

# S.G.R.A.

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## **MINUTES OF STYVECHALE GRANGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

**LOCATION** – Zoom (Virtual Meeting)

**DATE** – 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2022

**PRESENT** – John Archer – Chairman, Councillor John Blundell, Mick Fitzpatrick – Treasurer, Sheila Weare – Minutes Secretary.

Plus 10 members of the Association.

**WELCOME** – John A advised that a return to meetings at Grange Farm School is not presently possible.

**APOLOGIES** – Sylvia and David Cleaver, Councillor Mattie Heaven, Graham Mason, Yvonne and Walter Neal, Anant Patel, Councillor Tim Sawdon.

**MINUTES** – The minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021, having been posted online and circulated, were accepted.

**MATTERS ARISING** – **War Memorial Park, Park and Ride** – security personnel are no longer at the main gate; they have been redeployed to help at the refuse drop-off point. The new barrier inside the entrance has been damaged. **Restoration of Hedge in Meadow** – the gap has yet to heal and the use of it is being discouraged. The meeting thanked Coventry City Council for clearing leaves and litter from the central reservation of the A45 between Leamington Road Island and Toll Bar Island. **War Memorial Park Centenary Celebrations** – Friends of the War Memorial Park have invited SGRA to join their celebrations during the summer and John A has suggested producing a flier giving details of our Association. Any further ideas to promote SGRA would be appreciated. **Animal Pound** – the park rangers have offered to do some clearing work within the pound on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022, at 10 am – 12.30 pm. The fractured wall has not deteriorated further and John B has suggested wooden trestles could be used to support the wall temporarily. Volunteers are needed on that day to help clear the immediate area surrounding the pound. **Footway Repairs, Mantilla Drive** – an email from Coventry City Council states that “the residents’ contention – of the works having been left incomplete – had been based on the inaccurate expectation that the full length of Mantilla Drive had been scheduled for footway reconstruction”. The scheduled work only extended as far as Lonscale. Mattie is pursuing the matter to have the work rescheduled as soon possible, together with the completion of the road surface repair. There is a trip hazard adjacent to a bus stop near to Lonscale.

**Bus Service** - The 9A service has been discontinued and the 9 is serving our area, with three buses per hour. A good service has been provided so far.

**Street Watch** – our co-ordinator advised that seven evening patrols were carried out during January 2022, one of them accompanied by a PCSO. Further patrols are planned and include one on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2022. No incidents have been reported. Street Watch are seeking new members.

**COUNCILLOR JOHN BLUNDELL – Refuse Collection Dispute** – Tom White Waste, a wholly owned subsidiary of Coventry City Council, have been contracted to provide a fortnightly collection service. Our next collection date is scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> February 2022. Wainbody Ward Councillors will carry out an emergency refuse collection for those disabled residents unable to get their rubbish to a collection point, on Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> February 2022. **A Community Litter Pick** is planned for Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2022, from 10 am until midday, volunteers should meet at Hexworthy Avenue shops. **Platinum Jubilee Celebrations** – Information is awaited from Coventry City Council. The event(s) will be held over the extended holiday weekend, 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022. **Wainbody Ward Councillors Drop-in Sessions** – these are held between 11 am and midday on the third Friday of the month at Finham Community Library. The next session will be on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022. **Parking Congestion Around Grange Farm School** – John B has asked Martin Ledguard, Headmaster at Grange Farm School, for a meeting. **Leamington Road approaching Robins and Day Island** – at peak times long queues of traffic are forming in the right-hand lane whilst the left lane is hardly used. Solutions include lengthening of the markings on the carriageway. Traffic light operation on the island is unsatisfactory and intermittent.

**LOCAL POLICE UPDATE** – Sgt. Betts was unable to attend our meeting. The only message was regarding crime prevention for anyone who owns a Range Rover, as numerous thefts of those vehicles are being seen. Sgt. Betts asks us to be vigilant and report anyone acting suspiciously by these vehicles. Our Police Inspector, Rebecca Farr, is keen to make contact with residents, but so far no action has been taken. The meeting reported ‘drug misuse’ in the meadow and spinney, with discarded syringes causing a serious hazard. Dog walkers especially are advised to be vigilant. John B is seeking information about the next meeting with our Police team.

**TREASURER’S REPORT – Finance** – there has been no change in the last month and we have £706.46. **Website** – an updated website will be available within the next two weeks. **Facebook** – only two ‘hits’ have been received.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Leaves** - John A has discussed with Mattie the state of the gutters in Dewsbury and Stivichall Croft. Photographs would be useful to enable Mattie to organise clearance. The dog-leg from Alpine through to the A45 is also choked with leaves. **Café in War Memorial Park** – mobile vehicles are selling coffee and refreshments 9.00 am to 4.30 pm every day. John B will seek the latest update on the cafes’ closure. An increased number of **drones and/or helicopters** over our area was reported and enquiries are being made by John B. **King’s Hill** – A section 106 agreement has been signed for a large housing development, just outside Stoneleigh. The impact will be felt by Coventry residents whilst Warwickshire gains financially. **Coat of Arms Bridge Road/Stivichall Croft** – concern was expressed at the poor state of the road surface. Photographs would be helpful to enable John B to forward on to Earlsdon Ward. **Refuse Collection Dispute** - Following articles in Coventry Telegraph, much discussion took place regarding the strike and the grades and salaries of the employees involved.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022 at 7.30 p.m.