

Minutes of Steering Committee No 66, Thursday 18th June 2026,

The Village Centre, 7.30pm to 9.00pm

Present: Mike Kelly (Chair), Alan Sloan, Melanie Frobisher, Albert Jamieson, Fred West. Nick Handley

- 1) Apologies for Absence;** Terry Barnett
- 2) Approval of Minutes of Meeting No 65;** Approved
- 3) Declaration of personal interest in topics to be discussed;** None.
- 4) Committee Member;** It was decided unanimously that Nick Handley should join the Committee.
- 5) Responsibilities of Committee Members;** Following the AGM earlier in the evening and according to the constitution, the following responsibilities were unanimously allocated to the members voted onto the committee; Mike Kelly, Chair, Alan Sloan Vice Chair, Fred West Finance, Melanie Frobisher Membership and Publicity. The position of Secretary remains vacant, but continues to be undertaken by Mike Kelly until a permanent secretary can be found.
- 6) Accounts:** A report on financial activities was presented to the Committee and approved. Since the last report on 20th May, the only expenditure recorded was for the usual monthly bank charges. Sufficient balance remains to meet forecast spend for this financial year. There were no administration expenses for running the Committee this month. An end cost prediction is being maintained on the Central Area Refurbishment Project, showing we are within budget. Payments are now up to date for all suppliers.
- 7) Membership, Publicity, Website and Communications:** See attached report from Melanie.

Articles for the next news letter need to be produced (Mike, Alan, Albert)
- 8) Parish Council:** See attached report from Alan. We understand that The Greek Orthodox Church does not appear to be available as a site for the parish council.

9) Projects arising from the Neighbourhood Plan

Parking,

- a) **CPZ:** Progress is now in the hands of Surrey Highways. There is no change to the position for last month so no report from Albert.
- b) **Speed limits, LCWIP:** See attached report from Alan

- c) **Transport Hub:** Mike apologised for not issuing a report due to time restraints, but now has done so. See attached.
- d) **Trees and Hedges Project:** See attached report from Mike
- e) **MFK to investigate if there are any covenants on the Hub at 57 Larchwood Drive.**

10) Forest Estate gardening project: Not discussed again but-The 'Estate Improvement Policy' authored by RBC should feature in our next meeting to see if anything useful for the Forest Estate could come from it. A copy of the policy is again attached.

11) Planning

RU.26/0634, Magna Road. Resubmission of an application to add a semi detached house to an existing house. Parking Problems. Objection required.

RU.26/0743 Take away kitchen behind Caspari's. Another takeaway in the historic centre is not needed. Objection to be raised.

12) AGM- successful AGM conducted prior to this monthly meeting and all motions passed. Melanie will issue the minutes.

It was decided to hold the AGM as an in person meeting on the 18th June 2026 at 6.30pm directly before the next monthly meeting.

AOB.

Support required for an Article 7 request to stop Estate Agents leaving to let signs up for ages.

A letter regarding the ongoing huge cost of developing the Barbara Clark House site by the Council and a request to find out what is happening is required. Alan to draft letter to Andrew Pritchard, CEO of RBC'

St Cuthberts school has invited us to give a presentation on how the village is developing and how it affects us all, in October. E mail to accept needed. Alan to respond, accepting invitation to speak for Year 5 in October about the Neighbourhood Plan and changes to Englefield Green.

Next Meeting- Thursday 30th July 2026 at 7.30 p.m. at the Village Centre

Melanie Report on Membership & Marketing for Meeting On 18th June 2026

Membership:

6 x new registered members, 3 unsubscribed. We now have 419 registered members

Facebook - 105 followers (increase of 5)

Nextdoor - 15 members (increase of 0)

Social Media Posts: Since May Meeting;

1. AGM Notification

2. Thank you to Square volunteers (with photo of Joe and Anita) and shout-out for more (6 people responded to this)

Next Posts:

Info boards on Square

Noticeboard on Square (how to get a notice placed and what kind of notices allowed)

Shout-out for more Committee members

Update Parish Council?

Permit Scheme/Parking review?

Article 4?

Speed Limit Consultation Results?

Tree Planting initiative?

Website Updates:

Minutes 65 - content added Specific Square volunteer form added to the Square page
Membership E-Newsletter - AGM email notification and Proxy Form Comms

Other - AGM poster in Square noticeboard

Melanie Frobisher

16 June 2026

MFK report on Central Area and Trees project for meeting no 66

Central Area

Substantially complete. Remaining items; Electrics, bollards, benches, planters and the addition of a Defib unit and a Book Exchange.

We have settled Bill Kears account and paid in advance for the electric cable installation and received two curved benches to fit round the silver birch at the Victoria Street end of the Central Area, the manufactured post for the defib plant and the defib box to go on it. Bollards are being supplied and installed by Bill Kears, as is the base for the Book Exchange.

We have received notification that Bill Kears are planning to carry out all the work during w/c 10th August. This will then be followed by Milestone carrying out the paid for electrical installation (who have been notified of the Kears date) and thereafter by an electrician (yet to be appointed by us) carrying out the final electrical installations (meter, consumer box, sockets and defib connection). The Book Exchange, which is a refurbished telephone box, has been ordered, will take up to 14 weeks to refurbish, supply, and install on the base put in by Kears.

We have received word from Surrey CC that an additional grant of £10,000 has been allocated to us against YFCSCP2/1385 to complete the work which means that all the above can be carried out

Volunteers continue to successfully look after watering, planting and weeding etc. under the group name 'Friends of the Central Area'.

Trees Project

Our application for funds for this project has been approved (Approx £20,000). However it will only be transferred to us once we have agreed with RBC where we can plant and received their permission to do so.

Although we had a meeting with Justin Saunders and two tree officers on the 6th May and we walked the full length and breadth of Englefield Green noting down potential sites, we have yet to receive their assessment and approval for the tree positions, which would trigger release of some funds to reserve trees. We are chasing him up but lethargy seems to have crept in to RBC now they are in their final days.

Once tree positions are agreed we are cautiously optimistic that this will result in us being given permission to proceed. Mike Kelly 20/5/26

Alan Update for EGVNF Steering Committee meeting on 18 June 2026

1) Speed limits:

Priest Hill - Proposed 40 mph Speed Limit

Statutory consultation remains outstanding. At the Councillors' Surgery meeting on 13 June Marisa Heath said that consultation was now likely to start this month.

Following earlier e-mails to Marisa Heath about the stretch of St Jude's Road between Bishopsgate Gate Road and Castle Hill Road, which is also currently National Speed limit and which forms part of the Priest Hill consultation, Marisa has now heard from Highways colleagues that whilst it is eminently sensible to reduce that section of road to 30mph she has been advised that 30mph signage of its own would be insufficient and that streetlights together with some form of speed reduction measures would be required which would require funding. I have suggested that as the road is quite wide at the Castle Hill Road end the introduction of a pinch point together with white gates displaying 30 mph signs could be a solution. Marisa has agreed to pursue including ascertaining the estimated cost.

2) Englefield Green – 20mph scheme

The formal consultation process closed on 18 March 2026. Initial indications are a 50/50 split. Detailed analysis will now take place. This will now be passed over to West Surrey Unitary Authority for consideration of formal consultation so unlikely to see much progress in the next 18 months.

3) Local Cycling, Walking and Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP)

The feasibility stage report for Runnymede LCWIP routes including the Egham to Virginia Water via A30 cycle corridor has been completed and was presented to elected members on 2 April. Apparently, members were asked not to share with local interested groups. Public consultation is now scheduled to take place in autumn 2026. Marisa Heath has been unable to make any progress in providing the Forum with a copy of what was presented to elected members.

4) Progress towards establishing a Parish Council in Englefield Green

It is proposed that the new parish council will operate from the financial year 2027/28 which will commence on 1 April 2027. Elections for councillors on the new parish council will not take place until May 2027.

An Implementation Steering Group has now been formed consisting of the following RBC staff: Head of Legal, Head of Finance, Head of Allotments and Head of Electoral Services.

The first full meeting of the Group is scheduled for 25 June. One of the key issues will be to establish a budget for 2026/27.

Formal approval by West Surrey Unitary Authority to establish a Parish Council in Englefield Green is now likely to take place in September 2026.

5) Barbara Clark House

At the Councillors' Surgery meeting on 11 April it was reported that negotiations with a developer are still on-going. Unfortunately, the site is no longer reserved for social housing and therefore could be used for student accommodation! We are patiently awaiting further news. I raised this yet again at the June Councillors' Surgery meeting and was advised that the best approach to elicit information as to the current position was for the Forum to write to the Chief Executive of RBC.

6) Greenacre site - No change since last month

Despite the dilapidated hoarding it is understood that the developer is proceeding with the build. The condition and appearance of the hoarding appears to be contrary to the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 and the Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM Regulations). Poor quality hoarding on a building site poses significant safety, legal, and reputational risks. Concerns were also expressed by attendees at the Councillors' Surgery meeting about nearby roads being obstructed to allow cement lorries in, due to there being a lack of space on site to mix cement, and with there being such a large hole in the ground and poor quality hoarding that children could easily access the site and cause themselves injury. Cllr Trevor Gates agreed to investigate and reported that an unknown resident had already raised the use with RBC who are monitoring the situation.

7) Former Birchlands Care Home - No change since last month

At the April Councillors' Surgery meeting Marisa confirmed that the project is moving forward and that a new planning application is due to be submitted within the next 3-4 months. Construction is anticipated to commence in 2027.

8) HMO's – Article 4 Direction

RBC will be undertaking development of a new Local Plan in September, and we are optimistic that it will include for the potential inclusion of an Article 4 Direction. Cllr Trevor Gates (Englefield Green East) and Cllr Isabel Mullins (Egham) are very keen for such a Directive to be included in the Local Plan. We are currently working on updating our earlier research on the number of HMO's in Englefield Green, reduction in family homes etc so that a document can be presented to RBC in September as evidence for the need to implement such a Directive.

Alan Sloan

15 June 2026