

RUNNYMEDE WARD PROPOSALS

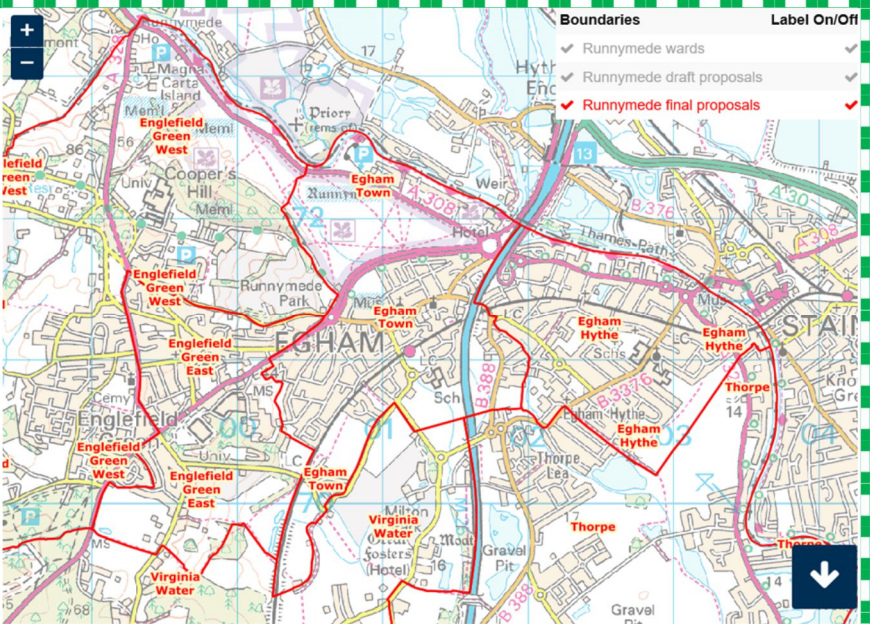
Victory & common sense prevailed! The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) issued their final recommendations for RBC ward arrangements on 4th September & we significantly changed their minds so as to revert to the old Egham Town ward outline - see map.

The work that ERA did to save the Egham Town ward boundary demonstrates the Residents Association functioning at its best. There was strong leadership from Chris Fisher, our Vice-Chairman, backed by input from Committee members.

Our Egham Independent Councillors also made a strong case for keeping Egham as a single entity, firstly to RBC & then to LGBCE. In addition, efficient delivery of 2 separate leaflets to households was made possible by ERA's Area Reps & their helpers. Contact was also made with Englefield Green Village Residents Association (EGVRA) & with an Egham Hythe Councillor to get their involvement.

Crucially, over 100 residents & local groups wrote to the LGBCE, providing the "strong, well-evidenced objections" to their draft recommendations & the concerns for Egham's, Englefield Green's & Egham Hythe's community identities, all of which had been threatened. The ERA is at its best & most effective when we work together in this way, for the good of our Town, & we should all be proud of the outcome.

These decisions should come into effect for the local election in May 2019, when all 41 RBC Councillors (not just the normal 1/3) will come up for election. These LGBCE recommendations are also subject to the agreement by the House of Commons to a Parliamentary order.



PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

The final recommendations of the associated Boundary Commission (BC) on Parliamentary constituencies were presented to Government on 5th September & were published on 10th September, when the Government presents them to Parliament. Given that this is a good example of "turkeys voting for Christmas", the timing of the Parliamentary vote on this reduction of UK constituencies from 650 to 600 is uncertain?

You will recall that back in 9/16 the BC's initial proposal was to amend the Runnymede & Weybridge constituency by losing Chertsey (to Spelthorne) & gaining Byfleet (from Woking), which was then changed to their 2nd proposal of losing Thorpe (to Spelthorne) & gaining Hersham (from Esher & Walton) - the final recommendations from the BC is to support their 2nd proposal (despite objections from Thorpe), which we consider a bad decision as Thorpe has no community relationship with Spelthorne across the river. It should be noted that such a change in the Parliamentary constituency does not affect their local government rights to remain in Runnymede.

In February 2016, the BC announced a new review of Parliamentary constituencies in England - called the 2018 review. Parliament specified that the 2018 Review must reduce the number of constituencies, and therefore MPs, in the UK to 600 (from 650). The Government has thus laid the report in Parliament, before introducing a Statutory Instrument containing those recommendations & Parliament will debate the changes. If Parliament agrees the boundary change, the new constituencies will take effect at the next scheduled General Election in 2022.



CONSERVATION AREAS & LISTED BUILDING REVIEWS



Following the award of Government-sponsored design quality funding for 2 years, RBC have appointed Purcell consultants to review the Borough's main Conservation Areas (Egham

Town Centre (designated in 1993), Chertsey & Egham Hythe) & the list of locally listed buildings.

We offered some comments on the Egham Town Centre Conservation Area by the 14th September & comments on Chertsey Town Centre & Egham Hythe Conservation Areas are due by 7th December. It is envisaged the remaining conservation areas (Basingstoke Canal, Englefield Green, Thorpe and Wey Navigation) will be reviewed in 2019. A consultation event will be held by the consultants in the relevant areas & individuals will be welcome to attend to give feedback on the draft conservation area work.

Nominations for locally listed buildings across the Borough should be received by 30th November. If you know of any buildings/structures that are worthy of consideration, please complete the nomination form, obtainable on www.runnymede.gov.uk/article/16182/Conservation-Area-Reviews-2018-19, providing the relevant supporting material & send it to planningpolicy@runnymede.gov.uk.

Runnymede 2030 Draft Local Plan Consultation

At the Special Full Council meeting of 30th July, the Runnymede 2030 Local Plan was endorsed as sound & approved for submission to the Secretary of State alongside the minor modifications schedule. All submission documents and supporting submission documents can be viewed via <https://runnymede.gov.uk/article/16139/Runnymede-2030-Submission-Local-Plan>.

A Planning Inspector; Ms Mary Travers, has now been appointed to undertake an independent examination into the Runnymede 2030 Local Plan & her task is to consider the soundness of the Plan, based on the criteria set out in paragraph 182 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The Inspector will take into account the representations already submitted upon the Plan as far as they relate to soundness considerations. A number of informal debates will take place on the principal matters identified by the Inspector (these are termed Hearing Sessions). Following the closure of the Examination, the Inspector will prepare a report to RBC with precise recommendations, which may include necessary modifications to the Plan.

Further information & guidance from the Inspector will be available in due course. Any queries people may have regarding the Examination process should be directed to the Programme Officer (Charlotte Glancy of Banks Solutions) who manages the administrative and procedural matters of the examination process and acts as a liaison between RBC, the Inspector and participants in the examination. She is happy to assist & can be contacted on: c/o Banks Solutions, 80 Lavinia Way, East Preston, West Sussex, BN16 1DD or email: bankssolutionsuk@gmail.com or telephone: 07519 628064 or 01903 776601.

EGHAM GATEWAY WEST

John Rice, RBC Project Director, is now concluding the final negotiations with the cinema operator/main tenant (likely to be Everyman Cinema), as the choice of operator and their installation requirements will make a material difference to the design & layout of the development.

Alternative layouts are being considered to provide more residential accommodation and reducing the accommodation for students.

Also, the massing of the development has been reduced by losing one of the proposed blocks located behind 8 Station Road North & this will be replaced by car parking for residents of the development.

RBC are to go back out for consultation in October/November this year to seek further comments on the proposals and design prior to finalising the design and related information for a planning application before the end of the year.



MILTON PARK GRAVEL

In another move of delay, which sees them closer to a decade of indecision, SCC have now announced that their Planning & Regulatory Committee review of Hanson's application for gravel extraction at Milton Park Farm has moved to 21st November (or such later date as they deem acceptable).



EGHAM ROYAL SHOW 25th & 26th August

The ERA stall at the 160th Egham Royal Show over the August Bank Holiday weekend was located near the prime entrance - see opposite.

The event had good footfall on Saturday (with the very large number of cakes (80) sold during the day) but Sunday was a wash-out due to constant rain & all the commercial stalls left early in the afternoon. Nevertheless, many thanks to those that helped man/woman the stall during the 2 days.

The annual Barn Dance was again a success with a large turnout & over £200 made on the raffle. This emphasises that this Dance, now in its 18th year, is a well-established local event & one of the mainstays of the ERS. Thanks go to our continuing sponsors, Chivers Cladding, Proctor & Gamble and Aviation Logistics Network. Thanks also go to the Pearcey family, who have been co-ordinating this Dance since the beginning, & significantly contribute to one of the ERA's biggest annual fundraising events.



This revitalised charity event, whereby ERA paid for the Church hall on behalf of local charities, was a great opportunity to find out what was happening in the local area.

Despite the inclement weather, the 12 stalls of charities & local groups at the event saw a very good turnout, especially until lunchtime. The "Great Egham Bake Off" competition saw plenty of children's cakes & cookies on display, which were judged at 12 noon by the Head Chef from the Barley Mow in Englefield Green. A Grand Prize Draw also had most of the generous, donated prizes from local businesses won by the raffle ticket purchasers.

A juggler/magician (on stilts) kept most of the audience entertained throughout the event & the United Church coffee morning was also busier than normal.

Thanks go to Susan Kelleher for her organising of this revamped community event & to those who helped during the day (plus before & after for set-up & taking down at the United Church).

EGHAM CHRISTMAS FAIR (8th December)

The Egham Chamber of Commerce are again organising a Christmas Fair in the High Street on Saturday 8th December **from 11.00 to 16.00**. As last year a range of stalls selling food, drinks & gifts are expected plus a Santa's Grotto, carol singing & fairground rides plus there will be an ERA stall.

Contact Cynthia Reilly on 01784 431019 or cr@kseakens.co.uk

Christmas Fair



EGHAM CHORAL @ CHRISTMAS (15th December)

Egham Choral is a friendly & busy traditional choral society & they are always looking for new singers. They meet on Monday evenings @ 7.30pm at the United Church of Egham & offer reduced membership fees for students. All voices very welcome & there are no auditions. For further details please contact chairman@eghamchoral.org.

Their Christmas Concert will take place at St. Jude's Church, Englefield Green, TW20 0BZ on Saturday, 15th December at 7.30pm. Mulled wine & mince pies will be available. The programme features choruses from Vivaldi's Gloria & a variety of traditional and modern carols, some with audience participation. Tickets will be available one month before the concert & can be purchased via email on tickets@eghamchoral.org, by phone on 07508 320348 or at the door - subject to availability.



Alerts on issues that arose between Newsletters this quarter covered :

- a) 22/7 Egham Classic Vehicle Show (28/7)
- b) 7/8 Thorpe War Charity Events (1/9)
- c) 8/8 Waitrose carpark sewage leak
- d) 20/8 ERA Barn Dance (25/8)
- e) 20/8 ERA ERS Stall - Cake Bakers
- f) 2/9 Station Road Closure (from 21/9)
- g) 4/9 LGBCE recommendations on RBC wards
- h) 5/9 Egham Gateway West status
- i) 5/9 Traveller Incursions
- j) 17/9 ERA Community Charity Fair (22/9)
- k) 25/9 Station Road Closure Suspension

Contact Glenda Thisdell on 07905 917440 or glendathisdell@eghamresidentsassociation.co.uk to be sent email alerts

RUNNYMEDE ROUNDABOUT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The SCC main contractor, Buckingham Group, began construction work on Runnymede Roundabout on 9th July 2017 & the new roundabout has been fully operational from the 24th August 2018. The majority of work was completed earlier (by mid-July) but a section of the concrete along the central reservation on the A308 (The Glanty) had to be replaced. To be able to undertake these works safely both the new loop & one lane of the A308 heading towards Staines remained closed off to traffic until the new concrete was cured.

The general response to the new roundabout has been positive with traffic flow improving & the new traffic lights making the journey safer.

We are always on the lookout for new, keen Committee members who can contribute to our activities in the Town & beyond - especially if you are of a younger variety?



If you want to be more involved in taking care of the Town, please speak to any member of the ERA Committee. They meet once a month for about 2hrs (except for August & December) & covers a wide range of functions - see opposite. Come along & see us before getting officially voted in at the next AGM in February. If you are interested, please contact our Secretary, Adrian Skelt, on 07956 875329.



FACEBOOK CO-ORDINATOR

Our current Facebook co-ordinator (Leah Robson) does not have enough time to keep the EghamRA page up to date & the content is now looking jaded. If anyone who is a whizz with Facebook technology, & wishes to takeover our ERA co-ordination, then please contact Isabel Mullens on 01784 439583.



ERA COMMITTEE

Chairman	Jim Pearcey	432805
Vice-Chairman (& Planning Co-ordinator)	Chris Fisher	07837 782012
Secretary	Adrian Skelt	07956 875329
Treasurer	Aneesh Gupta	07915 612291
Membership Secretary	Glenda Thisdell	07905 917440
Webmaster (& Data Protection Officer)	Stephen Williams	07876 573660
Other Members	Graham Basset	07710 841510
	Bill Bessant	07775 333396
	Susan Kelleher	07760 160261
	Patrick Macavoy	07912 425826
	Isabel Mullens	439583
	Cynthia Reilly	07790 273225
	Julian Richardson	07927 661485
	Monica Whynot	433132
	Ed Winslet	07916 201715
	Social Media Co-ordinators	
	Leah Robson (Facebook)	07812 084868
	Isabel Mullens (Twitter)	439583

Runnymede Borough Councillors

Alan Alderson	07873 441638
John Ashmore	432819
David Knight	07854 843239

Surrey County Councillors

Marisa Heath	07971 666317
Yvonna Lay	457170

Website : www.eghamresidentsassociation.co.uk

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