

SCMA

# Newsletter

السلام عليكم  
peace be upon you



## Welcome!

Insha'Allah it will be our aim to keep the local community informed of all activities within the Masjid.

The working committee would sincerely like to thank all SCMA members and their families for their support and cooperation. Please continue to support your Masjid/ Maktab and its activities.

The committee: Dr Nasir Awan MBE DL (Trustee); Dr Sohail Qureishi (Trustee); Mr Rafiq Ahmed (Trustee); Mr Sulaiman Simjee (Trustee); Dr Mehboob Mirza (General Sec); Mr Shameer Pathan (Acting Chair); Mrs Nafesa Moola (Trustee); Mrs Yasmin Esmail (Committee member); Dr Iftikhar Sohail (Committee member); Dr Mustafa Sajeel (Committee member); Mr Yasir Jawed (Treasurer)

Alhamdulillah, the SCMA committee in the last 2 years have managed to run the Masjid, Maktab and associated activities for the benefit of community in the Royal Town of Sutton Coldfield.

Below is the summary of some achievements that the working committee and its members have achieved over the last two years. We acknowledge and sincerely thank the support provided by individuals and families and we will aim to provide regular updates.

### Charitable Incorporated Organisation

The Masjid currently operates as an Unincorporated Charitable Organisation and the proposed change is to move to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) structure. This potential move has many benefits including:

- (i) Moving the ownership of the Masjid from its respected founders to the charity Trust
- (ii) SCMA to issue Employment contracts to individuals
- (iii) Removing personal liability for any legal issues from the trustees to the charity.

A considerable amount of time and work has been delivered through Charity Law Firms, Simon Muirhead and Burton LLP to change the legal structure of the Masjid & organisation. Currently, at a concessionary cost of only £1000.

### Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS)

The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) was established in 2012 and carries out the functions previously undertaken by the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA). The SCMA has an established DBS process, children safeguarding policy and induction pack for new service users including conditions for room hire use.

### Masjid Donations

Please continue to support the SCMA with a single donation or by setting up a regular monthly standing order.

**Bank Details: HSBC UK**  
**Account Name: SEMWA**  
**Account: 81556002**  
**Sort Code: 40-43-28**

### Full Time Imams Appointed

We are pleased to confirm the appointment of two full time Imams leading daily prayers and Jumma with assistance from other Imams. Contracts for Imams have been drawn up to establish security and continuity of services.

### Committee Meetings

Regular monthly / bimonthly meetings of the committee are taking place with a record of meeting minutes. Committee members volunteer their time to attend the meetings and make important decisions and navigate the organisation towards improvement.

### Maktab

The SCMA Maktab is now fully established and runs regularly on a daily basis under the guidance of our respected Imams. Over 60 children have enrolled with the Maktab and the recent parent satisfaction survey results were good. The SCMA hope to increase the facility to accommodate more pupils once further teachers are

### Salah Timetable

The monthly Salah timetable for 2019 has been created under the supervision of our Imams. In addition to the timetable being emailed to the community, the timetable is also available via our Facebook page, Salah mobile app and the Masjid website.

### Finance

A regular quarterly financial summary is prepared by the treasurer.

## *Other Committee activities include*

Registration of place as a place of worship with reduction of monthly payments of over £1000 each month, saving the Charity £12,000 a year.

Children's Safeguarding Policy in place with DBS checks for all involved in teaching & training at Masjid/Maktab.

Maintenance of membership database with an increase in membership - 35 new household became members (over 25% of membership with increase in monthly contribution to Masjid)

Communication to community newsletters & Google pin!

Fire Risk Assessment was carried out in early December 2018.

Four new Air Condition units have been installed - two in the Ladies prayers room and two in the classes.

Four sensor flood lights installed in the forecourt for improved visibility and security.

New additional CCTV cameras have been installed in and around the Masjid including corridors and class rooms to improve security and surveillance (Donated and paid directly to the Installer). Total of 16 CCTV cameras in operation with a recording facility.

Excellent management of caretaking duties, maintenance, cleanliness, security and car parking duties by Brother Ishtiaq

The introduction of a regular gardening service for maintaining both the front and rear garden areas.

Shoe rack installed at the entrance for ladies and men with carpet matting for ease of cleaning.

2 carpets replaced in the classrooms upstairs to allow additional facility for congregation

Welcoming, assisting and accommodating the Tablighi Jamaat on their stay

Classrooms at the Masjid named after Muslim scientists

Wire mesh fixed between the two front gardens to prevent all the leaves and rubbish flowing through

The old electric and gas meters have been replaced by smart meters.

Purchase of Petrol blower to clear debris and leaves from the car park and surrounding area

Arranged collection and disposal of Islamic literature

Waste bin service from council/Purchase of vacuum cleaners  
Energy efficiencies have led to a reduction in utility bills

## *Grand Iftar*

The SCMA successfully organised an Interfaith Grand Iftar which was attended by locals Councillors and the local community. A free Iftar meal was provided to all guests and the community enjoyed opening fast together and collective prayers.

## *Promoting & Enhancing the religion of Islam*

Arrangements of Taraweeh/Aitekaf and Eid prayers (two Jamaats on Eid day)

Three Imams leading Taraweeh with regular Dars e Quran and Qiyam ul Lyal in last 10 days with good attendance for Tahajjud

Substantial donation drive during Ramadan

Distribution of Sadaqa Fitr (in excess of £1800) to three charities

Guest lectures by scholars/ imam and visit by other Ulema (including recently from Canada) and Monday post Esha talks by Maulana Adam

Tajweed Classes on Saturday with increasing attendance

Zakat and Sadaqa collection in Ramadan and the link with Islamic Relief & National Zakat Foundation

## *Upgrade of facilities*

Renovation of entrance and creation of wudu facilities & toilets for the worshippers with Masjid signage on the front and rear entrance. There are now 17 wudu stations and 10 toilets as compared to 3 makeshift wudu and one toilet in 2016. There is now adequate hot water and underfloor heating. Shower room facilities are also available. A drinking water tap facility is also included. The work was designed, and project managed by Esmail Architects and work carried out by Evolve designs Ltd. All the cost of the construction has been raised locally. SCMA would like to especially thank S.Simjee bhai who has been overall responsible for the day to day issues during the renovation and for taking the initiative to complete so many projects. All costs at every stage were approved by the committee and details are available on request.

## *Daily Iftar Arrangements*

The SCMA welcomed approximately 40-50 people daily to break their fasts together as a community. The arrangements were initiated by brother S.Simjee and Brother Hasan Rana and the team who managed to look after everyone during the month. The daily Iftar was a very well attended and the community spirit was overwhelming. All money for catering and arrangements were donated by the attenders and there was no cost to SCMA. In'Sha'Allah, this year similar arrangements with improved facilities are anticipated.

## Community Get Together at The Town Hall

A community event was organised at the Sutton Town Hall which including fundraising for the Masjid. Despite adverse weather conditions the event was very well attended, and we welcomed Lord Nazir, West Midlands Mayor, the Local Mayor and the local MP. The event raised over £20,000 for the Masjid project, including donations from non-Muslims. These events were sponsored through various local partners and incurred no cost to SCMA. Bigger and better functions will be planned this year In'Sha'Allah.

### Other Facilities for the Community

Ladies Thursday Monday circle and Dars e Quran lecture on Monday by Imam Adam

New service users including Arab Peacock school / Salim Akhter (Maths tuition) and Creation of Dosti group for elderly women in community.

Condolence family meeting and Quran recitation for the bereaved within the community

Local library of books on Islamic subjects & Hadith (Books available to read or loan)

Islamic Relief collection units - regular clearance of clothing

Maulana Adam 12 plus classes Islamic etiquettes and Aqedah

Seminar on Muslim burial meeting/ Diabetes and Ramadan and cancer awareness

Meeting for revert sisters

Mother and Toddler group ran for a year then toddlers moved to nurseries. Sister Nadia Khan is in the process of resuming the sessions this year In'Sha'Allah.

### Activities for Community Cohesion

Regular Interfaith group meetings with local church leaders (now in its 6th year)

Attendance at local clergy meeting invited by local MP

Police to use car park with mutual agreement

Coverage for events and articles in faith matters column in local newspaper

Cake sale for McMillan Cancer which raised £300

Visit my mosque day through MCB - a resounding success

Badminton club (at nearby facility) and Cycle club (Brothers on Bike (BOB) club)

### Food Bank Donations

For the past two years the SCMA have successfully organised foodbank donations and would like to thank the community for their generosity. The items are distributed to the homeless and other vulnerable families via the local churches

### Remembrance Day

A wreath was laid at the local memorial on behalf of the SCMA. This was the first time there was any representation from local Muslims at the parade. There was local media coverage which was very much appreciated by residents. This will now become a regular event in the SCMA calendar and representatives of SCMA and residents are welcome to attend to commemorate the 400,000 Muslim soldiers who contributed in the second world war.

### School Visits

The Masjid has facilitated visits from many local schools including Sutton Coldfield Grammar school for Girls, Maney Hill and Four Oaks Primary.

The SCMA committee members and trustees have also been invited to give talks at assemblies at local schools.

### SCMA Rebrand and Social Media

Rebranding of the SCMA & its unique logo (designed by Brother Rafaquat Hussain & Brother Mahmoud Esmail) that is now evident on all communications, flyer and correspondence.

A new Masjid website was launched providing news, events, prayer timetable and downloads: [www.suttonmuslims.org.uk](http://www.suttonmuslims.org.uk)

A Facebook page, Twitter feed and Instagram account has also been setup providing up to date information for the community. Make sure that you have signed up to receive the latest bulletins

[facebook.com/SuttonColdfieldMuslimAssociation](https://facebook.com/SuttonColdfieldMuslimAssociation)

[twitter.com/suttoncmuslim](https://twitter.com/suttoncmuslim)

[instagram.com/suttoncoldfieldmuslim](https://instagram.com/suttoncoldfieldmuslim)