

Southfields Grid Residents' Association Executive Committee (Ex Comm)

Note of meeting held on Tuesday 29 October 2024

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

	Update on actions from previous Ex Comm meetings	Owner(s)	Status
1	Engage more with Street Reps	Ex Comm	Completed
2	Focus on ensuring increased dog mess signs in the grid	SP	Open
3	Plan/prepare for 2025 calendar to celebrate SGRA's 50 years existence	All	Closed
4	Contact Spencer Childs re SGRA donation now SBF chair stood down	AO-M	Ongoing
5	Agree remit of liaison role with Street reps	CR & KF	Completed
6	Explore gaps in Ex Comm and consider co-opting those with relevant experience and knowledge	CR	Ongoing
7	Consider & arrange hand-over Treasurer role from DB to AP	CR, DB, AP	Ongoing
8	Reply to Wandsworth Neighbourhood Watch Association	CR	Ongoing
9	Send round calendar invites to Ex Comm of 2025 meeting dates	IS	Completed
10	Contact Juanita Stannel-Taitte at Wandsworth Borough Council re getting a notice board to publicise SGRA news & activities	CR	Ongoing
11	Redraft of subscription envelope to be ready for 29/10 Ex Comm	SP & IS	Ongoing
12	Schemata of residents' census/survey to be ready for 29/10 Ex Comm	IS, KF, RL	Ongoing
	Actions arising from 29 October Ex Comm meeting	Owner(s)	
A	Arrange a Street Reps coffee morning in November	KF	
B	CR to invite Sue Wixley to the Ex Comm (as co-opted member) to work with, and take over from, MB re Planning & public realm interests	CR	
C	Await inclusion of new signatories to SGRA account to complete handover of Treasurer role	AP, DB, CR, IS, SP	
D	Submit further reply to Wandsworth Neighbourhood Watch Association	CR	
E	Get response from Wandsworth Borough Council re notice board	CR	
F	Redraft for subscription envelope to be ready for 7/1 Ex Comm	IS and SP	
G	Schemata of residents' census/survey to be ready for 7/1 Ex Comm	IS, KF RL	
H	Upload crime statistics and planning update onto website	IS	
I	SGRA to contribute £50 towards Christmas Hamper	IS	

1. **Apologies for absence** - David Boyle, Kyle Ford, Serena Potter.

2. **Declarations of interest** - None were declared.

3. **Matters arising from Ex Comm on 29 Oct & previous meetings**

- **Action 3:** Action closed as now overtaken by other 50th anniversary celebrations.
- **Actions 6 & B:** Ex Comm agreed to CR's proposal to co-opt Sue Wixley to work with, then take over from, MB on SGRA planning & public realm work & interests.
- **Actions 7 & C:** Handover of Treasurer role from DB to AP will be completed once the names of signatories (CR, AP, IS and SP) have been incorporated and AP has access to the bank account.
- **Actions 8, D & H:** See item (6) below.
- **Actions 11 & F:** See items (8) below.
- **Action I:** See item (9) below
- **Actions 12 & G:** See item (10) below.

4. Ex Comm views on AELTC developments post-GLA hearing

- There are still two further stages that need to be resolved before development can go ahead. This may result in legal action and those involved in opposing the development may be seeking financial support for what could be a lengthy and expensive process
- There is a covenant in the sale agreement for the land between Merton and AELTC protecting it from development. If Merton decides to set aside the covenant, this decision could be subject to Judicial Review.
- Also the GLA legal advice is that the 2023 ruling in Day versus Shropshire may apply to the golf course land. This legal precedent suggests that the land is held subject to statutory trust for its use for public recreation. The disposal of such land has to follow due process to remove the statutory trust. There is a question over whether due process was followed in the sale and, if not, then the current status of the land. The arguments are not clear and it would be for the courts to decide.

5. Ideas for guest speakers at 26 Nov and 29 Jan Public Meetings

- Suggested speakers for 26 Nov meeting were: Diana Chitty, Toby Costin (Crew Energy), Michael Singham (Highways Lead – Wandsworth Borough Council). For 29 Jan meeting, Acting Inspector Steve Burke would be invited to speak.

6. Crime:

- Wandsworth Neighbourhood Watch Association: After reading the follow-up email from the Wandsworth Neighbourhood Watch Association, it was agreed that CR reply to them along the same lines as before i.e. this activity already was partly covered by the various WhatsApp groups.
- Crime Report update: CW confirmed that the crime statistics for May up to Aug 2024 had been released (see Annex A). These, and future ones, will be uploaded onto the SGRA website.
- Report back from Wandsworth Safer Neighbourhood Board Meeting: CW reported that the meeting covered facial recognition techniques which was proving more successful; detailed 3 priorities (assaults/violence, parcel thefts and thefts of and from vehicles (e.g. a Blue Badge had been stolen from a car)). There were also concerns about increased shoplifting at M&S and Boots – despite the increasing demands for police resources to help prevent this crime, there was an argument for the larger retail units to employ their own security guards/personnel. There would also be a greater focus on restarting ‘no cold-calling’ zones. There is due to be a ‘cuppa with a copper’ possibly on 7 and/or 21 November at Brookwood Gardens (coffee shop) pending their agreement instead of Cafe Nero.

7. Update on SGRA’s 50th anniversary celebrations

- Work on making preparations for the 1970’s themed party (AO-M, AK, IS); Art exhibition for Summer 2025 (IS, AO-M, AK); special edition of Grid News (to include old photos of local shops and streets in the Grid as well as interviews with those who lived in Grid from 1975 onwards) (CR) will begin soon and progress reported back at 7 Jan Ex Comm.

8. Processing of membership subscriptions and envelopes

- IS reported that work on redrafting the envelope had not yet started but a draft will be ready for discussion at Ex Comm on 7 January.

9. Southfields Business Forum (SBF)

- AO-M reported on the SBF’s recent meeting on 22 October which concentrated on the Christmas Light switch-on event on 4 December. If there are posters advertising the event, SGRA Street Reps may be asked to help out display them on trees across the Grid. AO-M suggested that Ex Comm agree to contributing a hamper (made up of £50 of goods) as part of that a silent auction which will also be held – this was agreed.
- There will also be a Christmas window competition and AO-M, AK and IS would act as judges again but after their criteria has been agreed by the SBF equivalent of an executive committee.

10. Planning a census/residents' survey

- IS reported that work on drafting up a schemata had not yet started but a draft will be ready for discussion at Ex Comm on 7 January.

11. Ongoing updates:

Communication – CR & IS

- Grid News will be issued mid-Nov.

Planning - MB

- Of interest is the proposed conversion of the Barclays site into two shops (2024/3445). MB had raised the possibility of asbestos on the site with Building Control but did not get a very helpful answer. The proposed development of 75, 77, 79 Replingham (2024/3099 and 2024/3051) has finally been approved. There is an application to build 3 terraced houses at 91 Pirbright((2024/2814). For the record 93 Pirbright (the number is also included in the application) is the Scout Hall. Residents of Tiffany Heights at the rear are concerned about proximity, privacy and loss of light and aspect, while Pirbright residents welcome the improved frontage. The AELTC application was approved by the GLA but local action continues.

Public Realm - MB

- SGN has now restored the surface following their works at the corner opposite the station. However Thames Water are now digging things up again and we have 4 way traffic controls at the lights. There are now so many commercial bikes at the crossroads that there is very little space for ordinary bike users. There is a proposal to have a dedicated space at the end of Elsenham.

Local - MB

- Wandsworth are consulting on revising the Local Heritage List. There are some obvious omissions, including Wimbledon Park and Horse Close Wood. MB attended the Planning Forum meeting. The planning officers were thanked for their diligence in dealing with the AELTC application. There will be a consultation on the proposed revision of the Local Plan, due to start about 10th November. Also a consultation on a Statement of Community Involvement.

Finance – DB: Funds = just over £6.5k.

12. AOB:

- Friends of Wimbledon Park (FOWP) were holding a general meeting (at the same time as SGRA Exec Comm) to discuss a resolution for them to apply for charity status.
- There is to be a Council walk around the Grid – a good opportunity to raise the very poor condition of pavements in most of the Grid's roads/streets. Details to follow.
- Ex Comm agreed that it was timely to carry out a stock-take on the effectiveness and number of residential WhatsApp groups across the Grid – possibly via Grid News and residents' survey in 2025.

Dates of next meetings & events

Forthcoming meetings

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

Forthcoming events

- 'Cuppa with a Copper' **25 November**, 2-3pm, Brookwood Garden Cafe (11 Brookwood Road)
- Christmas Fair **30 November**, 12-3pm, St Barnabas Church.

Crime Figures for Southfields Grid & Pirbright Road**May 2024**

May 2024	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				1		3
Brookwood Road	1											1
Lavenham Road												0
Revelstoke Road						1						1
Elsenham Street												0
Heythorp Street										1		1
Clonmore Street												0
Engadine Street												0
Elborough Street												0
Trentham Street												0
Astonville Street												0
Hanford Close					1			1				2
Pirbright Road												0
Merton Road											2	2
Total	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	2	2	10



All Crimes reported in Southfields Ward in May 2024: 42 [SGRA: 10 & Rest of Ward: 32]

+Off-Grid: Southfields LU Station (British Transport Police) (0)

Heritage Wimbledon Park: (0)

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

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

Crime Figures for Southfields Grid & Pirbright Road

June 2024

June 2024	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	4											4
Brookwood Road												0
Lavenham Road		1										1
Revelstoke Road												0
Elsenham Street												0
Heythorp Street												0
Clonmore Street												0
Engadine Street										1		1
Elborough Street												0
Trentham Street												0
Astonville Street											2	2
Hanford Close						1					1	2
Pirbright Road	1									1	1	3
Merton Road				1								1
Total	5	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	4	14



All Crimes reported in Southfields Ward in June 2024: 41 [SGRA: 14 & Rest of Ward: 27]

+Off-Grid: Southfields LU Station (British Transport Police) (0)

Heritage Wimbledon Park: (x)

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

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

Crime Figures for Southfields Grid & Pirbright Road

July 2024

July 2024	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										1		1
Lavenham Road												0
Revelstoke Road												0
Elsenham Street												0
Heythorp Street		1	1				1					3
Clonmore Street												0
Engadine Street												0
Elborough Street												0
Trentham Street										2		2
Astonville Street											1	1
Hanford Close			1					1			1	3
Pirbright Road	1											1
Merton Road												0
Total	2	1	2	0	0	0	2	1	0	3	2	13



All Crimes reported in Southfields Ward in July 2024: 48 [SGRA: 13 & Rest of Ward: 35]

+Off-Grid: Southfields LU Station (British Transport Police) (0)

Heritage Wimbledon Park: (1)

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

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

Crime Figures for Southfields Grid & Pirbright Road

August 2024

August 2024	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
Brookwood Road						1						1
Lavenham Road						1						1
Revelstoke Road												0
Elsenham Street												0
Heythorp Street						1						1
Clonmore Street												0
Engadine Street												0
Elborough Street												0
Trentham Street												0
Astonville Street		1								1	1	3
Hanford Close										2	2	4
Pirbright Road												0
Merton Road												0
Total	2	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	3	12



All Crimes reported in Southfields Ward in Aug 2024: 38 [SGRA: 12 & Rest of Ward: 26]

+Off-Grid: Southfields LU Station (British Transport Police) (0).

Heritage Wimbledon Park: (x)

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

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