

Minutes

SPS Neighbourhood Forum Management Committee at 7.30 Tuesday 21st January 2020 at Christ Church, 953 Pershore Road, Selly Park, B29 7PS

Item		Action
1.	Welcome, attendance and apologies	
1.1	PRESENT: Derren Cresswell (Chair), Chris Hasler (Secretary), Clare Lewis (Treasurer), Mandy Barratt, Lesley Cowley, Malcolm Hancox, Joanne Willis, Janet Weston, John Williams, Andy Isherwood, Jennifer Maher, Lydia Glanville. Apologies. Gordon Parr.	Info
1.2	Introductions made. People like SPS because of the sense of community and the location being close to parks but with easy access to town. Things that need improving were traffic/speeding on all roads in the Neighbourhood, fly tipping, school parking, HMOs, anti-social behaviour, drugs, litter.	Info
2.	MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING	
2.1	Minutes from previous meeting approved.	Info
2.2	Future minutes to be circulated within a week for corrections and approval	CH
3.	WEBSITE Replacement	
3.1	Cost of hosting requires new host alongside a new website. Agreed to investigate creating a replacement website ourselves. Feasibility required before next bill at end of Feb. Meeting arranged	DC,LG, CH
3.2	Do we need a new Communications Officer to manage website, twitter and email? Jo volunteered to look at looking after the twitter account. Chris to send details	CH
4.	FINANCE	
4.1	TSB account transfer on-going	CL
4.2	There are some expenses from the current financial year currently owed to outgoing officers.	CL
4.3	Finance report presented and attached in Appendix 1, current status The balance at the bank is £2430.21, as at the most recent statement, dated 1 January 2020. The Forum grant application for £550 was submitted to Birmingham City Council on 10 January. The grant has not yet been received. Forum expenditure this year to date has been £57.60 (two quarterly BT web fee payments of £28.80, paid by Direct Debit in July and October). Officers' expenses incurred in the period July-Dec and awaiting payment are £144.41. The majority of this was £95.99 for photocopying and £32.39 for the Yahoo mail annual subscription.	Info
4.4	It was confirmed that, as agreed, all existing SPSNF signatories, John Williams, Jeanne Glenn and John Clayton, would be removed from the bank mandate and the new bank signatories would be the three new Officers: Clare Lewis, Derren Cresswell and Christopher Hasler. Bank transactions would continue to require any two of these signatures, as before. There were no objections raised.	Info

5.	Flood Action Group Report	
5.1	JC not attending management meeting but has supplied a report for this meeting (Appendix 2). Lydia volunteered to be our contact with the John concerning Flood Action Group actions.	LG
5.2	Some road drains at the Pershore Road end of Dogpool Lane appear to be blocked and this needs reporting to BCC. These have been jetted and cleared. Please note that residents are able to report blocked drains online via the BCC website (there's a link on the Home Page of Forum website) or by phoning 0121-303-6644.	Info
5.3	An enquiry will be made to BCC about clearing fallen leaves but residents can also help by removing accumulations of leaves from around drain covers by their houses.	Info
5.4	CH enquired about improved property level protection for the houses in Fashoda Road which are vulnerable to surface water flooding. JC made enquiries, there is an EA officers' meeting taking place this month at which this matter will be raised.	JC
6.	Police and traffic matters	
6.1	Lesley Crowley will continue to support community Police meetings. Next meeting is on the 11 th of Feb at 7.30	LC
6.2	Selly Park South StreetWatch group now exists and the first patrol is imminent. We only have two members and need more volunteers. We will publicise on twitter, facebook, website etc when patrols start. Poster to be displayed in Christ Church.	CH
6.3	<p>What can we do to improve illegal turning and parking issues? Are the items in previous minutes widely known and happening?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting bad parking on website? Leaflets available? • Speed cameras on Pershore Road? • Obtaining speed gun (from Speed Watch)? • Dashcam footage useable by Police? • Dogpool Lane and Pershore Road junction improvements <p>Agreed next step was for Janet to contact the PCSOs to discuss how we can report issues and help reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.</p>	Jan
6.4	Do we want to support Active Citizens events? Discussion deferred.	All
7.	Environment	
7.1	The clearing of dumped waste in the alley at the rear of Kitchener Road bordering Pebble Mill Fields project on hold due to lack of funding (quote to clear is £1100, grant of £300 ringfenced in budget). Presence of asbestos is a problem. Discuss with Barry from CP4SO whether there are other asbestos clearance activities we can join in.	DC
7.2	Volunteers for litter picking. Wes in Fashoda Road had a small group of volunteers but this seems to have stopped. It was agreed that we would support litter picks, contact Wes to understand the status of his group and put this on the agenda for the Open Forum meeting	CH
7.3	<p>What can we do to improve the environment? Are the items in previous minutes widely known and happening?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to report fly tipping • Leaflets concerning bins on pavements? <p>Agreed that we will produce a leaflet educate residents on litter management. Derren offered to do some research and subsequent to the meeting, Lydia and Andy offered to design the leaflet</p>	DC LG AL

7.4	Issue of litter following matches on Pebble Mill Playing Fields raised. Derren suggested we should look to educate the users. For info, booking of the pitches is controlled by BCC Education department	DC
8.	Planning applications.	
8.1	John W will continue for the current Forum year as the named person for receiving BCC Planning consultation documents, produces the forum's response and contacts household's response. Derren offered to become named contact and look at how we can get more people involved in raising objections e.g. a standard response letter	DC
8.2	950 Pershore Road, change from 6 to 7 bed HMO. Not discussed	JW
8.3	The former Dogpool Hotel, proposed change of use to student flats. There were mixed feelings over this. Not discussed.	JW
8.4	875 Pershore Road, proposed change from 4 bed HMO to 7 bed HMO. Objection has been made. Not discussed	JW
8.5	955 Pershore Road, two semi-detached houses proposed. Concern expressed to their use and the effect on neighbouring properties.	JW
9.	Meetings	
9.1	It was agreed that rather than having a Meetings feedback section we would have a General Feedback section which incorporated any relevant feedback from meetings but also any other news from the surrounding neighbourhoods.	All
9.3	Stirchley Forum. Gordon Parr has supported meetings when he can, and wishes to continue doing so, but no longer receives information emails	Info
9.4	CP4SO keep us informed via emails. Derren currently attends	Info
10.	AOB:	
10.1	Forum has offered to contribute £100 towards cost of proposed community defibrillator at Christ Church. The project is still ongoing but does not have all the funding in place	Info
10.2	Agenda for Open Forum Meeting 25 th Feb <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPSO feedback • Call for volunteers for litter picking • Request for residents' email addresses (Chris to investigate GDPR implications) • Please inform Chris of any other suggestions 	All
10.3	Malcolm stated that for future meetings, access will be via the fire exit at the rear of the church and the front entrance will be locked	All
10.4	Next Management Committee Meeting will be on 31 st March	Info

Appendix 1

Treasurer's Report, January 2020

The balance at the bank is £2430.21, as at the most recent statement, dated 1 January 2020.

The Forum grant application for £550 was submitted to Birmingham City Council on 10 January. The grant has not yet been received.

Forum expenditure this year to date has been £57.60 (two quarterly BT web fee payments of £28.80, paid by Direct Debit in July and October). Officers' expenses incurred in the period July-Dec and awaiting payment are £144.41. The majority of this was £95.99 for photocopying and £32.39 for the Yahoo mail annual subscription. The payment of the above expenses will be approved as soon as the three new Officers are formally set up as signatories on the Forum bank account. (Thank you to former Officers Jeanne Glenn and John Clayton for their patience while this process is completed.)

The required 'variation of authority' bank form has been submitted to the TSB and we hope the transition will be completed within the next few weeks. The three existing signatories are to be removed and the three new Officers will become the account signatories – Clare Lewis, Derren Cresswell and Chris Hasler. As before, any two Officer signatures will be required to approve Forum payments.

Prepared by Clare Lewis, SPSNF Treasurer, January 2020

Appendix 2

1. Matters arising from Section 8.1 of minutes of MC meeting held 19th November:

- Road drains at Pershore Rd end of Dogpool Lane blocked. I reported this to Birmingham City Council (BCC) and later received a report saying that the drains has been jetted and unblocked. Please note that residents are able to report blocked drains online via the BCC website (there's a link on the Home Page of Forum website) or by phoning 0121-303-6644.

-Leaf clearing is no longer carried out routinely by BCC. However, I did report problem of accumulated leaf debris along the above stretch of Dogpool Lane. The problem probably will not happen again here because the large trees outside the old BT building have been cut down. Also, please note comment in that minute re residents helping by removing leaf debris around the drain cover near their own house.

-Improving property level flood protection for houses in Fashoda Rd. I contacted BCC and whilst the Projects Leader at the Drainage Department is supportive of this, BCC has no budget for it as funding for flood protection schemes has to come from the Environment Agency (EA). I contacted EA and am awaiting further information. I understand that there is an EA officers' meeting taking place this month at which this matter will be raised.

2. Flooding during December and January. There has not been any. Despite some heavy rainfall the local highways drainage system has worked well. The highest river level at Selly Park Gauge was recorded at 0.92 metres on 30th Dec. Nominal Flood Alert level at this gauge is 1.10 metres.

3. BBC Panorama: A programme is being planned to look at response and resilience to environmental changes associated with global warming, such as more frequent extreme rainfall events. I was contacted by researchers from the programme and attended a meeting here with two journalists and the flood action leader in Selly Park North (the Avenues and Sir Johns Road)

this morning. For various reasons I think that locally the programme will focus more on Selly Park North than South and will look at other parts of the country too, such as coastal erosion and resultant loss of homes on the East Coast. There may be some reference to our neighbourhood too - it's impossible to tell when a programme is at this research and planning stage. I will keep you informed of developments.