

Three firemen from West Midlands Fire Service based at Canley attended the December meeting and gave a talk on safety in the home and promoted their free Home Fire Safety Check. This provides advice on all aspects of fire safety in the home and smoke alarms will be fitted free where necessary. Call the Helpline on 0800 389 5525 to arrange a home visit.

Association member, Joan Rennie, informed the December meeting of the *Community Safety Team* that will also visit people in their homes and advise on general home security and safety. They will supply and install relevant devices for those 70 and over or those who, unfortunately, have been the victim of a burglary, evidenced by a Police Crime Number. Devices such as door and window locks, security chains and personal alarms are available. This is a Government funded initiative and the provision of devices is free up to a value of £85, any cost in excess of this being borne by the householder. For further information or to arrange a home visit please call 02476 231714.

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The local Police team are holding Police Surgeries for you. If you would like to come and have a chat about any issues or problems in Finham or Styvechale Grange, then please feel free to do so. The Surgeries are held at:
Finham Community Library on the FIRST Saturday of each month between 2:00pm - 3:00pm and
St Martins Church on Green Lane, on the FIRST Wednesday of each month between 6:15pm - 8:15pm.

If you wish to contact your local Police Team at other times please ring 0845 1135000 and ask for PC John Littlewood at Fletchamstead Police Station or e-mail: j.littlewood@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk

Special thanks to all our guests, including Councillor John Blundell, our local West Midlands Police Team, West Midlands Fire Service, the Headmaster, Staff and Caretaker of Grange Farm School, and to those Members who have given freely of their time and energy to help establish the Association. Thank you to Leanne Hanson, Assistant to Councillor Blundell for all her liaison work. Thanks also to John Archer for providing seasonal nibbles at the December meeting.

Association Officers' Contact Nos.

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Carol Donnelly - Secretary
Tel. No. 76849197
Mick Fitzpatrick – Treasurer
Tel. No. 76414069
Derek Atcheson – Membership
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SGRA

Styvechale Grange Residents Association

Newsletter

Issue No.1

January 2008

From small beginnings....in April 2007 Joe Ijoma ***talked*** a dozen residents into attending a meeting at Grange Farm School...the seed had been sown. Subsequently a flyer was delivered to every home on the Grange and perimeter roads promoting the idea of a Residents Association. Unsuspecting people waiting at bus stops were approached by Joe and founding member Carol Donnelly and, as Derek Atcheson can testify, they were resolute in their determination.

A meeting in May attracted fifty residents and it was agreed that the Association be formally set up and a membership drive undertaken.

Another flyer was distributed in July encouraging membership.

A meeting in July appointed the Association Officers.

In late July and early August a small team of

volunteers visited every house in the Association's designated area enlisting members. Each volunteer had a tale to tell which they shared at an evening gathering in the garden at the Manor House.

Subsequent meetings have attracted attendances that would be the envy of many similar organisations.

Guests such as the local Councillor, Police and Fire Brigade have attended meetings. They have given talks on local issues and responded to problems raised by Members.

Association Officers have attended local Ward and Transport forums pressing the interests of the people living in our area.

Our Association only exists because of everybody's enthusiasm to come together to improve the community in which we live.

Next meeting 7.30p.m. Thursday 7th February at Grange Farm School

Happy New Year to all Residents

Membership News

Net membership currently stands at approx. 65% of all homes in the Association's area. 25% could not be contacted at the time of the membership drive and 10% of all Residents declined membership. Anyone wishing to subscribe should contact the Membership Secretary, details on the back page.

Issues raised by Members and resolved....to one degree or another

Reports of anti social behaviour were received concerning groups of young people who were drinking alcohol and lighting fires in the Meadow adjacent to Styvechale Croft. Action was taken in the form of more visible and focussed patrols by Police and Police Community Support Officers.

Increased patrols on the nights leading up to Bonfire Night resulted in several arrests linked to anti social behaviour.

Inconsiderate parking of cars near the local school and on the service road adjacent to the Robins and Day Peugeot garage was raised and actioned by the Police.

Street cleaning and weed control issues were brought to the attention of the local authority and dealt with and some trees previously removed from Dewsbury Avenue were successfully replaced.

The dilapidated gate on the field adjacent to the A45 service road is to be replaced.

Following representations from the Association Councillor Blundell has confirmed that the A45 service road is to be resurfaced in the financial year commencing April 2008.

City Engineers were invited to inspect the condition of Mantilla Drive and other roads in the area. They told a roadside meeting of Members that Mantilla Drive only warranted minor repairs but the situation would be reviewed every six months. Although not the ideal outcome, the Association has highlighted the problem and the Council are now aware of our concerns. The road is used by bus and heavy freight vehicles accessing the shops and can only deteriorate. It is hoped that the regular reviews of the road's condition will result in major work being undertaken as soon as deemed necessary. Some other minor roadworks were identified and have been carried out.

The Pathway across the green in Alpine Rise has been damaged during Council works and will now be reinstated to its former condition.



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with Sifu Derek Frearson

Qigong and Yang style sword
City Centre Tai Chi Mirrored Studio

Every Thursday 11.30 – 12.30

For details contact:
Carol (Residents Association Secretary)

Issues raised by Members and pending action:

Although street lighting upgrades have been installed in a number of roads the process appears to have come to a halt. Councillor Blundell has informed the Association that there is a programme to upgrade all roads in the area and he will press for this to resumed and completed as soon as possible.

A proposal to have a more permanent pathway across the Meadow between Chideock Hill, Easedale Close and Stivichall Croft has been made and will be discussed more fully at the next meeting. The proposed pathway could be one composed of gravel or a natural bark. Members' views on this proposal are requested, either by attendance at the next meeting or by contacting one of the Officers listed on the back page.

A proposal is also being discussed in respect of the route of the No. 14 bus. Following numerous complaints relating to the difficulty the bus has in negotiating Hexworthy Avenue it was suggested that the bus should continue its journey to the

shopping area directly along Mantilla Drive. A traffic survey has been conducted by Travel Coventry but this proved inconclusive. The Association will now canvass each household along the affected areas of Mantilla Drive and Hexworthy Avenue before deciding on further action.

The Association has been informed by Centro that the existing "hail and ride" system for the bus service is to be replaced by permanent bus stops. Apparently, no consultation is required but in this case the views of the Association and its Members have been sought. The current proposal, subject to the outcome of the Hexworthy Avenue issue, is that the current "custom and practice" stops be adopted as the permanent stops. The Association will display notices along the route showing the proposed stops. Member's views are requested by contacting the Association Secretary or by e-mail to sgrainfo@btinternet.com

The road surface in Wade Avenue appears to be uneven and deteriorating in several areas, the City Engineers have been informed.

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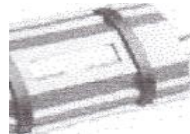
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