



Minutes of the Public Meeting held on Tuesday 6th December 2022

Charles Runcie (CR) in the chair.

CR welcomed all, including those joining via Zoom, to the SGRA hybrid public meeting. He announced the latest edition of the Grid News, which should have been delivered over a week ago, has been lost by DPD. It is being reprinted and should be delivered in the next few days.

CR also thanked Dr Sadar, from the Ahmadiyya London Mosque, for the box of chocolates he gave the meeting. He invited Dr Sadar to show photographs of the Poppy Appeal stand at the Southfields tube station which raised a tremendous £9780. A piece will be put on social media.

Apologies for absence:

Shiraz Dattoo (resident)

1. Minutes + matters arising from the Public meeting on 27th September 2022 and the Executive meeting on 25th October 2022; these can be seen on: <https://www.southfieldsgrid.org.uk/meeting-minutes/>.

Public meeting:

- Southfields Harvest: CR reminded residents that the organisers are standing down after 8 years. If you would like to take over this role, please contact southfieldsharvest@gmail.com
- Public Realm: CR fed back the following response from Sidonie Forrest-Brown: 'We still have a few outstanding elements to be completed in Southfields (water fountain, HVM -Hostile Vehicle Mitigation- seating and mapping). Once completed a final review will be undertaken.'
- Margaret Brett pointed out it is noticeable that the resin surface is already eroding. She added the following points:
 - The pavement outside 26a Replingham Road has still not been repaired
 - Street clutter is still evident. The SGRA remain on the case
 - The Post Office has reopened

Executive Meeting:

- Southfields Business Forum (SBF): Cllr Humphries updated the meeting with the following information:
 - They are being encouraged to hold a summer event, possibly over the Wimbledon tennis fortnight
 - Cllrs Kim Caddy & Guy Humphries met with the SBF recently, reinforced their support and emphasised that the community wants them to succeed
 - Question from the floor – who is on the SBF, and could they be publicised better to residents? Response: this currently include Boots, Olive Garden, the Fish Shop, Southfields Podiatry, amongst others
- Work is ongoing on improving the SGRA website

2. **Special Guest:** *Tom Newman (Waste Strategy Department, Wandsworth Council): update on Food Waste Recycling Trial*

Tom talked through his presentation: <https://bit.ly/FoodWastePilot06-12-22>

Key points:

- The pilot is working well, with no significant problems. It is mainly on target, but significant waste still goes into black sacks
- In terms of data collection, it is difficult for the council to distinguish between unavoidable and avoidable food waste

- Tom asked residents complete a short survey, available until 23rd December, about how the pilot is being used. Please put as much information as possible:
<https://haveyoursay.citizenspace.com/wandsworthecs/983b8305> or scannable from the PowerPoint
- **Next steps:** the pilot will be extended for 1 more year, with a possibility of further extension
- Clive Williams (Executive Committee) asked how residents in upstairs flat with no outside space can participate? Tom acknowledged this is difficult but hopes they may be included in the future
- A resident asked what to do if the waste is not collected, as occasionally happens. Contact Tom on: foodwasterecycling@wandsworth.gov.uk
- A resident asked about the 40/60 split (caddy vs black bag) and what would need to happen to improve the caddy percentage? Tom responded that without knowing the detail of what is being thrown away it is difficult to know. Another resident reminded the meeting that cards giving details of what can be put in were given to all residents at the beginning of the trial. Perhaps the card can be reprinted and distributed again
- Margaret Brett asked if the operatives can be reminded not to leave caddies on the pavement after emptying

3. **AELTC update:** *Simon Wright*

Simon reported back on the following:

- There is an update in the new edition of Grid News. There is still no date for the planning committees at either council, but it will be no earlier than February. Cllr Kim Caddy is representing local residents. AELTC is continuing to add further documents, on both websites; this is making it difficult for the council to track. Merton Council's independent planning consultants (JAM) is publicly critical of AELTC
- There are many gaps in the application and AELTC do not answer questions. There is a strong feeling that the current application should be withdrawn and start again, talking directly to residents
- MPs Fleur Anderson (Labour) & Stephen Hammond (Conservative) appeared on BBC1 on Sunday 4th December, making the point that AELTC are not talking directly and didn't provide a representative on the programme. Articles have been written in the Mail on Sunday & the Telegraph. There is internal discontent within AELTC, and the Chair is standing down early
- The 'Save Wimbledon Park' campaign flyer has been delivered to Grid residents, and the petition has over 6000 signatures
- Sally Bolton is turning on the Southfields Christmas lights on 7th December at 5pm.
- MB stated there were 999 objections on the Wandsworth website as of 6th December
- Merton planning committee has put the 'JAM' report on their website; this can be seen here: https://planning.merton.gov.uk/MVM.DMS/Planning%20Application/1000115000/1000115659/21P2900_EIA_JAM%20Review_27.09.2022.pdf
A summary of key points written by Simon can be seen here: <https://bit.ly/JAMsummary>

4. **Council Matters:** Cllr Guy Humphries

Cllr Humphries made the following points:

- **Speed cameras on Wimbledon Park Road:** this is a very live topic on social media and significant as Wandsworth is the only borough in country currently legally able to fine drivers. It has been running for 3 months; the aim is more about encouraging people to drive slower than fining people. It is not a high priority for police, but it is amongst residents. On the back of 2 trials there are 10 more planned in Wandsworth, one being the Granville Road area
- **The Rifle Club** – Cllrs Humphries & Caddy are continuing to monitor this
- **State of carriageways:** Lavenham/Brookwood Roads are suggested for resurfacing. There are differing views from, eg cyclists & the environmental angle about whether roads should be resurfaced
- Issues such as the following are noted:
 - Scooters using cycle bays by the traffic lights on Replingham Road
 - Cluttered signage on the Grid streets. What can be removed is being investigated

- CR mentioned some street signs off Replingham Road are not evident; GH to contact the Highways Authority
- **Empty shops** are a great concern. Starbucks started a trend of paying over the going price so set a precedent for other landlords. Sikelia been empty for years. The Council has no power over landlords; however the relevant council office does contact landlords regularly. Changes in legislation is hoped for. Pop up stalls in shops were mentioned; GH to email SGRA with information.

5. **SGRA Executive Highlights:**

- **Planning (MB):** no significant new updates
- **Finance (CP):** This year's street collection has beaten last year's total. A resident asked about the purchasing of a defibrillator, mentioned several months ago. Krystals is being pursued as it has 24-hour opening
- **Crime (CW):** latest figures from **September** are 16 reported crimes in the SGRA area; 23 in the remainder of the 'new' ward (new boundaries). Total: 39 (the old ward total is 125).
 - Parcels: do remember to have them delivered to a drop spot (eg Fuller's Library, Krystals) rather than your own front door as they can be stolen
 - Personal alarms: the council is giving them away at crime events. They cost £5/6 to buy. Let Clive know if you would like further information info@southfieldsgrid.org
 - The regular Police Bulletin is very useful but difficult to get hold of due to GDPR requirements. The form can be completed and emailed to Southfields@met.police.uk: <https://bit.ly/SNTmailinglistGDPRform>
 - A 'Community Safety Consultation' online survey is open to 3rd February, please do complete it: <https://haveyoursay.citizenspace.com/wandsworthced/cs-22/>
 - Car thefts: both theft of and from cars. Residents are reminded to report to the police and not just write on social media

6. **Christmas Appeal:** *Charles Runcie*

The Committee has agreed to support the Victoria Drive Pupil Referral Unit's Christmas Appeal this year. Donations are requested of warm clothes and coats for local children and families who are struggling with the cost of living. This was advertised in last week's email and many items have already been dropped off.

A resident asked how it had been publicised; it has been advertised on social media and via email to the SGRA database. CR reminded the meeting that a Community Board has been discussed and requested; however the decision on a site remains difficult. Cllr Humphries will contact TfL to discuss using the blank wall by the tube station. The possibility of using the board by the junction of Revelstoke Road with Merton Road was raised.

7. **Green Spaces Updates:**

a) **Friends of Wimbledon Park:** *Nick Steiner*

Nick went through his power point, which can be seen at: <https://bit.ly/FoWPupdate06-12-22>

b) **Friends of Coronation Gardens:** *Charles Runcie*

Susannah Perry-Green is leaving the area and so stepping down from the committee. CR acknowledged for her tremendous contribution to the work done. £160k improvements Trevor requested a report from GtG regarding finances

8. **Special Guest:** *Leonie Cooper AM – Lime Bikes and other matters*

Leonie reported that work at City Hall is very busy, and outlined the following:

- A deal has been struck with the government that **TfL** will have further funding for a lengthy period
- The **Elizabeth Line** has opened and Leonie highly recommended residents to use it as it is very impressive with comfortable trains and spacious platforms. Already 70 million journeys have been taken. The stations do not always link to underground but are a good standard. West to

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east journey times are hugely reduced. There are ongoing discussions with the government regarding capital investments

- **Buses:** there had been proposals to cut the number 14 & 74 bus routes. This has not gone ahead although some routes have been combined
- **Consultation on ULEZ expansion:** this started in May and closed in August. The Assembly signed off the mayoral strategy in 2018. Smart road user pricing will be introduced – based on data such as the amount of time a car is used and the time of day. The Mayor has now announced an enlargement of the zone from the end of August 2023. The Mayor has announced a £110 million scrappage scheme and is also pushing for the retro fit of cars rather than scrapping them. There will be exemptions and sunset clauses. **New outer London bus routes** are planned, aiming to make the process of cleaning up air not negatively impact those with cars. Leonie recommends checking an individual vehicle's status on the TfL website. Euro 6 emissions is the requirement rather than only the manufacture date, so do check
- Having just been to the Met Police Carol Service and heard John Sentamu speak about Stephen Lawrence and related issues, Leonie emphasised there is still much to be done within the emergency services and their conduct. She reminded the meeting the services are still responding to the Grenfell disaster
- **Lime bikes:** Leonie acknowledged the nuisance these are causing, by being abandoned on pavements and elsewhere. The owner of Lime Bikes is Uber. They do not have a contract with the council and are a private company, consequently the authorities have limited powers. However, Wandsworth are now removing them.
NB Human Forest collect their bikes and give free transport to those who return them, plus they have a geolocation system.

Discussion:

- Guy Humphries asked for further detail about the GLA plan to support small businesses in ULEZ. He was concerned about the value of second-hand vans dropping significantly and that the cost of retrofitting is great. Leonie explained the scrappage scheme will extend to them but acknowledged the significant expenses involved
- Clive Williams highlighted the difficulty for him and other residents who have older cars which will be forced to be scrapped and emphasised his disagreement with the proposals

9. Forthcoming events:

- Christmas Lights Switch On: 7th December 4.30 – 6.30pm
- Southfields Ward Panel meeting: Saturday 28th January 10.30am at St Barnabas Church

10. AOB

- Sucheta Samant, from Southfields library, reminded the meeting that the library is a 'Warm Space', offering free tea, coffee and biscuits every Tuesday from 11-1pm. There are many activities available, including IT classes, and Lego, origami and board clubs [Activities available at Southfields Library \(better.org.uk\)](https://www.better.org.uk).
Please fill in the Library's Annual survey, which can be found here, and return to the library: <https://bit.ly/LibrarySurvey>. It can also be accessed by the QR code here: <https://bit.ly/SurveyQRcode>
- Serena Potter gave a short review of the first 'Restart Southfields: Mend, Fix & Repair Café' which took place at the St Barnabas Christmas Fair. It was a successful low-key soft launch; 15 items were brought by residents with several being mended, including a shredder, several lamps, computers, an umbrella and Christmas lights. Plenty of advice was given by the 6 volunteer repairers. The next event will be held soon and advertised on social media

Next Public Meeting: Tuesday 31st January 2023, 7.45 - 9.30pm, St Barnabas Church

Appendix: Attendance List

Name	Role
Charles Runcie	SGRA Executive Committee – Chair
Serena Potter	SGRA Executive Committee – Secretary
Margaret Brett	SGRA Executive Committee/Lavenham Road Rep
Chris Puleston	SGRA Executive Committee – Treasurer/Elborough Street Rep
Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty	SGRA Executive Committee/Trentham Street Rep
Ann Kerr	SGRA Executive Committee/Clonmore Street Rep
Clive Williams	SGRA Executive Committee
Tom Newman	Wandsworth Waste Strategy Department
Nick Steiner	Friends of Wimbledon Park/Clonmore Street Rep
Sucheta Samant	Southfields Library
Simon Wright	
Leonie Cooper	AM
Ian Shaw	Brookwood Street Rep
Cllr Guy Humphries	Southfields Ward
Nancy Graham	
Trevor Howes	
Deidre Gooderson	
Hilary Simpson	
Dr Sadar Ahmad	
Rosemary Langford	
Jackie Pearce	
Diane Brennan	
Lesley McCaul	Astonville Street Rep
Peter Jackson	
AD Peck	
Galaxy S8	
	Total: 26