Southgate Green Association

Dedicated to preserving, protecting and promoting the conservation character of Southgate Green Conservation Area

**2019/2020 Summary**

Our last AGM was held on 8th June 2019: little did we know of the events that would transpire a year later. SGA will reset a date for an AGM later in the year, all being well, but in the meantime we have assembled a brief report to keep members up to date.

**Enfield Conservation Advisory Group**

SGA committee members meet to discuss issues arising on a monthly basis; planning applications submitted in the Southgate Green Conservation Area are reviewed by the group on a weekly basis. SGA has continued to protect and enhance the Conservation area and we attend monthly committee meetings at The Civic Centre with councillors, the chief planning officer, planning conservation and heritage officers, together with representatives from each of the conservation areas in Enfield. At present the meetings have been cancelled but SGA continues to monitor and review planning applications in our area and submit comments to the chairman of CAG, who is liaising with council officers.

**Planning Application Review 2019/20**

**Southgate Office Village**

SGA submitted objections to the planning application for the development of a cluster of residential tower blocks up to 17 storeys high facing Southgate tube station. A substantial number of objections were submitted to Enfield Council by local residents. The application is due to be considered at planning committee at the end of June.

**Arnos Grove Station**

SGA made representations to the preplanning application made by TFL for a development of flats on the car park, as local residents are concerned at the loss of parking. A detailed planning application has been lodged and members are advised to view the application on Enfield’s planning portal and make comments to application reference number 20/01049/FUL.

**Walker School**

SGA reviewed the proposals and suggested improvements to the building design submitted for the replacement of Walker School. Meetings were held with the design team, school staff and the department of education. The proposals as finally approved were a marked improvement on the original design, and rebuilding works are now progressing on site. Building works were intended to be complete for the new term in September. However this would appear to be unlikely in the present circumstances.

**Heritage Lottery Fund**

SGA were invited by Enfield Council to make applications for Heritage Lottery Funding in our conservation area.

The proposals submitted were for:

1 Restoration of the Duchess Pond on The Green

2 Traffic calming on The Green

3 A community notice board and local history information lecterns

4 Replacement railings to the stocks on The Green.

5 Restoration of the ancient doorway connecting Minchenden Oak Garden and Christchurch

6 Restoration of York stone paving in Minchenden Oak Garden

7 Recording, mapping and restoration of historic drainage covers.

Due to current Covid measures funding has been withdrawn and is being reallocated.

**Southgate District Civic Voice**

SGA works in close cooperation with SDCV. SDCV organised a public consultation earlier in the year to make the local community aware of the Southgate Office Village proposals. The developer and council had failed to undertake a full public consultation. This was subsequently facilitated with the help of Civic Voice. SDCV commissioned a planning consultant to prepare a report setting out the shortcomings in the planning application and the report was submitted to the Council. SDCV has worked with a surveyor in the preparation of a rebuttal to the financial viability statement submitted by the developer, justifying the quantity of development. The rebuttal has been submitted to Enfield Council and clearly sets out the case that a less dense development of circa eight floors in lieu of seventeen storeys would be profitable.

SDCV is currently working with the Save Cockfosters Group which is reviewing the proposals prepared by the developer Grainger on behalf of TFL to replace the Cockfosters car park with a series of 10 storey residential tower blocks. A planning application is programmed to be submitted to Enfield Council at the end of June/July

**The Walker Ground Trust**

The Walker Ground Trust has appointed a new Head Groundsman who has been working tirelessly to improve the condition of the wicket and the results are there for all to see. The annual fireworks event is the year's main fund raiser for The Trust. However due to high winds and poor weather, attendance and receipts were down on those of the previous year. Enfield Council withdrew funding for the carpark on Waterfall Road owned by The Trust, which contributes towards annual income. Unfortunately Walker School, now an independent academy school, has declined to make up the shortfall and the carpark is likely to close. The ground is currently closed due to Covid with a consequent loss of income.