

Southfields Grid Residents' Association Executive Committee

Note of meeting held on Tuesday 5 September 2023

Members Present: Charles Runcie (CR) Margaret Brett (MB), Kyle Ford (KF), Ann Kerr (AK), Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty (AO-M), Ameet Phadnis (AP), Ian Shaw (IS), Clive Williams (CW).

Apologies: Rod Lewington, Serena Potter.

	Update on actions from previous Exec Comm meetings	Owner(s)	Status
1	Set up Street Rep meeting to discuss possible audit of Grid streets' health and other matters	CR	Open
2	Update on dog mess bins proposal – liaise with Cllr Guy Humphries	SP	Open
3	Involve Street Reps in identifying missing street signs/sites. Arrange a Street Rep meeting in the spring – see below	CR	Open
4	Put together list of ideas for street audit Put street rep remit on SGRA website	CR	Open
5	WRWA/City Hall trips around Autumn 2023	CR	Open
6	New website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contact Rob Kennedy for advice re reclaiming domain name • Committee to decide management responsibility for site • To arrange for Constitution to be on new website 	CR All IS	Closed Closed Closed
7	Street Safety & Speeding to be discussed at July public meeting	CR	Closed
8	Paul James & Dan Joyce to be invited to speak at July public mtg	CR	Closed
9	2024 SGRA calendar: Investigate cost of printing and 2024 SGRA calendar & formation of sub-Committee	AK/CR/ AO-M	Pending to 2024
	Actions arising from 5th September Committee meeting	Owner(s)	Item no.
	To investigate reasoning/impact of 7am-7pm bus lane restriction in Merton Road between Brookwood & Standen Roads	IS	5
	CR to quality check the new SGRA website	CR	7
	Gender balance of Ex Comm to be considered	Ex Comm	8
	Ex Comm members to decide which area to lead on/buddy up	Ex Comm	10
	A Working Group to update Constitution to be set up	IS	10

1. Introduction

CR announced that Serena Potter would chair the next Public Meeting (26/9/23) in his absence.

2. Minutes & Matters arising from previous Executive Meeting (see above)

- Actions 1, 3 and 4: to be considered by the Committee during the Autumn of 2023.
- Action 2: Cllr Guy Humphries to update Public Meeting on 26 Sept.
- Action 5: see item 14 below
- Actions 6, 7 & 8: as all had been carried out, they were considered closed.
- Action 9: see item 12 below

3. Public Meeting (12/09/23) re future of Wimbledon Park if AELTC developments approved

CR reminded all that this followed Simon Wright's proposal to a meeting where those living outside the remit of the SGRA geographical area could be invited as well as Grid residents. This meeting would be organised by him in an individual capacity, i.e. not on behalf of, or for, the

SGRA. It has become apparent that there were differing messages about the purpose of this Public Meeting e.g. people were invited to hear what will happen if AELTC proposals are approved, and other seeking audience views on what SGRA stance should be. Also a LibDem leaflet recently circulated was wrongly claiming that SGRA had no stance on this issue.

4. Thefts across Southfields

AO-M raised this because of recent bike-shed break-ins and bike thefts especially those in easy-to-spot sheds in front gardens where locks could easily be disabled. This was a major problem in Trentham and Heythorp Street. CR had contacted the Safe Neighbourhood Team who recognised that although determined/professional criminals will break into these bike sheds, suggested people could use anchor bolts in the sheds where bikes can be chained to, use security lights and camera doorbell and store bikes in their rear garden.

5. Street Safety

AO-M raised this in respect of speeding cars the instances of which had increased possibly due to the 156 bus lane on the Merton Road stretch adjacent to the Grid being operational all day. Cars trying to avoid the queue to get into Replingham Road (from Merton) would turn into Ashen Grove, then Durnsford Road, then onto Trentham Street. There were also speeding issues concerning Elsenham. It was agreed that SGRA should find out the reasoning and impact behind extending the restriction of the bus lane from 7-10am to 7am-7pm.

6. Next SGRA Public Meeting (26 September)

Superintendent David Bannister (who is in charge of our police Safe Neighbours Teams across Wandsworth) would be a guest speaker and would be expected to cover car & bike thefts, patrolling/visibility, future plans regarding the Met SW district. There would also be updates on street signage review, discussions on street safety at Public Meeting on 26 Sept.

7. Update on new website www.southfieldsgrid.org.uk

CR confirmed that previous sets of meeting papers & grid news and the Constitution had been uploaded. CR would be quality-checking the website to see if further changes were necessary.

8. Executive Committee: SGRA Treasurer & Prospective new member to be co-opted

CR advised the Committee that Ameet Phandis had agreed to take over as SGRA Treasurer from Chris Puleston early Nov. CR also proposed that David Boyle (currently Street Rep for Langton Place) be co-opted on to the Executive Committee. AO-M suggested that the gender balance of the Committee needed to be looked at which CR agreed would be done.

9. Heritage Transport Sign

Both CR and CW were delighted to announce that, alongside the SGRA contribution (£500) and a personal donation, match funding had been agreed between HR Owen Group and Heritage of London Trust. The Heritage of London Trust would also be seeking a donation from AELTC.

10. Enhancing Exec Comm resilience

To ensure the Exec Comm could meet its obligation to effectively manage and administer the SGRA, as required by the SGRA Constitution, IS was seeking nominations from the Committee for members to either lead on activities (e.g. updating street representative roles) or buddy-up with a lead on current activities (e.g. oversight of planning developments). Nominations to be with IS by 25 Sept. A working group to undertake the updating of the Constitution would be set-up.

11. Request for SGRA donation: PAT tester for Mend, Fix & Repair cafe

The Exec Comm agreed to a request from Serena Potter for a donation of £150 to go towards the purchase of the PAT tester for use at the forthcoming and future Mend, Fix & Repair cafes.

12. Update on 2024 calendar

Due to circumstances beyond the sub-Committee's control, it was agreed that there would not be enough time to produce the calendar for 2024. Following a suggestion from MB, it was agreed to plan for one to come out in 2025 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of SGRA's existence.

13. Ongoing updates:

Communication – Charles Runcie:

- Next Grid newsletter due mid-to-late November, articles commissioned from mid-October.
- CR had provided a paragraph to 'Grid Mummies' for them to put on their network to seek the assistance to two people to help SGRA – especially on social media.

Planning & public realm improvements – Margaret Brett:

- There are now legal opinions showing on Wandsworth's planning website for AELTC (2021/3609) discussing the relevance of the Supreme Court decision in 'Day versus Shropshire'. A more recent posting questions whether Merton can in fact agree to AELTC's suggested location for the lakeside board walk because, as they own the lake, they may not be able to cede control of access over public trust land.
- We objected to the proposed change to the frontage of 243 Wimbledon Park Road (2023/2491)
- The Olive Garden's application to enclose their frontage was refused (2023/1119).

Public Realm

- Sidonie Forrest-Brown has advised that they are chasing the installation of the seating at the station and the return of the water fountain. The new resin surface needed outside the old Bulcraig's office is in hand.

Local issues

- The old Trieste corner site is now back in use as a bar & pop-up shop.
- Loney Miller (old Bulcraig's site) has now planning permission for the new 'shop' front.
- Momo offices now Tan and Groom, Organic Way opened next to Swan Drycleaners.

Crime – Clive Williams: Please see [page 4](#) for June 2023 figures.

Friends of Coronation Gardens – Charles Runcie:

- A competition will be run by FoCG and PSAD for a figurine design to feature on the fountain.
- FoCG will receive a London in Bloom Award to be held at a event in Mile End – date tbc.

14. AOB

- CR would email the Executive Committee with dates for visits to the new City Hall and (not at the same time) the Western Riverside Waste Authority (WRWA) at Smugglers Way.

Dates of next meetings

- Public Meeting: **26 September**, 7.45-9pm, St Barnabas Church, hybrid

Forthcoming events

- Mend, Fix & Repair Cafe: **23 September** 12-3pm, St Barnabas Church
 - Southfields Harvest: **30 September** 12-3pm, St Barnabas Church
 - Southfields Artists Open House Event: **6 & 7 and 14 & 15 October**,
 - Southfields Christmas Lights Switch-On: **6 December**, timing tbc, Replingham Road
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Crime Figures for Southfields Grid & Pirbright Road - June 2023

Annex A

June 2023	Anti-Social Behaviour	Burglary	Criminal Damage & Arson	Drugs	Other Crime	Other Theft	Public Order & Weapons	Robbery	Shoplifting	Vehicle Crime	Violence & Sexual Offences	Total
Replingham Road			1							1		2
Brookwood Road										2		2
Lavenham Road										1		1
Revelstoke Road												0
Elsenham Street												0
Heythorp Street							2					2
Clonmore Street										1		1
Engadine Street	1											1
Elborough Street												0
Trentham Street												0
Astonville Street											1	1
Hanford Close		1		1	1		2					5
Pirbright Road												0
Merton Road								1			4	5
Total	1	1	1	1	1	0	4	1	0	5	5	20

All Crimes reported in Southfields Ward in June 2023: 68 [including SGRA: 20]

Other Crime: (0)

+Off-Grid: Southfields LU Station (British Transport Police) (7)

Heritage Wimbledon Park: (1)

(LB of W) West Hill – Violence & Sexual Offences (1): (LB of M) Village (0): Wimbledon Park (0).

[Information extracted from the Crime Maps for Southfields Ward from www.police.uk]