

MINUTES OF THE STRAWBERRY HILL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE
MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2025 AT ST MARY'S UNIVERSITY

PRESENT: Andrew Miller, June Collins, Louisa Carradine, Peter Lamb, Mary Hughes, Fiona Maxwell, Jonathan Bayliss, Dany Mooney, Mike Allsop. In the absence of Pamela Crisp, Andrew Miller took the minutes and Vice Chair Jonathan Bayliss chaired the meeting.

1.Apologies for absence and declarations of interest: Apologies from Sam Kamleh, Pamela Crisp, Cllr Richard Bennett. No declarations of interest.

2.Minutes of the last meeting: agreed and Jonathan signed a copy.

3.Matters arising: Jonathan and Fiona had held a productive meeting with Ben Phillips, owner of Parsnips in the Park. Dany said that Friends of Radnor Gardens had offered to fund a new sign for the café setting out its opening hours. Andrew reported that he had not yet contacted David Gaimster, new Director of Strawberry Hill House, but planned to do so before Christmas. Andrew reported that the reprint of Strawberry Hill: a history of the neighbourhood had been for 250 copies at a cost of £577.14. The RRP was still £8 with copies sold to the main seller Strawberry Hill House shop for £5.50. Andrew reported the completion of the survey for new carols with the result that we will sing four new carols: In the Bleak Midwinter, We Three Kings, Jingle Bells and Deck the Halls. Andrew reported that, following interventions by Cllr Lee, the lamppost by the recycling bins in Popes Avenue had been replaced.

4.Councillor's report: In Richard's absence, Andrew raised two issues on Richard's agenda. The first was the state of the grass on Twickenham Green – the subject of the Councillor's update in Bulletin 187. The Committee was supportive of any initiatives to improve the quality of grass on the Green. Louisa said that the trees around the edge no doubt were partly responsible for drawing water away from the grass. The second was the proposed review by the Greens of the CPZs in our area. There was a lively discussion and it was felt that because the parking restrictions had been introduced piecemeal over time, that it would be desirable to take a holistic overview of the interrelationship between the different zones. SHRA would also support a review looking at the impact on the retailers in Wellesley Parade and Tower Road.

5.Chair's issues: Andrew said that teething troubles with the Bulletin sign up on the new website were now resolved and asked for any feedback on the website. Andrew said that a resident, Ben Burston, had asked that the Committee keep graffiti on the agenda given the recent spate of tagging in Popes Avenue and the Station. It was noted that one of the issues with removal of graffiti were the various jurisdictions, i.e. residents/home owners, the Council, SWR, Network Rail, Open Reach, Virgin media, BT etc. which made it sometimes difficult to know who to inform. The Committee noted that the most effective approach was the rapid removal of new graffiti.

Signed

Date

6. Treasurer's report: 12/11/2025 (up to 07/11/2025)

Deposit Account:

Balance at the time of the last meeting on 08/10/2025	£4,151.70
Current balance including interest:	£4,155.28

Current Account:

Balance at the time of the last meeting on 08/10/2025	£4,729.77
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Add income:

Subscriptions:	£10.00
Christmas sponsorship	£350.00

Total Income: **£360.00**

Deduct Expenditure:

Total Expenditure: **£0.00**

Net cash increase/(decrease) **£360.00**

Balance today: **£5,089.77**

Subscriptions/Donations Breakdown

04/11/2025 10

7. Carols in the Village: June circulated a revised checklist for the event. She was awaiting a response to an invitation to the Mayor but it was unlikely now. The most likely scenario was a greeting from our Green Councillor and Andrew. Andrew said that the next phase of the marketing was awaiting the finalised list of sponsors from Jonathan. Jonathan agreed to send the final list tomorrow. Andrew circulated the draft banner design which was approved. Dany reporting buying red baubles using the Squires voucher for £20. Matt at the Golf Club had agreed to print and laminate Carols posters – Jonathan to facilitate. Andrew agreed to circulate the poster to the Committee. Louisa said that her husband could warm additional bottles of wine to fill an empty container during the event to avoid the need to purchase another container – but given increasing numbers we should purchase more bottles than last year. Andrew should include health and safety announcement about parents supervising children near the tree and to avoid traffic on Wellesley Road.

Signed

Date

8.Business Liaison Update: Jonathan reported on his quest for sponsorship. This included a new business in the Heathlands Close industrial park – Kew Windows. He raised the issue of how SHRA can support businesses and give something back. This arose in relation to Jawbone Brewing whose owner was looking for opportunities to sell beer – the University bar was mentioned as a possibility. Jonathan said how that visiting the businesses in Strawberry Hill showed how some appeared to be thriving (the hairdressers) and others were showing signs of stress.

9.Bulletin 187: Andrew had circulated the Word draft of the Bulletin ahead of the meeting and asked for members to read and give him any comments by close of play on Friday 14 November. He also said that Sam Kamleh (owing to pressure of work) had a short window in which to design the Bulletin and the new website added a complication which may mean that the publication may be delayed until after the Carols event.

10.Planning: Mike reported that no 251 Waldegrave Road was now virtually demolished. Other developments were delayed and there was little to report. Mary asked about the installation of air conditioning units in the Glenside development (Popes Avenue/Spencer Road). Mike said that the Council's position on these units was not clear. Andrew said that in the Local Plan it said that SMU would work with the Council on a masterplan for development of the University site. He would raise this in the next meeting with the Vice Chancellor.

11.Any other business: Louisa said that she had learned that the Royal British Legion in Pope's Grove was likely to close in the next three years and this would be a loss of amenity to the local community. There was a general discussion about the benefits of the Legion and who uses it, as well as why SHRA no longer held meetings there. Louisa proposed that we should consider holding the next AGM 2026 at the Legion. Dany said that she had taken initiative and booked the Alexander Pope for our next meeting on 14 January.

Date of next meeting: 14 January 2026 at 7pm at the Alexander Pope Hotel

The meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Signed

Date