



Southfields Grid
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Note of the Public Meeting held on Tuesday 25 March 2025

Matters arising since 28 January Public & 25 February Executive Meetings (via SGRA [website](#)).

- One outstanding issue (from earlier meeting) concerning the need for increasing the number of dog mess signs on the Grid. Cllr Guy Humphries said that there should be new signs on the grid soon.

Southfields Business Forum (SBF) update – Rachel Roberts

- To date the SBF had 30 signed up independent businesses, @1000 followers on Instagram and an informative website. Southfields businesses were experiencing drops in sales – partly down to increased costs of importing and transporting goods/services and consumers spending less. As a sideline, Wimbledon Village was not doing any better.
- The SBF enjoys good relationships with: the SGRA (recognising the importance of residents to the continuing success of Southfields businesses); AELTC (Christmas events) and Wandsworth Borough Council (provision of financial support for the Christmas light switch-on, in absence of SBF funds).
- At a recent meeting with the CEO AELTC (Debbie Jevans) the SBF outlined issues experienced over the last few years where during the Championships most Southfields shops experienced a drop in sales resulting in most of them closing early. Fleur Anderson was supportive of SBF seeking more financial support from AELTC and Rachel reported that Debbie Jevans (herself a resident in Southfields Grid) is committed to making a statement on how they can better promote Southfields in terms of what it has to offer during the Championships.
- Two related questions from the floor concerned the way that visitors to the Championships were marshalled after exiting Southfields tube station. The first was in relation to the use of ropes to hold people back and how it looked e.g. unwelcoming – Johnny Perkins would take the issue back to AELTC to consider other options. The second issue concerned those who travelled to Southfields to work and when exiting the station could not go directly there due to being marshalled down Wimbledon Park Road. Clive Williams suggested some crossing points on Wimbledon Park Road.

Fly-tipping and recycling – Michael Singham Wandsworth Borough Council

- Wandsworth Borough Council (WBC) is still focussed on rolling out recycling processes across the Borough. The food waste recycling initiative (tried out on Southfields first) would be borough wide by 31 March 2026.
- Re orange bag recycling/non-recycling waste collection, there were still issues of contamination arising from householders putting materials in the incorrect waste bag.
- In recognition of the ongoing issue of fly-tipping WBC have introduced two free bulky waste collections per year as well a provision of more mega-skips across the borough.
- In terms of missed collections, residents are advised to report them to WBC website – to access the link press [here](#). Missed collections in the past were partly due the old fleet of refuse collection vehicles regularly breaking down but these had been replaced by a new fleet run on vegetable oil and not diesel.
- WBC were aware that foxes were getting more adept at opening the brown food waste containers. They were not sure what the answer would be – but they were looking at it.
- Although not under his (or WBC's remit), Michael undertook to discuss an issue with a resident in Carlyle Court where other people (outside Carlyle Court) were dumping waste bags outside the building where foxes would come over night and rip them open.
- In terms of garden waste – there was a suggestion that residences may be required to have garden waste wheelie bins by end March 2026. This would cause problems to people living in the grid who may not have their own front gardens (if they live in purpose-built maisonettes) or who wanted to maintain a pleasant looking front garden. As yet WBC had not come to a decision on this.

Wimbledon/AELTC development proposals: post GLA hearing – Simon Wright (Save Wimbledon Park)

- Save Wimbledon Park Ltd (SWP) has received permission to challenge, via judicial review, the GLA's legal basis for its decision to allow the AELTC developments to go ahead. The hearing will be on 8 & 9 July 2025 and costs are expected to be in the region of £200K. So far, through crowdfunding, the initial target of £50K has been surpassed.
- As mentioned at the last public meeting (28 Jan), AELTC had publicly stated their desire to get the Court to decide whether the former golf course is subject to the statutory public recreation trust. AELTC have asked SWP to oppose their views which they are happy to do so. A date for a hearing has yet to be arranged.
- Two public meetings arranged by Save Wimbledon Park are to take place to explain the legal processes involved and to seek more financial support through crowdfunding. These are; Wednesday 26 March, Sacred Heart Church, Wimbledon (7.15 to 9.15pm); Monday 31 March, St Barnabas Church (7.30 to 9.30pm).
- Finally, Simon asked Charles Runcie about the meetings he has had with Debbie Jevans (CEO AELTC). Charles emphasised that Debbie was keen to attend a public meeting to discuss AELTC's long-term role in the Southfields community, including the current development – this Simon welcomed. No date has yet been agreed.

SGRA Street Representative issues: Heythorp Street Parking Restrictions

- Vijay Ragoo (Heythorp Street resident) outlined his reasons for seeking SGRA support for amending the CPZ S2 parking signage on Heythorp Road (between Replingham and Brookwood Rd) from Monday to Friday 1.30pm -2.30pm to Monday to Friday 9.30am – 4.30pm. These residents were having difficulties parking their cars due to others, who live outside the locality, taking advantage of 'free parking'. There were also side effects of non-residential people taking advantage of the looser parking restraints – leaving litter etc which some Heythorp Street residents later had to pick up.
- Some views from the floor, while empathetic to those residents in Heythorp Street, thought that by switching the hours, the effect would be counterproductive. It could either shift the problem elsewhere in the Grid, but more importantly may negatively impact on Southfields Centre's shops, who could lose out by those shoppers not being able to park nearby (the shops).
- Cllr Guy Humphries said that parking was a constant issue in the Grid and that it was time to ask Wandsworth Borough Council for a review of the parking zones across the whole Grid after which its residents would be consulted on any proposals/options arising from that review.

Review of Southfields Art Festival (8 March 2025)

- Feedback from the artists taking part and gathered from people visiting the 1st Southfields Art Festival deemed it a great success. £680 had been raised for the Royal Hospital for Neuro-Disability. There are plans to hold a similar event next year.

Update on celebrating SGRA's 50th anniversary

- Charles was working on producing a special edition of Grid News for late May. There were no more details on the 2025 Front Garden Awards or the proposed St Barnabas Quiz night in October. Sucheta offered a couple of suggestions: bottle of champagne from SGRA for those who have lived in the Grid for over 50 yrs, or celebrating 50 yrs wedding anniversary. She also offered the library's foyer area to display any collated photos or magazines from 50 yrs.

SGRA Executive Updates

- **Planning** - It remains quiet on local planning issues. There was an unusual application for 319 Merton Road (2024/3515) to convert a small dwelling house into a 7 bedroom house of multiple occupation but this has been withdrawn. Otherwise it is mainly loft and side extensions. There is now a trend of replacing earlier extensions.
- **Local** - The Council is now offering us two free bulky waste collections a year. Each free collection can be for up to four items and they will take things like mattresses, furniture, washing machines, fridges and freezers. The Council has made an undertaking that if you report graffiti, a broken

street sign, or a dangerous pothole it will be fixed within 7 days. There has been a crackdown on outstanding money from developers due to the Council as part of the Community Infrastructure Levy so there is a bit more money for roads and pavement repairs. Fines for parking offences etc are due to go up from April 7 throughout London. The Council is encouraging us to celebrate VE Day over the weekend of 3-5 May and are waiving charges for street closures. Applications need to be made by 6 April.

- **Crime** – Figures for December 2024 and January 2025 are at Annex A.
- **Finance** – As of 24 March, funds in SGRA account approx. £6.7K. A breakdown on income streams will be worked on and ready for the SGRA AGM on 20 May.

AOB

- **Learn more about trees on Southfields Grid.** Bradley Coleman (Arboricultural Officer, Enable) has agreed to organise a walk round the Grid for residents looking at a few trees on 22nd April at 10am, starting from 78 Heythorp Street. Bradley is going to find a tree on the Grid which isn't doing well and explain how they look after/manage such things. He'll also give info about the change in planting plans given climate change, talk about the issues with subsidence and why chopping a tree down works. As places will be limited to 10-12 maximum, please email Serena on sgrasecretary@gmail.com to secure a place.

Dates of next meetings & events

Forthcoming meetings

- SGRA AGM/ Public Meeting, **20 May 2025**, 7.30-9.15pm, St Barnabas Church
- Police SNT Ward Meeting, **12 April 2025**, 10.30am, St Barnabas Church

Forthcoming events

- 'Cuppa with a Copper', **9 April**, 2-3pm, Caffe Nero, Wimbledon Park Road
 - Meet Catherine Yardley (local author), **19 April 2025**, Southfields Library
 - Grid Tree Walk, **22 April 2025**, 10.00am, outside 78 Heythorp Street (see AOB above)
 - Mend, Fix and Repair Café, **26 April 2025**, 12-3pm, St Barnabas Church
 - 'Cuppa with a Copper', **30 April**, 2-3pm, Caffe Nero, Wimbledon Park Road
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Attendance List

Apologies: Amelia Obertelli-Moriarty, Ameet Phadnis

SGRA – Executive Members (8)	Role
Charles Runcie	SGRA Exec. Comm – Chair/Pirbright Rd Rep
Ian Shaw	SGRA Exec. Comm – Secretary/ Brookwood Rd Rep
Serena Potter	SGRA Exec. Comm – Membership Secretary
Ann Kerr	SGRA Exec. Comm/Joint Clonmore Street Rep
Clive Williams	SGRA Exec. Comm
Kyle Forder	SGRA Exec. Comm/Joint Astonville Street Rep
Margaret Brett	SGRA Exec. Comm/Lavenham Rd Rep
Rod Lewington	SGRA Exec. Comm (Zoom)
Speakers/Main contributors (3)	Role
Rachel Roberts	Southfields Business Forum
Michael Singham	Wandsworth Borough Council
Simon Wright	Save Wimbledon Park Ltd
SGRA Road/Street + zoom (20)	Attendees
Astonville Street	Lesley McCaul/Joint Astonville Street Rep (zoom), Robert Garbolinski
Brookwood Road	-
Clonmore Street	Dr Nick Steiner/Joint Street Rep
Elborough Street	-
Engadine Street	Jackie Pearce
Elsenham Street	Andrew Dunley/Joint Street Rep, Mark Lubienski
Hanford Close	-
Heythorp Street	Kyra Von Schottenstein/Street Rep, Peter Walls, Ann Redman, Vijay & Liz Ragoo
Langton Place	-
Lavenham Road	Robert Mathison
Merton Road	-
Pirbright Road	-
Replingham Road	Loraine Watson
Trentham Street	Trevor Howes/Joint Street Rep, Di Brennan
Zoom:	Sucheta Samant; Hilary, Katrina Ure, Duncan Lyons, Richard (5)
(2)	
Cllr Guy Humphries	Wandsworth Borough Council
Johnny Perkins	AELTC
	Total: 33

Crime Figures for Southfields Grid & Pirbright Road – December 2024

December 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		2
Lavenham Road												0
Revelstoke Road												0
Elsenham Street												0
Heythorp Street										1		1
Clonmore Street		1										1
Engadine Street												0
Elborough Street												0
Trentham Street												0
Astonville Street										1	1	2
Hanford Close				2							2	4
Pirbright Road												0
Merton Road						1						1
Total	2	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	3	13



All Crimes reported in Southfields Ward in Dec 2024: 49 [SGRA: 13 & Rest of Ward: 36]

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 – January 2025

January 2025	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			1		4
Brookwood Road						1				1		2
Lavenham Road			1			1					1	3
Revelstoke Road												0
Elsenham Street												0
Heythorp Street						1				1		2
Clonmore Street												0
Engadine Street												0
Elborough Street												0
Trentham Street										1		1
Astonville Street										2		2
Hanford Close						1				1	1	3
Pirbright Road	1											1
Merton Road						1						1
Total	2	0	1	0	1	5	1	0	0	7	2	19



All Crimes reported in Southfields Ward in Jan 2025: 57 [SGRA: 19 & Rest of Ward: 38]

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]