

Minutes of Steering Committee No 62, Thursday 19th February 2026.

The Village Centre, 7.30pm to 9.30pm

Present: Mike Kelly (Chair), Alan Sloan, Melanie Frobisher, Fred West, Albert Jamieson, Terry Barnett

- 1) **Apologies for Absence;** Debbie Garland
- 2) **Approval of Minutes of Meeting No 61;** Approved
- 3) **Declaration of personal interest in topics to be discussed;** None.
- 4) **Accounts:** A report on financial activities was presented to the Committee and approved. Other than bank charges there were no administration expenses for running the Committee this month. Costs associated with the Central Area Hub Project during the month were final payment for the manufacture and supply of the Village Sign, Notice Board, Information Board and Finger Sign plus an initial payment to Bill Kear for work done on site.

An end cost prediction is being maintained on the Central Area Refurbishment Project currently indicating a potential small saving.

HMRC had decided to close their free online filing service used to submit annual accounts and corporation tax returns. The service will no longer be available from 1st April 2026.

Companies House have also recently announced that they will also close their free online filing service from 31 March 2027.

It is therefore proposed we use Easy Digital Filing (EDT) who will charge £139pa + VAT. For the accounting services now required.

The proposal was unanimously approved by the Committee and the Directors of EG Community Projects CIC

- 5) **Membership, Publicity, Website and Communications:** See attached report from Melanie. Articles for publication are needed on progress on our various projects, in order to advertise better what we are doing.
- 6) **Parish Council:** See attached report from Alan
- 7) **Projects arising from the Neighbourhood Plan**

Parking,

- a) **Parking:** See attached report from Albert. The draft Parking Statement was approved by the Committee
- b) **Speed limits, LCWIP:** See attached report from Alan

c) **Transport Hub:** See attached report from Mike

d) **Trees and Hedges Project:** See attached report from Mike

8) **Forest Estate gardening project:** The 'Estate Improvement Policy' authored by RBC has not been discussed yet and should feature in our next meeting to see if anything useful for the Forest Estate could come from it. A copy of the policy will be circulated before the next meeting.

9) **Planning**

None of the Planning applications over the last month appear to be contentious.

We need to watch out for a possible revised planning application on Barbara Clark house.

The potential fire sale by RBC of properties may include the Hub, more than likely for housing.

RU25/0627 5, Alexandra Court, was refused and has gone to Appeal. The proposal is for the conversion of premises into 4 student let rooms with no parking. Comments on the appeal by 27th February. Forum to respond.

10) **AOB.**

Next Meeting- Thursday 19th March 2026 at 7.30 p.m. at the Village Centre.

MFK report on Central Area and Trees project for meeting no 62

Central Area

Work well under way with completion scheduled for 26th February.

Predicted at present to be in budget, but final settlement of the contractor after completion remains.

Grant application for two further benches, electrical connections and bollards to prevent parking have been submitted. These items were not in the original scope of work and therefore not in the original grant funding.

Trees Project

Grant Application has been made. At present no news as to progress.
Decision in March or April maybe?

Mike Kelly 17/2/26

Report on Membership & Marketing for Meeting On 19th February 2026

Membership; 1 x new registered members. We now have 409 registered members

Facebook - 48 followers (increase of 2)

Nextdoor - 13 members (increase of 1)

Social Media Posts: Non since January meeting

Next Posts:

Update Central Area

Update Parish Council

Website Updates:

Parking - content added

Minutes 61 - content added

Membership E-Newsletter

We now have membership emails in Hostinger's email service and are paid up for 1 year. I've created a template for a monthly newsletter which means we can do updates for 2-3 topics in one newsletter and point recipients back to the website for more information. Ideas for the March edition are:

Bakeham Lane - let's highlight our involvement and create a 'win/achievements' section on the website

- Central Area - should be 'finished' enough to give an update - new benches, defib, book swap etc with new photos
- Parish Council update, what happens next

Thoughts on the above or is there anything more important to add?

Melanie Frobisher 17th February 2026

Alan Sloan Report for meeting no 62

1. Speed limits:

Priest Hill - Proposed 40 mph Speed Limit

Consultation closed on 10 November. Statutory consultation is now expected to commence in March 2026.

Callow Hill/Bakeham Lane/Prune Hill – Proposed 30 mph Speed Limit

Following statutory consultation, the proposed speed reduction to 30 mph has been agreed. Works to install signage as well as speed reductions measures and minor alterations to the highway are scheduled to commence in March.

Separately at the top of Bakeham Lane towards the junction with London Road and opposite RHUL double yellow lines are due to be painted. This work was due to be completed in December, but inclement weather has delayed matters. The contractors need three dry days to complete the work which unfortunately we have not enjoyed for some time now!

Englefield Green – 20mph scheme

SCC have drawn up a draft plan which, I understand is quite large and covers most of the village. Marisa Heath has been doing some soft engagement through a letter out to residents and a survey. It is very much 50/50 support at the moment. The proper/formal consultation is now due to take place late Feb/early Mar and will include a map.

2. Local Cycling, Walking and Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP)

The Runnymede LCWIP feasibility designs have been received by the SCC team and are now being reviewed. It was anticipated that engagement sessions with elected members on this feasibility work would take place late Jan/early Feb 2026 which could then be shared with EGVRA and other interested groups after these sessions. As to date this has not taken place I raised the matter at the Councillors' Surgery meeting on 14 February and Marisa Heath agreed to investigate. A formal request to Marisa Heath for an update was made the same day.

£1m of CIL funding has been secured from Runnymede Borough Council for the LCWIP Programme which enables this funding to match with future Active Travel England funding for agreed priority schemes.

3. Progress towards establishing a Parish Council in Englefield Green –

The outcome of the second stage of public consultation of which there were 523 responses was 428 in favour and 95 against.

On 12 February a report produced by Kath Richard, Head of Electoral Services, was presented to the RBC Corporate Management Committee with the following recommendations:

To recommend to Full Council:

To approve the **Final Recommendations** as set out below, in accordance with the provisions of Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

To request officers to formulate an appropriate budget for the proposed parish council for the financial year 2027-2028.

To request officers to clarify the position as to which allotments situated in the area falling within the area of the proposed parish council would transfer to the proposed parish council and under what legal provisions.

To report back to Full Council at a future date to seek authority to make recommendations to the proposed West Surrey Shadow Authority in respect of making an Order under the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 for the creation of the new parish council.

The **Final Recommendations** are that:

- (a) the parish of Englefield Green should be created.
- (b) the parish will not be warded
- (c) the name of the parish council should be Englefield Green parish council.
- (d) the parish council for Englefield Green shall consist of 14 councillors.

The recommendations were approved unanimously by the Corporate Management Committee and will now be considered by RBC Full Council on 26 February.

4. **Barbara Clark House** – At the Councillors' Surgery meeting on 14 February it was reported that the land has not been sold and is still on the market. Unfortunately the site is no longer reserved for social housing and therefore could be used for student accommodation! We await further news.
5. **Former Birchlands Care Home** – I requested an update from Marisa Heath at the September Councillors' Surgery meeting and received the following update on 3 October:

"Our delivery partner, Places for People, continue to undertake preconstruction activity in advance of submitting the reserved matters planning application. We anticipate the reserved matters planning application will be submitted in 2026 and engagement on this application will be led by the developer in advance of its submission. We will ensure you are notified of any planned pre-application engagement being organised and also will engage with you ahead of this". I raised this matter at the Councillors' Surgery meeting on 14 February and Marisa Heath agreed to investigate. A formal request to Marisa Heath for an update was made the same day.

Alan Sloan 16 February 2026

Albert Jamieson report for Meeting 62

PPP Permit Parking Area Scheme – Peter Wells SCC Parking reports he's on track for a Spring public consultation. You'll recall he's doing some unrelated parallel work, the pathway for which assists in accelerating the timing of the scheme, and he says he's on track with this also. Will follow-up in a month or so.

RHUL CP14 Pilot – This RHUL committee paused efforts due to temporary unavailability of key RHUL participation. Per our January Steering Committee meeting I sent a middle road email to RHUL (you received a copy) stating we're not opposed to/support anything RHUL want to do that it thinks might help with the village on-street parking problem, such as its CP14 pilot, while restating what the Forum considers to be priorities and measures of success for the +100% Parking Stress on the Historic Core roads of the village.

RBC PBSA Parking SPD 3-year Review – Forum engagement in the process was high and the narrative shift about on-street parking in EG was pushed hard and landed. Unsurprisingly, our expectations *vis a vis* the RBC Planning Committee were met and it voted for no amendments to the currently flawed SPD. However, in the process we discovered that there's been 5-years of annual monitoring reports from at least The Garage (and reportedly more) privately operated PBSA against a Travel Plan that includes objectives with respect to on-street parking relating to student-residents (RBC Planning DM grant conditions). RBC Planning Policy did not supply this information to the Planning Committee and seems unawares of its existence – expert level competence of the left hand/right hand idiom. We have reported possible alleged breaches of the planning conditions to RBC planning enforcement and are trying to source the reports and meet with the PBSA operators with our councillors.

New RHUL Parking and Finnish Committee – This is being taken one meeting at a time. Mike and I attended the inaugural one and I will continue, for now. Cllr Trevor Gates has recently resigned from the RHRCG and refused to join this committee. The first Teams meeting on Wednesday was mainly introductions and admin, Mike and I had liaised beforehand and from the Forum's side have secured engaged on the committee's Terms of Reference formulation, the outcome of which will be a milestone to our continued involvement. Next meeting is mid-March.

Attached is the final draft of the Parking Statement discussed at last month's meeting, updated with all comments received, for approval.

Thanks Albert

Englefield Green Village Neighbourhood Forum

Parking Statement

Context

Standard practice for understanding the dynamics of on-street parking in urban neighbourhoods is the Lambeth Methodology measuring Parking Stress (PS), used countrywide and globally.

- SCC and RBC Planning are users and commissioned Project Centre Ltd. in 2021 to observe, monitor, and measure PS in EG and Egham at a per road level, so PPP area roads could be and were extracted and analysed by us (Steering Committee received the reports in 2024).
- Vehicles were logged on 3 weekdays, 3x per day (M/A/N shifts of 2hr periods) during 2 separate weeks, in and out of RHUL term-time.
- The data can be analysed/averaged for PS % per shift, per week, per RHUL term etc..
- $PS\% = [\text{No. of Vehicles Parked}/\text{No. of Spaces}] \times 100$. Average PS% for the Englefield Green Village Historic Core Parking Pilot Project (PPP) area roads is c. 135% & 100% in and out of RHUL term-times respectively.
- Standard methodology rules assign vehicles logged to sources - **R**esidents, **C**ommuters, **V**isitors.
- In round numbers, PCL ascribed the increase in PS during RHUL term-time being due to **R** 70%, **C** 15% and **V**15%.

The PCL report was the basis on which the RBC Parking SPD was adopted. The data is largely robust, a couple of glitches on troublesome days selected and its questionable corrections. Averaging it to a Borough level completely missed the unique, special and sensitive PPP area and EG more widely, coming to erroneous conclusions – our basis for making submissions to the RBC SPD 3-year review.

The data is interpreted within evidence of the built environment and spatial characteristics of the neighbourhood, temporal patterns etc. to formulate a definitive real-world statement that it robustly supports. Key aspects of this evidence are:

- Within a 0.25 mile radius of the Founders Building is the PPP area and many RHUL operated campus student halls = +2000 student residents.
- RHUL car parking policy prohibits these students bringing a vehicle to the area but it can provide no evidence of enforcement of this.
- Nearby 3 privately operated PBSA halls +500 students with c. 30 spaces for GBP500 – 600/ann.
- Student HMO density in the PPP area is c. 20% + significant other student rental accommodation.

- Student residents are easily +2500 with access to *di mimimus* off-street parking.

The real-world conclusion robustly supported by all the above is: -

For the duration of a RHUL term additional vehicles are brought into the PPP area and parked there by student residents, increasing PS% to c. 135%.

This conclusion (Problem Definition) is now acknowledged by SCC and RHUL. We have challenged RBC Planning Policy to come up with a better one and they are unable to. A standard research limitation is that PCL did not attribute parking of cars overnight or during the day - Lambeth Methodology does not feature this for good reasons (it's a practical impossibility) – we included one in our report as best practice.

Our Stance on Parking in Englefield Green

The Forum has very limited volunteer resources, time, energy and money to spend on all our projects. Resource allocation for parking is on a bang-for-the-buck and speed of delivery basis. Given the above Problem Definition, our stance on parking is as follows, in order of priority: -

- A. Efforts that target a significant, measurable reduction in Parking Stress % within 12-month timeframes or a high confidence/high probability forecast of such to below 100%.**
- B. Significant demonstrable reduction in additional cars being brought to the area in and out of RHUL term-times by student residents and parked on-street e.g. RHUL parking policy and enforcement, planning grant enforcement by RBC/SCC.
- C. Significant increase in supply of off-street parking spaces in and nearby to the PPP that are accessible to student residents, removing their vehicles from PPP roads 24/7 for the duration of term-time e.g. RHUL Rusham Pk MSCP, Car Parking Policy and RBC Parking SPD for PBSA.
- D. Significant reduction in on-street parking supply to student residents e.g. Permit Parking Scheme.
- E. Increases in on-street parking space supply e.g. SCC Runnymede Parking Review Submissions
- F. Reduction in student commuter on-street demand.
- G. New planning grants do not decrease supply or increase demand e.g. vigilance on planning applications and CHA reports.
- H. Reductions in student HMO density Rem: many have off-street parking.
- I. Other.

In addition, anger and frustration amongst residents about the overspill of on-street parking is acknowledged by RHUL – see its Curtins and Stride Treglowen reports in its planning applications - this is witnessed and supported in our door-to-door reports.

We fully subscribe to A and then in order of priority for support: -

- Best support for B – D.
- Modest support for E – H.
- Little/no support for I.

Per: Steering Committee February 2026