

APPENDIX F

Samples of Media Articles/Community Engagement

The South Woodford Society supports

OUR AWARD WINNING PARK ELMHURST GARDENS



The Friends of Elmhurst Gardens are seeking assistance for their **FUNDER IN THE PARK** event on Saturday 18th July at Elmhurst Gardens, Gordon Road, E18 1DR. This is a great event attended by many local children, bowlers, fitness bunnies, dog walkers and others who use this lovely local Park on a daily basis. Please show your support and pop along, you'll have a great time....

Plus if you have an hour or two between 11am & 4pm & would like to lend a hand please email KATIE.TEAHAN2@GMAIL.COM OR TEXT 07778 216212



SAT 18TH 12PM - 4PM

WWW.FRIENDSOFELMHURSTGARDENS.WEBEDEN.CO.UK

Find out more about our wonderful local Green Flag award winning park and it's facilities. The Children in the local infants at a number of schools plant hundreds of bulbs here every year. With free games of tennis, fabulous bowling facilities, a children's playground and so much more we can all use ... WHY NOT GET INVOLVED?

f [facebook.com/Southwoodfordsociety](https://www.facebook.com/Southwoodfordsociety) email : e18society@gmail.com

Elmhurst Gardens – Funder in the Park

South Woodford Society need help with Neighbourhood Plan to fight 'the end of suburbia'



Aerial image of the Station Estate site, located to the west of the Central Line and to the south of – and partially beneath – The Viaduct. Right: Artist's impression of high density development on the Station Estate

The South Woodford Society (SWS) is appealing for residents and local businesses to join them as they start to draft their South Woodford Neighbourhood Plan, which they hope will prevent 'the end of suburbia or hope for South Woodford.' "Neighbourhood plans are a vital tool for residents to have input over where new homes, shops and offices are built and how they look," said SWS member Louise Burgess. The Society – which has over 275 members and celebrated its first anniversary

earlier this year – have expressed concern over increased development in the area and the high turnover of shops on the high street. "This plan will help us work with the council over a number of potential development sites, including the Station Estate, the Marlborough Business Centre and the Travis Perkins site as these areas may be at risk of high-rise developments." Membership to the South Woodford Society is free. Visit swvg.co/sws or follow [@sowosociety](https://twitter.com/sowosociety) on Twitter.

July/August 2016 – South Woodford Gazette

<https://issuu.com/swvg/docs/swvg-jul-aug-16-nocrop/4>

FREE ENTRY

WANSTEAD FESTIVAL

Sunday 18 September 2016

11am to 6pm

Christchurch Green, High Street Wanstead, E11 2RQ

Join us for a lively afternoon of

- * **Arts, Crafts and Dance** * **Main concert stage**
- * **Acoustic Stage** * **Sports Taster Sessions** * **Food Court**
- * **The Duke Wanstead bar and entertainment**
- * **Crazy Bikes** * **Community Stalls** * **Wanstead Art Trail**
- * **Face Painting** * **Bike Repairs and marking**

And much more!

Please walk, cycle or use public transport
to enjoy the day's festivities

www.redbridge.gov.uk/wansteadfestival

020 8708 3385



Wanstead Festival 2016 – attended to promote South Woodford Society and showcase information.

Room for growth in South Woodford? Give your views on the Redbridge Local Plan



The builders' yard at 31 Marlborough Road, South Woodford is one of several local sites identified in the plan for residential development

Residents have until the end of September to put forward their views on the Redbridge Local Plan, which sets out the council's proposals for 16,845 new homes in the borough and identifies South Woodford as one of five 'investment and growth areas'. Redbridge's population is estimated to rise by 65,000 over the next 15 years and the council have been trying to identify ways to provide the facilities needed to cope with this increase. "The borough is in desperate need of new housing

and we must carefully manage where development takes place and the form it takes... We have said it time and again, doing nothing is not an option," said Councillor Jas Athwal. Members of the South Woodford Society, however, are questioning why the local area is being targeted for 'excessive growth'. Comments received during the consultation will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for independent examination and a Public Examination will take place next year. Visit swvg.co/localplan

September/October 2016 – South Woodford Gazette

<https://issuu.com/swvg/docs/swvg-sep-oct-16-nocrop/4>

Heading in the right direction?

As a community in South Woodford, we all have one thing in common – we share the spaces, shops, amenities and schools in the area. And yet, our community is so much more than this. We also share our lives and build relationships with our neighbours, local businesses and those around us. I, like many, have a deep sense of pride and gratitude that we live in such a wonderful area.

But now, more than ever, we need to come together to maintain a sustainable neighbourhood and guard against the potentially huge negative impact on all our lives and community from the proposed plans for development that Redbridge Council have outlined for South Woodford in the recently published *Redbridge Local Plan 2015–2030: Pre-Submission Draft*. The plan has targeted a number of areas in the borough, but in particular, South Woodford has been earmarked and designated as an 'investment and growth area'.

There are a number of key suggestions in the plan. These include a proposal to dispose of multiple current business areas (Station Estate, 120 Chigwell Road, Raven Road Industrial Estate, 31 Marlborough Road, 43–45 George Lane and Works at Maybank Road and Chigwell Road and Tesco on Southend Road) in favour of high-density residential and commercial development. There are plans to build 650 new homes in South Woodford, but with no indication given in the proposals for any accompanying infrastructure enhancements.

Labelling South Woodford as an 'investment and growth area' comes at a terrifying cost in terms of planning. It means that we will become part of the tall building policy: Redbridge will be able to build tower blocks in South Woodford wherever possible. The plan also refers to a proposed 'landmark building' in the area. What does this mean?

The key question that arises from the Redbridge Local Plan is why it is so unbalanced and why is South Woodford being targeted for excessive growth? Rather than demolish business areas and build new housing, greater

consideration needs to be given to supporting development that is sympathetic to the suburban and Victorian nature of our neighbourhood. The burden of development should also be shared and proportional with the surrounding areas of Wanstead, Snarebrook, Woodford and Aldersbrook. The plan describes

We can fight the dark clouds looming ...

them as 'attractive and historic neighbourhoods' – is that why they aren't being considered for development? Is there not a deeply unpleasant social engineering subtext here? The leafy parts are left untouched while South Woodford, along with four other 'investment and growth areas' (Ilford, the Crossrail corridor, Gants Hill and Barkingside) will accommodate much of the borough's (ambitious) growth over the life of the plan.

Anyone who has been on the Central Line in rush-hour will know how deeply unpleasant that journey can be. The footfall at South Woodford is excessive compared to other parts of the borough and even other nearby stations (South Woodford had a footfall of a stunning 5.15 million in 2015 compared to just 2.67 million at Snarebrook) and the proposal of yet more homes will only exacerbate this already overburdened station.

Following the publication of the Redbridge Local Plan, which sets out the council's proposals for future developments, **Rena Pathak** of the South Woodford Society questions the 'excessive growth' planned for the local area



Our key objection with the Redbridge Local Plan is that it prioritises housing over local businesses, the loss of which will be devastating for the sustainability of our community. Further, the housing targets do not come with any additional proposals for improvements or infrastructure. It is imperative that the designation of South Woodford as an 'investment and growth area' be removed from the plan.

South Woodford also has a very poor provision of leisure and sports facilities and the only site earmarked as a potential development for community and leisure is the car park adjacent to 24 Primrose Road under the viaduct. Everything else is reserved primarily for housing.

Although we should support development for our neighbourhood, any development should happen through partnership with the community, be sustainable and respect and maintain the character and charm of the area. The only way we can make the council listen is if we strongly

let our thoughts, opinions and suggestions be heard. We need a three-stage response:

1. Complete the council's feedback form on the Redbridge Local Plan by 30 September.
2. Join the South Woodford Society (strength in numbers).
3. Help us create our own Neighbourhood Plan for South Woodford. A Neighbourhood Plan will provide local residents with a voice that is channelled through a formal body, and as such, Redbridge Council will have to engage and work alongside the Neighbourhood Plan with any proposals for South Woodford.

We also desperately need volunteers with certain skill sets who can offer their services. Are you experienced in planning, website development or social media? Can you spare time for leafleting? There is hope. We can fight the dark clouds looming for our area but we need to come together, unite and let our voices be heard in an effective way.

To read the Redbridge Local Plan and to take part in the public consultation, visit swvg.co/localplan. Council officers will be available to discuss the plans at South Woodford Library on 13 September from 7pm to 10pm.

To join the South Woodford Society, email your name, address and contact details to 18society@gmail.com. Visit swvg.co/sws or follow [@sowosociety](https://twitter.com/sowosociety) on Twitter.

September/October 2016 – South Woodford Gazette

<https://issuu.com/swvg/docs/swvg-sep-oct-16-nocrop/10>

Application made to list The George and Railway Bell as Assets of Community Value



The South Woodford Society has initiated the process of applying to list two South Woodford pubs, The George and Railway Bell, as Assets of Community Value. "This is where a voluntary or community organisation can nominate land or property of importance to a local area if its use furthers the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community," explained a spokesperson for the group. If successful, the listing will give some added protection from development as Assets of

Community Value cannot be sold without the local community being given a chance to make a bid for ownership. "While we are not aware of any dangers to either of these venues, local pubs have been disappearing at an alarming rate of an estimated 10 per week in London, so this is one way of protecting our much-loved and well-used local establishments." It follows a successful application by residents to list The Cricketers in Woodford Green as an Asset of Community Value last year.

November/December 2016 – South Woodford Gazette

<https://issuu.com/swvg/docs/swvg-nov-dec-16-nocrop/4>



The confirmed closure of the Marlborough Road sorting office and the potential closure of the nearby Post Office are just two of many issues Louise Burgess and the South Woodford Society are concerned about as they prepare to create a Neighbourhood Plan

Thank you to all who attended our second AGM and quiz night in January, which raised £178.81 for Haven House Children's Hospice. The evening was a great success and, as ever, Pank Pathak was an amazing quiz master.

During the AGM, Chair Nicky Tranmer thanked the committee, friends, councillors and members of the society for their support and hard work during our second year. We have grown from a group of neighbours who felt they needed to be proactive in shaping the future of their local community to a group with a membership base of over 500. There was also special thanks to Ken Bean for his help with planning matters.

2016 was a tumultuous year for the UK, and 2017 does not seem like it will be any less controversial. Local infrastructure is at breaking point, and we

We have an opportunity to shape our local area...

have seen many planning proposals over the last few years that threaten our community and village atmosphere. The aggressive housing targets that Redbridge Council are proposing puts many of South Woodford's commercial sites at risk. If they come to fruition, they will reduce the opportunity to work locally and further increase the burden on infrastructure in the area. Also, as the number of local workers reduces, our local shops, which thrive on an active town centre, will suffer and close. Research carried out by the council itself has already pointed

out there is limited ability to improve infrastructure in South Woodford; basic support, such as local schools and surgeries, will not be able to accommodate the additional population and the recent poor performance of the Central Line does not bode well for the commuting public.

We do have an opportunity, however, to shape our local area through the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan, but more help is needed to enable us to fully engage with the local planning department, local businesses and residents. The area that we have proposed be covered by our Neighbourhood Plan is the full E18 postcode area, as well as the Woodford Trading Estate. This is the estate on which Tesco's supermarket and a number of other businesses currently trade. This area has been included as it is considered locally as South Woodford, and if over-development occurs in this area, it will have an enormous impact on South Woodford infrastructure.

To date, we have built good relationships with councillors, MPs, the local press and the council's planning department. We also secured a public meeting with the leader of the council, Councillor Jas Athwal, to

discuss development in South Woodford.

We are currently concerned about the following issues:

- The confirmed closure of the Marlborough Road sorting office and the potential closure of the nearby Post Office.
- The displacement of Waltham Forest Fencing on the High Road, the adjacent businesses and development of a new housing block.
- The ongoing threat to businesses on the Station Estate and the possibility of high-rise development.
- The many small-scale 'in-fill' developments.
- The proposed temporary 'container' housing development at Charlie Brown's Roundabout
- Pollution in the area.
- The ongoing wait regarding the application to list The George and The Railway Bell as Assets of Community Value.



South Woodford Society members take part in their annual quiz night

While we are now in a stronger bargaining position when it comes to negotiations with the council due to our growing membership, we are still only a very small group of active individuals, and we hope that the rise in our numbers reflects the fact people are fed up with change being inflicted upon them when it makes no sense and that they will become more and more involved in the future.

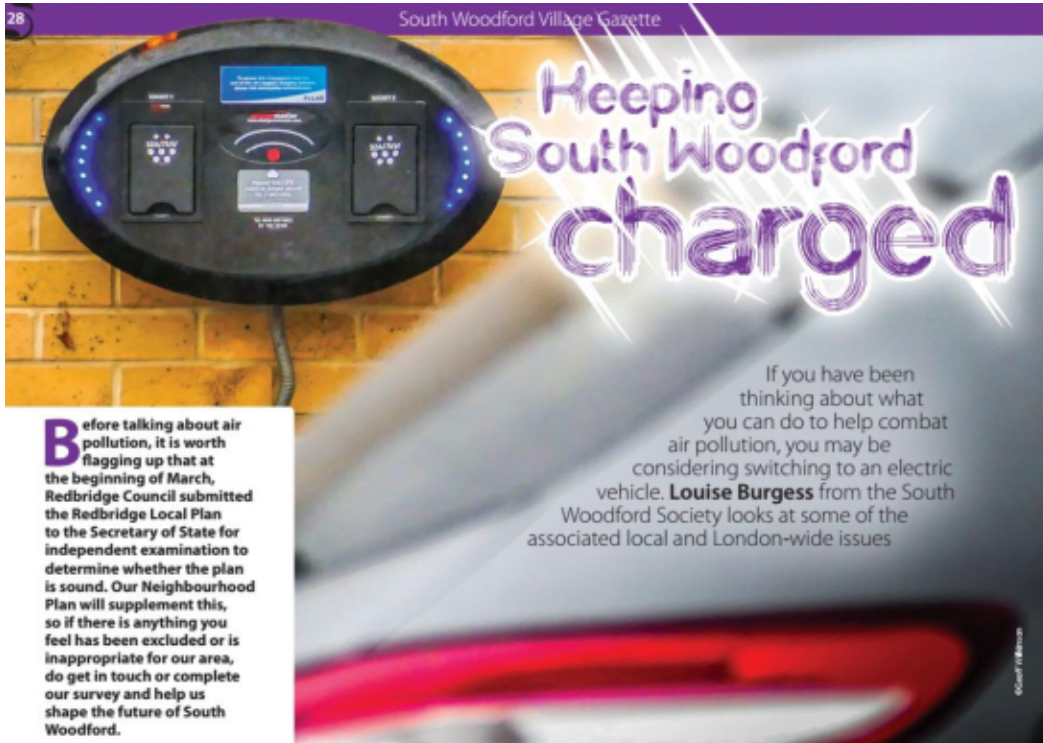
We like to think we act as a pause button, to allow people to think about the consequences of change and then perhaps work on some alternatives.

There is a lot of work to do, so please become a member if you have not already done so.

For more information on the South Woodford Society, visit southwoodfordsociety.com or email e18society@gmail.com

March/April 2017– South Woodford Gazette, Large article re quiz, post office and mention of E18 postcode boundary of NP p10

<https://issuu.com/swvg/docs/swvg-mar-apr-2017-nocrop/10>



Keeping South Woodford charged

If you have been thinking about what you can do to help combat air pollution, you may be considering switching to an electric vehicle. **Louise Burgess** from the South Woodford Society looks at some of the associated local and London-wide issues

Before talking about air pollution, it is worth flagging up that at the beginning of March, Redbridge Council submitted the Redbridge Local Plan to the Secretary of State for independent examination to determine whether the plan is sound. Our Neighbourhood Plan will supplement this, so if there is anything you feel has been excluded or is inappropriate for our area, do get in touch or complete our survey and help us shape the future of South Woodford.

Listening to the views of different individuals, groups and organisations that are part of our neighbourhood will offer important insights into local planning issues. We welcome the views of all local residents, businesses, education providers, religious groups and other community groups. The survey should take less than five minutes and is accessible online.

We already know residents are concerned about the high level of air pollution in our area, particularly at Charlie Brown's Roundabout.

There is a dearth of electric vehicle recharging points in South Woodford...

TfL's bid to cut pollution in London, in conjunction with the Mayor's offices, is the proposed introduction of an ultra-low emission zone in central London (the area currently covered by the congestion charge) and the extension of this zone to the North and South Circular Roads. The key points of this are:

- The charge will apply 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- If you drive a car that fails to meet the ultra-low

emissions test, you will be charged £12.50 per day on top of the congestion zone charge. Residents will be given three years of grace before having to pay this charge. Presumably, the same arrangements and charges will apply to outer London boroughs if the zone is extended.

- Diesel cars will be liable to pay if they were registered before 1 September 2015. Petrol cars will be liable to pay if they were registered before 1 January 2006.
- In a similar scheme in Berlin, non-compliant vehicles can be modified to avoid the charge. It is not clear whether a similar arrangement will be considered for London.
- The scheme's ultimate goal is to promote the use of electric and hybrid cars. However, with very few electric vehicle recharging points, Redbridge so far has not actively planned for this and the provision of these points on a wide scale will be essential to make the proposals feasible.

Some residents are concerned about being 'encouraged' to change their car when they

only travel short distances every day, and questions have been raised about whether the environmental impact of manufacturing and shipping replacement cars is really an eco-friendly option. Other residents consider that the proposal is a small price to pay for cleaner air. A consultation on the proposals is open until 25 June.

As the government has recently announced funding of more than £109 million for driverless and low carbon projects across the UK, we asked Redbridge Council's Transportation Strategy Team for their policy on electric vehicles. Unfortunately, while they continue to review the issue, they have not yet signed up to any schemes. Some of their options could include:

- The conversion of street lamps to enable them to be used as electric vehicle charging stations. This is currently being trialed in Kensington and Chelsea and seems very cost effective, with conversions costing around £300 per lamp.

It would also be great publicity for our borough.

- The Department for Transport's (DfT) on-street residential charge point scheme. Residents who can prove ownership of an electric vehicle can apply for a grant for a 75% contribution towards the cost of installing a charge point. Obviously, you need off-street parking for this, a luxury that many homes in South Woodford do not have.
- London's successful Go Ultra-Low City Scheme bid, which may provide an alternative to the DfT scheme. The details of this scheme are being finalised and we do not yet know the borough's decision on this option.

A map showing the dearth of electric vehicle recharging points in South Woodford can be found at zap-map.com – they are only currently available at Waitrose in South Woodford and at Snaresbrook Station.

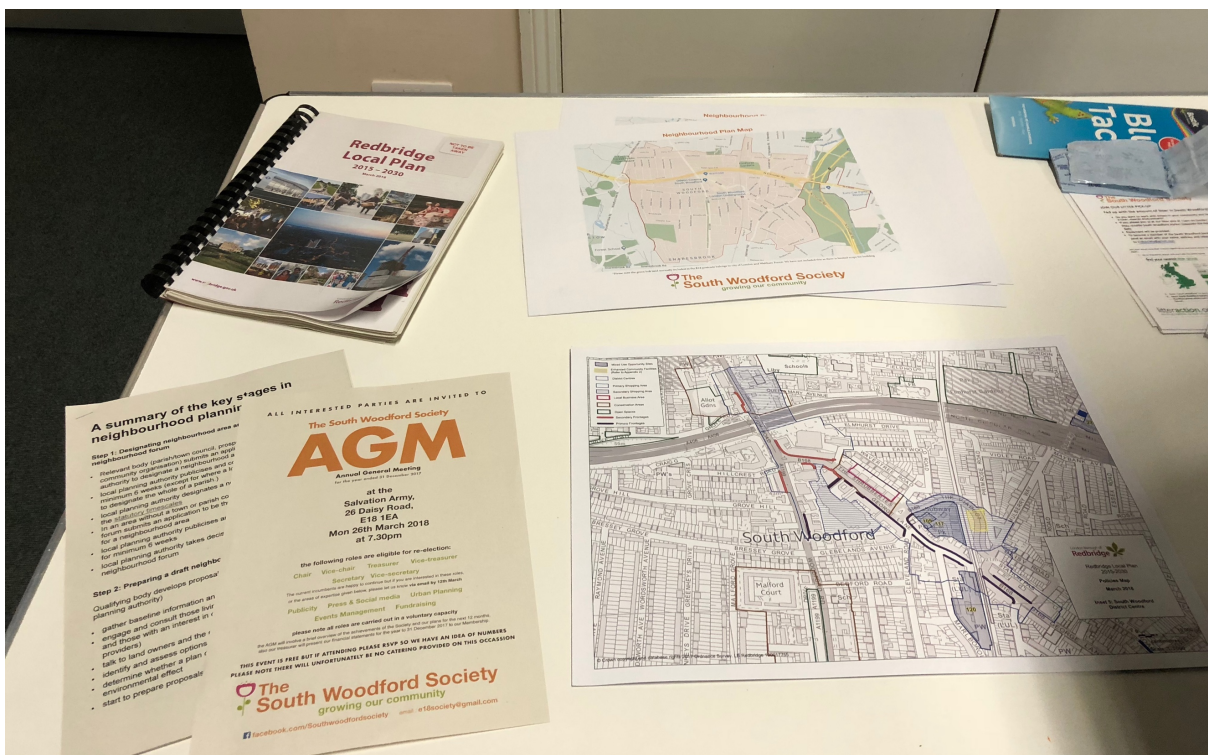
For more information on the South Woodford Society and to take part in their Neighbourhood Plan survey, visit swvg.co/sws

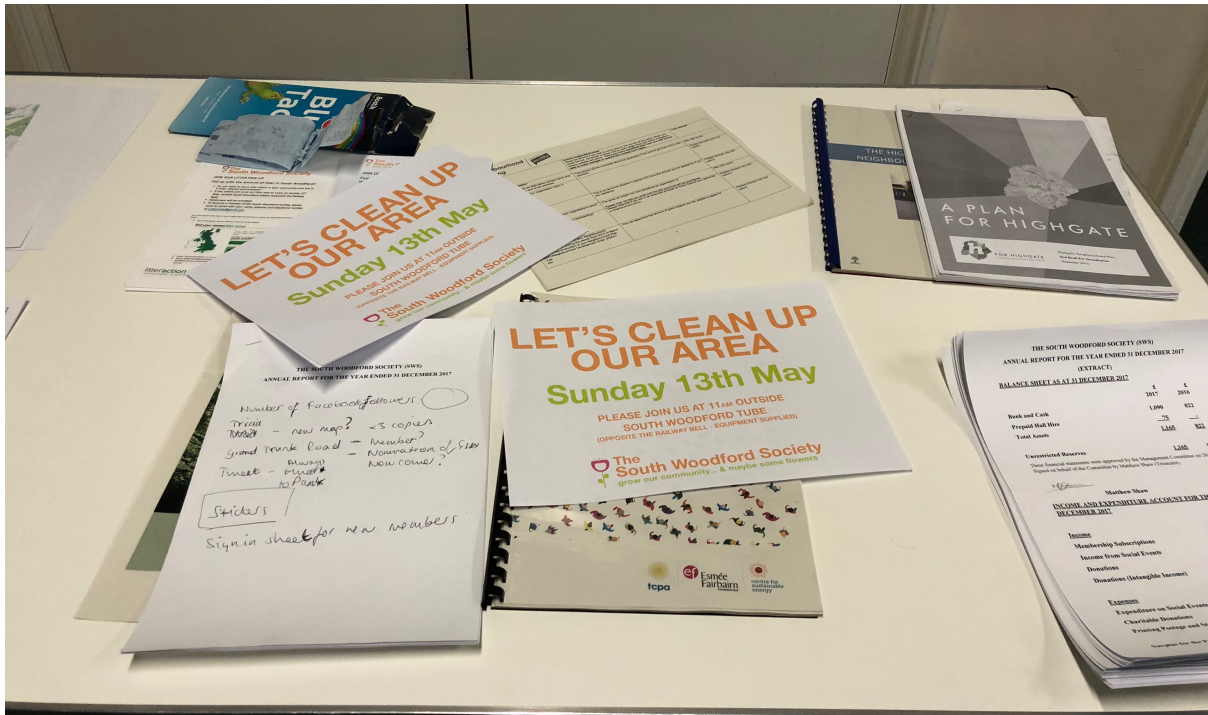
To take part in the central London Ultra-Low Emission Zone consultation, visit swvg.co/ulez



May/June 2017 – South Woodford Gazette, Large article re electric cars and mention of NP & survey p28

<https://issuu.com/swvg/docs/swvg-may-jun-2017-nocrop/28>

Images of information displayed at the AGM 2018





Name:

Address:

Phone No:

Email:

Official use Membership No: Post: **South Woodford Society,**
 Application date: (mm/td/yyyy) **35 Pulteney Road, E18 1PR**
Email: e18society@gmail.com

‘Lively debate’ at South Woodford Society AGM

The South Woodford Society are urging more residents to join them as they work to defend local services and champion local causes. The community group, which held their AGM at the end of March, was founded in 2015. “The meeting was well attended and, as usual, was the scene of lively debate! Many issues were discussed as well as the benefits and challenges of living in South Woodford,” said Louise Burgess. The society is free to join. Email e18society@gmail.com or visit southwoodfordsociety.com

Fed up with the amount of litter in South Woodford?

The South Woodford Society is organising a community litter pick on 13 May from 11am. “Do you want to work with others in your community and live in a nicer, cleaner environment? If yes, please join us at our litter pick,” said a group spokesperson. Volunteers should meet outside South Woodford Tube station (opposite the Railway Bell). “We are also trying to get funding to brighten up some of the green areas. A few bulbs can make a big difference to everyone’s mood on a grey morning!”

Articles on the AGM and Litter Pick

<https://issuu.com/swvg/docs/swvg-may-jun-2018-nocrop/8>

Volunteers help keep South Woodford tidy



The South Woodford Society held its first litter pick on 13 May, the same weekend that over 1,100 events were held nationwide as part of the The Great Plastic Pick Up, a campaign led by the *Daily Mail* and Keep Britain Tidy. "We were loaned litter picks by Redbridge Council and the group split into three teams to tackle Charlie Brown's Roundabout and the streets around the station, finishing up at the flower beds by The Shrubberies," said a spokesperson for the group, which managed to collect over 20 bags of rubbish and at least five bags of recycling. "Many thanks to all those who attended, and especially our youngest volunteers, who were super energetic and were probably our most prolific litter pickers." Further local litter picks are being planned. Visit southwoodfordsociety.com

Litter pick

<https://issuu.com/swvg/docs/swvg-jul-aug-2018-nocrop/4>

South Woodford Business Forum inaugural meeting

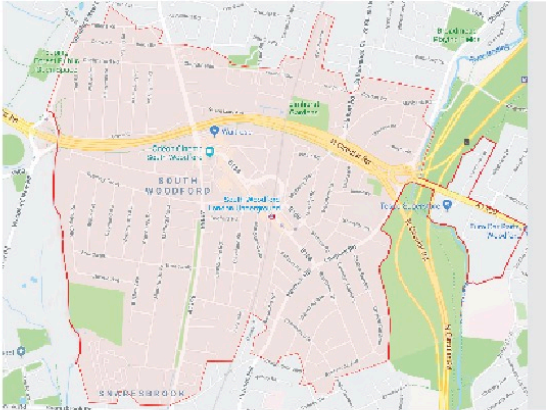


The inaugural meeting of the recently established South Woodford Business Forum took place on 17 October. Jointly organised by Rena Pathak of the South Woodford Society and Elaine Atkins, chair of Churchfields ward panel, the hour-long discussion explored the advantages and challenges facing businesses on George Lane and was attended by representatives of E Aves Opticians, Boots, Crescendo music shop, Dr Bawa (skin aesthetics), Tally Lucas Associates (accountants) and event hosts Lily's Indulgence. "Although I am not a business owner, I could see we needed a business forum for local businesses as they literally and figuratively are the backbone of our community," said Rena. The next quarterly meeting is planned for 16 January. Email e18society@gmail.com

Business panel /forum

<https://issuu.com/swvg/docs/swvg-nov-dec-2018-nocrop>

South Woodford Neighbourhood Plan



The South Woodford Society has issued an updated map defining the boundary for its Neighbourhood Plan. A 13-week consultation on the community generated document is expected to be launched imminently. Neighbourhood planning – which was introduced in 2011 through the Localism Act – allows residents to have their own policies that can influence planning decisions. “Following a recent meeting with Redbridge Council, we agreed it would be prudent to issue an updated image of the boundary area... Once we move into the 13-week period, we will be seeking help in various areas. If you are able to help, do get in touch,” said a South Woodford Society spokesperson. The map of the area covered by the plan is available online. Visit swvg.co/np or email e18society@gmail.com

SOUTH WOODFORD
(GEORGE LANE)

South Woodford Society
@Southwoodfordsociety

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SOUTH WOODFORD GAZETTE

The South Woodford Gazette is published bi-monthly with a circulation of 10,250 copies. Of these, 9,200 are delivered free to homes and businesses across the E18 postcode region and the Laings Estate. The remaining copies are available from local supermarkets, shops and public service locations such as the SW underground station. This means that our articles and information regarding the Neighbourhood Plan and Boundary area were directly available to at least 9,200 people within the boundary area; notwithstanding the additional copies that would have been handed out at the underground station.

Please see below for the distribution map as shown in the Gazette.

