



Southfields Grid
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Note of the Public Meeting held on Tuesday 24 September 2024

Matters arising since 23 July Public & 3 Sept Executive Meetings (via SGRA [website](#)).

- SGRA agreed priorities for 2024-25: SGRA 50th anniversary events; re-design of membership/subscription envelope; residents' survey; notice board to publicise SGRA news/events.
- Neighbourhood Watch (NW) proposal: Ex Comm had considered whether SGRA should be formally involved in Wandsworth NW and agreed that this was unnecessary due to the existence of various WhatsApp groups in the Grid and a close relationship with Southfields Safer Neighbourhood Team.

AELTC development proposals GLA hearing (27/09/24) – Simon Wright, Save Wimbledon Park (SWP)

- Simon Wright gave an edited version of the presentation he gave to the SWP-organised Public Meeting the evening before in St Barnabas Church. Simon's presentation, which can be accessed [here](#), outlines SWP concerns about the GLA Reporting Officers Stage 3 report.
- The GLA Hearing will provide an opportunity for those who oppose the development plans to protest outside and also to give support to those speaking against the proposals.
- It would be highly likely the Deputy Mayor will make a decision on the day itself.
- If the Deputy Mayor decided (i) for AELTC's application, those who opposed the development may seek legal options to pursue their case; (ii) against then the decision could be referred up to the Government where a decision would be made in 7 days. If then, the application was turned down, AELTC would have to start again and would hopefully consult interested local groups.

Friend of Wimbledon Park (FOWP) – Dr Nick Steiner

- The slides, presented at the meeting and which can be accessed [here](#), outline the restoration and maintenance work carried out in Wimbledon Park by both the Wimbledon Park Volunteers and Community Payback Teams (who are subgroups of the FOWP).

Friends of Coronation Gardens update – Charles Runcie

- The figurine for the fountain, representing Fanny Wilkinson who designed Coronation Gardens (CG), will be unveiled next May to coincide with Wandsworth being the Borough of Culture.
- As part of Wandsworth's Borough of Culture activities during 2025, there will be some Shakespeare Plays enacted in CG – dates to be confirmed.
- Work is progressing to organise a memorial plaque for the late Mike Caswell (Chair of SGRA 1996-2011) to be placed on a bench in CG which the family has chosen.

Green the Grid (GtG) update

- June Event – GtG distributed some plants with thanks to a micro-grants from Wandsworth Council.
- September Harvest – There will be great spring bulbs to give away for tree bases, pots and front gardens. There will also be some wonderful plants donated from friends, family and neighbours.
- December Wreath making – Venue: the Pig & Whistle. Details will be sent out in October so people can book for this popular event. Surplus monies will be donated to a local charity.
- Seeking more Grid Growers - GtG's group of green fingered neighbours continue to support at events & nurture plants.
- GtG have a new [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page to better share info about what GtG is up to

Southfields Harvest

- The Repair Cafe will be running in the main hall as usual. Riversdale School PTA will be providing hot soup, savoury snacks and homemade cake in the Parish Hall. The Church will host locally grown & produced honey, jam fruit, flowers & vegetables.

Idea to celebrate SGRA's 50th anniversary

- Ian Shaw proposed: a 1970's themed party; an Art exhibition; Photo display of local shops from 1995-2025. Ideas from the floor included commissioning an additional chapter to Roomy Villas; possible Routemaster drive round the grid; soft-ball competition.

Update on a successor to Revd Ian Tattum

- Over £3k was collected for Revd Tattum's leaving gift. Currently, St Barnabas is in an interregnum phase in terms of seeking a successor. However, the Bishop has recommended a woman priest (Chaplain to the Bishop) who would have been interviewed by the Church Wardens that day (24/9) and who could be in place before this coming Christmas.

Street Rep issues: (a) Nuisance arising from careless dumping of lime bikes on pavements; (b) update on pavement replacements/repairs

- Lime Bikes: All agreed what a nuisance they have been when left stranded on pavements and potentially acting as trip hazards. There was recognition that those using them should park them responsibly and are required to send a photo of where they have parked their bike. However, in most cases this does not happen and they have to be collected by the company themselves.
- Pavement replacements/repairs: contrary to what most people believed, not all the grid's pavements will be replaced at the same time. The whole refurbishment will take a few years and there is no way of knowing which streets/road will be done next year or in what order.
- Charles Runcie will invite the Wandsworth lead on highways to speak on these at a Public Meeting.

SGRA Executive Updates – Margaret Brett, Clive Williams & Charles Runcie

Planning: The application to reduce the height of the front wall to 69 Lavenham has been approved. There are more new planning applications for the proposed development of 75, 77, 79 Replingham (2024/3099 and 2024/3051) and people in Pirbright are worried about the dominance of the building and the effect on privacy. The warehouse at 91 Pirbright is to be replaced by 3 terraced houses. (2024/2814)

Public Realm: The block seating at the station had finally been finished off and the seating is in frequent use. No sign of a notice board and SGN has not properly restored the surface they have disturbed.

Local: A new beauty salon, called Soak, will replace the Villager Salon. The refurbishment at 43 Replingham is for a Montessori nursery. Wandsworth is consulting on a draft Statement of Community Involvement in planning until 4 November. Wandsworth have also published a booklet as a guide to the planning process. There are two new floodlit Padel courts in King George's Park.

- Crime – No updated figures to report due to unavailability.
- Finance – As of 24 September, funds in SGRA account approx. £5,996.
- Communications – Grid News deadline for articles is 14 October. SGRA website is being updated.

Southfields Business Forum

- Ann Kerr gave a brief readout of the SBF meeting held earlier in the day in the Olive Garden. Discussions focussed on how the Wimbledon Tennis Fortnight impacted on local businesses – which was more positive than the previous year. SBF were setting plans in place for a Christmas light-switch on event (4 December) where local school choirs will attend and possibly a steel band/additional music to cater for a wider audience.

AOB

- Responding to a concern from the floor about making the Grid more 'net-zero' e.g. planting more trees, installing more electric car charging points, more environmentally friendly ways of collecting waste, Charles will invite relevant speakers from Wandsworth Council to future Public Meetings.
- Guy Humphries said that he is still pursuing better dog mess signage in the Grid.
- Guy also mentioned the consultation in respect of designated cycle routes in Wandsworth was coming to an end.

Forthcoming Meetings

- SGRA Public Meeting **26 November**, 7.45-9.30pm, St Barnabas Church

Forthcoming events

- Sustainable Southfields - Mend, Fix & Repair Café, **28 September**, 12-3pm, St Barnabas Church Hall
- Sustainable Southfields - Harvest, **28 September**, 12-3pm, St Barnabas Church
- Southfields SNT Crime Prevention Stall, **28 September**, 12-3pm, St Barnabas Church
- Wandsworth Artists Open House, **5/6 & 12/13 October**, 11am-6pm. Details www.artistsopenhouse.co.uk .
- Southfields SNT Ward Panel, **19 October**, 10.30am, St Barnabas Church Hall - tbc

Attendance List

Apologies: David Boyle, Rod Lewington, Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty, Ameet Phadnis, Cllr Kim Caddy, Peter Jackson

SGRA – Executive Members (7)	Role
Charles Runcie	SGRA Exec. Comm – Chair
Ian Shaw	SGRA Exec. Comm – Secretary/ Brookwood Rd Rep
Serena Potter	SGRA Exec. Comm – Members Secretary
Margaret Brett	SGRA Exec. Comm/Lavenham Road Rep
Ann Kerr	SGRA Exec. Comm/Joint Clonmore Street Rep
Clive Williams	SGRA Exec. Comm
Kyle Forder (zoom)	SGRA Exec. Comm/Joint Astonville Street Rep
Speakers/Main contributors (2)	Role
Simon Wright	Save Wimbledon Park
Dr Nick Steiner	Chair-FOWP, Joint Clonmore Street Rep
SGRA Road/Street (14)	Attendees
Astonville Street	Lesley McCaul/Joint Astonville Street Rep;
Brookwood Road	-
Clonmore Street	-
Elborough Street	-
Engadine Street	Sally Morgan;
Elsenham Street	-
Hanford Close	-
Heythorp Street	-
Langton Place	-
Lavenham Road	-
Merton Road	-
Pirbright Road	Nick Coombe, Bozena Coombe
Replingham Road	Tommy Johnston
Trentham Street	Bridget La Marca; Di Brennan;
Zoom:	Rosie; Hilary; Lee Roberts; Slavica Kennedy; Kyra Van Schottenstein; Sarah H; Graham Skyrme (7)
(3)	
Cllr Guy Humphries	Wandsworth Borough Council
Cllr Malcolm Grimston	Wandsworth Borough Council
Dr Sadar Ahmad	Camborne Road
	Total: 26