

Southfields Grid Residents' Association Executive Committee

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 25th October 2022

Members Present: Charles Runcie (CR), Chris Puleston (CP), Clive Williams (CW), Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty (AO-M), Serena Potter (SP), Margaret Brett (MB), and Ann Kerr (AK).

Actions from last meeting	Owner(s)	Status
Set up Street Rep meeting to discuss possible audit of Grid streets' health and other matters	GS	Open
Discuss Southfields profile on AELTC app with Johnny Perkins	CR	Open
Proposed bench/resting point on the Grid – further research	All	Open
Contact Enable	CR	
New Actions	Owner (s)	Status
Organise stall for St Barnabas Christmas Fair	CR	Open
Organise Christmas Cheer	AO-M, AK, GS, SP	Open
Contact councillors re: signage across the Grid/dog mess signs	AK	Open
Amend Public Meeting agenda format from the next meeting	CR/SP	Open

- Apologies for absence:** Gerard Sebastian (GS)
- Minutes & Matters arising from last Public Meeting (27.09.22)**
 - None**Minutes & Matters arising from last Executive Meeting (06.09.22)**
 - Committee agreed to hold a stall at the St Barnabas Christmas Fair. CR to co-ordinate
- New website design and build:** Gerard Sebastian
 - CR read a memo from GS: GS is continuing to work with Ben Morell. He is going to upload past documents and the process should be completed fairly soon
 - The new website will provide a link which CR will enable for Instagram and pass to AK
- Suggested meeting dates for 2023:**
 - Proposed dates were amended, as follows:
 - Public @ 7.45-9.30pm, Parish Room**
 - 31st January
 - 28th March
 - 23rd May – AGM, St Barnabas Church
 - 25th July
 - 26th September
 - 28th November
 - Exec @ 8-9.30pm, upstairs room**
 - 10th January – instead of December
 - 28th February
 - 25th April
 - 27th June
 - 5th September – in lieu of August
 - 31st October

5. Public Meetings: All

○ **Format of meetings/agendas:**

A discussion was held to consider changes to the above with the aim of reducing the time pressure in meetings. Suggestions included:

- Executive Reports: perhaps members give headlines only and provide handouts in the meeting. CP felt that the Finance item could be covered at the AGM only
- SP suggested Street Reps be given a slot to use if they wish, feeding back queries from residents on their streets
- Encouragement of more Street Reps to attend public meetings
- Proposal: CR to have an agenda item 'Committee Concerns'; if any Executive Committee members have something to say, to be headlines only and their usual information goes into the minutes and a handout if required
- **Upcoming Special guests:** Suggestions:
 - Tom Newman (WBC ref Pilot food waste update)
 - The Safer Neighbourhood Team (it is very difficult for them to attend currently)
 - Updates from Sidonie Forrest-Browne (Public Forum)
 - Council representative re: empty shops (eg Lorinda Freint)
 - Councillor updates

6. Southfields Business Forum: All

- No further news or information regarding the Christmas lights switch on. CR has written to Lorinda Freint to ask for an update

7. Christmas Cheer/Christmas events: All/Amelia

- It was agreed for the original working party to agree some wording and promote Christmas Cheer
- Street Reps/WhatsApp groups may like to promote it on their street groups

8. Dog mess in tree bases/additional signage around Grid: All

There is concern over the amount of dog mess in tree bases and it is putting people off from planting, eg McCluskeys. Discussion outcome was:

- Request new dog mess notices from council. Request a review of all the street signs in relation to general 'clutter': AK to email Kim Caddy & Guy Humphries
- Celebration of special 'Days' such as Clean Streets/National Neighbourly day etc
- Possibly ask children to design posters etc

9. Ongoing updates:

- **Comms including Grid News:** *Charles Runcie*
 - The next edition of Grid News will be out in mid-November. Karen Gregory is working on advertising with Ian Shaw, who will assume responsibility next year. There is still some advertising outstanding. CR to clarify payment with KG and ask her to liaise with CP
- **Planning/Public Realm improvements/Allotments:** **Margaret Brett**
- The Rifle Club and allotments application remains under consideration (2022/1429).
- The refusal for retrospective permission to change the shop front at 243a Wimbledon Park Road (2022/1817) has gone to appeal
- We have objected to the revised application to develop the land to the rear of 235a-237 Wimbledon Park Road (2022/0518). There are 15 objections listed
- The works on upgrading the pavements should end in November. A different surfacing has been used for the forecourts of some of the shops but there are still two remaining. The work outside the station is not yet completed. MB has notified the Council about the damage to the paving

outside 26 A Replingham Road. The issues of the telephone box and community notice board remain outstanding

- Cooks Medipharma is now closed on Saturdays. The Post Office is currently closed whilst it is being upgraded
- The Council is now enforcing the speed limit on Wimbledon Park Road and will be issuing fines
- The AELTC application (2021/3609) remains under consideration. Fleur Anderson, the MP, is now leading a local campaign in opposition to the proposals and believes that the applications will be heard by the Planning Committees in November

- **Crime, including reports on the recent SN Ward Panel meeting, the SNT meeting, and speed gun activity: Clive Williams**
 - See detailed crime figures for July & August here: <https://bit.ly/3Ur82Bw>
 - CW showed a location map of the speed camera on Wimbledon Park Road
 - Feedback from Safer Neighbourhood Ward meeting:
 - Mary Buckley is now chair of West Hill Ward
 - Domestic Violence is to be concentrated on by the Council
 - The Safer Neighbourhood Team consists of 9 people plus 3 police officers. There is a new officer (Maximus).
 - There were questions about the speed camera, which was used on the previous Sunday on Replingham & Wimbledon Park Roads.
 - Tiffany will do a Walk & Talk around Southfields, particularly for females. Date tbc
 - There is evidence of school children being preyed on in Tooting but no evidence to date in Southfields
 - Parcel theft from doorsteps: there appears to be a spate on the Grid. Recommendations are to find somewhere safe for parcels or to agencies/shops
 - There is no evidence of squatters in empty shops as yet

- **Finance: Chris Puleston**
 - £5800 in bank. £1850 outstanding from newsletters. There is £1200 from the RecyclemoreSouthfields grant which is currently being kept on their behalf

- **FoWP: Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty**
 - Revelstoke Road improvements: applications have been made, nothing through as yet. £5k has been offered for phase 3 by National Grid (as a standalone project). Permission from Merton is required
 - Local Plan query whether Wimbledon Park can be taken off the 'at risk' register? AELTC have said this can only be if their plan goes ahead. Nick Steiner has a meeting set up. MB pointed out that the Merton Local Plan is in draft form and is still subject to examination by the Planning Inspectorate
 - Tree planting is arranged for the end of November. Other planting is going well; acorn collection happening

- **FoCG: Charles Runcie**
 - The following activities were discussed:
 - The fountain being restored
 - The Play area being renovated
 - A comprehensive management plan has been written by Wandsworth Council and Enable
 - Winter WonderGarden will be held on 10th December from 3pm – dusk. There will be music/stalls/food & drink and local groups. Leafleting will take place to advertise

- **Streets Reps/Small Business Register updates: Gerard Sebastian:**
 - To be discussed at next meeting

10. Forthcoming events

- **St Barnabas Christmas Fair:** 3rd December 11-3pm
- **Christmas Lights Switch-On:** 7th December, details tbc
- **FoCG Winter WonderGarden:** 10th December, 3pm - dusk
- **SN Ward Panel Meeting:** Saturday January 28th, 10.30am, St Barnabas Church

11. Dates of next meetings:

- **Public: 29th November:** 7.45 – 9.30pm, St Barnabas Church. Hybrid meeting
- **Executive: 10th January:** 8 – 9.30pm, St Barnabas Church

12. AOB

- AK updated the meeting on Southfields Community Group (run by Stacey Woods): this is an excellent local initiative. They are holding a 'Spooky Disco' on Friday 28th October
- Garage sign: CR has written but had no response to date. He will contact others (CR to give relevant names to CW)