



ENGLEFIELD GREEN VILLAGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN RESIDENTS AND BUSINESS QUESTIONNAIRES

RESULTS and ANALYSIS

January 2022

Reg 16 (of the Neighbourhood Plan Regulations 2012) Consultation Document

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Residents Questionnaire Responses (including Postal Responses)

Introduction

The questionnaire was accessed via the Englefield Green Neighbourhood Plan Website and was advertised to the local community using

1. Posters and banners which were displayed around Englefield Green for over 6 months.
2. A flyer was delivered to each household in Englefield Green asking people to complete the questionnaire
3. Adverts were also posted onto the Englefield Greenies facebook page and the RBC website
4. Paper copies of the questionnaire were also held at Genevieve's shop in Englefield Green for people with no access to the internet

The Questionnaire received 373 responses, and was available to complete from July 2020 to June 2021. 99% of the respondents are residents of Englefield Green. 58% are working and of those 72% work locally or nearby with 28% working some distance away.

The 95% of respondents are using a car for some of their journeys and 70% are also walking, with only 11% using a bus service and 29% using the trains.

Walking and Cycling are popular activities in the area with 94% of respondents enjoying the lanes, footpaths and green areas of the village.

Analysis of Results

The most important thing for residents is to improve the environment in which they live.

The majority of respondents (94%) stated they enjoyed the lanes, footpaths and environs around the village of Englefield Green and would not like to see these changed. This strong preference for retaining or enhancing the countryside around and within the village was further strengthened by a wish to retain and enhance green spaces in the village (87%), for no further development on the Green Belt (79%), reduced road speeds rather than road widening on the country lanes ((73%),

tree planting on green areas within the village or their improvement for recreational purposes (72%), and trees and flower beds along St Judes Road (68%).

The theme continued in the 50% to 70% bracket with residents wanting to encourage wild life in the countryside, measures to assist walking and cycling, more green areas within the urban landscape where possible, more TPOs, vehicular speed reductions to increase safety and reduce pollution. 7% currently use a bike for local journeys. 42% found the roads dangerous for bikes etc., and only 11% found the provision for cycling adequate at present. On the other hand only 19% said they would start using a bike, electric bike or similar if the roads were made more user friendly.

On improving the village of Englefield Green, Residents want a long term traffic and parking plan designed to alleviate the village of Englefield Green of ever increasing traffic (77%), a long term Master Plan to ensure the village is developed consistently with proper amenities, a proper centre, and a well-defined identity (73%), Design Codes to ensure consistency and harmony in new developments ((62%), and time limited free parking in the Victoria Road Car Park. (73%). Only 6% said a Master Plan for the village was not necessary.

Slightly lower on the list, but still very important, our residents thought RHUL should do a lot more to control aspects of their business where it affects residents.

RHUL should take a more active role in ensuring students do not park in the village when visiting Campus and those in Campus residences should either have parking spaces or be banned from having cars (72%), They should invest in more parking on their main campus and reduce parking facilities on the village (North) side of the A30 (69%), further developments on the village side should be designed to be in sympathy with the village (69%), and there should be no further purpose built student accommodation (both private and RHUL) on the village (North) of the A30.(70%). 38%, however, thought RHUL is or should be an integral part of the village.

In respect of business, residents were keen to make our shopping area more obvious (55%), to see students resident in the village use the shopping facilities in the village rather than on Campus (61%) and encourage spin off shopping, eating and entertaining from passing visitors to local attractions (50%).

At the other end of the scale, only 1% of residents want more Green Belt used for housing, and think things are fine as they are. 3% would like more houses build than those planned by RBC.

Residents seemed to have few opinions on the type and size of houses and flats they would like to see built and whether some should be affordable.

At 25% residents would like to see more allotments, and a residents parking system. Given that not all residents are keen gardeners, and not all live in areas that are affected by parking congestion, this is possibly a significant number.

Most of the remaining numbers lie in the 20% to 50% bracket, indicating a medium strength of feeling. This includes whether there should be a purpose built new village

hall with the existing ones turned into flats, whether the doctors surgery is adequate, whether there should be more provision for various age groups.

All Questionnaire Responses

Individuals Status	Total
Resident	374
Worker	2
TOTAL	376

If you are employed, do you	Total
work in the area	83
work in a nearby area	85
work a distance away	66
TOTAL	234

Transport	Total
Car	360
Bus	43
Bicycle	84
On Foot	263
Train	107
Taxi	25
Aeroplane	16

I am	Total
At School	4
a university student	4
working	218
homemaker	20
retired	123
seeking work	7
TOTAL	376

Englefield Green Village

Respondents were asked when they think of the Village which statements, they agreed with (respondents were able to select as many statements as they wished)

When you think of the village, which of these statements do you agree with	Total
The village has no proper centre to it and I don't think it matters to keep the separate identity of the village	23
The village has a centre but I think it needs better defining to retain the villages' separate identity	183
The village is no longer a village at all but a series of housing estates and suburbs joined to Egham.	64
The village needs a long-term master plan to ensure it is developed consistently with proper amenities, a proper centre and a well-defined identity.	274
There are public Green Areas within the village and these should be kept and, where possible, increased and developed to provide amenity space for residents and/or havens for wildlife.	325
Some of the Green Areas within the village should be built on, to help provide more housing	4
Royal Holloway University of London (RHUL) is, or should be, an integral part of the village and long-term planning should take this into account	142
RHUL is a separate entity and the village should have its own identity separate from RHUL	186
We need a long-term traffic and parking plan designed to relieve us of the ever-increasing vehicular load on the village	286
We don't need a Master Plan for the Village. Things are fine as they are, possibly with a few extra policies and aspirations.	18

Surrounding Area

Thinking of the surrounding area respondents were asked which of the following statements they agreed with (respondents were able to select as many statements as they wished)

Surrounding area	
I think enough development has taken place in the Green Belt around the village, and I would be opposed to more	295
I think more areas of the Green Belt should be taken for Housing	4
I enjoy the lanes, footpaths, hedges, trees in the area surrounding the village and would not like to see any of that eroded or destroyed	351

Houses and Buildings

Thinking of the village respondents were asked which of the following statements they agreed with (respondents were able to select as many statements as they wished)

Housing and Buildings	
I think anyone should be allowed to build anything anywhere provided they follow the planning rules and obtain planning permission from Runnymede Borough Council (RBC).	21
I would like to see more houses than those planned by RBC built in the village.	12
I think that those planned by RBC are the maximum we should have	165
I think that there should be more purpose-built student accommodation built in the village (note; current Planning rules do not require Student accommodation to make provision for parking)	12
I think there is enough purpose built student accommodation in the village, and no more should be allowed	262
I think that the maximum number of new houses should be affordable housing (affordable housing is housing that is either rented out or sold by a housing association at below market rates, and is usually built within a development as part of a developers agreement with the Council, and sold to the housing association at below market rates)	72
I think RBC should provide council housing	71
I think we should encourage the building of 3 bedroom homes for families	132
I think we should build more flats for couples and singles	46
I think we should have design codes for the Area, with recommended height, type and style of any development such that it is in harmony with its surroundings	231
I don't mind when large houses are expanded or replaced with another large house as long as they follow the current planning rules	180
I think that expanding and replacing large houses is a wasted opportunity to provide flats, as long as they follow the current planning rules	13
RHUL own a substantial piece of land along the village (north) side of the A30 that they will wish to re develop in the near future. I would like to see building in this area designed to be in sympathy with the village they sit alongside	256
In respect of the RHUL land mentioned above, I would like to ensure the purpose of the buildings they choose to put on that land minimises the need for pedestrian movement across the A30.	119
In respect of the land mentioned above, I don't mind what they build on it provided it follows the current planning rules	30
I don't like new houses being built in between or in the garden of existing houses where it significantly increases the density of housing in the area, or significantly changes the character of the area	205
I don't mind where new houses are built as long as they follow the planning rules	36

Transport and Roads

Respondents were asked which of the following statements they agreed with (respondents were able to select as many statements as they wished)

Transport and roads	
I rarely or never use bus services	264
I use bus services and think their frequency and destinations satisfy my needs	39
I use bus services but think they are inadequate or inconvenient and would like to see improvements	38
I find the road or cycle track provision for bikes is inadequate and/or dangerous, and there should be provision for cycle storage/ cycle racks at locations most frequently visited, like the shopping area.	155
I find the road or cycle track provision for bikes is adequate.	42
I use a bike, an electric bike or electric scooter to do most of my local journeys	25
I will probably use a bike, an electric bike or electric scooter to do most of my local journeys if provisions are made to the road/ footpath network to make it safer and convenient	71
I use my car for most journeys	247
I would like to have a residents parking system for my road/ area even if there is a small yearly charge	94
In the narrower streets in the village, I would like to see one way systems to relieve congestion.	131
I would like to see speed limit reductions wherever the current limit is too high for safety and environmental reasons	214
I would like to see means to reduce through traffic down St Judes Road	141
I like the country lanes around the village and do not want to see them widened, rather that the increased traffic on them is restricted by sensible speed limits and the management of parking	271
The public car park in Victoria Street should be free but restricted to 2 hours for shoppers	273
I would like to see electric car charging points in the village	145
RHUL should invest in substantially more parking facilities on their main campus on the south side of the A30, and reduce parking facilities on the North side of the A30	257
RHUL should take a much more active role in ensuring that student's resident outside the village do not park in the village when visiting the Campus, and ensuring students residing on campus either have parking spaces allocated or are banned from having a car.	269
RHUL student buses perform a very useful function, but considering some of the streets they go down they should all be single-deckers	106

Environment and Leisure

In the village itself there are publicly owned and Crown owned green areas, some of which are already enjoyed by residents but many are just expanses of grass.

Respondents were asked which of the following statements they agreed with (respondents were able to select as many statements as they wished)

Environment and Leisure	
I would like to see as many green areas in the village planted with trees and/ or with provision for recreation and leisure so that residents can enjoy them	269
I would like to see as many public areas as is practically possible converted to green areas	223
Where practical, I would like to see trees and flower beds planted along St Judes Road and possibly along other roads	255
I would like more allotments	92
I would like more playing fields	68
I would like more leisure facilities established in the village	153
I would like to see more tree preservation orders in our rural areas	221
I think that Landowners should be encouraged to increase wildlife on their land and help the environment by planting trees and so on.	232
I would like to see speed limit reductions and the provision of facilities and measures that encourage people to walk, bike or bus to help reduce pollution.	227
I would like better access and interaction on leisure and entertainment with RHUL	157
I think things are fine as they are	11
I would like to see front gardens and house frontages properly maintained and provision for bin storage improved, particularly where there are absentee landlords	253

Social Amenities

Respondents were asked which of the following statements they agreed with (respondents were able to select as many statements as they wished)

Social Amenities	
I think the doctor's surgery is inadequate and they should move to a new purpose built building	165
I think there should be more provision for children's play areas	148
I think there should be more provision for younger people	158
I think there should be more provision for older people	102
I think that there should be more events bringing the residents together	218
I think we should aspire to a brand new multi purpose facility (hall, surgery café etc) and convert some of the existing halls to flats	101

Businesses and Shops

Respondents were asked which of the following statements they agreed with (respondents were able to select as many statements as they wished)

Businesses and Shops	
We need to encourage students living in the village to use the shops in the village rather than those on the RHUL campus	226
We need to make our shopping area more obvious and easier to access by passers by	205
We need to encourage spin off shopping, eating and entertaining from visitors to the regional and national attractions and monuments in our area	186
We need to promote the village as a destination rather than somewhere to pass through on the way to somewhere else	165
We don't need any of the above- let Egham be the shopping centre and let shops here close.	18
We need to plan for an industrial area and attract high end high tech high value industries	18
We need to encourage the building of work/ live units to encourage working from home	62

All Questionnaire responses sorted to show the most often selected answers first.

When you think of the village, which of these statements do you agree with	Total	% respondents agreeing with statement
I enjoy the lanes, footpaths, hedges, trees in the area surrounding the village and would not like to see any of that eroded or destroyed	351	94%
There are public Green Areas within the village and these should be kept and, where possible, increased and developed to provide amenity space for residents and/or havens for wildlife.	325	87%
I think enough development has taken place in the Green Belt around the village, and I would be opposed to more	295	79%
We need a long-term traffic and parking plan designed to relieve us of the ever-increasing vehicular load on the village	286	77%
The village needs a long-term master plan to ensure it is developed consistently with proper amenities, a proper centre and a well-defined identity.	274	73%
The public car park in Victoria Street should be free but restricted to 2 hours for shoppers	273	73%
I like the country lanes around the village and do not want to see them widened, rather that the increased traffic on them is restricted by sensible speed limits and the management of parking	271	73%
RHUL should take a much more active role in ensuring that student's resident outside the village do not park in the village when visiting the Campus, and ensuring students residing on campus either have parking spaces allocated or are banned from having a car.	269	72%
I would like to see as many green areas in the village planted with trees and/ or with provision for recreation and leisure so that residents can enjoy them	269	72%
I rarely or never use bus services	264	71%
I think there is enough purpose built student accommodation in the village, and no more should be allowed	262	70%
RHUL should invest in substantially more parking facilities on their main campus on the south side of the A30, and reduce parking facilities on the North side of the A30	257	69%
RHUL own a substantial piece of land along the village (north) side of the A30 that they will wish to re develop in the near future. I would like to see building in this area designed to be in sympathy with the village they sit alongside	256	69%
Where practical, I would like to see trees and flower beds planted along St Judes Road and possibly along other roads	255	68%

I would like to see front gardens and house frontages properly maintained and provision for bin storage improved, particularly where there are absentee landlords	253	68%
I use my car for most journeys	247	66%
I think that Landowners should be encouraged to increase wildlife on their land and help the environment by planting trees and so on.	232	62%
I think we should have design codes for the Area, with recommended height, type and style of any development such that it is in harmony with its surroundings	231	62%
I would like to see speed limit reductions and the provision of facilities and measures that encourage people to walk, bike or bus to help reduce pollution.	227	61%
We need to encourage students living in the village to use the shops in the village rather than those on the RHUL campus	226	61%
I would like to see as many public areas as is practically possible converted to green areas	223	60%
I would like to see more tree preservation orders in our rural areas	221	59%
I think that there should be more events bringing the residents together	218	58%
I would like to see speed limit reductions wherever the current limit is too high for safety and environmental reasons	214	57%
I don't like new houses being built in between or in the garden of existing houses where it significantly increases the density of housing in the area, or significantly changes the character of the area	205	55%
We need to make our shopping area more obvious and easier to access by passers by	205	55%
RHUL is a separate entity and the village should have its own identity separate from RHUL	186	50%
We need to encourage spin off shopping, eating and entertaining from visitors to the regional and national attractions and monuments in our area	186	50%
The village has a centre but I think it needs better defining to retain the villages' separate identity	183	49%
I don't mind when large houses are expanded or replaced with another large house as long as they follow the current planning rules	180	48%
I think that those planned by RBC are the maximum we should have	165	44%
I think the doctor's surgery is inadequate and they should move to a new purpose built building	165	44%
We need to promote the village as a destination rather than somewhere to pass through on the way to somewhere else	165	44%
I think there should be more provision for younger people	158	42%

I would like better access and interaction on leisure and entertainment with RHUL	157	42%
I find the road or cycle track provision for bikes is inadequate and/or dangerous, and there should be provision for cycle storage/ cycle racks at locations most frequently visited, like the shopping area.	155	42%
I would like more leisure facilities established in the village	153	41%
I think there should be more provision for children's play areas	148	40%
I would like to see electric car charging points in the village	145	39%
Royal Holloway University of London (RHUL) is, or should be, an integral part of the village and long-term planning should take this into account	142	38%
I would like to see means to reduce through traffic down St Judes Road	141	38%
I think we should encourage the building of 3 bedroom homes for families	132	35%
In the narrower streets in the village, I would like to see one way systems to relieve congestion.	131	35%
In respect of the RHUL land mentioned above, I would like to ensure the purpose of the buildings they choose to put on that land minimises the need for pedestrian movement across the A30.	119	32%
RHUL student buses perform a very useful function, but considering some of the streets they go down they should all be single-deckers	106	28%
I think there should be more provision for older people	102	27%
I think we should aspire to a brand new multi purpose facility (hall, surgery café etc) and convert some of the existing halls to flats	101	27%
I would like to have a residents parking system for my road/ area even if there is a small yearly charge	94	25%
I would like more allotments	92	25%
I think that the maximum number of new houses should be affordable housing (affordable housing is housing that is either rented out or sold by a housing association at below market rates, and is usually built within a development as part of a developers agreement with the Council, and sold to the housing association at below market rates)	72	19%
I think RBC should provide council housing	71	19%
I will probably use a bike, an electric bike or electric scooter to do most of my local journeys if provisions are made to the road/ footpath network to make it safer and convenient	71	19%
I would like more playing fields	68	18%
The village is no longer a village at all but a series of housing estates and suburbs joined to Egham.	64	17%
We need to encourage the building of work/ live units to encourage working from home	62	17%

I think we should build more flats for couples and singles	46	12%
I find the road or cycle track provision for bikes is adequate.	42	11%
I use bus services and think their frequency and destinations satisfy my needs	39	10%
I use bus services but think they are inadequate or inconvenient and would like to see improvements	38	10%
I don't mind where new houses are built as long as they follow the planning rules	36	10%
In respect of the land mentioned above, I don't mind what they build on it provided it follows the current planning rules	30	8%
I use a bike, an electric bike or electric scooter to do most of my local journeys	25	7%
The village has no proper centre to it and I don't think it matters to keep the separate identity of the village	23	6%
I think anyone should be allowed to build anything anywhere provided they follow the planning rules and obtain planning permission from Runnymede Borough Council (RBC).	21	6%
We don't need a Master Plan for the Village. Things are fine as they are, possibly with a few extra policies and aspirations.	18	5%
We don't need any of the above- let Egham be the shopping centre and let shops here close.	18	5%
We need to plan for an industrial area and attract high end high tech high value industries	18	5%
I think that expanding and replacing large houses is a wasted opportunity to provide flats, as long as they follow the current planning rules	13	3%
I would like to see more houses than those planned by RBC built in the village.	12	3%
I think that there should be more purpose-built student accommodation built in the village (note; current Planning rules do not require Student accommodation to make provision for parking)	12	3%
I think things are fine as they are	11	3%
Some of the Green Areas within the village should be built on, to help provide more housing	4	1%
I think more areas of the Green Belt should be taken for Housing	4	1%

Business Questionnaire and Responses

1. Introduction

All known Englefield Green businesses were contacted, around 50 in number. The Business Questionnaire was conducted face to face, with 13 businesses providing feedback. 10 of the responders were owners and 3 were employees. In total, the businesses employ 53 people, with 26 of these resident in Englefield Green. It should be noted that the survey was conducted in quarter 2 of 2020 during the early severe Covid lockdown. This led to some difficulty in obtaining responses.

All businesses stated that the Englefield Green location was important to their business and all are hoping to grow in Englefield Green.

When asked whether the businesses were able to cost effectively fill job vacancies, there were 7 positive responses and 2 negative responses.

When asked “which physical changes do you think would improve your business or business in general” 9 of 13 responded with a ‘Well defined village centre. Better branding of the village’

4 of 13 felt better free parking for them and their customers was important.

4 of 13 felt there should be more opportunities to build shops.

1 out of 13 said making the business rates and rents more competitive compared to surrounding areas.

2 out of 13 said ‘Attracting more passers-by to shop and entertain’ and ‘Persuading more residents to use local facilities’.

When asked to add some points that would help your business and/or other businesses thrive in Englefield Green, 3 responded with ‘Better employee and customer parking’, 1 responded with ‘Free parking’ and 1 responded with ‘Better Branding’.

2. Questionnaire and Analysis

	Questions	Answers	% Agreed
1	Are you an Owner/Employee	Owner/Employee	77/23%
2	How many people are employed in your business	1..9, with a total of 53 employed, across all businesses	
3	How many employees live in the Englefield Green Village Forum Area	26	49%
4	Is being in this location important	yes	100%
5	Are you hoping to grow your business here: Yes/No	2/1	92/8%
6	Are you able to fill job vacancies easily and cost effectively? Yes/No/Not Applicable	7/2/4	54/15/31%
7	Which of these following physical changes do you think would improve your business or business in general:		92%
7.1	More opportunities to build shops and/or work/live units	1	7.5%
7.2	Better customer and/or employee parking near your business	3	23%
7.3	Well defined village centre. Better branding of village.	8	60%
8	Which is the better type of on street parking for you and your customers: Free; 1hr Free; 2 hr Free; Metered; NA	4/1/2/4	100%
9	My business would do better if there was a way of:		77%
9.1	Making the business rates and rents more competitive compared to surrounding areas	1	7.5%
9.2	Attracting more passers by to shop and entertain	2	15%

9.3	Persuading more residents to use local facilities	2	15%
9.4	More opportunities to build shops	5	38%
10	Please add some points that would help your business and/or other businesses thrive in Englefield Green:		38%
10.1	Better parking	1	7.5%
10.2	Better employee and customer parking	3	23%
10.3	Better village branding	1	7.5%