

**Southfields Grid Residents' Association Executive Committee**

**Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 via Zoom**

**Members Present:** Charles Runcie (CR), Clive Williams (CW), Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty (AO), Gerard Sebastian (GS), Serena Potter (SP), Margaret Brett (MB), Chris Puleston (CP) and Ann Kerr (AK).  
Simon Wright (guest) present for item 4

<b>Actions from last meeting</b>	<b>Owner(s)</b>	<b>Status</b>
Put a summary of the relationship between SGRA & other organisations on the website	CR	Open
Plan for end/pause of the Alliance with Becky Watts	CR	Completed
Contact Cllr Leonie Cooper re: AELTC road closures over the Tennis Championships, as per the March Public Meeting	CW	Closed
To make an SGRA application for Asset of Community Value for the Granville Road allotments	MB	Closed (see item)
Contact Krystal's manager re: dustbins on Elsenham Street	GS	Completed
<b>New Actions</b>	<b>Owner (s)</b>	<b>Status</b>
Liaise with possible website volunteer/contact professional web support provider for immediate updating of the website	CR/GS	Open
Identification of possible sites on the Grid for a donated bench	All	Open
Find out the current status of the speed camera use	CW	Open
Advisory working group to co-ordinate response to AELTC proposal	CR/MB/SW	Open
Donation to Royal Trinity Hospice	CP	Open
Agree donation to Southfields Harvest	CR	Open

**1. Apologies for absence:**

Alise Veremeja (AV) and Karen Gregory (KG)

**2. Minutes & Matters arising from last Public Meeting (25.05.21)**

All to be covered in this meeting.

**Minutes & Matters arising from last Executive Meeting (27.04.21)**

**Item 5:** CW has attempted to contact Cllr Leonie Cooper regarding the AELTC road closures but has had no success

**Item 6: Website (GS):** Rob Kennedy (FoWP secretary) is sourcing website providers for FoWP, so the plan is to connect with him. GS is continuing to liaise with Lara (volunteer). The website administrators are Rob and Gerard.

**Item 10: Bins** Krystals' have created space to put the bins back. MB will keep an eye on the status over the summer and can liaise with Oliver, the Elsenham Street Rep

**Item 11 (Crime):** Speed camera use: there is no progress to date. CW to liaise with SNT who have been very busy. Perhaps their new trainee might get involved.

**3. Southfields Grid Alliance Update: Charles Runcie:**

**a) Updates/plans** – currently waiting to hear the government announcement re: changes on 19<sup>th</sup> July. BW will write to volunteers, keep details on file for the future and the Alliance will cease active work on 21<sup>st</sup> July if all goes well. The pharmacies will be given enough notice, via letter. CR will liaise with BW to arrange this

**b) Grid Alliance volunteers' party, Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July proposal:** Fleur Anderson (MP) will attend and will speak. It will be held at the back of the Old Fields pub.

#### 4. **AELTC working party report back: Simon Wright**

SW outlined the process to date and plans. After the SGRA AGM an advisory working group of 6 people plus Simon was set up. CR and MB from the Executive Committee are members. The aim is to help the SGRA pull together a response to the AELTC. SW outlined 2 main points:

- 1) The proposal is to hold an open meeting in the evening of Thursday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. The aim is to:
  - share the latest (3<sup>rd</sup>) consultation from the AELTC
  - receive comments from SGRA members
  - compile a list of questions to give to the AELTC
  - start developing initial thoughts on a response to the formal proposal the AELTC will have to submit to Merton

SW felt that working with SGRA alone instead of with other Residents' Associations is likely to be more effective. There is a mechanism for CR to liaise with other RAs.

CP asked if any quantitative research is planned; SW is open to this if a way can be found of getting a good response rate. CP made the point that a balance of views is desirable, i.e. that those supporters of the AELTC are heard. SW emphasised the desire to be as democratic as possible and to get all views in the process. CP offered to draft questions for a possible survey e.g. SurveyMonkey. It was agreed this should be Grid residents only and the detail of how to carry it out to be agreed away from this meeting.

- 2) SW and the working group are drafting a postcard to alert all residents to fact this consultation is taking place. It will be delivered when the AELTC have formally submitted their official proposal. The aim is to raise awareness by delivering a postcard to every Grid household and asking people to respond. Jill Hooper, on the working group, is a professional writer and is helping write it. 3000 postcards on sustainable FSC certified board will cost £155. It is a 2-stage process. The postcards must come after the formal proposal so will go out separately from the next Grid newsletter. The AELTCs application will probably be in late July.

#### **Discussion:**

MB, CR & SW will meet on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July in advance of the 8<sup>th</sup> July meeting.

MB is currently considering the scope of the report, part of the process that has gone to Wandsworth and Merton. She will respond to Wandsworth on behalf of the SGRA in the usual way. She will make the point that a transport assessment should be given due consideration and felt the SGRA should put in a focused comment about this point. Further detail in item 11 below.

CW made the point that it is important to encourage people to do individual responses to the main planning applications as well as they can be most effective.

SW will send a postcard draft to the Executive Committee members. It will be neutral, giving information only, including all relevant contact details.

CP asked if there is a mechanism for the SGRA to request money for our area from the AELTC, for example for a full time Wimbledon shop/ sponsorship of street furniture etc? SW suggested that the most effective time for negotiations is the beginning of the process, not once planning approval has been granted.

**5. Front Gardens Awards report back/GtG/Artwork outside the tube station: Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty**

**FGA:** The Grid Newsletter contains detailed information. Lots of awards have been given out. The difficult weather this year meant that judging took place over 10 days instead of the usual 2 weeks. Results will be put on Facebook after the Newsletter is delivered.

**GtG:** Nina Kowalska, Amelia and Cllr Guy Humphries met with Sidonie Forrest-Brown (Transport Planner) and discussed a possible mural on the wall on Wimbledon Park Road. MB suggested this might be considered later as the wall is TfL property. AO-M to investigate.

**6. Website maintenance: Gerard Sebastian**

As above, item 2.

**7. Granville Road Allotments update: Margaret Brett**

The whole site now under threat and all offers to the Rifle Club have been withdrawn. The Rifle Club is doing its own application for an Asset of Community Value to cover the whole site. This includes the allotments. We do not want to impede this by sending in a separate application, so MB has added to their wording to strengthen the reference to the allotments. There are also issues over the renewal of the 21-year lease which ends at the end of September 2021. No planning application has been submitted as yet but MG is keeping a close eye.

The petition has reached just short of 24,500 signatures.

**8. Subs collection process/timeline: Chris**

Envelopes will go in Newsletter as last year. The process remains the same.

**9. Gill Habershon: suggested SGRA donation to the Royal Trinity Hospice, Clapham Common: all**

This was agreed by the Committee, with a suggested amount of £100 confirmed. CP will organise this.

**10. Southfields Harvest application for admin funding for 2021: all**

The proposal has come in very recently. Their float does not cover the entire cost and so they have asked for a donation. CP to liaise with Elizabeth Lloyd-Owen to confirm amount requested. This will be agreed following today's meeting.

**11. Ongoing updates:**

• **Communications including Grid News: Charles Runcie**

The Newsletter will be delivered on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July by the Yellow Print Shop, ready for delivery over the weekend.

• **Planning/public realm improvements, June 2021: Margaret Brett**

- Another quiet month for the usual applications
- There is a planning application to extend at the back and change the front windows of 75 Brookwood (Mowersure) as part of their proposal for change of use from retail to residential
- The Friends of Wimbledon Park's application to renovate the car park and pedestrian entrance to Wimbledon Park has been approved
- The application for the Elborough Street Surgery for a timber building in the back garden space as a rest area for the staff has been approved

- The application for Coleman Court (2020/0530) is still undecided
- There has been an application to retain the new shop front at 243a Wimbledon Park Road(2021/2214). The application fails to highlight that a change of use is also involved, and MB will be in touch with the Planning Officer over this
- There are two further applications which are not fully registered and are without details 2021/2818 and 2021/2819. One is for tree works in a conservation area

GS asked what is happening on the Starbucks site; MB explained this is not yet known.

#### **Public Realm**

Contractors have paused for the tennis. They have completed the new crossing at Pirbright Road and the road is open again. Some new trees have been planted in Wimbledon Park Road. There are CCTV cameras in place at the top of Replingham as part of a traffic survey.

#### **AELTC proposals**

The scoping report is at 2021/2132. This is part of the planning process for something this big but we could make the point that due consideration should be given in the Transport Assessment of the impact of heavy traffic arising from excavation and major construction works expected to come into Southfields. There are 2 objections - from The Wimbledon Society and the Gardens RA.

- **Finance: Chris Puleston**

Current financial position: Cash = £4.5k. Outstanding income is £1400 from advertising for the Spring newsletter. Costs are from the Front Gardens Awards = £400.

- **Crime: Clive Williams**

The May crime figures are back to 'normal' re: ASB. 108 crimes recorded in the Southfields Ward, 14 in the Grid. Hanford Close has the highest number of crimes (5). All other streets have 0, 1 or 2. The numbers are very low.

- **FoWP: Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty**

Money has been obtained from another group to get a second table tennis table. The table will be moved off the grass to the concrete area near railway/tennis courts.

There is an upsurge of comments about the extended car parking on Wimbledon Park during the Tennis Championships. Nick Steiner is consulting on this.

The FoWP will be putting in a response to the AELTC development plans.

- **FoCG: Charles Runcie**

The Summer Celebration Picnic is on Saturday 3rd July from 12-3pm Enable will be there to check on covid compliance. All welcome.

- **Streets Reps/Small Business Register updates: Gerard Sebastian**

GS requested the addition of an item in the Newsletter regarding increasing the number of Street Reps to 2 per street. CR to check if it is possible.

#### **12. Forthcoming events**

- Friends of Coronation Gardens Summer Celebration Picnic, as above

#### **13. AOB**

- CP raised the issue of potholes on Elsenham Street. MB has notified the council via 'Fix My Street'. GS will let street reps know this process so that they can highlight and report in the future
- Bike parts attached to lampposts can be removed by the council. If you see them notify CP

**Dates of next meetings:**

**Public Meeting: 27<sup>th</sup> July 7.30 – 9pm**

**Executive: 7<sup>th</sup> September 7.30 - 9pm. Venue tbc**