



Minutes of the Public Meeting held on Tuesday 30th November 2021 St Barnabas Church

Charles Runcie (Chair) welcomed all to the meeting, the first held in-person since January 2020. He thanked all those who would be speaking and noted a good turnout from the police.

Apologies for absence: Simon Wright (Resident, speaking to item 4 - AELTC), Alise Veremeja (Executive Committee)

1. Minutes + matters arising from the Public meeting on 28th September 2021 and the Executive meeting on 26th October 2021; these can be seen on:

<https://www.southfieldsgrid.org.uk/meeting-minutes/>.

Charles Runcie (CR) identified one item from each meeting:

Public meeting: A question had been raised by a resident regarding vehicles, particularly delivery ones and whether they can be fined for parking on pavements and damaging street furniture etc? Cllr Guy Humphries updated the meeting:

- There is no dispensation for van/lorry/delivery drivers so traffic wardens should be fining them when they have parked incorrectly
- He has requested that delivery vehicles be encouraged to deliver out of hours when possible
- He encouraged the public to please take photos of vehicle number plates and to continue to report to <https://www.fixmystreet.com/>, to the council on: <https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/report/> or direct to him or Cllr Kim Caddy at Cllr.G.Humphries@wandsworth.gov.uk / cllr.k.caddy@wandsworth.gov.uk

Executive meeting:

- There was a query about how much the speed camera is being used. PC Elvy confirmed that its use has been limited due to Covid-19

2. Special guests:

Recycling Updates:

a) **Tom Newman (Waste Strategy Department, Wandsworth Council):** Food Waste Recycling Trial on the Grid update:

- Tom presented his PowerPoint, which can be seen here: <https://bit.ly/SGRARecyclingTrialTNNov21>

Main points:

- 42% of the current waste is recyclable food, hence the trial. It also helps people to see how much waste they create, so helping them to reduce their output
- The roll of compostable liners is a starter roll only, no more will be provided due to high cost. It isn't compulsory to use them, but it is cleaner. Waste can be put into the caddy loose or it can be lined with newspaper
- Please put brown bins as near to the front gate as possible and by other bins
- There have been very few missed collections so far
- A resident identified the current figure of 52% of households using the service as low, and asked why this is and what can be done? Tom explained it is a new service. As much info has been given as possible and letters and social media are the best way

- Following a general discussion, it was agreed that the SGRA will promote this further on social media. Sucheta from Southfields Library suggested that when enough data has been collected, it can be publicised in the library
- The target of 1kg per household served was achieved by the 2nd week
- Clive Williams (Exec Committee) has seen many unused caddies. Tom explained the trial is not compulsory and that awareness is still being raised
- A resident asked how many people compost at home or allotments and whether this is considered? The council can't easily collect this information, but Tom explained it is the most carbon effective food waste disposal. The council has just started a pilot regarding home composters

A question had been submitted and answered by Tom before the meeting, asking if compostable wrap from magazines etc can be included? Tom responded:
"Compostable wrap is acceptable in small quantities e.g. to line a food waste container providing it conforms to composting standard EN13432 (which usually displays the logo below):



If a resident has a large quantity...can be difficult for collection staff to differentiate between 'bio' and 'regular' plastics. A brown bin containing a large quantity may easily be mistaken for regular plastic film and rejected for recycling. If the resident has a large quantity (and doesn't want to keep them for gradual use to line their container) then unfortunately they should be placed in the black sack as the council does not accept any plastic film/bags in recycling sacks."

b) Dante Crowden: 'Recycle More Southfields' update

Dante outlined the progress and work of the Recycle More Southfields Group ([Home](#) | [Recycle More Southfields](#)):

It has been over a year since the idea and group first formed, and almost a year since starting to collect the hard to recycle plastics. It is going very well and the aim of reducing waste in Southfields is being achieved:

Some YTD impact stats: 385kg of hard to recycle plastics have been recycled or repurposed, including:

- 50kg of crisps. Each packet weighs a few grams each so this is over 7000
- 36kg of baby and yoghurt pouches
- 23kg of biscuit wrappers
- 21kg of dental products
- 17kg of medicine blisters
- 13kg of contact lenses
- nearly 7kg of wine corks
- The group is now taking over 30 items on a 5-week schedule.
- Currently around 230 people are in the WhatsApp groups
- Most importantly, there are approximately 20 local volunteers who either help sort the plastics weekly or transport them monthly to the various collection points. This is a sociable and essential role
- The group are also looking for more people to join the steering group, so please let them know if you might be interested and would like to discuss the details:
recyclemoresouthfields@gmail.com
- As well as recycling, the group has been talking to the community about how they can get involved, as well as helping educate on how to recycle more and reduce waste. They have attended events such as Southfields Harvest and had a stall outside McCluskeys last weekend. There would have been a table at Sheringdale Christmas Fair, but this was cancelled

- The level of engagement from the group is inspiring. It is truly community-led, with many great ideas and recommendations regularly being shared around, as well as providing a place to offer up items that are no longer wanted
- Another exciting development is the inspiration of people outside of the area. A member recently asked Dante to talk to an Oxford resident
- Dante's view is that this is working because it is simple, inclusive and really draws on the community spirit. She thanked the Southfields residents and asked them to continue supporting the initiative

3. Crime & Safety Forum: Fleur Anderson MP led the Forum and introduced the following guests:

- Southfields & West Hill SNT (Safer Neighbourhood Team) representatives
- Parks Police representatives
- Inspector Jonathon Lloyd – Metropolitan Police Service
- Andrew Jolly, Community Safety Team, Wandsworth
- Nana Bonsu, Head of Clinical Services Wandsworth Council (due to the young age and vulnerability of the person in question)
- Cllr Kim Caddy (deputy leader, Wandsworth Council) and Cllr Guy Humphries
- Clive Williams (SGRA Executive Committee), Chair, Southfields SN Ward Panel

Fleur explained the forum had been convened due to the concern over the recent sexual assaults, particularly given that Southfields is generally a very safe area. A significant number of people had written to her to ask for a meeting. She thanked Charles Runcie for organising this, and gave an overview, citing the relevance of the recently held White Ribbon Day, which aims for the elimination of violence against women. Many people are concerned about the safety of women on streets. As further context, she explained that 2 years ago there was a high level of concern for the safety of young people starting secondary school. A St Cecilia's School community meeting identified places such as transport hubs as being particularly vulnerable, and more police had been provided. This proved successful. Lots of suggestions have been made by the public regarding the recent concern.

Inspector Jonathan Lloyd gave further details regarding the recent assaults and the ongoing work currently being undertaken to increase safety:

- They took place at Coronation Gardens and in the alley alongside Sheringdale School. There were also several sexual assaults in St Georges Park
- A 14-year-old has been arrested and there have been no further reports since. He may be linked to other offences, and this is an ongoing investigation. He has been charged and has been released on bail; he has not yet been convicted. Details are not published, partly due to his age
- The police are working closely with Nana Bonsu and her team. CID are leading
- 'Hot spots' in Wandsworth have been mapped; none are in Southfields
- The SNT has high visibility, also plain clothes officers. A range of services are working together, for example in carrying out the training of security staff to look out for vulnerable people and to support them
- Work in schools includes giving talks on consent etc. There is significant underreporting so encouraging young people to do so is vital
- The 'Ask for Angela campaign' for support in pubs and clubs was highlighted: ['ASK FOR ANGELA' IF YOU ARE FEELING UNSAFE - National Pubwatch](#)
- There is general safety advice on Metropolitan Police website regarding topics such as taxi safety, phone theft, street robbery, being an active bystander etc: [Protecting yourself from crime | Crime prevention | Metropolitan Police](#)

Cllr Caddy highlighted that the network around the perpetrator was queried. **Nana Bonsu** explained that he is a known and allocated YP with a plethora of services involved and at the highest level available. The Multi-Agency partners have a responsibility to ensure that bail conditions being complied with. Nana reassured residents that everything possible is being done to risk assess and help his family, and to work collaboratively with partners. Nana also explained that her service is also working with social workers and schools on issues such as identity, objectification of women, sexual violence, safety etc and on how we can all, as a community and society, manage this.

A general discussion elicited the following points:

- The Council are putting more CCTV into the alley running alongside Sheringdale Primary School between Standen and Pirbright Roads
- Extra temporary lighting by Sheringdale School is being installed although the lighting is good in that area
- A mirror will be put at the dogleg in the alley
- Research demonstrates that CCTV does have effect (1000 cameras in Wandsworth vs 100 in Richmond) and is a deterrent
- Doorbells such as 'Ring' are helpful. The police do look at footage submitted by members of the public. They need to see the face where possible but distinctive clothing logo can help
- **It was emphasised that if you are concerned, don't hesitate to call 999, not 101. Don't worry if it is not serious enough. Let the police decide if it is important enough**

Questions from the floor:

- A question on how information is made public on 'hotspots': Inspector Lloyd named Tooting Broadway and Clapham Junction, which are linked to night-time economy. Some are on the commons, but these are not as prevalent. Information is available online
- A resident asked for an update about the 3 homeless men who were on Replingham Rd last year. PCSO Lopez explained that 2 were given a CPN (Community Protection Notice) which they accepted, and they moved from the area. People had been giving them money, so they hadn't wanted to leave. The other man disappeared at the same time. The situation is constantly monitored by the SN Team and all individuals are dealt with. PCSO Lopez explained that the SNT will accept all footage even if it is not very clear and will act on it
- Fleur Anderson said that the homeless hostel in Putney is open and taking in those in need. Please contact Fleur or the councillors if any further questions.

Clive Williams, Chair of the newly formed Safer Neighbourhood Ward panel presented the meeting with an update of crime figures for the Grid. He pointed out that these statistics don't reflect the recent incident and emphasised that crime is consistently low on the Grid.

A detailed breakdown can be found here: <https://bit.ly/SGRACrimefiguresMay-Sept21>

Key points:

- The headline crime figures are **September: 150** (whole Ward) and **16** (SGRA area) and **October: 151** (whole Ward) and **16** (SGRA area)
- Figures come from the www.police.uk website
- Several vehicle thefts have been from builders' vans etc, where keys have been left in the vehicle whilst drivers going in and out of houses. A reminder to not leave keys in vehicles and to keep them locked was made
- Further information given following the meeting is that in the whole Southfields Ward, from May to September, the number of offences in the 'violence & sexual offences' category was 'in the mid to high 20s each month'. Corresponding figures for the SGRA roads was 3 or fewer from May to August; 5 in September and 6 in October

Fleur Anderson closed this part of the meeting with a presentation to PC James Elvy, who is leaving his post in the Southfields SNT after 8 years. Fleur and Charles Runcie passed on their thanks for his great work and wished him well in his new post in Kingston.

4. AELTC update: Simon Wright (resident)

Simon was unable to attend so CR read his paper:

“Since our last meeting the number of objections to the AELTC plans on the Wandsworth and Merton planning sites has continued to rise - there are now over 1200 public objections to the plans. Key points to be aware of:

- Full planning application is expected to be heard in February / March 2022
- Residents’ Associations and local groups have continued to put AELTC under pressure over their plans
- AELTC have distributed a “Community Newsletter” to local residents. They have also added a “myth busters” section to their website and planned an open day
- Following an eventful meeting of Merton Council, the Liberal Democrats have launched a petition aimed at halting the plans
- Merton MP Stephen Hammond has raised the subject of the Covenant that Merton Council signed in 1993 which stated that there should be no further building in Wimbledon Park
- An interesting article by Mike Dickson in the Daily Mail on November 23rd quoted AELTC Chairman Ian Hewitt as saying: *"As to the assurances made in 1993, I am sure you can appreciate that the requirements of the club and the community have developed in the resulting 28 years"*
- Two other interesting quotes from the article:
- *"The All England Club is the biggest ratepayer in the Borough of Merton"*
- *"Even if planning permission is granted the covenant could lead to a separate legal challenge. A potential outcome is that Wimbledon may end up making some modifications to soothe local opinion while adding in some extra community benefits."*

5. SGRA Executive Reports:

a) Planning Including Southfields Public Realm improvements: Margaret Brett

MB went through her paper:

The application to retain the new shop front at 243a Wimbledon Park Road (2021/2214) has been refused as inappropriate and out of keeping, resulting in a substandard shopfront with accessibility concerns. The decision requires that the shopfront and residential entrance should be removed and replaced with a shopfront similar to that which previously existed.

The Barclays old site is being refurbished. It is said that it will be a restaurant of some kind. There is some activity on the Haart's old site. Tesco is installing an air conditioning unit.

There are now 533 objections on the Wandsworth site to the AELTC development proposals.

Public Realm

Contractors have finished working on the new pavement outside M&S in Wimbledon Park Road but are still working on the south side pavement. They also seem to have made a start on the north side pavement near the station.

Allotments and Asset of Community Value

The Rifle Club's application to be designated an Asset of Community Value has been approved and this is now on the Council's register. This gives the Club 5 years' protection. The Club are in dispute with the freeholder over the lease extension. There is no planning application yet but this is being monitored.

Other

Electric charging points are being created at the bottom of Lavenham.

Bike stands are to be installed in Coronation Gardens and a water fountain and refurbished railings have been approved.

The Council is consulting on its draft Walking and Cycling strategy until 8 December.

Wandsworth has been included in a government pilot scheme to make the planning system more accessible (Local Plan and Planning policy).

Cllr Humphries highlighted that members of the public can register an interest in having a lamp-post charging point installed.

b) Finance: *Chris Puleston*

Currently the account has around £7300. Most income is from subscriptions and some from advertising. Street collections have raised around £3500, which is 19% down on last year but last year was an unusual one. Trentham Street raised the most at £406 (27% up on last year). A resident asked what was happening about the suggestion of funding a bench? CR responded that we have talked about donating benches to both Coronation Gardens and Wimbledon Park to commemorate the pandemic, but this is currently on hold until it's over.

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

The latest Grid News was delivered to residents last weekend.

The SGRA website is currently being refreshed by Gerard Sebastian, Vice-Chair.

6. Green Spaces Updates:

a) Green the Grid: *Nina Kowalska*

Nina was not present

b) Friends of Wimbledon Park: *Nick Steiner*

Review:

- The **Revelstoke Road entrance** plans now have planning consent from both boroughs. The next step is to get estimates and then seek funding. This will start with TfL. Historic England is very supportive and point out that it will help get it removed from the 'At Risk Register'
- **AELTC plan:** the Merton deputy mayor considers this does not yet comply with the London Plan. The GLA have made the point that special circumstances are needed to justify it. It must clearly outweigh the potential harm to Metropolitan Open Land, or it will not be able to go ahead. Historic England have concerns about the scale and extent of the plans. The **1993 covenant** established when Merton sold the land to AELTC requires the dedication of a public walkway as soon after the golf course uses finishes.

Desilting of the lake: the AELTC plan lists this as to be started in October 2022. It is complex, expensive and controversial. It only deepens the lake, so the benefits are not great.

Finally, **car parking in the Public Park:** space for 500 parking spaces was allocated in 2021; the planning application is for 660 car park spaces

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

Susannah was not able to attend; Charles Runcie outlined developments:

- The playground is open. A bid has been won to have it redesigned next autumn
- The refurbishment of the Edwardian fountain is going through the approval process with Enable, the park contractor
- Interpretation boards which inform users of Coronation Gardens have been installed

7. Socks Appeal for HMP Wandsworth: Charles Runcie

CR reiterated the previously publicised Appeal for HMP Wandsworth. Like last year, the SGRA are organising a collection, in response to the Chaplain’s request, this year it is for socks. Men’s socks, size 5-11, are requested. They can be new, or unwanted and clean - the brighter the better!

The collection points are at:

- 78 Heythorp Street and 127 Heythorp Street
- 15 Elsenham Street and 90 Elsenham Street
- 147 Brookwood Road

If you can’t get to these places, email info@southfieldsgrid.org.uk and they can be collected. Hats are not actively being collected but they will be accepted and passed on.

If you have any unwanted jigsaw puzzles the prison would love them too.

All donations by Monday December 13th please, to enable them to be sorted and distributed before Christmas.

8. Forthcoming events:

- 1st December – 4.30pm, Christmas Lights switch-on, Replingham Road
- 4th December – 11-3pm ‘Christmas Fair’, St Barnabas Church
- 11th December – 12.30-1.30pm Crime Prevention Event, Southfields Library
- 15th January 2022 – 10.30am, Southfields Ward Panel Meeting, St Barnabas Church

9. AOB

- Sucheta Samant, Southfields Library Manager, told the meeting that 5 DoE (Duke of Edinburgh) Award students are running several activities. She encouraged residents to contact her if they would like to participate (Library: 020 8780 1945). These include:
 - 1:1 reading support for children, Wednesdays & Saturdays
 - Scrabble club
 - A German speaker is happy to chat with children and read German stories
- Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty reminded the floor of the launch of the second SGRA ‘Seasonal Cheer’ initiative, encouraging residents to decorate their front gardens etc. There are posters with details on trees in the Grid. The team will be taking photos from 11th December
- CR thanked Mr Ahmad, of the Fazl Mosque who gave a card and chocolates for the SGRA. These were warmly received

Next Public Meeting: Tuesday 25th January 2022, 7.45-9.35pm, St Barnabas Church

Appendix: Attendance List

Name	Role
Charles Runcie	SGRA Executive Committee - Chair
Gerard Sebastian	SGRA Executive Committee – Vice Chair
Karen Gregory	SGRA Executive Committee
Serena Potter	SGRA Executive Committee – Secretary
Clive Williams	SGRA Executive Committee

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Margaret Brett	SGRA Executive Committee
Chris Puleston	SGRA Executive Committee – Treasurer
Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty	SGRA Executive Committee
Ann Kerr	SGRA Executive Committee
Dante Hawick-Smith	Recycle More Southfields
Nick Steiner	Friends of Wimbledon Park
Tom Newman	Waste Strategy Dept, Wandsworth Council
Fleur Anderson	MP
Cllr Guy Humphries	
Cllr Kim Caddy	
Cllr Claire Gilbert	
Nana Bonsu	Head of Clinical Services, Wandsworth Council
PC James Elvy	SNT
PC Robert Amigo	SNT
PC German	SNT
PCSO Lopez	SNT
PCSO Wojnowski	SNT
Inspector Jonathan Lloyd	Metropolitan Police Service
Andrew Jolly	Wandsworth Council
PC Crawford	Parks Police
PC Curtis	Parks Police
Sucheta Samant	Manager, Southfields Library
S Ahmad	
Peter Jackson	
Rosemary Langford	
Diane Brennan	
Lesley McCaul	
Tanya Latif	
Carter Latif	
Aly Cunynghame	
Kate Shattock	
Duncan Lyons	
Trevor Howes	
Jane Lloyd	
Chris Lloyd	
Katrina Ure	
P Skelly	
Jane Whitaker	
Robert Whitaker	
J Baker	
Ian Shaw	
Fabienne Carter	
Jackie Pearce	
Andrew Dunley	Total: 49