

S.G.R.A.

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MINUTES OF STYVECHALE GRANGE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

LOCATION – Grange Farm School

DATE – 12th May 2022

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

Plus 25 members of the Association.

WELCOME – John A congratulated Mattie (in her absence) on being re-elected as Councillor for Wainbody Ward and thanked all three Councillors for their continued support.

APOLOGIES – Geoff Barnacle, Ross Crawford, Judith and David Cule, Councillor Mattie Heaven, Sue Powell, Councillor Tim Sawdon, Manjit Singh, Frank Wood.

MINUTES – The minutes of the meeting held on 7th April 2022, having been posted online and circulated, were accepted.

MATTERS ARISING – Refuse Collection Dispute – all drop-off sites are due to close on 13th May 2022. **Parking Around Grange Farm School** – following circulation of fliers to houses most affected, the school reports the problem persists. Since the meeting John A has received an email from Martin Ledgard, Headteacher at Grange Farm School, clarifying the position from the school's perspective. They reported positive feedback from the fliers. The children are being encouraged to travel to school by sustainable means and the school is always looking for further opportunities to improve the situation. Generally, parents and carers are sensible. The disturbances at a bus stop in Mantilla involving pupils from Finham Park appear to have ceased.

Mantilla Drive Resurfacing – in addition to the current petition, Mattie and John B met 'on site' with the Head of the Highways Department. As a result, the worst areas will be 'patched' as soon as possible and the half of Mantilla not repaired three years ago will be fully resurfaced between April 2023 and March 2024. Mick advises residents to forward photographs of the potholes to Fix-My-Street.

An SGRA member advised that St. Martins Community Cafe in Green Lane is worth a visit.

WARWICKSHIRE WILDLIFE FUNDING – grants are available for projects that will improve the local biodiversity. SGRA believes this opportunity is probably directed at school groups.

WAR MEMORIAL PARK LICENCE APPLICATION – Both cafes are currently closed. It is hoped they will re-open in time for the BBC Big Weekend at the end of May. The application was originally for entertainment and the sale of alcoholic drinks from 11 am until 11 pm every day, but this has since been revised to 8 pm. There is also a concern about the restricted toilet opening times. Mick advised that the 14 objections to the application submitted by SGRA members were deemed by the licensing officer to be invalid. However, members have been advised to pursue their objections if they wish. An objection to the licence application from the Friends of the War Memorial Park, on the grounds of security and increased anti-social behaviour, has been accepted. The hearing is on 27th May 2022 at 10.00 in the Council House. It is hoped an SGRA member will speak in support of the Friends' objection.

CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS WAR MEMORIAL PARK – this party in the park on 9/10 July 2022 would be an opportunity to promote SGRA and perhaps attract help with maintenance of the animal pound. However, because of the risk assessment and insurance requirements and the number of volunteers needed, it is unlikely that SGRA will attend. We will ask Friends of the War Memorial Park if they are willing to distribute some SGRA literature on our behalf.

STREETWATCH – The patrols report all is quiet and the group should take credit for this. Some patrols have been accompanied by Police officers. Mick has passed on their request for more volunteers by emailing SGRA members, but no response has been received so far.

COUNCILLOR JOHN BLUNDELL – John conveyed Mattie's thanks to everyone who supported her in the recent local election. **Police** - Councillors' meetings with our Police are to resume. Our Councillors are concerned at the increased level of vehicle crime within the Ward and have a meeting arranged with Chief Superintendent Henrick on 23rd May 2022 to share their concerns. **Mantilla Drive Resurfacing** - John confirmed that the remaining half of Mantilla will be repaired temporarily and then will be fully resurfaced in 2023/24 – we hope this will be sooner rather than later. When a road is long it is not unusual to repair one half of it at a time.

Refuse Collection Dispute - John confirmed that all drop-off sites are to close.

Parking Around Grange Farm School – John has received photographs from a resident illustrating bad parking, some of which have been forwarded to the Police. It is hoped that the Police ANPR car will regularly patrol outside the school to check for dangerous parking.

War Memorial Park Licence Application – John believes the licence will be granted (unless there is a good reason found not to). **Buses** – a member reported that buses are sometimes missing from the schedule and perhaps the No.9 service is at times somewhat less than ideal. **Cuppa with a Councillor** – these are proving popular and are held in Finham Library between 11am and noon, usually on 3rd or 4th Friday in the month. The next one is on Friday 20th May 2022. **Flying Taxi Hub** – Coventry was the first city to host this temporary feature, but it will now be deconstructed and moved elsewhere. The 'vertiport' could ultimately support the transportation of medical supplies. Air taxis have yet to be approved.

LOCAL POLICE UPDATE – No acknowledgement was received to John A's invitation for Sgt. Betts to attend our meeting. John A will attend a Police liaison meeting on 25th May 2022. A member reported that when there had been an alleged problem with the property next to hers, the Police had been unhelpful, particularly as she was on her own and felt vulnerable.

TREASURER'S REPORT – **Animal Pound** – we have received no further information following the independent heritage statement submitted to the Council. John B will follow this up. **Finances** – we have £650.08; an invoice is awaited from the school for hire of the hall. **Facebook** – Mick would like to join our site with Styvechale History Group and this is being considered. **Website** – Mick is researching a 'sculpture' in the park where the model railway used to be.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS – A member living in Chideock voiced concern about parking for the BBC Big Weekend. 'Neighbour Next Door' letters are again circulating and these should be ignored.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday 9th June 2022 at 7.30 pm.