

# South Godstone Residents Association

## 2024 Annual Report to Godstone Parish Council

The South Godstone Residents Association (SGRA) held its annual AGM in November 2023 and the following officers were appointed:-

Mike Crane	Chairman
Andy Janaway	Vice Chairman
Susan Clark	Secretary
Sarah Reynolds	Treasurer

Existing committee members agreed to stay in place. John Tomlin had resigned from the committee earlier in 2023.

The Treasurer presented an audited set of accounts for the previous year.

SGRA were extremely sorry to learn that F&W Networks with whom they had developed a good working relationship, had decided not to continue with the roll out of the fibre broadband program to homes within South Godstone. The official reason put forward by F&W was a change in Company priorities but it was quite clear that there were funding and cash flow problems driving this decision. The voucher scheme promoted by F & W to residents was unable to be rescinded by them.

In summer of 2023, SGRA hosted a Coronation Celebration Big Lunch to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles III at the South Godstone Sports Club which was very well attended by the community. The Committee provided a Ploughman's Lunch and entertainment included a magician and face painter for the youngsters.

In November, SGRA initiated an external annual remembrance event at the village trough and then afterwards at the site of the memorial to Flight Sergeant Stanley Fenemore both of which were well attended.

On 10<sup>th</sup> February, SGRA hosted (with assistance from Comedy Beats) a comedy evening at the South Godstone Sports Club. The event, which was attended by over 100 residents involved a compere and 3 nationally recognised comedians. The evening was a great success on all counts.

The events organised over the last 12 months have assisted in improving the Association's finances considerably such that the Committee are now looking at ways in which that funding can be utilised to help promote schemes within the community generally.

Although not strictly part of the SGRA, some of its committee members continue to operate a Speedwatch scheme through the village. An additional three members have been recruited and trained in the last 12 months so this should result in the ability to conduct more exercises.

SGRA continue to notify Surrey County Council of any highway issues in the village (including but not limited to potholes) with a varying degree of success.

SGRA have also engaged with Tandridge District Council over monitoring of the 24/7 alcohol licence that was awarded by them to the Shell filling station. This award has resulted in some anti-social behaviour locally which committee members have attempted to address with both the Licencing Officer at TDC and the filling station itself.

The SGRA website set up in 2022 continues to receive a healthy number of hits.

The SGRA and Godstone Village Association (GVA) continue to work together to address matters of common interest between the two communities.

Mike Crane

Chairman (South Godstone Residents Association)