

South Mimms Parish Council

Newsletter August 2022



Website: www.southmimms-pc.org.uk

Facebook: South Mimms Parish Council

Email: SouthMimmsPC@gmail.com

Will South Mimms Parish Council be merging with Ridge or / and Shenley Parishes?

The simple answer is, we don't know yet. Hertsmere Borough Council has been reviewing the arrangements for the electoral parish of Ridge, following the dissolution of their previous Parish Council, as part of a Community Governance Review that is also looking at arrangements for Aldenham Parish Council.

After an initial public consultation, Hertsmere put forward a proposal for the electoral parishes of South Mimms and Ridge to merge, with this combined Parish Council to be split into two wards, to ensure that there was always one Councillor representing Ridge with the other four representing South Mimms. The second public consultation has just closed, and we now await the outcome, which will be announced later this year.

Any new arrangements will take effect from next May, when Councillors will stand for election or re-election.

Maintenance Updates:

The Hertsmere owned garages are to be refurbished starting in September.

The public footpath and cycle path on **Swanland Road** will have the old broken motorway barrier removed, which will allow for the ride-on mowers to maintain the area properly, thanks to a £15,000 grant from Hertsmere Leader Cllr Morris Bright.

The **footpath from the church** gate to the pedestrian crossing on St Albans Road will be repaired and widened next month.

New South Mimms **village name signs** saying 'please drive carefully' should be in place by the end of the year at the three main entry points to the village.

Fault Reporting:

Remember if you see anything that needs fixing you can contact us, put it on the South Mimms Report It Facebook group or simply log it yourself on:

www.Hertsmere.gov.uk/Report-It

Catalyst Housing Issues:

info@chg.org.uk - general enquiries

Repairs@chg.org.uk – maintenance issues

consents@chg.org.uk – permission to make changes to property

income@chg.org.uk – rent payment issues

housing.services@chg.org.uk – tenancy queries.

Anti-Social Behaviour Reporting: Contact the Safer Neighbourhoods Police Team on **01707 354192** or email SNTPottersBarandShenley@herts.police.uk Even if you have the mobile number of an officer, please call the main number to log the call. If the incident involves a vehicle, please record the numberplate and take photos if safe to do so. Anti-social behaviour by Catalyst tenants should also be reported to housing.services@chg.org.uk

Planning Matters: The **aggregates site on St Albans Road, next to Romani House** continues to blight the village, but the National Planning Inspectorate have delayed the Public Enquiry into the site until the end of 2022. This will be a full two years after Hertsmere refused planning permission for a change of use and three years since the Office of the Traffic Commissioner refused a retrospective application to operate HGVs from the site. SMPC continue to put whatever pressure we can on the operators via the Hertsmere Enforcement Team and Environmental Health.

Griggs Homes still haven't put in any planning applications for developing the old **White Hart** pub. However, we know the War Memorial triangle is safe now.

The current **Local Plan** for new housing in Hertsmere was 'set aside' earlier this year, whilst the Borough Council wait for revised housing requirement figures to come down from central government and Hertfordshire County Council. We now aren't expecting any news until 2023. Having 'previously secured a significant reduction in the number of new houses due to be built in South Mimms, SMPC are keeping a close eye on the situation and will update you in due course.

Remember, **all planning applications in South Mimms Parish** are posted on SMPC's public Facebook page (please follow us) as well as being announced at our meetings. If there is an application that you are concerned about, please email our Clerk on SouthMimmsPC@gmail.com.

Public Announcements:

Book Swap is the 3rd Friday of every month (except August) 2-4pm in the Parish Room at the back of the Village Hall. Children's, Teens, Adult Fiction and Non-Fiction books plus refreshments.

Please **don't park on pavements** so that wheelchairs or pushchairs can't get past. Some cars, commercial vans and even mini busses are also using our **green verges and islands** as their personal parking spaces which damages the grass, please don't!

The **flowers in our tubs** outside the village hall have died in the recent heatwave. We will be replanting and are looking for volunteers to care for them going forward. We would also like to put in planters in other parts of the village, however, we need suggestions for locations and other volunteers. Please get in touch if this is something you would like to help with.

We were thinking of putting together groups for some **day trips using Regs Coaches** which cost £20-£25 per person and between £12-£15 for children. If you are interested, please have a look at their website and get in touch with us.

If anyone who is less mobile is interested in **seated exercise classes**, please get in touch.

Next Parish Council Meeting is Thursday 8th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Wishing you a great summer,

SMPC Clerk: Natalie Gettings, Chairperson: Cllr Cathy McCaffrey, Deputy Chairperson (and Potters Bar Furzfield Borough Councillor for Labour): Cllr Chris Myers, Cllr Seth Thomas, Cllr Mark Hedison and Cllr Toni Johnson.