

Corner Green Sustainability Committee 2024 Report

CGRS AGM 26th September 2024

1. Follow up on actions from last AGM

Creating more space for nature on the Green

Working with the Gardening Committee, we created some new bug-friendly habitats with logs down back lane and wood from Minster's tree in the corner of the Green. We've also agreed with Seasons:

- No more use of leaf blowers
- Reduced lawnmowing through autumn and winter
- Continuation of 'No mow May'

Installation of leaf compost and water butt

The Directors approved a quote from Seasons to build a leaf compost and water butt. Work has just started on these projects.

As agreed at the 2023 AGM, compost will be covered with tarpaulin and only Seasons will put material in the compost. The compost will remove the need for Seasons to pay for leaves and grass cuttings to be taken away, and will supply CG with free compost for communal planting areas.

Upgrading garage electrics

In the absence of a Major Works committee, the Sustainability committee agreed with the Directors to support progress on the garage rewiring project so that:

- The garages can be made safer and the current fire hazard related to the old wiring is removed
- Lighting and electricity supply is ensured in each garage so they are much more useable spaces for residents
- Meters can be installed so CGRS can buy electricity from a mainstream supplier (ideally a renewable electricity supplier)
- Upgraded garages give residents the option to consider eco-friendly forms of transport such as electric bikes or to install a charging point for an electric car
- CG houses increase in value due to enhanced usability of the garages and potential for EV charging installation by future owners.

We have engaged the knowledge and experience of other local Span Estates to identify two electricians who come recommended either to undertake this work, or to fully establish the scope of the work and project manage the upgrade on our behalf.

We have received a quote from one of these recommended electricians to make an initial assessment of the state of existing wiring and electrical supply. This quote is with the Directors for review. The Directors are considering this, alongside an alternative option, as there are other electrical upgrades needed per the AGM documents. We plan to work with the Directors to land on the best way to move forward.

65th anniversary project

We created a tree map of the Green to mark CG's 65th anniversary this year.

2. Proposals for 2024 AGM

House energy efficiency survey by SELCE

South East London Community Energy is an independent organization giving advice to residents in Lewisham and Greenwich. They run a programme called Future Fit Homes which provides homeowners with a survey and recommendations to improve energy efficiency (and EPC rating).

They can undertake thermal imaging to identify areas of heat loss, can recommend the best ways to increase insulation and reduce overheating and also make suggestions for installing renewable energy options.

SELCE charges £300 for a household survey. We propose to ask SELCE for a reduced quote to assess two or three representative houses on Corner Green, and for this to be (either fully or in part) funded by CGRS so that the information can be circulated across all CG residents to help make all of our homes more energy and cost efficient.

Installation of a nature pond

Creating a pond is one of the best things we can do to support greater biodiversity in our area. It will support insects such as butterflies and dragonflies and other wildlife, which in turn will encourage more birds, and support natural ecosystems.

The pond does not need to be big or deep to have major benefits for local wildlife.

We do not propose installing a pond on the central lawn area. We will also exclude areas near footpaths and where dogs tend to pass by, and be mindful of children when considering location and pond type.

If residents agree for the Sustainability Committee to explore this idea, then we will come back with some suggested sites and more in-depth plans.