

Southfields Grid Residents' Association Executive Committee (Exec Comm)

Note of meeting held on Tuesday 7 January 2025

Members Present: - Serena Potter (SP) – Chair, Margaret Brett (MB), Ann Kerr (AK), Rod Lewington (RL), Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty (AO-M), Ian Shaw (IS), Clive Williams (CW), Sue Wixley (SW).

	Update on actions from previous Exec Comm meetings	Owner(s)	Status
1	Focus on ensuring increased dog mess signs in the grid	SP	Open
2	Explore gaps in Exec Comm and consider co-opting those with relevant experience and knowledge	CR	Completed
3	Consider & arrange hand-over Treasurer role from DB to AP	CR, DB, AP	Completed
4	Reply to Wandsworth Neighbourhood Watch Association	CR	Completed
5	Contact Juanita Stannel-Taitte at Wandsworth Borough Council re getting a notice board to publicise SGRA news & activities	CR	Ongoing
6	Redraft for subscription envelope to be ready for Exec Comm	SP & IS	Ongoing
7	Schemata of residents' census/survey to be ready for Exec Comm	IS, KF, RL	Ongoing
8	Arrange a Street Reps coffee morning in November	KF	Completed
9	CR to invite Sue Wixley to the Exec Comm (as co-opted member) to work with, and take over from, MB re Planning & public realm interests	CR	Completed
10	Await inclusion of new signatories to SGRA account to complete handover of Treasurer role	AP, DB, CR IS, SP	Ongoing
11	Submit further reply to Wandsworth Neighbourhood Watch Association	CR	Ongoing
12	Upload crime statistics and planning update onto website	IS	Completed
13	SGRA to contribute £50 towards Christmas Hamper	IS	Completed
	Actions arising from 7 January Exec Comm meeting	Owner(s)	
A	Invite Acting Inspector Steve Burke to be guest speaker on 28 Jan	IS	
B	To represent SGRA at SBF feedback meeting on Christmas light event	AK & AO-M	
C	Suggestions of attendees at Parliamentary reception to SP by 21 Jan	All	
D	Update Jennie Allen on timing for St Barnabas quiz	IS	
E	Amend the SGRA logo to include '1975 to 2025'	IS	
F	Contact Kate Shattock to get Instagram login details to pass to Exec Comm	IS	
G	Arrange publicity for Winter Wonderland equivalent (celebrating SGRA's 50th years).	SW & AO-M	

1. **Apologies for absence** – Charles Runcie (CR), Ameet Phadnis (AP), Kyle Forder (KF).

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

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

- **Actions 6 & 7:** Survey and Subs envelope to be drawn up in time for special edition of Grid News (May 2025). In case of subs, the website and envelope to focus on speedier and effective payments online including use of QR code etc.
- **Actions 8:** IS now has access to the SGRA account at Barclays and SP is still awaiting Barclays info. In CR's absence, IS and SP will agree who will authorise expense claims and other payments.
- **Action 11:** Charles had met up with Ian Reid to take his view on the usefulness of joining up with the Wandsworth Neighbourhood Watch. The upshot is that it may be useful for someone from SGRA to sit on a Exec Comm and to act as a two way conduit. Ex Comm would consider this.

- Southfields Christmas light switch-on (4 Dec): well attended event which the Southfields Business Forum (SBF) felt went well. The SBF will be conducting a feedback session of which AK and AOM would be invited to attend as SGRA reps on the SBF. Additionally, and at very short notice, AOM and IS were judges of the best decorated shop windows (owned by SBF members).

4. **Guest speakers at 28 Jan Public Meetings**

- Toby Costin (Crew Energy) has agreed to be a guest speaker. An invitation will be sent to Acting Inspector Steve Burke (who has since agreed). Simon Wright will update all on SWP legal action to challenge the Mayor of London's decision on AELTC development proposal. For the next public meeting (25 March), we would look to invite from Wandsworth Borough Council, those responsible for road and pavement upkeep, waste recycling and via Enable, tree management in the Grid.

5. **Update on SGRA'S 50th anniversary celebrations**

- Art Festival (8 March 2025): So far, there had been 14 positive replies and more would roll-in. On the organising Exec Comm are AOM, AK & IS with experienced art-exhibition input from Slavica Kennedy-Struthers. It is hoped that Gerard Sebastian would design a poster for the event.
- Seniors Tea Party: With other 50th anniversary celebrations being planned, it was agreed not to host a Seniors Tea Party this year.
- St Barnabas Quiz Night: Following an email exchange between Jennie Allen and Charles Runcie, it was agreed that SGRA would organise the St Barnabas Quiz Night for 2025. It was agreed that this could be held in October – an organising Exec Comm of AOM, AK and SP is being formed.
- Reception at House of Commons: Exec Comm were delighted with the invitation from Fleur Anderson to host a reception for SGRA's 50th anniversary. Since the Exec Comm meeting, IS agreed to revert to Matthew Whitty (Fleur's Chief of Staff) with a preferred date of either 28 or 30 April for an early evening reception. Suggestions for whom should be invited (including previous SGRA officers and those who have recorded the history of the buildings on the Grid) to be sent to Serena by 5pm 21 January. SW mentioned the need to draft the invitation as quickly as possible.
- Special edition of Grid News: Charles is looking to produce a special 50th anniversary of Grid News – work on this before the AGM in May. More to follow.
- Front Garden Awards: AO-M asked the Exec Comm if they were content to have the FGA for 2025 – and to link it with the 50th celebrations. It was suggested that old copies of the Grid News should be looked at to see if there were any photos of gardens taken in the 1970s. The Exec Comm agreed to the proposed prizes of £40 for the top and £20 for the second prizes. AO-M mentioned that sustainability, as a criteria for judging, would be given more priority. Linked to this was ExecComm's an agreement in principle to organise a role-model/showcase garden which with some funds from SGRA, and working closely with Green the Grid, could be turned into a sustainable garden for the future – and could be monitored by GtG in conjunction with SGRA/FGA .
- SGRA Logo: linked to the above was a request which was agreed to include the dates of 1975 & 2025 on the SGRA logo. IS agreed to look into this.

6. **Ongoing updates:**

Communication

- Grid News will be issued mid-March. On Instagram, it was agreed to contact Kate Shattock to see if any particular login details which can then be passed onto the Exec Comm so that they can upload material themselves. Following Exec Comm, IS had contacted Kate who said that CR had been given the necessary login details.

Planning

- It is quiet on planning issues. The proposed conversion of the Barclays site into two shops (2024/3445) has been approved. The application to build 3 terraced houses at 91 Pirbright (2024/2814) had been approved. There is an unusual application for 319 Merton Road (2024/3515) (just up from Southfields Academy) to convert a small dwelling house into a 7 bedroom house of multiple occupation. It is quite an extensive development.

AELTC

- There had been a substantial change in the AELTC saga. The Save Wimbledon Park group has challenged the GLA decision and are taking the GLA to court with Merton and Wimbledon Councils included as interested parties. This has to be accepted by the court for consideration and, if it goes ahead will take about 18 months. Separately AELTC wish to name Save Wimbledon Park as a defendant in court action to try to resolve the statutory trust issue raised by the Day v Shropshire precedent. The question of the restrictive covenant in the sale of the land is still open.

Local

- The Council will collect Christmas trees until 31 January on the usual collection day. People are asked not to put the trees on the pavement if they have front gardens.
- It is open to anyone to notify any possible breaches of planning requirements to Wandsworth via Planning Enforcement. The source of such notifications is kept anonymous.

Crime – Please see annex A for figures for October 2024.

Finance – Funds = just over £6.5k.

7. AOB:

- SGRA 50 years window celebration: In place of the normal Winter Wanderland (which isn't being organised this year), it was proposed that SGRA should encourage residents to produce colourful window displays in the weekend of 22/23 Feb. All that needed to be done was to publicise the event- SW and AO-M agreed to look into this.
-

Forthcoming meetings

- SGRA Public Meeting **28 January**, 7.45-9.30pm, St Barnabas Church
- SGRA Executive Exec Comm Meeting **25 February**, 7.45-9.30pm St Barnabas Church

Forthcoming events

- Mend, Fix and Repair Cafe **18 January**, 12-3pm, St Barnabas Church
- Safer Neighbourhood Team Ward Panel Meeting **25 January**, 10.30am St Barnabas Church.
- Licensing of Reverend Vanessa Elston as Vicar of St Barnabas, **26 January**, 4pm, St Barnabas Church.

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

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



All Crimes reported in Southfields Ward in Oct 2024: 60 [SGRA: 19 & Rest of Ward: 41]

+Off-Grid:

Heritage Wimbledon Park: (2)

(LB of W) West Hill (2) (Robbery): (LB of M) Village (0): Wimbledon Park (0).

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