

# S.G.R.A.

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

**LOCATION** - Grange Farm School

**DATE** – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

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

Plus 32 members of the Association.

**WELCOME** – John A welcomed everyone, with a special welcome for our newly-elected Ward Councillor, Mattie Heaven. John A acknowledged the support SGRA has always received from our Councillors. John thanked all SGRA volunteers who had helped clear the Animal Pound for the re-opening ceremony by the Lord Mayor on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Thanks also to Jim Passmore and Tony Rose (Friends of Kenilworth Road Woodlands), Coventry City Council Park Rangers and to Muriel Stanton for supplying refreshments for the working parties. Mick showed the meeting the map of our proposed heritage trail which would be available on the day. An article has been included in the August edition of the Earlsdon Echo. John A asked as many members as possible to attend the ceremony. We are indebted to Fresh Ideas for supplying a magnificent curtain for the unveiling of the two plaques (1975 and 2019). Coventry Telegraph and Coventry Observer have been advised of the event. It has been suggested that SGRA adopts and maintains the Animal Pound and we are hoping to devise a plan of how we propose to do this. John thanked everyone who had helped deliver SGRA's July 2019 newsletter.

**APOLOGIES** – Dennis Bodycote, Michael Butt, Vic and Bridie Clarke, Bernard Every, Julie and Roger Griffiths.

**MINUTES** – The minutes of the AGM on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019 were accepted.

**MATTERS ARISING** – In memory of Councillor Gary Crookes, an amount of £50 has been donated to be split equally between Diabetes UK and The Dogs Trust (Gary's nominated charities). The question of inviting a speaker to our meetings occasionally is being considered and the cost to each member could be £3. A show of hands was not conclusive.

**LOCAL POLICE TEAM** – Reported crime figures obtained from [finhamnw.org.uk](http://finhamnw.org.uk) for January - July 2019 for **Styvechale Grange** are 28 last year - 29 this year; **Finham** 81 last year - 58 this year and for **Wainbody Ward** 433 last year - 390 this year. A Police Liaison Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and Sheila will attend as John A will be on holiday. Since our meeting we have received additional statistics for Wainbody Ward from the Police for the three-month period June/July/August 2019. Burglary 16 (same period 2018 - 34); Criminal Damage 13 (8); Robbery 2 (2); Vehicle Crime 17 (13). Excessive speeding is a serious problem on many roads in our area with Sundays reported to be particularly bad.

**COUNCILLOR JOHN BLUNDELL** – John B advised that there are 10 **Heritage Open Days** this year. He congratulated SGRA on their work on the Animal Pound. **Speedwatch** – Various roads in Finham have been subjected to a Speedwatch. Since the meeting we have advised John B of the streets in our area that could benefit from a Speedwatch; they are Mantilla, Hexworthy and Dewsbury. Mantilla is to have central white lines added on the bends. John B, Mattie and Tony Swann from Finham Neighbourhood Watch met with the Police Chief Superintendent of Coventry, Mike O'Hara and John B is of the opinion that the recent policing cutbacks should not also result in a lack of communication. Meetings are being held concerning parking problems in the Cannon Park area. Taxis were reported to be parking on the pavement in the city centre. **Finham Neighbourhood Watch and Streetwatch** are both running successfully. **Coventry Police Museum** – John B does not want to see this moved to Birmingham and asked SGRA members to sign the online petition to keep the museum in Coventry.

**COUNCILLOR MATTIE HEAVEN** – Mattie thanked everyone for the support she had received at the recent Ward Bye Election. **King's Hill** – Mattie advised they are opposing the infrastructure envisaged to support the 4,500 houses to be built. This could seriously impact on Styvechale Grange and all surrounding areas. She is promoting an online petition 'Stop the King's Hill Access Road' which will close on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2019.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – **Animal Pound** – this project is ongoing and volunteers are needed. **Website** – Mick has downloaded WebEasy Version 10 software and most pages of the website are now accessible. Mick would appreciate feedback on the website. No website use analysis is available but it is thought we are receiving in excess of 100 visits per month. Of the 750 homes on the estate, 120 have registered with SGRA. **Finances** – after expenses we have £653.44. **Gilbert Richards Centre** are providing new courses starting 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019, details of which can be viewed on the Centre's website or telephone 024 76 672911.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS** – **Health and Safety** – As hirers of the hall in Grange Farm School, SGRA have been required to complete a Lettings Policy form in compliance with Health and Safety regulations. **Charter Avenue** central reservation has a spectacular show of flowers. **Phoenix Family Care** - John A has joined the Patient Representative Group at this GP surgery, where they are part of the Coventry Wellbeing Project, together with several other local surgeries. The project focuses on socialising and a demographic study indicates that with an ageing population more medical care, etc., is necessary. Patient Representative Group meetings will be quarterly and John will report back. Phoenix Family Care will take appointment pre-bookings by telephone in the afternoon. Booking online is difficult. **Flu vaccinations** – it is essential to take advantage of this service. **9/9A bus** – the double-decker buses presently in service have been transferred from Birmingham. Concern was expressed that these are heavier than single-decker buses and will damage the new surface of Mantilla. **Coventry Railway Station** – John B was asked about the new development at Coventry Railway Station. He advised that a Master Plan exists, but it is taking time to develop. He will report back to our next meeting. **Protection of our Green Spaces** – although the threat to our green spaces has reduced at present, it would be advisable to obtain formal confirmation of their status from the legal department of Coventry City Council. However, this may be easier said than done and could be a lengthy process. Two new **refuse bins** have been installed around Grange Farm School.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 at 7.30 p.m.