

South Mimms Parish Council

To: All Members of South Mimms Parish Council

Notice is hereby given that an **Annual Meeting of South Mimms Parish Council** will be held on Thursday 9th June 2022 (Delayed from May) at the Village Hall, Blanche Lane, South Mimms at 7.30 p.m. for the purpose of transacting the business set out in the Agenda below and you are hereby summoned to attend.

This meeting will also cover the Annual Meeting of the Parish Residents.

AGENDA

Part 1 – 7.30 pm

The order of business required at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council .

1. To elect a Chairman and Deputy of the Council for the ensuing Council year.
2. To fill any vacancies - **NONE**
3. To consider the payment of any subscriptions falling to be paid annually
 - Membership subscription - Hertfordshire Association of Parish and Town Councils
 - Public Liability insurance premium -
 - Registration fee - Office of the Information Commissioner
 - Website hosting and Village Hall Internet
4. To inspect any deeds and trust investments in the custody of the Council as required (*none*)
5. Each year the smaller authorities Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) needs to be reviewed by an appointed External Auditor. For Hertsmere this is PFK Littlejohn LLP.

As South Mimms Clerk also acts as the Responsible Finance Officer, SMPC appoints an independent and qualified Internal Auditor every year to sign off on our sub-mission. This is to ensure transparency and independence. The current Internal Auditor for South Mimms is Mr Alex Sage who has signed this years AGAR submission along with the Chairperson and Clerk.

All residents have the right to question the Internal Auditor and this can be arranged by emailing the clerk. Audited Accounts and signed AGAR forms are uploaded to the Parish Councils website every year once accepted by the External Auditor and are always thus available for the public. Written copies are also available at any time by request to the Clerk.

The AGAR forms are presented to the Council for approval.

Part 2 – 7.40 pm (est).

6. Annual Parish Meeting when a statement of the Parish Council's Activities in the last year is presented to the Public of the Parish.
 - i. Apologies for absence
 - ii. Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting – 2021 to be approved.
 - iii. Chair's report for the year ending 31 March 2021 – **Appendix 1**
 - iii. Any Other Business – None

7. To approve the minutes of the May meeting
8. Finance: Grant Application from St Giles School has been received to be discussed.
9. Planning: Romani Site Public Enquiry now deferred to December – SMPC are challenging the Legality of this and have written to Hertsmere’s Head of Legal.
10. SMPC would like to thank the Village Hall Committee for their Jubilee efforts.
11. To note the next regular meeting will be Thursday 7th July. Please note there is no meeting in August.

Appendix 1

Chairpersons statement on the activities of South Mimms Parish Council in the Council Year

South Mimms Parish Council has had a busy year re-establishing an active Council post Covid. We have invested in the infrastructure of the Village by establishing free Wi-Fi for all residents, based out of the village hall.

We have engaged extensively with the Hertsmere Local Plan and have hosted open days for residents to get involved and ask questions.

We have continued to offer Zoom attendance at all our meetings, to open proceedings to a wider audience.

SMPC has been proactive in involving and engaging with the Police, Borough Council, Hertfordshire County Council and Hertfordshire Highways on a host of issues to improve our pavements and roads, parks and open spaces. To stop nuisance behaviour and continue to fight against the pollution and disruption from the Aggregates Site next to Romani House.

We have also increased community engagement with more the use of the SMPC Facebook page which carries all formal notices, including Planning Applications and the use if the Residents Community Notice Board Facebook page.

We have cracked down on Fly Typing and recently Hertsmere Council awarded the highest penalty charge ever to a repeat offender, who was dumping in the southern part of the Parish at the bottom of Galley Lane. Although most of our residents are in and around the village we are also attempting to gain more involvement from some of the more remote farms and houses.

We have launched a new Book and Puzzle Swap initiative to share the joy of reading across all parts of the community and to foster residents socialising – particularly in light of the isolation in recent years. Reading is wonderful, but reading with tea and cake are even better!

At the time of writing this year’s statement we are yet to be advised if the village of Ridge will also be joining our remit, but in the meantime we will continue to assist any residents in the area that need our support.

We have increased our Clerks working hours to continue in the greater support of the whole of the Electoral Parish and I believe the great strides we have made in the last year, are underpinned by our Mission Statement :

We are local people volunteering to help support and enhance village life for all. Our purpose as the Parish Council is to promote and represent the best interests of the village and Electoral Parish of South Mimms, without bias, so that the community can develop and thrive as a successful, safe and caring place to live and work. We promote healthy debate and encourage individual opinions that will help enable residents and business owners to have their collective voices heard and facilitate the accessing of services at Borough and County level. In return, we request that the community that we represent, work with us in a professional and courteous manner, so that we can achieve our common goals and objectives.