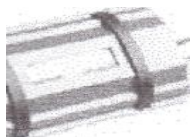


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You would like to come to the monthly meeting but, for whatever reason, find it difficult to attend?



Contact the Membership Secretary who will arrange for you to be accompanied by one of our volunteers, either on foot or by car. Come along and have your say, enjoy a chat with your fellow residents or just sit back and listen.

Special thanks to all our guests, including Councillor John Blundell and our local West Midlands Police Team, the Headmaster, Staff and Caretaker of Grange Farm School, and to those Members of the Association who have given freely of their time and energy to ensure the continuing success of the Association.



Our local West Midlands Police Team continue to assure the Association and residents of Styvechale Grange that this area has a low crime rate but people should not be complacent about personal safety and security of property. It is important that all residents remain vigilant to the possibility of crime in the neighbourhood, reporting actual incidents or suspicious activity to the Police.

The current Police Team is headed by A/Sgt Kurt Pfenhauer. Team members include PC Al Davies, PC Martin Goldingay, PCSO Antony Reardon, PCSO Joel Lewis and PCSO Jonathan Steed. The Team can be contacted by phone on 0845 113 5000. Alternatively, non-urgent issues can be relayed via the Association's e-mail address sgrainfo@googlemail.com

In cases of emergency please call 999

Next meeting
Thursday 5th
February 7.30pm
Grange Farm School

SGRA

Styvechale Grange Residents Association

Newsletter

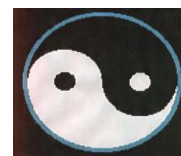
Issue No.3

January 2009

SGRA is a local organisation run by residents of Styvechale Grange, focussing on local issues for the benefit of all residents of Styvechale Grange

Happy New Year to all residents

The start of a new year should bring hope for peace, together with a desire for personal health, happiness and success. In the light of turbulent economic circumstances, 2009 will be a challenging year for many people. It is in times such as these that a spirit of community can help to cast a little light into the gloom. The practise of good neighbourliness can work wonders. When the world appears to be a cold and isolated place, small gestures of politeness and kindness can make a difference to those around us. So, whatever your hopes for the New Year ahead may be, please take a little time to consider what you can do to help others and, perhaps, you will receive the same in return.



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Joe Ijoma

At our first AGM in July Joe Ijoma announced that, for family reasons, he would not stand for re-election as Chairman. Joe is the reason that this Association is in being. He had the vision and the energy to bring people together. On behalf of the Association, the Committee members would like to thank Joe for his enthusiasm and tenacity, and wish him and his family well in the future.

Bus Service: **Introduction of Fixed Bus Stops**

Over the past few months the Association has been in talks with Centro regarding their proposal to install fixed bus stops along the route of the No. 14 bus service through the estate. These talks culminated in a meeting held in December, attended by Carol Donnelly, Association Secretary, Derek Atcheson, Membership Secretary, Scott Cooper, Centro, Lisa Cornwall, Coventry City Council and a representative from the bus operator, National Express. The participants travelled the route and discussed each of the proposed bus stop locations. The overriding factor in the proposed placement of the stops was road safety. Lisa Cornwall stated that the Mantilla Drive route was particularly difficult in terms of the number of junctions. The Association were concerned that the proposal did not envisage a stop at the "terminus", adjacent to the Hexworthy Avenue shops. Although the custom and practice hail and ride stop at the shops had been tolerated by the bus operator it was felt to be a potentially dangerous location. The Council could not allow fixed bus stops to be installed where a potential hazard could be seen to have been formally sanctioned.

The new stops, pole and flag only, no shelters, will be installed in February. The stops will be located as follows;

- Stivichall Croft – opposite No.6
- Mantilla Drive – opposite No. 135
- Mantilla Drive – adjacent Nos. 86/88
- Mantilla Drive – opposite No. 59
- Mantilla Drive – adjacent Nos. 30/32
- Mantilla Drive – prior to Wade Ave. junction

Whilst there is some time before the introduction of the fixed stops and users will, no doubt, be aware of the installation work, the Association has asked that the bus operator requests its drivers to exercise a degree of tolerance during the initial phase of the new system.

Please see enclosed Centro leaflet.

Neighbourhood Watch

The Association Chairman, John Archer is currently making enquiries with a view to organising Neighbourhood Watch schemes across the Association's area. These schemes provide an extra layer of security at a very local level. It is envisaged that they will be set up on a road by road basis. As is common with such projects volunteers will be sought to coordinate individual schemes. John is keen to hear from organisers of any existing schemes in the area and can be contacted on 02476419008. When John has completed his investigations, and is in a position to advise on the set up of new local schemes, the Association will inform the membership and canvas support.

Have you an interesting hobby or pastime? Have you travelled to some exotic land? Are you interested in sharing your experiences?

A computer linked projector and interactive whiteboard are available for visual presentations, or just give a talk.

If you are interested please contact a Committee Member and book a slot at one of our meetings.



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

Following a Police warning regarding a spate of bilking incidents at the BP garage on the Highway the Association was asked to investigate the supply of clutch screws that can be used to secure car number plates. Apparently several number plates were stolen in the Finham area and used on vehicles driving off from the garage without payment for the fuel dispensed. A small supply of the screws was obtained and these are available to members. The screws are tightened in the conventional manner but cannot be removed easily. If such crime can be deterred then the resulting Police enquiries and replacement costs can be avoided.

The pathway between Alpine Rise and Chideock Hill, adjacent to two domestic garages has been reset to rectify subsidence. The Association has been advised of proposed work to the green bounded at the rear of houses in Mantilla Drive and Alpine Rise. This area has been prone to flooding that has impacted on some of the neighbouring properties. The work will involve infilling a depression in the land. The Association hopes that this will cure the problem and will, with the residents directly affected, monitor the outcome.

Resurfacing of the A45 service road was completed during the summer and the parking restrictions adjacent to the Robins and Day garage were reinstated.

Two new dog waste bins have been installed in Dewsbury Avenue and by the Hexworthy Avenue shops.

Issues raised by Members and pending action:

The surface of the Leamington Road end of Mantilla Drive is continuing to worsen and remains an issue being pursued with the Council.

The street lighting replacement programme

appears to have ground to halt in the area. The reasons for this are being investigated. The condition of the wooden fence in front of the railway boundary in Alpine Rise is giving rise for concern. As the fence deteriorates it increases the risk of unauthorised access to the railway lines beyond. Despite talks with the Council and Network Rail a solution to the problem has not been found. The Council does not accept responsibility for the maintenance of the fence. The Association has now taken the issue back to Network Rail emphasising the potential safety hazard should unauthorised access be possible.



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Louise returns Thursday 5th February

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