

Sneyd Park Residents' Association (SPRA)

Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 2 June 2026

Location: Private Residence, Sneyd Park

Minutes: David Wedge

Present

- Alan Jenkinson (Chair)
- Michael Hollyhead (Treasurer)
- Jerry Woods
- Chris Byrne
- David Wedge (Web & digital)

Apologies

- Ann Moody (Membership Secretary)
 - Stephen Small
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1. Welcome and Chair's Introduction

Alan Jenkinson welcomed members to the first committee meeting under his chairmanship.

Alan emphasised that he wished to build on the excellent work undertaken by Steve and did not envisage major changes to the Association's direction. However, he would like future meetings to be concise and timeboxed, with discussion focused on actions and outcomes and meetings closing in line with the advertised finish time.

He noted that SPRA is now in a much stronger position than during the lockdown period, with increased membership engagement, improved finances and a growing range of activities, including Pocket Gardens and community projects. Funding support, including a recent £1,500 contribution from Forwards Festival, provides opportunities to expand activities further.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

AGM Minutes – Corrections

- The spelling of Ian Beattie's name should be corrected in the AGM minutes.

Feedback on AGM

Chris Byrne reported receiving one piece of feedback from a non-member attendee who felt the AGM focused heavily on past achievements and would have liked to hear more about future plans and vision before deciding whether to join.

The committee acknowledged the observation whilst noting that SPRA's work and achievements remain an important part of encouraging community support and membership.

3. Committee Roles

The committee confirmed that it was comfortable with the current allocation of roles.

Alan noted that SPRA's 60th anniversary will take place in approximately three years and may provide an opportunity for future celebrations and activities.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented his report, which is circulated separately and forms part of the record of the meeting. The committee noted that the Association remains in a healthy financial position. Key matters discussed included bank charges, membership subscriptions and reconciliation of membership records.

The Treasurer reported that SPRA held approximately £449 in its current account and approximately £6,350 in its deposit account.

Recent expenditure included:

- Newsletter administration (£17)
- Litter-picking equipment and activities (£266)
- Refreshments for Road Captains
- Bank charges (£8.50 per month)

The committee agreed that exceptional expenditure should continue to be referred to the committee for approval. Minor hospitality costs (e.g. refreshments) may be reasonably incurred where appropriate.

Bank Charges

Members discussed Lloyds Bank's monthly charges. While there was no appetite to change banks, the committee agreed that the charges should be challenged.

Jerry advised that some Lloyds Community Accounts attract no monthly fee.

5. Membership and Subscriptions

The committee discussed ongoing difficulties reconciling membership records with standing order payments.

Approximately 30% of payments cannot currently be easily matched to individual members due to incomplete payment references and differing account names.

Ann is continuing work to reconcile records.

The committee agreed that newsletters should continue to be delivered to all households in Sneyd Park, regardless of membership status, recognising the importance of welcoming new residents into the community.

Chris Byrne noted that achieving this effectively requires additional Road Captains and volunteers.

The possibility of creating separate “newsletter delivery” volunteer roles was discussed.

The recent increase in annual subscriptions to £10 was also considered. The committee agreed that members should be reminded to update their standing orders where necessary.

6. Website and Communications

Alan asked whether MailChimp communications could also be made available on the website.

David confirmed this was possible and agreed to investigate publishing recent MailChimp communications online.

David also confirmed that:

- AGM minutes will be uploaded to the website.
- MailChimp administration is expected to transfer from Steve during June.

7. Planning Matters

The committee discussed a recent planning application which several members considered inappropriate, particularly regarding the scale and visibility of proposed solar panel installations.

The formal consultation period has now closed.

8. Downs Advisory Panel (DAP) Update

Alan reported on recent DAP discussions.

Former Zoo Car Park

The former Bristol Zoo gravel car park is expected to reopen as a paid parking facility.

The committee discussed concerns that charging may displace parking into surrounding residential streets, including Goodeve Road, Rockleaze and Downleaze.

Views differed regarding the likely scale of any impact.

Downs Revenue Generation

Members noted the wider objective of generating revenue to support management of the Downs.

Public Protection Measures

An injunction is now in place covering most roads on the Downs which will give Bristol City Council and Police the powers to remove vehicle dwellers.

Downs Developments

Redevelopment opportunities are being actively sort in relation to both the old toilet block on Seawalls and the changing rooms by the water tower.

Protect The Downs

Alan reported that the injunction now in place has provided additional powers to address unauthorised encampments.

Discussion followed regarding the availability of alternative accommodation sites and the wider public confidence issues associated with previous enforcement arrangements.

Litter and Waste Management

Jerry raised concerns regarding overflowing bins on the Downs and in surrounding areas, including Julian Road.

He shared examples where litter had accumulated around full bins due to delayed emptying.

The committee agreed that this issue should continue to be raised with relevant council officers.

Anti-Social Driving

The committee discussed ongoing concerns regarding boy-racer activity.

Alan reported that he had recently raised the issue with the local police area commander.

Members agreed that anti-social driving remains a concern requiring continued monitoring.

Downs Litter Pick

The next organised litter-picking event is scheduled for September.

Pocket Gardens

Jerry reported positive discussions with Amy from the Parks Department regarding suitable planting schemes.

He also referenced discussions with Julian Baggini and representatives from the Pitch & Pay Residents' Association.

E-Scooters

Mike raised the absence of designated e-scooter parking locations within Sneyd Park.

Members noted that previous facilities near the Old Halt area had experienced anti-social behaviour and there was limited enthusiasm for introducing new locations at present.

9. Road Captains

Chris reiterated the importance of recruiting additional Road Captains.

The possibility of creating simpler newsletter-delivery-only volunteer roles was discussed as a way of encouraging wider participation.

10. Any Other Business

No further business.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on 16 July 2026, with thanks to Chris Byrne for agreeing to host.

SPRA Action Log – 2 June 2026

Ref	Action
A1	Contact Lloyds Bank regarding monthly account charges and seek transfer to a suitable community account with reduced or zero fees.
A2	Include a reminder in the next MailChimp newsletter asking members to update standing orders to the new £10 annual subscription level.
A3	Prepare a list of members paying by Direct Debit (where possible) and determine arrangements for updating payments to £10.
A4	Continue reconciliation of standing orders and membership records to improve identification of members (where possible).
A5	Publish recent MailChimp communications on the SPRA website.
A6	Upload approved AGM minutes to the SPRA website.
A7	Complete MailChimp administration handover from Steve.
A8	Publish information about the Sneyd Park Arts Trail on the SPRA website.
A9	Continue efforts to recruit additional Road Captains and newsletter delivery volunteers.
A10	Raise concerns regarding overflowing litter bins and waste collection issues with appropriate council contacts.