

# Englefield Green Committee

**Tuesday 4 November 2008 7.00pm**

**at the Jurgen Centre  
Harvest Road  
Englefield Green**

## **Members of the Committee**

Councillors H W V Meares (Chairman), J W C Perschke (Vice-Chairman), D R Hamilton, Miss M N Heath, M T Kusneraitis and P I Roberts.

Residents' Representatives: Mrs L Lawson and Mr A E Panter

## **AGENDA**

### **Notes:**

- 1) Any report on the Agenda involving confidential information (as defined by section 100A(3) of the Local Government Act 1972) must be discussed in private. Any report involving exempt information (as defined by section 100I of the Local Government Act 1972), whether it appears in Part 1 or Part 2 below, may be discussed in private but only if the Committee so resolves.
- 2) The relevant 'background papers' are listed after each report in Part 1. Enquiries about any of the Agenda reports and background papers should be directed in the first instance to **Mr B A Fleckney, Administration and Leisure Department, Committee Section, Civic Centre, Station Road, Addlestone (Tel: Direct Line: 01932 425620).** (Email: [bernard.fleckney@runnymede.gov.uk](mailto:bernard.fleckney@runnymede.gov.uk)).
- 3) Agendas and Minutes are available on a subscription basis. For details, please ring Mr B A Fleckney on 01932 425620. Agendas and Minutes for all the Council's Committees may also be viewed on [www.runnymede.gov.uk](http://www.runnymede.gov.uk).

## **LIST OF MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION**

### **PART I**

#### **Matters in respect of which reports have been made available for public inspection**

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### **PART II**

#### **Matters involving Exempt or Confidential Information in respect of which reports have not been made available for public inspection.**

- a) Exempt Information  
(No reports to be considered under this heading)
- b) Confidential Information  
(No reports to be considered under this heading)

1. MINUTES

To confirm and sign, as a correct record, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 24 June 2008, which were contained in the July 2008 Summons/Minute Book.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

If Members have an interest in an item please record the interest on the form circulated with this Agenda and hand it to the Legal Representative or Committee Administrator at the start of the meeting. A supply of the form will also be available from the Committee Administrator at meetings.

Members who have previously declared interests which are recorded in the Minutes to be considered at this meeting need not repeat the declaration when attending the meeting. Members need take no further action unless the item in which they have an interest becomes the subject of debate, in which event the Member must leave the room if the interest is personal and prejudicial.

4. FUN FAIRS (DAL)

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 **To review the future of fairs on the Green.**

2. Report

2.1 Beach's and Carter's fun fairs used the Green again this year, as approved by the Committee in February.

2.2 Beach's arrived on 12 May and departed a week later. No repairs were necessary to the surface of the Green but a bench opposite the pavilion was badly damaged by one of the fair's vehicles. Beach's removed the damaged bench promising to arrange a replacement. However, by September no replacement had appeared, so the Council purchased a replacement which will be installed shortly and which Beach's will pay for. The Council received reports of a number of verbal complaints from residents via the Honorary Wardens about the location of the fair and a particularly tall ride which they used this year. A photograph of this is attached at Appendix 'A'. Only one of these reported verbal complaints was followed up in writing to the Council and a copy of this letter is at Appendix 'B'. It has come to light that Beach's have not yet paid the Council for the use of the Green this year or last year. Normal debt recovery procedures are underway but officers recommend that Beach's be denied further access to the Green until this debt and the cost of the bench is recovered.

2.3 Carters Steam Fair arrived on 30 September and left on 7 October. A check of the ground conditions was carried out by Officers late in the week before their arrival and the ground was firm and dry. However, they experienced heavy rain during their stay and some damage to the Green resulted. The worst of the damage resulted from vehicle movements across the wet ground and was concentrated around the access gate, but there was also some damage to the cricket outfield. The Chairman of the Englefield Green Cricket Club wrote to the Council on the 14 October expressing concern about the damage and a copy of his letter is attached at Appendix 'C'. The necessary repairs are in hand and will be funded from Carter's deposit, which the Council is holding. Officers believe that Carters Steam Fair conducted themselves in a professional and responsible manner and the Honorary Wardens have both confirmed this. There were however some difficulties relating to fair visitors parking on the verge around the Green and consequent traffic congestion, particularly at the back of the Green. Measures to improve this situation in future years are being considered and further information will be provided at the meeting.

2.4 At a meeting with Officers in June the Chairman of the cricket club made a number of suggestions relating to fairs on the Green. He suggested that the club could pay the Council not to have fairs on the northern end of the green, suggested having fairs in alternate years only or locating both fairs at the southern end of the Green.

- 2.5 In 2007 both fairs were located at the southern end of the Green and letters of complaint were received from local residents regarding fairs using this location. Complaints mainly related to noise disturbance, traffic and parking congestion, visual detriment to the open aspect of the Green, parking on the Green and compaction of soil which could exacerbate drainage/flooding problems at this end of the Green. All the complainants considered that the fairs should be moved back to their former location at the northern end of the Green. At that time the Committee was mindful of the concerns of local residents and the Cricket Club on the location of the fairs and the need to protect the condition of the Green. In coming to a decision on the future location of the fairs, the Committee balanced the interests of residents, the Cricket Club and the benefits the fairs brought to the wider Englefield Green community.
- 2.6 Officers are now seeking guidance from the Committee as to how they wish fairs to be managed in future years and, bearing in mind that the damage to the outfield occurred after the end of the cricket season and will be repaired before the commencement of the next season, recommend that the current arrangements be continued subject to the necessary ground repairs being completed satisfactorily and at an acceptable cost, details of which will be reported to the Committee at the next meeting.

**OFFICERS' RECOMMENDATION that –**

- (i) the current arrangements for fairs on Englefield Green be continued;**
- (ii) Beach's Funfair be located on the southern end of the Green in Spring 2009, subject to the satisfactory recovery of the outstanding debt;**
- (iii) Carter's Steam Fair be located on the northern end of the Green in late Summer/Autumn 2009, subject to the necessary ground repairs being completed to a satisfactory standard within an acceptable cost; and**
- (iv) a further report be brought to the Committee in February 2009 to update Members on these matters and to confirm arrangements for 2009.**

**(TO RESOLVE)**

Background Papers

None.

5. MAINTENANCE ON THE GREEN (DAL)

Following the last meeting of this Committee, arrangements were made for the grass on the cricket outfield to be cut weekly. The Chairman of the Cricket Club subsequently agreed that the club will pay for these additional cuts.

**(FOR INFORMATION)**

Background Papers

None.

6. CCTV COVERAGE OF PAVILION (DAL)

Following the Committee's resolution at its last meeting that Officers investigate the possibility of provision of low cost, visually less obtrusive CCTV to cover the pavilion, Safer Runnymede officers have been asked to advise on options for the specification and costing for a suitable system. At a meeting with the Council in June the cricket club advised that it currently had no funding available for this and asked if the Council could fund the linking of such a system to the Safer Runnymede control room. This matter is yet to be concluded and discussions will continue with the club when more information is available.

**(FOR INFORMATION)**

Background Papers

None.

7. PLAY AREA (DAL)

At its last meeting the Committee was updated on progress in obtaining the various consents for the proposed play area extension. The Planning Inspectorate had advised the Council that based on the number of responses to the project a Public Inquiry would need to take place to determine if permission was to be granted. Officers had asked the Inspectorate if the removal of the CCTV and lighting from the existing application would negate the need for the inquiry but were advised this would make no difference due to the number of overall responses. Officers sought further clarification on whether a brand new application without the CCTV and lighting included would be considered. The Planning Inspectorate confirmed that this would be the case but that everyone making representation on the first application would be advised and their original representation could be considered with the new application if requested. The Committee resolved that a new application should be made to the Planning Inspectorate without the CCTV and lighting elements. A verbal update on this will be given at the meeting.

**(FOR INFORMATION)**

Background Papers

None.

8. HONORARY WARDENS REPORT (DAL)

Attached at Appendix 'D' is the report of the Honorary Wardens for Englefield Green, Mr Winkworth and Mr Power. It highlights the valuable voluntary contribution the Wardens make in assisting the Council in managing the Green. Where appropriate, Officers comments have been added.

**(FOR INFORMATION)**

Background Papers

None.

9. 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT (DAL)

1. In early October, Officers were notified by Surrey County Council, West Area Highways that in response to a request from local residents, the Runnymede Local Committee had agreed to extend the existing 30mph speed limit in the road behind the Green to include the rest of the road together with the section of Bishopsgate Road between the top of the Green and St Jude's Road. The extent of the speed limit changes are indicated on the plan attached at Appendix 'E'.
2. Over the length of the existing 30mph speed limit on the Green there is a system of street lighting and therefore 30 mph repeater signs are not required. However, there are no street lights in the sections of road over which the new speed limit will apply. As such, it will be necessary to erect a small number of repeater signs. However, this will be offset by the removal of a number of larger signs as a result of the changes.
3. The plan attached at Appendix 'F' indicates the changes to the signing that are required to comply with Department for Transport Regulations, including a new pair of small repeater signs on the Green itself. Since these signs are not over a footway, where they would need to be at 2.1m, Officers have requested that the mounting height be reduced to around 1.4m to minimise their visual impact.
4. The proposed speed limit changes have been advertised and are due to come into effect at the end of October.

**(FOR INFORMATION)**

Background Papers

None.

10. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

If the Committee is minded to consider any of the foregoing reports in private session, it is the

**OFFICERS' RECOMMENDATION that –**

**where appropriate the press and public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of reports under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that the reports in question would be likely to involve disclosure of exempt information of the description specified in the appropriate paragraphs of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act.**

**(TO RESOLVE)**

**PART II**

**Matters involving Exempt or Confidential Information in respect of which reports have not been made available for public inspection**

a) Exempt Information

(No reports to be considered under this heading).

b) Confidential Information

(No reports to be considered under this heading).