



SOUTHDEAN ESTATE RESIDENTS GROUP **NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2022**

Welcome to the Southdean Estates Residents Group Newsletter.

After an enforced break in activity because of Covid restrictions, it is good to be able to report that the Southdean Estate Committee started meeting again in October 2021. With a few new members on the committee, the first meetings set about establishing committee roles, and updating the accounts to identify non-payment of the Estate Road Rates.

A Covid delayed AGM for 2021 was held on 28th November 2021 and a summary follows below:

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2021 AGM was held on Sunday 28th November, and 34 members recorded their attendance. The Minutes will shortly appear in the Notice Boards on our estate located at the north end of Southdean Drive and on the corner of Rose Avenue and Tuscan Avenue and are on the website at southdeanestate.com.

The AGM approved the committee for the coming year, a report was received from the Chairman, and apart from items covered in more detail in this newsletter, discussions were held on the Shrubbs Field Car Park charging proposal, proposed yellow lines in Main Drive and the construction works in properties in Southdean Drive.

The AGM for 2022 will be held at the Middleton Scout Hall at Shrubbs Field on Sunday 13th March, starting at 12:00.

SOUTHDEAN ESTATE COMMITTEE

The membership for the new Committee is listed below:

Position	Incumbent	Road Rep for:
Joint Chairpersons	Nick Trish	Greenway Top of Rose Avenue (1-10)
	David Garn	
Treasurer	Colin Ross	42 to 64 Southdean Drive (both odd and even numbers)
Secretary	Steve McKie	Southdean Close Bottom of Rose Avenue
Committee Member	Laurie Beestone	2 to 40 Southdean Drive (even numbers only)

Committee Member	Spencer Aubrey	3 to 41 Southdean Drive (odd numbers only)
Committee Member	Vicky Harris	St. Nicholas Lane Tuscan Avenue, Shaw Close, Main Drive

Assisting the Committee

Steve Ruddock	Website & Internet communications
Glynn Bush	Estate Maintenance

There are several Portfolio Roles still to be allocated and there are two vacant positions on the committee, so more volunteers would be welcome. It would be good to have more ladies on the committee, and to have people from roads that are currently not directly represented. If any resident has any ideas, proposals, building plans or issues which they would like to bring to the Committee then please contact a member of the Committee. You can also attend at the beginning of any Committee Meeting to raise concerns in person.

The next Committee Meeting will be held at 1900 on Thursday 24th February 2022 at 44 Southdean Drive. Further meeting dates, locations and times will be posted on the Notice boards at the north end of Southdean Drive and half-way down Rose Avenue.

FINANCES

The value of the roads has now been written down due to general wear and tear and, although the estate is now holding a surplus balance, the monies are being accumulated largely for refurbishment of the roads when due.

The committee has spent a lot of time following up with residents who had Road Rate arrears, and this has now significantly reduced. New invoices have recently been distributed for 2022 and it would save time and effort if these can be swiftly settled by all residents.

Any Resident who wants a copy of the accounts and the figures involved can request that from the Committee.

Road Rates remain at £125 for 2022.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

A Christmas Party was held on Wednesday 15th December 2021 at Middleton Sports Club. Attendance was down on previous years due to concerns about the Omicrom variant of Covid19, but positive feedback has been received from those that did attend and £90 was raised for Stonepillow. A letter of thanks has been received from Stonepillow, saying:

"Thank you for supporting the work of Stonepillow with your very kind donation of £90 from the proceeds of your Christmas raffle.

During the winter months, the low temperatures mean that our services are even more important to those who are rough sleeping or vulnerably housed."

SUMMER PARTY

There are various proposals for communities to celebrate the Queen's jubilee this year, on the first weekend in June. One proposal offers the potential for estates along the coast of MoS, including Southdean Estate, to take part in an attempt to put on the longest tea party and get into the Guinness Book of Records. This could stretch from Pagham through Bognor Regis to Clymping.

The committee are awaiting further details from the organisers and will bring a proposal to the AGM when these have been considered.

PARISH UPDATE

"UPDATE FROM JACKY PENDLETON : MoS Parish, Arun District and West Sussex County Councillor, member of St. Nicholas Church Parochial Parish Council, Governor of Bishop Tufnell Primary School & Trustee of Middleton Village Pond & Green

MoS Parish Council have agreed that a drainage system can be installed on Shrubbs Field which will seek to protect the low lying areas at the north end of Southdean Drive, west end of Tuscan Avenue and St. Nicholas Lane. Quotations are being developed for the work and WSCC Watershed monies given previously by WSCC will be used to pay for the work.

A consultation has taken place on whether or not to make the Shrubbs Field car park a pay and display car park. I am opposed to this and will be putting my views across at the ADC Environment Committee.

A tree planting programme is being planned for Shrubbs Field in time for the Queens Platinum Jubilee Queens Canopy initiative.

St. Nicholas church have a new Priest, Father Dominik Chmielewski, who has been tasked with building up the congregation and increasing income, so that the church can return to being self-funding and not be at risk of closure. A new group called the Friends of St. Nicholas Church is being formed and they need support from our

community and donations to save our church. If you wish to contribute, go to the church website [stnicholasmiddleton \(stnicholasmiddleton.co.uk\)](http://stnicholasmiddleton.co.uk)

An extension of the Rampion Wind Farm towards the west from Worthing to Selsey Bill is currently under discussion. MoS Parish Council have put in their objection to this as part of the overall consultation.

The planning application from the Grundon/Viridor consortium to build an enlarged incinerator in Ford has been withdrawn – this is important for us as the noxious emissions from that proposal would have spread for miles around.”

TREE PLANTING

The Southdean Estate is proposing to support the Queen’s Green Canopy project by encouraging residents to plant trees on the verges of the estate. In supporting this we will enhance the environment by mitigating climate change and provide additional benefit in relation to removal of surface water. It will be up to individuals to plant and maintain a tree of their choice on the verge outside their property, ensuring it does not cause any obstruction in the future.

The Southdean Estate will subsidise the cost of trees for those residents who wish to participate. We are taking advice on which tree species are most appropriate for the estate and will publish a list of tree species, planting and maintenance advice, and recommended suppliers on the estate website shortly. Anyone wishing to participate in the scheme is recommended to discuss their selection of tree species and location with their neighbours and their road representative. It is recommended that the planting is done in February or March, or later in the year in November or December 2022.

KEEPING OUR ESTATE CLEAN

Dog fouling continues to be an issue on our estate and on the beach. The Committee advise that residents who see dog fouling should take responsibility for politely pointing out the fouling to the dog owner or reporting the incident to Arun District Council. If possible, residents should take note of **the date and time, the dog and the owner and if you know where they live make a note of that too**. If you can get a photograph of the dog, the owner and the fouling all the better.

SPEEDING

The issue of vehicles travelling above the estate speed limit of 15mph, especially on Southdean Drive, has once again been raised on social media and in communication with the committee. The committee discussed the extent of the issue, and the various potential mitigations, at some length and here is a summary of those discussions:

The last traffic-calming poll was 8 years ago, and various options were then put to the estate. At that time the majority of residents were not in favour of speed humps as a traffic calming measure.

Since then, with the increase in online purchases, delivery drivers are a regular visitor to the estate. As they are time driven it was felt that these are the likeliest to speed. However, despite the increase in delivery vehicles there has not been an increase in communication with the committee on the matter, which would indicate that the previous majority view still stands.

The attitude to speed humps or bumps has also changed, as since 2017 the government has asked all councils to remove them because they are no longer considered environmentally friendly. This is due to the deceleration and the acceleration which causes an increase in air pollution and noise; and it is considered that they devalue properties as the constant vibrations can cause damage. Other factors are that the estate roads are generally too narrow to include pavements for pedestrians or a cycle lane and street lighting is an issue, as there should be 3 street lights every 38 metres as defined by the highways recommendations.

Committee members have agreed to investigate the effectiveness and cost of better road signs, including large painted signs on the road at various points, and Stop signs and broken white lines at junctions. We have also been advised that reflective flashing warning signs, showing the speed the vehicle is travelling at, with warning signs telling them to slow down, can be borrowed from the council.

It is understood that Saxon Reach, who own Main Drive, are also considering various options, although Main Drive has pavements and street lighting. They are in consultations with the residents of Main Drive, and I am sure they will keep the committee updated on any decisions they make.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

At the 2021 AGM attendees were asked to provide an email address as we would like to improve our communication with residents and reduce the amount of paper and ink that we use, along with the associated cost.

If we don't already have your email address, and you would like to receive future Association updates and newsletters by email please provide your email address to David Garn at Davidgarn@hotmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Next committee meeting – Thursday 24th February**
- **AGM – Sunday 13th March 12:00 @ Scout Hall**
- **Summer Party – First weekend in June 2022**

(To coincide with Queen's Jubilee celebrations)