

Southfields Grid Residents' Association Executive Committee

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 25th April 2023

Members Present: Charles Runcie (CR), Gerard Sebastian, Clive Williams (CW), Serena Potter (SP), Margaret Brett (MB), Ann Kerr (AK), Ian Shaw (IS), Ameet Phadnis (AP) and Kyle Forder (KF)

Apologies for absence: Chris Puleston (CP), Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty (AO-M)

	Actions from last meeting	Owner(s)	Status
1	Set up Street Rep meeting to discuss possible audit of Grid streets' health and other matters – see below	GS	Open
2	Raise issues around mess and litter around tree bases/signage/litter bins with Councillors at next Public Meeting – 31/1/23. Update on dog mess bins proposal – liaise with Cllr Guy Humphries Clarify process for contacting council regarding such issues	CR SP CR	Open
3	Involve Street Reps in identifying missing street signs/sites requiring them. Arrange a Street Rep meeting in the spring	GS	Open
4	Investigate cost of printing and 2024 SGRA calendar	CP	Open
5	Check in with new manager/owner of Krystals	GS	Open
6	Meet with Ludo Press	CR & GS	Closed
7	Draw up reasons for increasing annual subscription for presentation to residents	CR	Open
8	Put item in Grid News to inform residents about the possibility of applying to become a 'Conservation Area' and ask their views	CR	Put on hold
9	Put item in Grid News regarding replacement for FGA organiser	CR	Closed
10	GS to invite all street reps to the next public meeting 28-03-23	GS	Closed
11	Put together a 'blurb' for advertising via crowdfunding (UST sign) (10K)	CR/CW	Open
	New Actions	Owner (s)	Status
1	Invite new SNT Inspector to speak at AGM	CW/CR	Open
2	Put together list of ideas for street audit Put street rep remit on SGRA website	GS/CR	Open
3	WRWA/City Hall trips dates tbc	CR	Open
4	Sub-committee formed for SGRA calendar	AK/CR/CP	Open

CR welcomed new members to their first meeting - Kyle Forder, Ameet Phadnis and Ian Shaw – and all members of the Committee introduced themselves.

1. Minutes & Matters arising from last Executive Meeting (28.02.23)

- CR has arranged to meet Lorinda Freint on 1st May
- 4) CR & CP met with Ludo Press. The costing is similar to the Yellow Print Shop, so it is not necessary to change to Ludo Press at this point
- Newsletter sustainability (ref a query from a resident about this): it is printed on sustainable materials. **Action: CR to add a notice to explain this in the next Grid News**
- 8) MB went to the recent planning forum and raised the possibility of the Grid becoming a conservation area. It was not supported although it may be possible to suggest in the future. NB there are 45 conservation areas in Wandsworth; the council are under pressure to get paperwork completed. It is pertinent as much legislation is changing and planning is becoming freer. Façades/windows/doors should be protected. The article was not put into the current Grid News this time.

Action: MB to amend Grid News article and monitor for a suitable time to review to this subject

- 9) No one has come forward to take on the Front Garden Awards: suggestion was to take photos of front gardens this year instead
- 11) There has been no further action with the sign as no reply from HR Owen

Minutes & Matters arising from last Public Meeting (28.03.23)

- None

2) AGM preparation (CR)

- **Venue:** after discussion it was decided that MB to talk to Claire Fox about changing the room from the church itself. **Post meeting note: The Patio Room is confirmed as the venue**
- AK gave apologies for AGM as she is unable to attend
- **Format:** Formal procedures followed by guest speaker/s.
- Guest speakers: Fleur Anderson (MP) to be invited and Leonie Cooper (AM). Local groups will be mentioned in Chair's reports but not specifically invited to speak at this meeting. A suggestion was to invite the new SNT Inspector – Paul James
Action: CW to inquire ref: SNT Inspector
- **Nominations and seconders:** 4 officers, with rest of the committee on block, New committee members might like to ask for nominations/seconderers from within the committee if they don't know anyone who is a member of the SGRA (ie having paid their subscription)

3) Street Rep street audit - discussion (GS)

- Ideas for an audit of streets to be put together – GS & CR to do this
- Points raised included:
 - how tasks are divided if there are 2 street reps
 - although we already have a draft list of areas to cover, encourage reps to come to meetings and welcome their own ideas
 - a piece to be put on the website outlining the remit of street reps

4) Grid News: Charles Runcie

- a. **Electronic copy use** – discussion whether to make this public:
Committee discussed and agreed the following protocol going forward:
 - IS to forward the e-copy to advertisers
 - GS to place a copy on the website
 - Executive committee members to feel free to be creative with who they may pass it on to
- Re: possible delivery to the Merton side of Revelstoke Road residents: the chair of Wimbledon Park RA has a concern about potential loss of advertising; he will take the idea to committee
- b. **Advertising (IS):** Key points:
 - Karen Gregory has left useful information. The winter edition had 25 ads, the Spring edition had 19. Out of the 6 who did not renew, 1 business had disappeared, 2 are considering not renewing and 3 felt they had got no business from ads; IS will approach 8 businesses for first time advertising and will present a paper at the next Committee meeting
 - There was a discussion regarding the demographic of local small businesses. It was suggested that details of this could be included in the Street Reps audit. Customer base info such as the East Sheen app mentioned by GS previously might be useful as might returning to 'old' advertising businesses.
 - CW suggested that all telephone numbers in Grid News have the same format
 - AK suggested that the image behind Grid News is too 'busy' and suggested a plain background next time

- c. **Update re: Grid News in estate agent welcome packs (SP):** SP has been into all estate agents and had a positive response to the suggestion they put copies of Grid News in their 'Welcome Packs' or equivalent for new residents moving onto the Grid. She will ensure they have sufficient copies

5) **Trips: City Hall/WRWA:** *Charles Runcie*

The WRWA trip is postponed. There is some interest in the City Hall trip. CR to follow up

6) **New website design and build:** *Gerard Sebastian*

General feedback from the committee is that it is looking good. Points:

- A page for street reps to be included
- Please continue to feedback to GS. The website will go live, and feedback will be used
- The text on the light green background is somewhat distracting (home page)
- Crime to be put into graphic format, like the finance stats

7) **Christmas calendar latest CP**

CP circulated a paper prior to the meeting, which was discussed and agreed.

Action: a sub-committee to be formed of AK, CP and CR.

An example to be put in the July Grid News

8) **Ongoing updates:**

- **Comms:** *Charles Runcie*

Sidonie F-B emailed the following updates:

- **The water fountain:** we are still waiting for an update from the utility company on when this will be reinstated. I am not sure why there has been such a lengthy delay in reinstating this fountain and share your frustration
- **Tube station benches:** the products are being finalised now, delivery date tbc shortly. Hoping for June installation although not confirmed yet
- **Phone box removal:** no change in status from BT
- **Green wall at tube station:** no update yet, will be in touch again soon
- **Mayor Making Evening** – IS and CR have been invited but neither can attend
- **Planning/Public Realm improvements/Allotments:** *Margaret Brett*
 - **The Rifle Club and allotments application** (2022/1429) is to be considered by the Planning Committee this evening with the recommendation that it be refused. The planning officer was prepared to deal with it under delegated powers but referred it to the committee in light of the community interest
 - There are ongoing applications about the detail of the work being done to the rear of **235a-237 Wimbledon Park Road** continues (2022/0518)
 - The **AELTC application** (2021/3609) remains under consideration with 1173 objections showing on the Wandsworth website. There are also more comments in support, and we are told that AELTC have employed people to collect these. The most recent development is that the precedent of a Supreme Court decision in March about public trust land may apply. It is thought that both Councils are now seeking legal advice so the expected date of consideration by the committees has now been pushed back.
 - The **public realm works** have not been completed: the work outside the station is still outstanding as are the issues of the telephone box and community notice board. Nothing has been done to address the eroding surfaces. The damaged paving outside 26A Replingham Road has not been repaired neither has the water fountain been replaced. This is down to the utility companies involved. Sidonie has been reminded about the paving.
- **Local issues**
 - Lark is going into the old Starbucks site. There is active refurbishment in Bournes. We are told that there are problems with repairs at the Barclays site

- There is a water leak at the bottom of Replingham Road that has not been dealt with
- We have until 30 April to give views to the 'Cost of Living' Commission

- **Crime:** *Clive Williams*

Ward Panel Meeting feedback: a number of cars have been stolen and reported on Nextdoor:

- As usual, residents should ensure they report to the police Crime prevention advice etc
- 'Sheduction' leaflets were given out, to prevent thefts from sheds
- The team carry out a series of 'Day of doors' when they try car doors and if found open, they search for the owner or door knock to remind them to keep doors locked
- Contact point: Caffe Nero, for a 'Cuppa with a Copper.' The next date is Thursday 27th 2-3pm

- **Finance:** *Chris Puleston*

- CP sent his apologies and provided the following note:

Available: £5,261

Outstanding Advertising from Spring Edition - £1,195 **Expected Total - £6,456**

Street collection update

Total collected: £3,442 (10% increase on last year)

28% was collected online by either PayPal or Bank transfer

Top 3 Streets by Value:

Engadine £403

Astonville £403

Clonmore £401

- **FoWP:** *Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty*

- AO-M sent apologies

- **FoCG:** *Charles Runcie*

- The improvements to the new playground are out to consultation
- The Annual meeting is tomorrow (Wednesday 26th) at 7.30pm
- There is a Coronation event in Coronation Gardens. Residents are invited to bring a picnic from 11-4pm
- SGRA stall: CR to run

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

- GS to arrange meeting

9) Forthcoming event dates:

- **Coronation Weekend: 6-8th May:**

Seniors' Tea Party, Sunday 7th May 3-5.30pm, St Barnabas Church

- Some posters are up, please add to streets
- It is a free party open to all older residents
- Volunteers are needed from 2pm or at 5pm. Set up tables and food. Tea-making, washing up etc. GS to ask street reps
- Raffle prizes are needed
- An escort for the Deputy Mayor is needed; CR to ask AO-M
- Cygnet Players will sing
- **MB to send information out**

Coronation Gardens Community event, Monday 8th May 11-4pm

- St Barnabas Quiz – 12th May
- Mend, Fix & Repair Café & Green the Grid Plant Giveaway (part of Wandsworth Great Big Green Week): 17th June 12 – 3pm, St Barnabas Church

10) Dates of next meetings:

- Public (AGM): 23rd May: 7.45 – 9.30pm, St Barnabas Church, hybrid
- Executive: 27th June: 8 – 9.30pm, St Barnabas Church

11) AOB

- None