

South Mimms Parish Council

Newsletter January 2023



Website: www.southmimms-pc.org.uk

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For urgent news and updates please follow our Facebook page: [South Mimms Parish Council](#)

Happy New Year!

We hope you had a wonderful time over the festive period. The Parish Council doesn't have a public meeting in January (or August), so we trust you will find this newsletter an informative alternative. Remember, all our meetings are open to everyone, and we also broadcast them on Zoom. There is a different Zoom link for each meeting, so please get in touch or see our website's meeting page (you can turn off your camera, so don't worry nobody has to see you!).

Two Become One



It has now been confirmed by Hertsmere, that in May a new '*South Mimms and Ridge Parish Council*' will be created. This will form a large Parish, covering land from the edge of London Colney to just before Barnet High Street! It will be made up of four Councillors representing South Mimms Ward and one Councillor representing Ridge Ward. **We will be looking for new candidates to stand for election**, as well as expecting some of the existing South Mimms Councillors to stand again. Being a Councillor is a chance to not only sort out issues but also help to bring improvements to the whole area. Please get in contact if you would like to know more about what being a Councillor involves and the criteria for applicants (this is an unpaid role).

Planning Matters:

Cathy McCaffrey (SMPC Chairperson) and Natalie Gettings (Clerk), along with a number of residents, attended the Public Enquiry in December into **the site next to Romani House**. It was discovered that the Planning Inspectorate themselves had failed to pass on to the appellants some of the evidence that we had submitted. This meant that the case was adjourned until March which was very disappointing.

Version 2 of the **Local Plan for New Housing** in Hertsmere is now underway. The second call for sites attracted a new area off Blanche Lane (where the English Garden Co. was) which is expected

to propose eight detached homes. The planning consultants for this project have requested to be at the 2nd February Parish Council Meeting. Also, a previously unsuccessful bid for homes at the south end of St Albans Road, has been resubmitted reducing from 90 homes to approximately 20 - this was presented at the December Parish Council meeting. This time the proposal also includes parking for St Giles parents who could then access the school from the rear (avoiding Blanche Lane), as well as a couple of retail units. Hertfordshire County Council's land next to the M25 at the north end of the village is still expected to make up the largest number of new homes.

Book Swap Dates:

20th January, 17th February, 17th March, 21st April, 19th May, 16th June, and 21st July.

On the 3rd Friday of every month (except August) from 2-4pm in the Parish Room in the Village Hall, we run a Book Swap. You don't have to bring a book to swap always, and we have books for children and teens, as well as adult fiction and non-fiction. You don't have to give back the same book, we just ask that you donate some books you no longer want from time to time. To tempt you further we have hot drinks, cake, and biscuits (plus squash for the children). We have recently added some adult and children's puzzles to our supplies. If you are interested in helping, please email southmimmspc@gmail.com as we would love to be able to run this sociable event more often.

Maintenance Updates:

SMPC has provided a grant so that the **Village Hall** Committee can get the wooden flooring in the main hall refurbished. This is a sprung floor and has been sanded, revarnished, treated with special 'high traffic coating' and is now looking absolutely splendid! The Village Hall Committee is a registered charity and as well as managing the hall, they also run a number of community events like this year's **Coronation Party - however, these can only happen with more helpers**. Please email skylark20@hotmail.co.uk for all enquiries regarding the hall.

The new Village gateway signs have finally been ordered and should be installed by Highways in the next couple of months.

Overgrowth on St Albans Road pavement behind the school and up to Greyhound Lane has been scrapped back to its full width making it easier to walk up to the services.

Reporting Matters:

Is something broken or missing? You can email us, put it on the South Mimms Report It Facebook group or simply log it yourself on: www.Hertsmere.gov.uk/Report-It

Safety Issues:

Call 999 / 101 or Police Safer Neighbourhoods Team on **01707 354192** or SNTPottersBarandShenley@herts.police.uk

Catalyst Housing Issues:

Info@chg.org.uk - General enquiries

Repairs@chg.org.uk – maintenance issues

Consents@chg.org.uk – permission to make changes to a property

Income@chg.org.uk – rent payment issues

Housing.Services@chg.org.uk – tenancy queries.

Best Regards,

Natalie Gettings (Clerk and Finance Officer) and your Councillors: Cathy McCaffrey (Chairperson), Chris Myers (Deputy), Mark Hedison, Seth Thomas, and Toni Johnson.