



Southfields Grid
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

NOTE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 21 MAY 2024, 7.45PM TO 9.30PM ST BARNABAS CHURCH

Before the formal AGM proceedings, Charles Runcie and Lesley McCaul gave warm tributes to Mike Caswell MBE who had passed away earlier in the day. Mike was SGRA Chair from 1996 to 2011.

1. Welcome, apologies for absence

Charles Runcie welcomed all to the AGM. Apologies were received from Cllrs Kim Caddy & Guy Humphries (Wandsworth) and Jil Hall (Merton), Ameet Phadnis, Clive Williams & Kyle Forder.

2. Minutes of 2023 AGM

There were no matters arising and the minutes were accepted without challenge.

3. Chair's Annual review 2023/24 – click [here](#) to access

Charles Runcie in presenting his review highlighted: increased overall membership (over 500 on the database), healthy finances, 6 public meetings plus GLA election hustings, improved social media, continuing co-ordination with other groups in the Grid, Councillors etc, increasing number of enquiries and a successful seniors' tea party in mid-May. The Chair's review was accepted without challenge.

4. Financial report 2023/24 – click [here](#) to access

David Boyle presented the financial report for 2023/24. Following questions from the floor, David agreed to: (i) look at how the average subscription per household could be better calculated; and (ii) ensure there are more details on what comes under 'Other' category on the expenditure page in future reports. The Financial report was accepted without further challenge.

5. Election of SGRA Officers and Members of the Executive Committee for 2024/25

All officers-Charles Runcie (Chair), Ian Shaw (Secretary), Serena Potter (Membership Secretary), David Boyle (Treasurer) and Executive Committee members- Ameet Phadnis, Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty, Ann Kerr, Clive Williams, Kyle Forder, Margaret Brett & Rod Lewington were elected without challenge.

6. Street representatives for 2024/25

There are remaining vacancies in both Elborough Street and Hanford Close. If anyone was interested in these voluntary roles to contact Charles Runcie.

7. Agreement of Annual SGRA Membership subscription

Charles Runcie's proposal to keep the minimum amount to £5 was accepted without challenge.

The formal AGM business came to an end.

8. Draft of revised SGRA Constitution - click [here](#) to access outline of changes

Ian Shaw presented an outline of the changes in the revised Constitution which were the outcome of a team made up of Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty, Margaret Brett & Ian. The changes were accepted and the revised Constitution will be formally signed at the 18 June Executive Committee meeting.

Guest Speakers

Suzy Levy – Litter picking initiative in Southfields: levandsuzy@gmail.com

Suzy's community initiative started in January 2024. During the last weekend of every month, a growing group of volunteers come together to collect as much rubbish (both recyclable and non-recyclable) in Southfields and surrounding areas. A recent litter-pick weekend covered 23 roads and streets: Acuba, Astonville, Durnsford (Ave & Rd), Elsenham, Engadine, Gartmoor Haslemere, Havana, Heythorp, Longfield, Lucien, Mount, Pirbright, Pulborough, Replingham, Revelstoke, Standen, Trentham, Viewfield, Wellington, Whitlock, Wimbledon Park.

Suzy's presentation (see [link](#) for abridged version) highlighted systemic issues – mainly that the bins are not fit for use, bags left on streets were ripped open by foxes, and that fly-tipping was still going on. There was a need for some close dialogue with Wandsworth and Merton Borough Councils to look for practical solutions – for example how to resolve the problem of residential bins being located in business areas. Perhaps something to be worked up with the Southfields Business Forum. If residents see any fly-tipping, they should report it to www.fixmystreet.com.

Rachel Roberts – Southfields Business Forum: info@Wishlistshop.co.uk (for Rachel Roberts) & info@southfieldsfootcare.co.uk (for Spencer Childs)

Rachel outlined how the SBF organisation has been strengthened in recent months: there were now 9 people on the Committee; 15 businesses have recently joined; and a tiered membership, depending on type/location of business, had been introduced. In focussing on businesses in Replingham and Wimbledon Park Road, SBF are using the forthcoming Tennis Championships and working with AELTC to make Southfields centre more attractive to customers and potential businesses – e.g. hanging baskets, a welcoming flower display outside the tube entrance. There will be a Tennis Map printed on the tickets highlighting Southfields shops/restaurants. Additionally, there will also be an illustrated map (done by a local artist) to be placed over the windows of old Barclay's Bank during the Championships. AELTC have accepted that marshalling needs to be more efficient with consideration given to allow spectators, after leaving the tennis grounds, to visit local businesses/restaurants.

Rachel acknowledged the strong support from residents, however, it was important to manage expectations. In particular, SBF cannot answer questions outside its remit e.g. how can potential businesses access empty shop properties – these questions should be directed to Wandsworth Borough Council.

Fleur Anderson, MP for Putney, Roehampton & Southfields

In respect of local (to Southfields) issues, Fleur acknowledged how effective SGRA was as a residents' association, also local community initiatives supported by SGRA e.g. the recent seniors' tea party, and successful mend, fix and repair cafes. She also took a Ukrainian MP to two schools in Southfields. She was pleased that the Granville Road allotments would remain intact. She promised to look at the issue on when the bus stop (W) at Wandsworth/Southside would be re-opened as it had been closed for a long time inconveniencing passengers by having to alight at the Broomhill Road stop. On AELTC, she reminded people to send in their objections (to the revised proposals) to the GLA by 8 June 2024. She was concerned about the negative impact on Roehampton's local economy if the tennis preliminaries are moved to Wimbledon Park (as part of the AELTC developments). Fleur also praised both the Southfields Business Forum and Litter-picking as excellent examples of community initiatives.

On wider issues, in terms of safe-guarding marine environment, Fleur was pleased to report that both Boots and Tesco's have said that their wet-wipes contain no plastic at all. In response to a question on the future of Hammersmith Bridge, Fleur acknowledged that the repercussions of the closure (pending repair) of the Bridge was impacting elsewhere in South West London. She was keen to see repairs started as quickly as possible.

AOB

- **Restarters Southfields: Mend, Fix & Repair Cafe**, and Green the Grid (GtG) plant giveaway will be held on 15 June
- **Southfields Library:** Sucheta Samant reminded all to check out Southfields Library June [newsletter](#).
- **Future SGRA Public Meeting:** Following a request from the floor, SGRA will invite Southfields Group Practice Manager to speak at a future SGRA public meeting.

Forthcoming Meetings

- SGRA Public Meeting **23 July**, 7.45-9.30pm, St Barnabas Church

Forthcoming events

- Restarters Southfields: Mend, Fix & Repair Café & GtG plant giveaway: **15 June**, St Barnabas Church
- Southfields SNT Ward Panel Meeting: **20 July**, 10.30am, St Barnabas Church

Attendance List

SGRA – Executive Members (8)	Role
Charles Runcie	SGRA Exec. Comm – Chair
Serena Potter	SGRA Exec. Comm – Joint Secretary
Ian Shaw	SGRA Exec. Comm – Joint Secretary/ Brookwood Rd Rep
David Boyle	SGRA Exec. Comm – Hon. Treasurer/Langton Place Rep
Margaret Brett	SGRA Exec. Comm/Lavenham Road Rep
Ann Kerr	SGRA Exec. Comm/Joint Clonmore Street Rep
Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty	SGRA Exec. Comm/Joint Trentham Street Rep
Rod Lewington	SGRA Exec. Comm
Speakers/Main contributors (3)	Role
Suzy Levy	Litter picking in Southfields
Rachel Roberts	Southfields Business Forum
Fleur Anderson	MP for Putney, Roehampton and Southfields
SGRA Road/Street (23)	Attendees
Astonville Street	Lesley McCaul/Astonville Street Rep
Brookwood Road	-
Clonmore Street	Nick Steiner/Joint Clonmore Street Rep
Elborough Street	Peter Jackson, Peter Smith, Diane Nielsen-Smith
Engadine Street	Jacqui Pearce
Elsenham Street	Mark Lubienski, Spencer Childs, Elizabeth Lloyd-Owen, Lucy Griffin-Beale, Simon Wright, Wendy Rose, P Terndrup
Hanford Close	-
Heythorp Street	Ann Redman, Tristram Frost, Peter Watts, Fred?
Langton Place	-
Lavenham Road	Gordon Springett, Robert Mathison
Pirbright Road	Bridget Bryer
Replingham Road	Tommy Johnston
Trentham Street	Di Brennan; Trevor Howe/Joint Trentham Street Rep;
(4)	
Lee Roberts	Conservative Parliamentary Candidate
Cllr Tony Reiss	Wimbledon Park
Sucheta Samant	Southfields Library Manager
Greg Harris	Princes Way
	Total: 38