

S.G.R.A.

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MINUTES OF STYVECHALE GRANGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

LOCATION – Zoom (Virtual Meeting)

DATE – 4th March 2021

PRESENT – John Archer – Chairman, Councillor John Blundell, Mick Fitzpatrick – Treasurer, Sheila Weare – Minutes Secretary.
Plus 15 members of the Association.

WELCOME – John A welcomed members and reported a ‘quiet month’. This is disappointing following our appeal to members for greater support. Nobody has offered to take over the compilation of our newsletter and its future publication is therefore uncertain. The demise of our newsletter is very much regretted as it is our only means of contacting residents who do not have access to the Internet. Members had spoken to neighbours who had said that they looked forward to receiving the newsletter. Members at the meeting promised to submit written articles and these should be emailed to SGRA for possible inclusion on our website and/or Facebook page. A suggestion was made to have an open forum on our website. John A would welcome further ideas regarding communication and the way forward.

APOLOGIES – Sylvia and David Cleaver, Sue Clifford, Ross and Vicky Crawford, Emilie Jones, Vera MacPherson, Yvonne and Walter Neal, Sue Powell.

MINUTES – The minutes of the meeting on 4th February 2021 were accepted.

MATTERS ARISING – **Peace Field A45** – despite the removal of an ancient hedge, the Planning Officer will not be taking any action and it is hoped that the hedge can be replaced as soon as possible. **Animal Pound** – following the erection of a ‘danger’ sign, SGRA are trying to ascertain who is responsible for the repair to the wall and for the general maintenance of the pound. Our two ‘tree wardens’ have planted a hedge around the pound which will improve the appearance of the site over the coming years.

LOCAL POLICE UPDATE – there were 79 reported crimes within Wainbody Ward during February 2021, 8 of which were at Warwick University. There were two burglaries, but dates and locations are not known by SGRA.

COUNCILLOR JOHN BLUNDELL – **Mantilla Drive** – the positioning of the dropped kerbs and tactile paving which have recently been introduced was discussed. Some road junctions do not have any. John B will investigate this.

Mantilla Drive Re-surfacing - John B was asked if the remaining half of Mantilla could be included for repair under the £10m recently allocated for road work. He will enquire if this can be included in the schedule of work for 2022/23. It is likely that the 2021/2022 schedule has been finalised.

Finham Library – building work has been completed to facilitate community space and a toilet. It is stipulated by Coventry City Council that at least 50% of space must be available for books and other items for loan by the library. **City of Culture** – The Priory Centre remains closed and there is a need to establish a visitor centre. City of Culture have taken premises in Hertford Street. A few exhibits from the Police museum may be on show there, before being transferred to Birmingham. **City Fibre** is currently working on and around Styvechale Grange to install optical fibre cabling. They have been commissioned by Coventry City Council to enable every property in the city to benefit from a high-speed broadband connection. **Animal Pound** – SGRA and John B will continue to lobby the Council to have the wall repaired, especially with City of Culture approaching. **20 mph speed restrictions** – introduction of more 20 mph zones throughout the city is a long process and John B will make enquiries about progress made.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Mick is happy to receive articles or photographs for inclusion on our website or Facebook page. A website update is made once a month. **Facebook** – use has increased by 121% and 398 people looked at our Facebook page between 5th February and 4th March 2021. **Website** – we have attracted 71 new users. 85% of visitors to the website are in the U.K and 15% are in the United States. Information from a resident in Armorial Road is expected soon concerning Bremond College and the pedestrian bridge that once connected Armorial Road with the park. This will go onto the website and Facebook when available. **Finances** – There has been no income or expenditure over the last month and we have £706.28.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS – **A Friends of the Meadow Group** has been set up to preserve and enhance the field and hopefully to prevent any attempt at re-development. The group will operate under the auspices of SGRA. It is agreed the group needs to work with the Council and a meeting with SGRA and Coventry City Council (Dave Lewis) is proposed. It is hoped to plant a wildflower meadow and it was suggested that this should perhaps be confined to one section of the field only. Concern was expressed about how much physical work would be required. Residents nearby would be consulted. **Census date** is 21st March 2021. **Dewsbury Avenue** – John B has enquired when Street Pride are next scheduled to work on Styvechale Grange and has asked them to pay particular attention to removal of leaves in the gutters. **Stivichall Croft** - work is being carried out to unblock a drain which takes water under the spinney and connects to a drain in the meadow.

67 Peveril Drive – nearby residents are concerned that no progress on the building work has been made for at least twelve months. Planning permission and an appeal have been refused. Since the meeting John B has reported that the Senior Enforcement Officer has visited the site and will visit again and write to the owner to ask for a work completion timetable. **Styvechale Local History Group** – a new member to our meetings invited residents to join - contact the group on their Facebook page. He is keen to promote community events, including a local history event. Mick suggested amalgamating our Facebook page with Styvechale Local History Group's Facebook.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday 1st April 2021 at 7.30 p.m.