process moving, it was acknowledged that independent facilitation would be required and support around boundary etc. The meeting was advised that there would be support via NDSU and Planning Officers and it was suggested that at the next Stirchley Market the Forum set up a stall to gather community views.

In response to suggestions regarding the boundary including neighbouring wards, Councillor Locke undertook to speak to the Bournville & Cotteridge Councillors to ascertain if residents and businesses in Cotteridge would be supportive.

4. Councillor Updates/Local Updates/Issues

Councillor Locke gave the following update –

- HMRC – 20th March, Morrisons Car Park, 7am – 12pm
- Library Consultation – details will be sent out as soon as announced.
- Co-operative housing development had been taken over by Green Square Accord, following liquidation of previous company and completion date had been set for March 2025.

Local Issues

- Property in multiple occupation Newlyn Road – ASB, drug taking, noise nuisance seriously affecting neighbouring residents. Issues had been ongoing for some time and had been repeatedly reported but the situation had not improved. Councillor Locke undertook to report to the police, Childrens Trust & Cabinet Member and to arrange a meeting with the managing agent/landlord.
- Refuse Collections – in response to queries regarding fortnightly collections, Councillor Locke advised there would be consultation and a pilot area before introduction across the city. Good Friday/Easter Monday collections would go ahead this year.

ACTIONS/ RECOMMENDATIONS MADE	WHO	BY WHEN
<p>1. Neighbourhood Action Plan – contact with Bournville & Cotteridge ward councillors re boundary</p> <p>2. Newlyn Road – nuisance being caused to residents.</p>	<p>1. Cllr Locke</p> <p>2. Cllr Locke to arrange meeting with landlord/managing agent and to report to relevant authorities.</p>	<p>1. asap</p> <p>2. asap</p>