

# SNEYD PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held at St MARY'S CHURCH, BS9 at 7:30pm on 12 May 2026

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the 55<sup>th</sup> AGM in the 57<sup>th</sup> year of SPRA. The meeting was attended by 47

Apologies: Jerry Wood, a committee member who is away on business, and several residents.

Minutes The minutes of the AGM on 21 May 2025, which are available on the SPRA website, were approved.

Proposed: Linda Small  
Seconded: Gilian Baxter

Matters Arising None.

Chair's Report Steve Small (SS) reflected on his eight years as chair which had been enjoyable and challenging. On taking on the role his priority had been to deal with the fact that SPRA was running at a loss. Changes have included:

- Payments by standing order (which was invaluable during Covid);
- Mailchimp now used for regular email communication;
- The role of a committee member as webmaster.

Other matters where SPRA has been assisting residents is regarding planning (which SPRA does not get directly involved with) by encouraging direct communication between parties, e.g. one matter was resolved amicably after two years by doing just that.

A now annual event is the concert on The Downs and SPRA work with Team Love (the organisers) to ensure as little disruption as possible during the event. Our chair and vice chair spend the event days on site and in the surrounding area checking everything agreed is adhered to.

Parking on The Downs has been a major issue. The volume of SPRA members emails broke the Council's vetting system and the resulting local meeting (arranged and funded by SPRA) which was attended by Councilor Barry Parsons in March 2025 left the Council in no doubt about the scale of the problem as over 600 people were in attendance. Following the meeting Protect The Downs (PTD) was formed, chaired by Tony Nelson, and SS thanked Tony for all his hard work re what has been achieved so far. PTD will continue to operate and SPRA will continue supporting them.

SS reminded members of SPRA's role in other recent achievements:

- Sneyd Park Conservation Area;
- The Nature Reserve;
- Avon Wildlife Trust;
- Planting the Queen's tree (two years in the making); and
- 50<sup>th</sup> party to celebrate SPRA.

SPRA is also the only residents association that sits on the Downs Advisory Panel which gives us the ability to voice local concerns.

SPRA's future is looking healthy with an acceptable bank balance and monthly email communication. We are looking to recruit more Road Captains and members in order to continue achieving the best for the area and members were asked to encourage their neighbours to join.

We would like to have more social events and encourage members to assist with things like watering the Queen's oak and participating in the newly started litter picking sessions – eight bags of rubbish were collected on the first outing. There are also plans moving ahead re planting three of the small communal areas initially identified for enhancing.

It is time to review our subscriptions which have not increased for 10 years. To match inflation they should rise to £8. We are proposing an increase to £10 as the increased cost of Mailchimp, bank charges and insurance are necessary to do the additional things mentioned above. Attendees were asked to think about this proposal before voting at the end of the AGM.

SS thanked everyone who has assisted and supported him over the eight years of his chairmanship, this included past and present committee members, road captains and our local councilors, John Goulandris and Henry Michellat. His final thanks were to Alan, the incoming chair, and Steve's own wife Liinda for her years of hosting and baking for committee meetings.

SS concluded by reiterating that in its 57 years SPRA has protected the area and will continue to do so for future generations.

Proposed: Gay Huggins  
Seconded: Wendy Goulandris

#### Election of Officers

The following officers were proposed for election/re-election:

Chair; Alan Jenkinson  
Treasurer: Mike Hollyhead  
Webmaster: David Wedge  
Green Matters: Jerry Woods  
Membership: Ann Moody  
General: Chris Byrne  
Steve Small

Proposed: Linda Small  
Seconded: Gay Huggins

The newly elected Chair then took over the meeting.

#### Chair's Report

Alan Jenkinson (AJ) having been on the committee for 20 years thanked the outgoing chair for all his hard work and presented SS with a gift. He also presented Linda (Steve's wife) with flowers as thanks for all her hosting.

AJ informed the members that Avon Wildlife Trust's new pond is due to be officially opened shortly and will have a plaque re SPRA's contribution and reiterated some of the achievements mentioned by SS.

The legacy of SPRA's achievements is bigger than one person and as chair he confirmed his commitment to continue cherishing our surroundings and never taking for granted what the area has to offer. SPRA will continue to embrace change and evolve and assist with problems, big and small, wherever possible.

Relationships will be ongoing with the Wildlife Trust, PTD and Team Love as well as continuing to work with BCC. The aim is also to arrange more social gatherings and encourage participation in new initiatives. He said it was a privilege to be chair and that he will do his utmost to maintain the legacy.

Proposed: Linda Small  
Seconded: Gillian Baxter

Treasurer's  
Report

Mike Hollyhead (MH) presented his report. Income and expenses included:

- Subs collected £1,482
- Newsletter £202
- Website £97.19
- RC's meeting £ 166.72
- 2025 AGM £255

MH pointed out that the additional charges that SS had already mentioned together with plans for expanding SPRA's remit more than justified the necessity to increase our subscription charge.

Proposed: David Wedge  
Seconded: Wendy Goulandris

Subscription

AJ asked the members to vote regarding the proposed rise to £10 per annum from 1 June. This was carried unanimously.

Proposed: Gay Huggins  
Seconded: Linda Small

Ian Beattie asked a question regarding the £3499 shown in the accounts which then left SPRA accounts during the year 25/26 . AJ explained that this was the amount paid to Avon Wildlife Trust for the new "pond" at Bennetts Patch which included £3000 given to SPRA from Team Love concerts and £499 donated to AWT by SPRA directly.

Local  
Councilors

John Goulandris (JG) spoke to the meeting, giving an enormous thank you to SS for his years of work. He spoke of SPRA's invaluable work particularly with regard to The Downs problem, without SPRA's initiative it would not have progressed as it has. He also acknowledged the hard work involved in keeping SPRA effective and that SS was going to be a hard act to follow.

Henry Michallat (HM) then spoke. The newly introduced rental charge for businesses on The Downs will help reduce the deficit that The Downs Committee suffers. He also said that the new Downs car park (formerly the zoo car park) should remove some cars from Lady's Mile. As Deputy Mayor he is no longer on The Downs Committee and is looking forward to taking on more local issues and mentioned the ongoing fight for a replacement bus shelter which is still dragging on and encouraged people to write to ensure some action.

AJ thanked JG and HM for attending and the committee for their support and there being no other business; the meeting closed at 20:46.

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(Chairman)