

# THE SHORTLANDS RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

(Founded in 1934)

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**The Association's AGM will be held at 7.45 pm on 30 April 2019  
at the Shortlands Golf Club, Ravensbourne Avenue**

### AGENDA

1. President's Address
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of AGM held in April 2018 (available at the meeting or by request) and matters arising
4. Chairman's Report for 2018 and matters arising
5. To receive and adopt accounts for the year to 31 Dec 2018 (to be circulated)
6. Resolution: That the Association adopts the revised rules as made available to members in print or on the website
7. Resolution: that the minimum subscription to the Association shall be increased from £1 to £5 per household with effect from 1 January 2020
8. Election of Officers
9. Election of Executive Committee
10. Election of Honorary Auditors
11. Any other business
12. Guest speaker: Col Bob Stewart DSO MP

[www.shortlandsresidents.org.uk](http://www.shortlandsresidents.org.uk)

## PRESIDENT'S COMMENT

If you attend the AGM on 30<sup>th</sup> April you will, if previous experience is anything to go by, join an audience approaching 100 residents from the Shortlands area. You will hear reports of another year of active campaigning and lobbying on issues such as traffic, road safety, parking and street cleaning; of responding to planning applications affecting our area; of open meetings initiated with our local councillors and of liaison with the Police; of walks and visits organised; of informative newsletters distributed, a website kept updated and of an Association strong financially, able and willing to make small grants in support of suitable local initiatives that improve the area, such as the Shortlands village Christmas lights, the Tommy silhouette in the grounds of St Mary's and the restoration of the fountain in South Hill Woods.

Yet this is only part of the picture. Of course, all this activity does not just happen. It results from sustained planning and hard work by a dedicated team of Executive Committee members and Liaison Officers. Unfortunately, due to the constraints of age, health, professional and family commitments the increasing demands on the SRA are now being shouldered by a reducing number of active individuals. Most of the current Executive have been actively involved for many years and, as in many other organisations, new volunteers to share the burden and take over in due course have been hard to find.

The Chairman and Committee recognise that, unless this challenge is addressed, we could be faced ultimately with an apparently sound residents' association failing because of insufficient people to run it. Consequently, you will hear at the AGM and over subsequent months about ideas and proposals for "future proofing" the SRA. What is it that the changing demographic of Shortlands residents will expect from a residents' association in the future; how many even know of the SRA's existence? Could the Association, faced with fewer liaison officers, improve its communications with Members and residents, for example, by increased use of an improved website and email and collect subscriptions by bank transfers rather than by personal calls or post? Are there residents who would be willing to help but prefer to assist with a specific, time-limited project rather than commit as a full member of the Executive Committee? Could the SRA's representation on outside bodies be spread more widely, beyond the Committee?

The SRA has existed for 85 years since its formation in 1934 in response to local social and demographic change i.e. then a lack of school places for a growing suburban population. It has continued to adapt its activities and, indeed, its objectives and rules as times change, and now is faced with the challenge of modernising once again. This will doubtless involve new approaches and priorities and, perhaps, additional costs for professional or technical help. Change is not always popular but, ultimately, continued success will depend upon the SRA doing things differently and by attracting a new generation of volunteers willing to share their own particular skills, personalities and commitment for the future benefit of us all.

I know the Chairman and all the Committee Members would be pleased to hear any input you may wish to give, especially constructive criticism and suggestions. Of course, if you and your family feel a commitment to Shortlands and believe having an active local residents' association in the years to come is worthwhile, you may have the skills or experience from which the SRA could benefit. If so, we would also love to hear from you!

With all this in mind, the AGM on 30<sup>th</sup> April should prove very significant for the future of the Association. In addition, we look forward to hearing from SRA member, Shortlands resident and local Member of Parliament, Bob Stewart as our guest speaker, and his thoughts about key issues of the day (in addition to the B word!). I look forward to welcoming you.

## Brian Reading

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This has been another busy and, I think, successful year for the SRA. Brian Reading's comments above summarise just some of our activity. I do not want simply to list out all that we have done, but there are a few highlights to flag up.

First, we have continued to press on securing improvements to the parking situation across our area and this has resulted in the painting of double yellow lines at a number of difficult junctions and improvements to bus stops with raised pavements and clear markings. This work carries on.

Secondly, we have been actively involved in a successful bid to secure significant investment for Shortlands under the Liveable Neighbourhoods scheme run by TfL. There will now be a period of consultation on traffic management, landscaping and better use of open spaces in which we will play a full part.

Thirdly, we ran two new-style open meetings, both at the Harris Primary Academy. Both were on Saturday mornings to try to attract new audiences and both promoted a dialogue between local residents and elected councillors. This initiative was part of our drive to ensure that we remain relevant as the issues facing the area, as well as its demographics, change.

There are other things that we need to do to change how we operate. For example, we continue to struggle to recruit Liaison Officers who will deliver newsletters and collect subscriptions; and because of this membership levels are falling. Although our level of income is holding up well, this is only because many members generously pay more than the £1 minimum subscription. In addition, Sally Guttridge, a long standing member of the Executive Committee has had to stand down through ill health and we are about to lose an excellent Membership Secretary as Ann-Marie Jeffreys tries to juggle multiple responsibilities. I am very grateful for the contributions they have made.

The two resolutions before the AGM reflect how we are addressing these challenges. We need to ensure that our rules are up to date and to modernise some of the language. The proposed new rules extend the list of named officers and include, for example, a Communications Officer, and spell out the duties of the members of the Executive. We wanted to emphasise liaison with the police and, to reflect our obligations with data protection, we wanted to include a specific responsibility which comes under the control of the Secretary. We have included a new clause dealing with the dissolution of the Association. Copies of the current and proposed new rules are on the SRA website for those who wish to make detailed comparisons.

We are working on a new and improved website; and while we will continue to produce and circulate newsletters, we want to distribute them to *all* households in our area using local delivery firms. This will raise our profile and increase levels of membership. These changes will inevitably increase our costs. The current minimum £1 subscription has not been changed for very many years (at least 15 – can anyone remember that last increase?). Most members already contribute more generously. We have therefore tabled a resolution to increase our subscription from its current level to a minimum of **£5 per household with effect from 1 January 2020**, very much in line with subscription levels of nearby residents' associations. Alongside this we are introducing, for the first time, an option to pay by standing order – this should be easier for members, more efficient for the SRA and again puts us in line with current practice in neighbouring associations.

Our energetic team of LOs will continue to play a vital role in terms of being a bridge between local residents and our Committee. We are also fortunate to have a talented and committed group of people on the Executive Committee whose hard work ensures that we have an effective voice.

We now need two or three more like them to help spread the load.

Mark Dempsey

**SHORTLANDS RESIDENTS’ ASSOCIATION – 2018 committee membership**

<b>President:</b>	Brian Reading	
<b>Chairman</b>	Mark Dempsey, 61 Kingswood Road	8460 4060
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	Keith Mills, 14a Bromley Grove	8464 2977
<b>Hon. Treasurer</b>	Peter Berry, 50 Mays Hill Road	8466 1134
<b>Development Officer</b>	Daniel Miller, 16 Hildenlea Place	8460 3247
<b>Hon. Membership Sec</b>	Ann-Marie Jefferys, 17 Scotts Avenue	8460 6030
<b>Hon. Secretary</b>	Victoria Miller, 16 Hildenlea Place	8460 3247
<b>Executive Committee</b>	Sally Guttridge, 27 Kingswood Avenue	8325 3490
	Mike Ricketts, 18 Den Road	8460 0395
Hon Auditors	C. Sheppey, J Needham	

**Becoming an Officer or Executive Committee Member of the Shortlands Residents’ Association.**

If you wish to stand for election please complete the form below and return to the current Secretary *not later than 10 days before the AGM* (i.e. By 20<sup>th</sup> April 2019). Proposers and Seconders must be Members of the Association.

(PLEASE COMPLETE FORM IN BLOCK CAPITALS)

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE / OFFICER NOMINATION FORM 2019**

*I wish to put forward my name for election as:*

Treasurer/ Secretary/ Membership Secretary/ Committee Member (select one)

NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
PROPOSED BY		SIGNED
SECONDED BY		SIGNED

**Paying or renewing your subscription**

Annual membership subscriptions have again been pegged at just £1 for each adult at one address. During the coming year we will be making it possible for you to pay by standing order. But for now there are two ways of joining the SRA or renewing your membership.

1 **By bank transfer.** Our bank account details are:

- Santander Bromley
- account number 82504600
- sort code 09-01-55

**Please ensure that your house number and road are provided as you make the transfer, so that we have a record of your membership.** And if you can send us an e-mail with your name(s) to confirm that you have completed the transfer, so much the better!

2 To pay or renew your subscription **by cash or cheque please complete the details** below and send this with your subscription to Ann-Marie Jefferys at 17 Scotts Avenue, Shortlands BR2 0LG. Cheques should be made payable to the Shortlands Residents' Association.

Name			
Address			
e-mail address			
Date		Signature	

Beckenham Grove	Mr D. Miller, 16 Hildenlea Place
Beckenham Lane	Bernadette Manning, 48 Beckenham Lane
Bromley Grove	Mr K. Mills, 14A Bromley Grove
Castle Close	Mrs. P. Braithwaite, 40 Kingswood Avenue
Caygill Close	Helen Scholfield, 15 Caygill Close
Celtic Avenue	Mrs J. Nicholls, 29 Celtic Avenue
Chart Close	Mrs P. Duffin, 20 St. Mary's Avenue
Chiltern Gardens	Helen Scholfield, 15 Caygill Close
Church Road	Mr M Street, 3A Church Road
Cumberland Road	Mrs. D. Allen, 38 St. Mary's Avenue
Den Road, Den Close	Mr M. Ricketts, 18 Den Road
Druids Way	Mr G. Roberts, 4 Green Close
Durham Avenue	Mr B. Smith, 36 Durham Avenue
Dykes Way	Sandy Rayment, 5 Kings Keep
Farnaby Road	Brendan Donegan, 7a, Farnaby Road
Foxes Dale	Mr S. Glenville 20 Foxes Dale

Fyfield Close	Mr G. Roberts, 4 Green Close
Green Close	Mrs P. Duffin, 20 St. Mary's Avenue
Hengist Way	Mrs D. Noad, 70 Kingswood Avenue
Highfield Drive	Mrs G. Charnley, 8 Highfield Drive
Hildenlea Place	Mr D. Miller, 16 Hildenlea Place
Hillside Road	Sandy Rayment, 5 Kings Keep
Kings Keep	Miss McLetchie, 2 Kings Keep
Kingswood Avenue	Mrs D. Noad, 70 Kingswood Avenue
Kingswood Road (rem)	Mr G. Roberts, 4 Green Close
Lancaster Close	Mrs E. Lynch, 1 Lancaster Close
Martins Road	Bernadette Manning, 48 Beckenham Lane
Meadow Road	Miss M Nolan, 48 Meadow Road
Parkhill Road	Mr K. Mills, 14A Bromley Grove
Queen Anne Avenue	Sandy Rayment, 5 Kings Keep
Ravensbourne Avenue	Mrs S. Callaghan, 14 Ravensbourne Avenue
Recreation Road	Bernadette Manning, 48 Beckenham Lane
Romanhurst Gardens	Mr & Mrs Barber, 13 Romanhurst Gardens
Scotts Lane	Mrs E Clarke, 64 Scotts Lane
Shortlands Grove	Mrs J. Berry, 50 Mays Hill Road
Shortlands Road	Mr R. Phipps, 39 Shortlands Road
South Hill Road	Mr D. Hope-Milne, 17 Parkhill Road
St. Mary's Avenue	Mrs. D. Allen, 38 St. Mary's Avenue
West Point (Shortlands Grove)	Mr Needham, Shortlands Grove

### **Roads not currently covered**

Bromley Road  
 Bromley Gardens  
 Colebrook Rise  
 Durham Road  
 Shortlands Gardens  
 Iden Close  
 Kingswood Road (1-79, 2-22)  
 Mays Hill Road

Queensmead Road  
 Scotts Avenue/top Scotts Lane  
 Romanhurst Avenue  
 Tootswood Road  
 Station Road  
 Valley Road  
 Winchester Park

Glassmill Lane