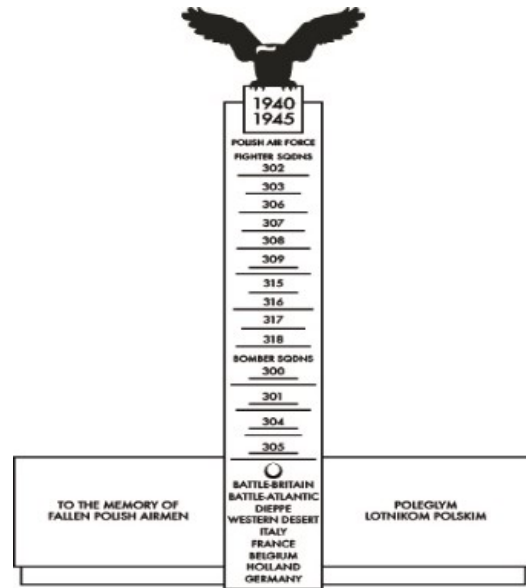


# South Ruislip Residents' Association.

(established in 1939)

Website : [www.srra.org.uk](http://www.srra.org.uk)

Email : [srra12@hotmail.com](mailto:srra12@hotmail.com)



## AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING

1. Opening Remarks
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of Meeting
4. Matters Arising
5. Guest Speaker
6. Reports: Chairman, Treasurer, CRS, Secretary and AGM.
7. Report from Ward Councillors
8. Any other business to the Secretary at least 7 days before the meeting

**MEETINGS OF THE SRRA WILL BE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

## VICE CHAIRMANS COMMENTS

Firstly I would like to apologise once again for the late delivery of the January newsletter. We have explained why it was late but I know some residents did not make it to the quarterly meeting due its late arrival, this just demonstrates how important it is to ensure timely delivery.

As you can see from the note above, the quarterly meeting which is of course the AGM has been cancelled. This is in line with many other gatherings but it was deemed to be important to help safeguard our residents. The AGM will now form the basis of the July meeting subject to the current crisis being at an end. We will make a decision on the July meeting nearer to the date as we see how things develop, but the safety of our residents must be paramount.

I would like to thank both the organisers and those who took part in the tree planting on Field End recreation ground. The weather on the day was terrible so a big thank you to all those stalwarts who braved the elements.

The area is being planted with around 5000 trees and shrubs with provision for pathways through the area. It should be a great asset to our community and an enjoyable walk.

We did extend an invitation to the new MCO at RAF Northolt to attend the April meeting and will offer her an invitation to the July meeting.

### LIDL

Hopefully by the time you read this the works to the front of Lidl will be completed. It seems to have been a marathon and I hope its worth it.

Those of you that walk to the store will have seen the damage to the verge opposite the entrance to Stonefield Way. It is obvious that a commercial vehicle has been exiting Stonefield Way and turning right even though it is currently one way. Not only have they damaged the verge, they have smashed a disused service box. This box is made of cast iron and has left some very dangerous protrusions on the verge and this has been reported to the council who reacted very quickly to put barriers round it. These have now gone but the dangerous base still remains. As a result, we have made representations to the council via our ward councillor to not allow LGV's to exit Stonefield Way from this junction but to continue to exit as has been the system since the retail park was developed. We believe that not only will it add to the already congested road but will present a danger to pedestrians on the opposite footpath.

**HS2** As you are now aware the government has given the go ahead to HS2, at least the southern section, but they have stated what everyone knew it suffers from very poor or no management this has resulted in sky high costs and less than acceptable practices in many areas including environmental considerations, compulsory purchases and cost control.

A minister has been appointed: Andrew Stephenson MP for Pendle, to oversee HS2 and the proposed northern trans Pennine link. The Prime Minister was very critical of the lack of management of the project and recognised that costs had exploded. A new review is taking place.

Further to this, following the courts decision with respect to the third that it had not met the environmental conditions, a similar action is being taken against HS2 led by Chris Packham so watch this space. I suppose that the best this will achieve is a delay rather than a cancellation.

We have been contacted by a member of the local management team of HS2 with respect to attending our quarterly meeting to provide an update and we provisionally agreed on the July meeting but we are still waiting a response.

## **HS2**

We have a new Transport Secretary namely Grant Shapps. He has already made his presence felt by ordering a review into the entire project, covering scope, design and affordability. This review will only last a few weeks with a final report due in the autumn.

The review will be headed up by Doug Oakervee, a retired engineer and former HS2 chairman assisted by Lord Tony Berkeley, former chairman of the Rail Freight Group and a vocal critic of the project.

Terms of reference for the review include the ability of HS2 Ltd to deliver the project effectively, the project benefits to towns and cities both on and off the core routes, environmental and economic benefits, delivery risks and whether other transport schemes could achieve comparable benefits.

Cost will come under close scrutiny including whether the current figures are realistic and opportunities for efficiencies.

The direct costs of re-scoping or cancelling the project altogether will be assessed as will the opportunities for recouping the costs, the effects on the supply chain, contractual penalties and potential legal action.

The final report will be independently reviewed by a panel consisting of Network Rail chairman Sir Peter Hendy, West Midlands Mayor Andy Street, Transport for the North chairman John Cridland, former Bank of England advisor

**Sid Jackson Vice Chairman**

## **COMMUNITY VOICE**

According to Wikipedia a virus is "a small infectious agent that replicates only inside the living cells; viruses can infect all types of life forms from animals to plants to micro-organisms including bacteria and archaea". Only about 5,000 have been studied but there are millions of other types in the environment and are found in almost every ecosystem on earth. They can be transmitted from plant to plant by insects, Influenza and the covid19 (coronavirus) by coughs and sneezes, Novo virus by touch and contact with food and water, HIV from body fluids and infected blood.

This information comes via the NHS website for **Covid 19. The symptoms are: a high temperature (you feel hot to touch on your chest or back), a new continuous cough (you cough repeatedly)**

DO NOT go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or an A&E hospital.

STAY AT HOME. If you have internet connection go to [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid19/self-isolation-advice](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid19/self-isolation-advice)

Phone 111 if you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms or you consider your symptoms have not got better after 7 days Phone 111.

Covid 19 is a new unknown virus and they have limited information about it, how it works in the human cells, like the flu virus it causes the body to work overtime to fight it, if you have other medical problems it could overwhelm the body's capabilities to combat it.

To avoid spreading this or any other virus: **wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 sec (singing happy birthday takes about 20 sec at the right speed), if you can't use soap and water use a hand sanitiser gel. Always wash your hands after visiting the loo or before preparing food. Cover your mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing (then throw it away) if a tissue is unavailable use your sleeve. Then use the gel or wash your hands. DO NOT USE YOUR HANDS. Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth unless you have clean hands.** Like the flu there is no known treatment except time in which to give your body's own immune a chance to system to work. Antibiotics do not work against viruses.

For more detailed information please go to [www.nhs.gov](http://www.nhs.gov)

**Linda Clarke** (Over 100 videos of previous speakers available at [www.communityvoicehealth.org.uk](http://www.communityvoicehealth.org.uk).)

## **POLICE WARD PANEL**

Our SNT in South Ruislip continue to do a very good job in keeping South Ruislip Safe. Recent innovations such as the Virtual Ward Panel (VWP) operates through OWL and gives the whole community a chance to answer a questionnaire about their concerns. The results from the latest VWP shows residents main concerns are for burglary, motor vehicle theft including catalytic converters and drugs in the area.

The police then target these concerns in their planning. South Ruislip Ward panel including 7 resident representatives, Ward Councillors and the SNT is in its 5 year of strong representation; now Cavendish have 30 new volunteers who will form a Panel for the Cavendish area.

The SRRA notice board normally has a regular update of police surgeries and advice, including a safety approach for catalytic converters. Our thanks to the SNT keep your reports coming through to the SNT as these give the police additional evidence for their investigations.

**Steve Graham & Lynne Kauffman Police Liaison**

## **RAF NORTHOLT**

**PS There are no Crime Prevention Stalls during the time of reduced social interaction. However the SNT are available for anyone needing help on 02082461823.**

We now have an enthusiastic new officer for community liaison with South Ruislip. Her name is Wing Commander Paula Wilcox and she is hoped to be with us for 4 years. Wing Cm Wilcox has met with Sid Jackson and has been introduced to South Ruislip, and we are providing her with a map and places of interest in South Ruislip

## **ENVIRONMENT Allotments**

Now that Spring is on its way, and the early plants are starting to get going, it is a good time to take on an Allotment plot. We have two sites in South Ruislip, one in The Fairway and the other in Field End Road. There are plots available at both

the sites and if you want to find out more please contact the appropriate Secretary (Bob Weeks at bob.weeks07@gmail.com) for the Field End Road site and Carina Browne (carinadoxa@googlemail.com) for The Fairway site. I took on a half plot last year as an introduction to growing my own, and grew a variety of vegetables, all of which were very tasty. I was so pleased with the results that I have now taken on a second half plot, this time for fruit.

For those of you who live near the Eastern side of South Ruislip, The Roxbourne Horticultural Society run a trading hut at the Yeading Avenue allotments for all your planting needs. This is open from 10:30am to 12:30pm on a Sunday morning, and membership is a modest £3. A similar site runs in Oak Grove Eastcote at the same time and cost.

**LONDON GREEN BELT** At the AGM of the London Green Belt Council the CPRE presentation “A Positive Vision for London’s Green Belt” was shown to member groups. This contained the following summary:



*London’s Green Belt provides an important long-term benefit for all those living in, around and visiting London;*

- *its landscape beauty and the haven it provides for an improved and thriving wild-life;*
  - *its significant contribution to the mitigation of the climate emergency and enhancing people’s health and wellbeing*
  - *the facilities it offers for outdoor recreation, and its resource for food and farming close to London;*
- all this in addition to its traditional role of containing urban sprawl and encouraging re-*

*generation.*

### **Geoff Quantock—Environment.**

#### **PS A New Community Woodland**

Planting of New Trees for Field End Recreation Ground on Saturday 29th February at around midday my husband and I joined a large number of people at Field End Rec. to assist in planting of very small trees (apparently called ‘whips’). Everyone was dressed in their warmest clothes as the weather forecast was cold but dry! When we arrived we were directed to put on green tabards and help ourselves to a snack. Incidentally, these events are organised by a charity called ‘Trees for Cities’ based on the other side of London.

We had a health and safety talk after which we picked up our special tree planting spades and were taken to our area of work. It was not easy cutting through the grass but benefited from some help and suggestions from the people in charge. Some of us came across bricks, stones and odds and ends when digging as it had been a land fill site years ago. Just when we all seemed to be doing well, the heavens opened with a hail storm which was decidedly unpleasant. The horizontal hail was especially painful if it hit you in the face (the only part of the body uncovered) and accompanied by the wind in which you could hardly stand. But amazingly most people carried on as if nothing had happened. In a while the sun did shine for a short time until the next shower!

We met people who came from far and wide. One man coming only from Hillingdon which took him an hour to get to South Ruislip (dedication). Another young volunteer came from Canary Wharf, one came from Leicester and that was gleaned from the few that we spoke to. Evidently; 1500 trees were planted by schools the previous week and we planted another 1000 on the Saturday. I believe corporate groups will be planting some in the following week with the ultimate aim of 5000 trees. Not many of us will benefit from these trees but hopefully the future generations will. No doubt many of you will think we were mad going out in such weather, but it turned out to be extremely social and we saw first hand how many people want to help with the battle against climate change. After, we returned home and had a nice hot shower and a drink, sat down and felt it had all been worth while.

#### **Hazel Hook - Resident**

**PPS** I received feedback from John the organiser of Trees For Cities , he was delighted at the enthusiasm from our residents, Lions Club and schools. Trees for Cities will maintain the trees for one year and after that Hillingdon’s Green Spaces will take over– many thanks to all who took part in creating South Ruislip’s own community woodland.... Editor

#### **South Ruislip Library**

We have lost one of our librarians, Gill Welch, to promotion to Ruislip Manor Library—good luck Gill. Sophia our library deputy manager explained our library is having a make-over and will be out of action for 3 months.



Lilly Rose one of the youngest tree planters

### **The Hub**

Continues to thrive and numbers are very constant at about 50. Sadly the virus means the club has closed until the foreseeable future. On the bright side Hub member Chris and SRRA committee member Francis have been at work researching the OLD South Ruislip. (thank you for all those that sent in information and pictures back to the 40’s. We are trying to create a history of the area so any nuggets of information from the past would be welcomed. (to Lynne 07769701234).

St Marys Church has an asbestos problem so while the church is out of action on the Fairway South Ruislip The Methodist Circuit are allowing St Mary’s to use the Methodist church on Queen’s Walk (temporarily closed owing to the virus )

**For Hub and Church information please contact Father Eric Lobsinger 02088423783. Contact with the Church Whatsapp through Cheryl and Paul Faithfull.**

### **Councillors Corner**

**Cllr Hurhangee, Cllr Kauffman & Cllr Tuckwell** There are no specific messages from Councillors however they remain available when needed to answer residents queries and to offer help where residents are experiencing problems during the virus crisis. Remember the government advice wash hands carefully, stay home unless urgent needs for food and medicine or work.

Mob numbers : Allan Kauffman 07786262241, Steve Tuckwell.07539983375.

## **Fourways Women's Club**

**(Member of the National Association of Women's Clubs)**

We are a group of women who meet for 2 hours a week between 8pm and 10pm on a Wednesday evening at St Mary's Church Hall (the Fairway).

We have outings, a variety of visiting speakers, a bring and buy table, books sale and a chance to make new friends (and reconnect with old ones). We will be pleased to see you, so come and have a cup of tea (or coffee) with a couple of biscuits.

For more details phone

**Linda Clarke 07788116195 or Ann Drussel 07944705051**

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**If you wish to contact the SRRA at this time please email [srra@hotmail.com](mailto:srra@hotmail.com)**