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News, from your local Councillors

Serving the residents of Bournville, Cotteridge and Stirchley



Stirchley Village Regeneration Board



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As part of our negotiations with ASDA and TESCO your local Councillors, with the support of the city council, are proposing the setting up of the Stirchley Village Regeneration Board.

Its board will comprise your 3 local city councillors, council officers and local residents and traders.

The purpose of the Stirchley Village Regeneration Board will be to oversee and manage the revival of the Stirchley High Street as a shopping centre over the next 10 years.

It will do this by actively marketing Stirchley Village as a destination for new retail businesses. At the same time it will ensure that the Stirchley High Street has the type of retail units that new business require and will ensure that, through a range of improvements, the Stirchley High Street becomes an dynamic environment that attracts both new businesses and new shoppers.

For the first time ever improvements will be achieved through a mechanism of part funding improvements to retail premises such as new retail frontages, repairs to existing shops and the maintenance of a well managed high street.

For the first time ever, each year it will be set targets to attract new retail businesses to Stirchley and to ensure that the retail properties are maintained to a high standard.

All of these improvements will be funded from grants and monies extracted from the Supermarkets.

Exciting new play equipment for Hazelwell Park

We are very pleased to announce that we have secured the funding for another piece of play equipment for Hazelwell Park. It is part of our commitment to continually expand the play equipment in the park and to make Hazelwell Park the park of choice for Stirchley families.

This new piece of equipment should be installed in time for the spring.



New Fast food takeaways will not be allowed in Stirchley

Under a special planning document about to be adopted by the council fast food takeaways will be severely restricted in our shopping centres and in Stirchley it will mean no more fast food takeaways will be allowed.

Your three councillors are the only people to have consistently objected to very single fast food takeaway over the last 12 years that have applied to come to Stirchley. We have not always been successful but we have opposed them because we know Stirchley has far too many and they blight the shopping centre.

Come and hear Councillor Nigel Dawkins talk about the the future of Stirchley

On the 25th January at 7pm Nigel will be chairing the first meeting of the 'Friends of Stirchley Baths' to which everyone is invited to hear about our plans regarding the regeneration of Stirchley Baths. The meeting will be at the Stirchley Community Church located on Hazelwell Street just opposite the Stirchley Baths site.

On the 13th February at 7pm Councillor Nigel Dawkins has been invited by the Stirchley Forum to speak and answer questions on the future of Stirchley.

The meeting will again be at the Stirchley Community Church. All are welcome.



Christmas came to Cotteridge and Stirchley

Once again your councillors were pleased to have helped bring the festive Christmas lights to Stirchley and Cotteridge.

The Cotteridge Christmas tree and street lights 'switch on' was the first event on the evening of the 1st December. This was the second year that Cotteridge has had lights and this year they were switched on by 8 year old Thomas, a pupil at the local primary school. The event was accompanied by carol singing and music played by the Bournville Brass Quartet.



The following night the Stirchley Christmas tree and lights 'switch on' took place on the Pershore Road in Stirchley. Sophie and Ben from Stirchley Primary School did a great job of sharing the switching on duties. There were opportunities to attend our Christmas Fare and see Father Christmas and enjoy carols and mince pies and to enjoy the wonderful singing from the Stirchley Community School Choir.

Councillor Nigel Dawkins said, "Christmas came again to Cotteridge and Stirchley and your local councillors were honoured to have help".



Bournville, Cotteridge and Stirchley have, once again, been confirmed as the cleanest suburb in Birmingham!

Midlands Co-operative retail chain, accused of blocking the multi million pound regeneration of Stirchley.

Cllr Nigel Dawkins has called upon the giant Midlands Co-operative retail chain, to stop blocking the multi million pound regeneration of Stirchley.

The Midlands Co-operative chain, owners of the Co-op Superstore based in Stirchley, has for many years done all that they can, using a variety of legal methods, to block a TESCO supermarket from coming to Stirchley.

The result is that over the last 10 years the northern half of Stirchley has been blighted and has continued to decline until parts of it are now almost completely derelict. Their blocking tactics have prevented the regeneration of Stirchley.

"I can understand why they would want to protect their monopoly in this area. However, I know from our surveys of over 2,000 residents that the residents of Stirchley want TESCO to come to Stirchley, they want the new jobs, they want the price competition and they want the regeneration of Stirchley to begin."

"It has now been over 10 frustrating years. I would ask the Midlands Co-operative to now finally accept the situation, welcome the inevitable competition and allow the multi million pound regeneration to begin."



Survey shows that there is overwhelming support for TESCO and ASDA

Your local councillors, last summer, conducted an extensive survey of every household in Stirchley to ask their views on whether TESCO and ASDA should be allowed to come to Stirchley.

Over 2,000 households were invited to reply.

We had over a 1,000 responses back and the overwhelming opinion of Stirchley residents was that these two supermarkets should be allowed to come to Stirchley. Amongst the views expressed were;

1. They would help to regenerate Stirchley,
2. They would encourage competition and drive down prices,
3. They would bring much needed jobs to Stirchley,
4. The CO-OP has had a monopoly for too long and is expensive,
5. We would need to sort out the traffic before they came,
6. They would bring new retail businesses back to Stirchley,
7. They would supply much needed car parking.

