



Minutes of the Public Meeting held on Tuesday 28th September 2021, via Zoom

Charles Runcie (Chair) welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies for absence: Ray Chapman (Chair, Southfields Ward), Leonie Cooper (AM), Fleur Anderson (MP)

1. Minutes + matters arising from the Public meeting on 27th July 2021 and the Executive meeting on 7th September 2021; these can be seen on:

[https://www.southfieldsgrid.org.uk/meeting-minutes/.](https://www.southfieldsgrid.org.uk/meeting-minutes/)

Charles Runcie (CR): **Public meeting:** no specific items to identify. The AELTC plans will be discussed in this meeting.

Executive meeting:

- There had been a proposal to donate benches to locations within the Grid but this has been put on hold as Enable (who manage the parks) are considering something similar in recognition of the pandemic
- A donation has been made to the Royal Trinity Hospice in memory of Gill Habershon (Southfields Business Forum)
- The Executive Committee is still searching for a volunteer to help manage the website
- Karen Gregory is stepping down from the Committee as she is moving out of London. She has led on co-ordinating advertising for the Grid News very successfully and she will be missed

2. Special guests:

a) *Simon Wright (Resident & Chair, Advisory Working Group): AELTC Plans, Update*

SW outlined the activity of the AWG. It was set up in June with the remit to explore the AELTC proposals, to lead discussion within the SGRA & to help the SGRA voice an opinion. A meeting was held for all Grid Residents, their questions were noted and submitted to the AELTC and all 24 Q & As are on the website: [SGRA Q&A - Responses from AELTC - Southfields Grid Residents Association.](#)

A leaflet was created, and notices put up around the Grid to encourage people to submit thoughts. The remit is now fulfilled, and SW has written to CR and stood down.

SW asked Cllrs Guy Humphries (Wandsworth) and Ed Gretton (Merton) to address the confusion about the deadline date for comment submission:

Cllr Humphries: for **Wandsworth**, although 30th September is the cut-off date for responses, comments can be submitted at any time until it goes to Committee. All comments are assessed and included in the report.

NB Wandsworth have now extended their submission deadline to be October 27th
(Addendum - 11.10.21)

Process: the decision will be made at the Committee meeting. After the submission deadline all the strands are pulled together, outside bodies are consulted, eg Historic England etc. The report is drawn up then presented to Committee and a decision made. The meeting will likely be just before or just after Christmas. The matter will then be considered by the GLA, Mayor's Office.

It will not be the only item on the Committee Meeting. The public can attend, and it is webcast live & recorded. Members of the public don't have right to speak but can ask their Ward

Councillor to speak on their behalf (Guy Humphries/Kim Caddy/Terry Walsh). AELTC cannot make representations at the meeting.

Cllr Gretton: the **Merton** process is very similar. The meeting will be in December or January. The AELTC will be able to speak at the beginning. It will be a lengthy meeting, and this will be the principal item. Representations will be received until 2 days before, but they are unlikely to get much time if they are that late. Amendments are possible during the process.

In response to a query, it was explained that both councils are bound by legal processes; these are two separate applications to two different authorities, so collaboration isn't possible. It would be illegal as decisions must be made independently.

Discussion

Ulrika Hogberg (AELTC) added an exhibition was held at the AELTC recently and early morning walks on the golf course have taken place to enable discussion of the proposals in situ.

A query from the floor asked if the decision depends on number of people expressing concern. Cllr Humphries responded for Wandsworth that it is dependent on a balance of factors, not on numbers.

A member from the floor asked if the Wandsworth Committee hold a private meeting before the public one, and if so, could it be made more transparent. Cllr Humphries explained there is no pre-meeting with all members of the Committee and that they are legally bound to remain neutral and hold the meeting in full public view. He & his deputy chair meet to check the agenda & technical issues only.

Cllr Gretton explained that some amendments to the original application might trigger a further 21-day consultation period.

A member from the floor expressed that as a member of the public she found it very difficult to follow such a large planning document. She queried if the AELTC want to take over Church Road as it is included in the outline. Ulrika Hogberg explained this was not correct and that Church Road is a Merton highway. There is a proposal to upgrade the pavements and road surface.

Margaret Brett (Executive Committee) explained that the Church Road application is a separate one and that there is a proposal to close it during the Championships in the future. The location of the entry gates etc depends on that part of Church Road being incorporated into the Championships on an annual basis. All entry will be through the golf course via the northern gateway in Wandsworth and the southern gateway in what will be the new 'Linear Park'.

A query from the floor was raised about whether the overspill car park in Wimbledon Park could be avoided. Ulrika Hogberg explained that in planning applications the worst-case scenarios are required. The AELTC is working hard to make it a public transport event. This will not happen immediately, but it is the aim.

b) *Tom Newman (Waste Project Officer, Wandsworth Council): Food Waste Recycling Trial on the Grid Update*

TN outlined the purpose of the trial: to inform the Council's decision in advance of the new contract in 2024. The aim is to move away from the current incineration process to processes including anaerobic digestion/food waste, biogas, methane and digestate.

In January 2020 it was identified that 43% of black bag contents from collections was food waste. The aim is to reduce this. Southfields Grid has been chosen as it has 2300 low rise households in a well-defined area so collection by one vehicle on one day is possible.

Residents will receive one 23 litre bin and a smaller kitchen caddy and instructions.

Timeline and details:

- a letter went out in August to residents. It will be a 12-month trial so seasonality will be seen, and if viable, the trial may extend longer. It would have started around now, but although most materials are in stock, the compostable liners have not yet arrived. This is due to fuel issues and a lack of HGV drivers
- Once liners have arrived, it will take a week to compile information and equipment and deliver. The first collection should be 2-3 weeks following that
- An initial roll of liners will be provided, sufficient for 6 months. Residents will need to provide their own after that
- Collection will be weekly, on the same day as general waste and recycling
- Households with no outdoor space will not be included

For those not wishing to participate please let the Council know so equipment is not delivered: foodwasterecycling@wandsworth.gov.uk

Discussion

- A resident reminded everyone that recycling bags can be collected from the library
- A resident thanked Tom and his colleagues for the initiative and expressed her shock at the high level of food waste in our black bags (43%)
- It was asked if there are any plans for collecting compostable garden waste? Tom responded that this is not currently being planned but the council are aware of the benefits
- There will be no reduction of waste collection to less than weekly

c) *Sidonie Forrest-Brown (Senior Transport Planner, Wandsworth Council), Update on the Public Realm works:*

Sidonie was not able to attend but has sent the following message following the meeting for the minutes:

“The public realm improvements are progressing well and are on schedule. We are currently working on Wimbledon Park Road between Caffé Nero and Pirbright Road. We will soon complete the new loading facility outside M&S. Any issues or concerns please do get in touch with me at S.Forrest-Brown@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk”.

She has been invited to the next meeting in November.

d) *Elizabeth Lloyd-Owen: Southfields Harvest review*

EL-O reported that the Harvest on 25th September was very successful. There was representation from lots of community groups including RecycleMore Southfields, Abundance Southfields, King George’s Park Allotment Association, SW15Hedgehogs, SGRA and FoWP. Southfields Library, showcasing creative work with books in collaboration with Clear Vision based at Linden Lodge School. Clear Vision is a charity that operates a lending library for tactile books for visually impaired children. The National City Park also had stalls and there was a range of wonderful food.

It will take place again on the last Saturday in September next year. Elizabeth would welcome more help in setting up in the days before the event and wondered if local schools might be enlisted.

3. *Cllr Kim Caddy: ULEZ (Ultra Low Emission Zone) expansion information*

Cllr Caddy outlined the TfL expansion:

- This will go live on 25th October
- Vehicles are not charged for driving on the South Circular Road, but anywhere within it, for example Smuggler’s Way Waste and Recycling Centre, is included

- There are strict standards and non-compliant vehicles will need to pay £12 per day
- The ULEZ is active 24 hrs per day, 7 days per week. There is no discount if you live within the zone. There are discounts and exemptions for very specific vehicles only. There is a grace period for disabled. All details on the TfL website
- Residents should use the TfL vehicle checker to see if vehicles are exempt: [Check your vehicle \(tfl.gov.uk\)](https://www.tfl.gov.uk/road-users/ulez/vehicle-checker)

It was acknowledged by several members of the floor that this may cause difficulty for some people. Cllr Caddy suggested that Car Clubs can be an option, and that Wandsworth has a very high Car Club ownership. Wandsworth is installing as many charging points as possible and bike hanger numbers are increasing. She emphasised that the ULEZ is managed by TfL, not Wandsworth Council.

In response to a query about the current status of Low Traffic Networks: Cllr Caddy will get an update from the Cabinet member but assured the meeting that there are no plans for any LTNs in or around Southfields.

Addendum: following the meeting Cllr Caddy sent this update:

The Council suspended the LTNs we had on trial because of the various issues and concerns over them, not least the fact that they were implemented in a hurry outside of the usual processes, but we are still implementing local neighbourhood traffic schemes as we always have. The new process is that residents work with ward councillors to submit a petition, transport officers do some studies and report back on options which are consulted on in advance and the outcome is then presented back to the council committee to ensure oversight and accountability.

4. Green Spaces Updates:

a) Green the Grid: Nina Kowalska

Autumn activity: –

- GtG took part in the Putney Clean Air Fair organised Fleur Anderson. There was lots of networking and they gave out bulbs
- Harvest: gave out bulbs and plants. The Tree Label Trail was launched with a map, quiz and a trail for children and other interested people. It will be put in McCluskeys and other local shops. There has been good feedback from families
- They will attend the Wandsworth Climate Festival on 13th November
- Nina and Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty met with Cllrs Humphries and Caddy and Sidonie Forrest-Brown to reiterate their desire for a greener aspect to the Public Realm. They appreciate Guy & Kim's support. They are hoping for a green wall, a parklet and more planting under the trees outside shops

b) Friends of Wimbledon Park: Nick Steiner

Review:

- The planning application for the Revelstoke Road entrance has been approved by Wandsworth Council, subject to conditions (20th October)
- The Dam Safety works were passed at the Merton Planning Committee recently. It should start in October and finish in March 2021. The deculverting of the brook is part of that. Details to follow
- FoWP are very involved in discussions about the AELTC plans
- The toilets in the playground are currently closed and are going to be improved. The works are above ground only so the blockages which keep occurring will not be attended to. These are linked to a pipe which goes under the railway. Alternative toilets are by the water sports and are also subject to blockages. There are currently no male toilets in the park. Representations have been made to Merton to install portable toilets.

- A new group called **‘Walk and Talk’** has been set up. It takes place at 1030am on Saturdays and starts from outside Mario’s café. There are 3 different walks (short, medium and long). Anyone can join the group. Nick is hoping it might lead to a Wimbledon Park Gardening Group

c) Friends of Coronation Gardens: *Susannah Perry-Jones*

Review:

- Schools such as Graveney and others are getting involved via the Duke of Edinburgh scheme
- A Poetry competition was held, and a £100 voucher given to the winner
- There are new plants in the planters and new trees will be planted in November
- They are still waiting for a water pipe
- The fountain is going to be restored to its original Edwardian look. If this is not possible a sculpture will be made
- Some funding has been obtained for the playground and more is hoped for
- Some plants, including lavender and rosemary, have been stolen from the new area
- Membership numbers are low. There will be a marketing and planting event in November
- The little playground is open, and it is hoped it will be renovated by the end of next year

Nina (GtG) and Elizabeth (Southfields Harvest) thanked Susannah and FoCG for creating such a lovely park.

5. SGRA Executive Reports:

a) Planning Including Southfields Public Realm improvements: *Margaret Brett*

MB went through her paper:

- There are very few applications apart from AELTC
- The application for a further storey for Coleman Court (2020/0530) has been approved by the Planning Committee but soundproofing is being required
- We have objected to the application to retain the new shop front at 243a Wimbledon Park. There is now a revised drawing showing the entrance to the downstairs flat. This is still open. (2021/2214)
- The Council has issued an Article 4 Direction to protect the shops from 1-33 Replingham road from the new permitted development legislation. This will not come into effect until 1 August 2022. This is a protected frontage

AELTC proposals

The planning applications are registered - Merton (21/P2900) and Wandsworth (2021/3609). There are in excess of 380 objections on the Wandsworth site, but Merton does not display the responses they receive.

Allotments and Asset of Community Value

The Rifle Club is now having to take legal action to try to get their lease renewed. They have made an application for the whole site to be designated an Asset of Community Value. They expect a planning application to be made in the next fortnight.

MB asked GH how the Rifle Club membership could make planning objections whilst protecting their home addresses which the police have advised should not be in the public domain. GH suggested using email.

b) Finance: *Chris Puleston*

- There is approximately £7000 in the bank. Street collections are still ongoing. Numbers are about 20% down on last year but above previous years

c) Crime: Clive Williams

Reported crime figures for Southfields Ward and the SGRA area in May, June and July 2021:

Total crimes in **May**: 108 (whole Ward) and 14 (in SGRA area)

June: 158 (whole Ward) and 24 (in SGRA area)

July: 129 (whole Ward) and 22 (in SGRA area)

May: Highest number of reported crimes: Hanford Close (5), all other roads had 1, 2 or 0.

Highest number of offences: Vehicle Crime (3) and 'Other Theft' included one Bicycle Theft.

June: Highest number of reported crimes: Hanford Close and Brookwood Road (4 each). Other roads were 3 or under.

Highest type of offences: 'Other Theft' (8) followed by Vehicle Theft (5) with 1 Bicycle Theft, and 1 'Theft from the Person'. All other categories were 4 or below.

July: Highest roads were Replingham Road, Hanford Close, Brookwood Road and Pirbright Road with 4 each. Apart from four roads with no crimes reported, all other roads in the SGRA area had 1 reported crime.

Highest number of offences: Vehicle Crime (7), Anti-Social Behaviour (6), Burglary and 'Other Theft' of which 4 each were reported. All 3 'Other Theft' were Bicycle Thefts. 1 other reported crime was a 'Violent and Sexual offence' reported in Hanford Close.

It is worth remembering that there are 1482 different criminal offences that people can be charged with. These are divided into 14 different groups on www.police.uk and 11 of these groups are used to compile these figures.

d) Social media and next edition of Grid News: Charles Runcie

Social media has been busy, particularly Facebook. The next edition of Grid News will be out on 19th November. Copy deadline for articles etc is 18th October.

e) Forthcoming events:

- Saturday 2nd October 10.30am, St Barnabas: Police Ward Panel meeting
- Christmas Lights switch on: the date for this has been confirmed since the meeting. It will be held on 30th November, late afternoon/early evening, exact timings TBC.
- *A further date since the meeting: Christmas Market at the Park Tavern pub. Dates tbc, but provisionally 27/8th November and 4/5th December*

f) Date of next public meeting:

- Tuesday 30th November: 7.45-9.30pm. Provisional venue is the main Patio Hall in St Barnabas Church, followed by the usual 'social' with wine and mince pies

g) AOB

- Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty gave feedback about the Front Garden Awards prizegiving at the Southfields Harvest and thanked everyone involved. It was in the open air and the Mayor, Cllr Richard Field, attended and presented the prizes. Thanks to Elizabeth Lloyd-Owen for arranging this. There are posts on the SGRA Facebook page and on Nextdoor. CR thanked Amelia for all her work.

h) Close: 9.10 pm

i) Appendix (i) – Attendance List

Name	Role
Charles Runcie	SGRA Executive Committee - Chairman
Gerard Sebastian	SGRA Executive Committee – Vice Chair
Karen Gregory	SGRA Executive Committee
Serena Potter	SGRA Executive Committee – Secretary
Clive Williams	SGRA Executive Committee
Margaret Brett	SGRA Executive Committee
Chris Puleston	SGRA Executive Committee – Treasurer
Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty	SGRA Executive Committee
Ann Kerr	SGRA Executive Committee
Alise Veremeja	SGRA Executive Committee
Nick Steiner	Friends of Wimbledon Park
Tom Newman	Waste Strategy Dept, Wandsworth Council
Susannah Perry-Greene	Friends of Coronation Gardens
Nina Kowalska	Green the Grid
Elizabeth Lloyd-Owen	Southfields Harvest
Simon Wright	SGRA Advisory Group (AELTC Plans)
Ulrika Hogberg	AELTC
Cllr Guy Humphries	
Cllr Kim Caddy	
Cllr Ed Gretton	
Jeffrey Barber	
David Chamberlain	
Duncan & Kate Lyons	
Diane Brennan	
Sucheta Samant	Southfields Library
Rosemary Langford	
Julia Raeburn	
Elizabeth W	
Lesley McCaul	
Ian Shaw	
Mike Kaufman	
Peter Jackson	
Michael Nicolaides	
Sue Wixley	
Trevor Hawes	
Hilary	
Jackie Lever	
Joseph's ipad	
Janice's ipad	
Mary Buckley	
Robert Whitaker	
Shiraz	Total: 42