



Note of the Public Meeting held on Tuesday 28 November 2023

Welcome and apologies for absence

Charles welcomed all to the SGRA hybrid public meeting. Apologies for absence were received from: Kyle Forder, Simon Wright and Johnny Perkins.

Minutes & matters arising from 26 September Public & 31 October Executive Meetings (notes can be accessed via SGRA [website](#)).

- Safer Neighbourhood Team: Don Lopez, who spoke at the Public Meeting, has been recognised for his 20 years of service with Met police. Also, there was good news in that the suspected tyre slasher had been arrested and that there had been no more incidents.
- Artists Open Weekend (7/8, 14/15 October) had been a success with artists appreciating a good turnout.
- Council Matters: Cllrs Guy Humphries and Kim Caddy would still like to hear if residents witnessed odd waste collections e.g. recycling bags being placed in the non-recycling section of the lorry. In response to a concern where there had been fly-tipping on the corner of both Lavenham Road and Heythorp Street (e.g. cookers) and also ensuring pavements are swept of leaves, these should be reported to Wandsworth Borough Council by either [requesting](#) street cleaning/report cleaning issues OR [reporting](#) a street problem. There is also Fix My Street [website](#). Finally, in respect of dog waste signs – it was confirmed that instead of getting more signs, the old ones would be replaced.
- SGRA Constitution: Work is currently underway to update the current version to make it fit for purpose when SGRA celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2025.
- Front Garden Awards 2024: Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty confirmed that these would take place around June 2024 with Judges chosen earlier in January. Exec Comm had agreed to increase the first prize to £40. There would also be a children's poster competition to advertise the awards.
- 2023 Christmas Appeal: It was agreed that the Christmas appeal would be Socks for HMP Wandsworth Appeal. Target to be reach is 1,630 pairs and deadline for collection is 17 December.

Wimbledon/AELTC plans latest

- Ian Shaw read out a statement on behalf of Simon Wright (see Annex A). The main message being that as both Merton and Wandsworth Borough Council Planning Committees had decided to approve and reject the planning applications respectively, the understanding was that the plans and comments from Planning Committees would be submitted to the GLA who, on receipt, would have two weeks to decide how they should be handled. GLA's handling options were understood to be:
 - to return the plans to Wandsworth & Merton and ask them to have another go
 - to take over as planning authority and decide whether plans should be approved
 - to pass the plans to the Levelling Up Secretary of State (Michael Gove) and ask him to decide.
- Guy Humphries gave a report on Wandsworth Council's Planning Committee meeting on 21 Oct. There was a proper debate on the planning application ensuring all issues had a good airing, including appropriate challenges to the application. It was important for the meeting to keep to basics and key principles.

Friends of Wimbledon Park – Section 106: Nick Steiner (full presentation can be accessed [here](#))

- Section 106 agreements (or planning obligations) are legally binding agreements between local planning authorities and developers. Their purpose is to state agreed mitigatory actions to be implemented by developers to balance against negative pressures on social, physical and economic infrastructures arising from the original planning application.

- In respect of Wimbledon Park, the situation is complicated by the fact that there are different owners involved (Merton Borough Council, Wimbledon Club and AELTC) who should work together and be open to suggestions from interested parties e.g. FoWP to ensure correct priorities (restoration of vistas, special places for nature, free to use space) are included in the Section 106 agreement.

GLA Matters (including AELTC): Leonie Cooper

- On AELTC, Leonie Cooper expanded on what may happen at the GLA. First, she had been told that the GLA would not accept separate submissions (i.e. application accompanied by advice from planning case officers) from both Merton & Wandsworth Borough Councils - only a joint one. Once a joint submission had been agreed and the necessary paperwork assembled, it would then be submitted to the GLA. On receipt, the GLA would then have two weeks to decide the next steps. If the GLA takes it further it will be considered by the GLA Planning team and then at a public hearing with the Deputy Mayor (Jules Pipe). Further representations can be made to the Deputy Mayor. At the public hearing, the two Borough Planning Committee Chairs and AELTC will be asked to speak. Leonie, as the LA Member, has the right to speak and intends to make the case against the development. The decision rests with the Deputy Mayor.
- On ULEZ – figures showed good compliance. There was strong recognition that there were logjams in scrappage applications.
- In respect of the ongoing transformation of the Met police, members of the GLA had heard from the Victims Commissioner which showed how much more progress needed to be made.

SGRA Executive Updates:

- **Planning** - The application for approval of the 'Fone & Vape' shopfront at 243 Wimbledon Park Road has been refused again.
- **Public Realm** - The seating at the station has been installed but still needs to be finished off. The seating will have timber tops which will face one way (towards the station and not the road). The seating will also include armrests. It planned to have the cladding and seating installed in early January 2024. We are still waiting for the return of the water fountain.
- **Local issues** - Congratulations to Rev Ian Tattum on being granted a Wandsworth Civic Award. Best Buys is being refurbished. There are some works taking place in the Yellow Print site. Zenith and the Hat shop have closed. Library of Things opened in Southside 28 Nov 2023
- **Crime** – Clive Williams Please see Annex B for crime figures for September 2023.
- **Finance** – As of 28 November, funds approx. = £7,600 with income coming in from adverts.
- **Communications** – SGRA had 627 followers on 'X', 935 on Facebook and approx. 500 members.

Green Spaces Updates:

Friends of Coronation Gardens (FoCG): Charles Runcie

- A good year for FoCG with two Awards: 'London in Bloom' and a Green Flag.
- In respect of the 100 year old fountain, the design is being worked on between FoCG and Putney School of Art & Design (PSAD) as the site was given by Sir William Lancaster who was not only the 2nd Mayor of Wandsworth but the co-founder of PSAD.

Forthcoming Meetings

- Public Meeting: **30 January 2024**, 7.45-9pm, St Barnabas Church, hybrid
- #### **Forthcoming events**
- Southfields Christmas Lights Switch-On: **6 December**, approx 5pm, Replingham Road
 - Southfields SNT Ward Panel Meeting: **20 January**, 10.30am, St Barnabas Church
 - Restart Southfields: Mend, Fix & Repair Cafe - **27th January**, St Barnabas Church

SGRA – Executive Members	Role
Charles Runcie	SGRA Exec. Comm - Chair
Serena Potter	SGRA Exec. Comm – Joint Secretary
Ian Shaw	SGRA Exec. Comm – Joint Secretary/ Brookwood Rd Rep
Margaret Brett	SGRA Exec. Comm/Lavenham Road Rep
Ameet Phadnis	SGRA Exec. Comm/Replingham Road Rep
Ann Kerr	SGRA Exec. Comm/Joint Clonmore Street Rep
Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty	SGRA Exec. Comm/Joint Trentham Street Rep
Clive Williams	SGRA Exec. Comm
Rod Lewington	SGRA Exec. Comm
Speakers/Main contributors	Role
Nick Steiner	Friends of Wimbledon Park/Joint Clonmore Street Rep
Guy Humphries	Wandsworth Borough Councillor
Kim Caddy	Wandsworth Borough Councillor
Leonie Cooper	Assembly Member
SGRA Road/Street	Attendees
Astonville Street	Lesley McCaul (Street rep)
Brookwood Road	Joe Fagan
Elborough Street	Peter Jackson
Elsenham Street	Sarah Donlan
Engadine Street	Sally Morgan, Jackie Pearce
Heythorp Street	Ann Redman; Peter Watts; Tim & Karen Dumenil
Lavenham Road	Georg Mueller-Koegler; Ayesha Hasan; Mrs Asser
Trentham Street	Trevor Howes; Di Brennan;
Zoom:	Lee Roberts; Kyra von Schottenstein (Street Rep – Heythorp Street); Hania Lubienski; Rosemary; Lucy Griffin Beale; Richard; Hilary. (7).
Jil Hall	Merton Councillor
John Cockram	Pulborough Road
	Total: 37

Statement by Simon Wright: Update on the AELTC plans to develop Wimbledon Park

Read out, on his behalf, at the SGRA Public Meeting – Tuesday 28 November 2023

You will have seen from the article in Grid News that a great deal has happened since our last meeting. In essence, Merton Council approved the AELTC plans (6-4) whilst Wandsworth Council rejected the plans (7-0)

Both these events generated a lot of media coverage and demonstrations outside the Council offices in Morden and Wandsworth.

In addition, the SGRA balloted its members on what position to take and as a result now opposes the plans. The SGRA formally submitted an objection to the AELTC plans to Wandsworth Council ahead of the latter's decision.

What happens next?

1. The AELTC plans are now submitted to the GLA
2. The GLA will have two weeks from receiving the application to decide what to do next
3. Their options are
 - to return the plans to Wandsworth & Merton and ask them to have another go
 - to take over as planning authority and decide whether plans should be approved
 - to pass the plans to the Secretary of State (currently Michael Gove) and ask him to decide

Watch this space!

For more information Google 'Save Wimbledon Park' or email Simon Wright at simon@ofplus.com

Crime Figures for Southfields Grid & Pirbright Road

Sept 2023

Sept 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	2		2		1	1						6
Brookwood Road												0
Lavenham Road											1	1
Revelstoke Road												0
Elsenham Street		1										1
Heythorp Street										1		1
Clonmore Street												0
Engadine Street												0
Elborough Street												0
Trentham Street												0
Astonville Street	1									1		2
Hanford Close					1	3					2	6
Pirbright Road										1		1
Merton Road		1										1
Total	3	2	2	0	2	4	0	0	0	3	3	19



All Crimes reported in Southfields Ward in Sept 2023: 59 [including SGRA: 19]

Other Crime: Other Theft (2) – Hanford Close Bicycle Theft (2)

+Off-Grid: Southfields LU Station (British Transport Police) (3)

Heritage Wimbledon Park: (1)

(LB of W) West Hill (1); (LB of M) Village (0); Wimbledon Park (0).

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