

S.G.R.A.

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MINUTES OF STYVECHALE GRANGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

LOCATION – Zoom (Virtual Meeting)

DATE – 3rd June 2021

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

Plus 8 members of the Association.

WELCOME – John A welcomed everybody. Most members present would be happy to return to open meetings if Covid restrictions are relaxed on 21st June 2021 and if Grange Farm School allow it.

APOLOGIES – David and Sylvia Cleaver, Sue Clifford, Councillor Mattie Heaven, Councillor Tim Sawdon.

MINUTES – The minutes of the meeting on 13th May 2021 were accepted.

MATTERS ARISING – **Animal Pound** – this is currently shoulder-high with cow parsley and borage, which is unlikely to cause any long-term damage. Mark Yates (Coventry City Council) has asked Dave Lewis (Parks Development Officer) to look at the area and particularly the pound wall and advise him if any immediate action is required. Mark has asked Dave to set up a meeting with all interested parties to discuss the best way forward, both practically and financially. Meanwhile, the area remains 'off-limits'. **Friends of the Meadow** – SGRA is happy to support the group, but no update has been received.

LOCAL POLICE UPDATE – The latest Police crime report stated that there were 64 recorded crimes in Wainbody Ward during May 2021 (72 in April). This includes one violence with injury, one burglary, one robbery, eight vehicle crime offences and 11 domestic abuse related crimes. It is uncertain precisely how crime is recorded. Speeding is a serious problem on Styvechale Grange and adjoining areas. John A reported an incident on St. Martins Road when a vehicle hit a motability scooter and failed to stop. Members recommend that the traffic lights in St Martins Road should be pedestrian-controlled. John B will take this matter up with the traffic officer at a forthcoming meeting. The traffic lights at the Robins and Day Island are confusing when viewed with the pedestrian-controlled lights on the A45. Should the traffic lights be operational at all times?

COUNCILLOR JOHN BLUNDELL – **Speedwatch** – several members volunteered to participate. John A will liaise with PCSO Paul Jackson to facilitate this, possibly in Mantilla Drive and/or Leamington Road. Drivers are allowed a margin of 10% above the speed limit and ‘offenders’ would receive a warning letter. **Police** - it is hoped to resume the face-to-face monthly meetings soon. **Coventry Railway Station** – the redevelopment is proceeding satisfactorily. This includes attendant roadworks and the closure of Michaelmas Road to facilitate a large crane on Warwick Road. **Local Plan** – despite the inaccuracy of the predicted population figures, Coventry will not be revising their local plan until December 2022. Andy Street (West Midlands Mayor) is lobbying the Government to prevent the granting of further planning approvals. The Government advise this must be managed at local level, which has culminated in developers being allowed to build on greenfield and brownfield sites, including King’s Hill. John B is seeking a definitive answer from the Planning Committee. **Access to GPs** – there is difficulty in obtaining a face-to-face appointment with a GP, however the various practices in our area have differing appointment procedures. John B will seek a definitive answer from the Wellbeing Board. **City of Culture** will launch on Saturday, 5th June 2021. **Gilbert Richards Centre** – Mick will email John B about concerns he has.

TREASURER’S REPORT – **Finances** - We still have £706.46 with no expenses anticipated. **Website** – this has received a total of 78 visitors, of which 63 were new. 69% are from the UK, 28% from USA and 3% from China. Mick would appreciate some feedback and also new material for the website. This can be emailed to him at sgrainfo@gmail.com. The website is updated monthly. **Facebook** – 151 people have looked at our Facebook page, an increase of 110%, but again, Mick has received no feedback. He has had contact with one resident in Gregory Avenue and a resident at the Manor, both concerning oak trees.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS – **Street Watch** has a new co-ordinator who lives on Styvechale Grange and is looking for volunteers to join the team of four. Mick has sent out a group email with a contact ‘phone number should SGRA members wish to volunteer. The area to be patrolled is mainly Styvechale Grange. A brief period of training would take place online and a minimum of two hours per month would then be expected of any volunteers. It is hoped a regular report on Street Watch will be available. **Centenary Celebrations War Memorial Park** – the main event has been delayed until summer 2022. The Japanese Garden is not open yet.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday, 1st July 2021. This will be our AGM.