



Royal Holloway & Runnymede Consultative Group

MINUTES

Tuesday 21 March 2023

Meeting held via MS Teams

Royal Holloway: Tracy Bhamra, Deputy Principal and Senior Vice-Principal (Chair), Mike Berry, Director of Estates, Helen Groenendaal, Head of Wellbeing, Academic Services, Sarah Ixer-Pitfield, Head of PR and Media, Samantha Daynes, PR and Media Manager and Michèle Morrison, Marketing and Communications Administrator

Councillors: Cllr Marisa Heath, Cllr Isabel Mullens, Cllr Sian Williams

Environmental Health: Aileen Baker

Residents' Associations: Karen Scollick, Englefield Green Village Resident's Association, Willy Burgess, Egham Residents Association

Surrey Police: Inspector James Wyatt

Apologies:

- Cllr Andrea Berardi
- Cllr Margaret Harnden
- Cllr Abby King
- Cllr Sam Jenkins
- Max Ross, Chief Operations Officer - Royal Holloway Students' Union

1. Welcome & introductions

The group thanked Christine Welsh, Englefield Green Village Resident's Association, Chris Fisher, Egham Residents Association and Stephen Hodgkinson, Neighbourhood Watch for their contributions to the group.

The group welcomed new members Karen Scollick, Englefield Green Village Resident's Association and Willy Burgess, Egham Residents Association.

2. Minutes and actions from the previous meeting

It was agreed that the minutes of the last meeting in November 2022, were a true and accurate record.

The action for Cllr Andrea Berardi to share details of the South Road vegetation concerns so this can be addressed will be carried over to the next meeting.

All other actions were completed.

3. Receive updates on areas of mutual interest

- **RBC**

Cllr Williams thanked Environmental Health for a quick response regarding reports of noise and refuse. Advised that Cllr Jenkins is following up with Police with regards to reports of car racing in Ripley Avenue.

- **EGVRA**

Karen Scollick reported that at the very recent EGVRA AGM various projects were discussed. With a number of membership changes, including committee members, Chair and VC it was not possible to provide further update at this meeting. Karen referenced a number of social events, including the Coronation event and Summer fayre and welcomed university involvement in the upcoming events.

ACTION: Karen to send details to Sarah Ixer-Pitfield, to communicate to students and staff.

- **Egham Residents' Association**

Willy Burgess reported that they had their AGM last month. He is the new Chair, but the rest of the committee remains the same. Willy asked for clarification about the Memorandum of Understanding, comprised of Royal Holloway, Surrey Police and the Council.

ACTION: Inspector Wyatt to send a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding to Willy.

- **Environmental Health**

Aileen Baker thanked Cllr Williams and Helen Groenendaal for their support. Over the academic year (from September to date), there have been 33 noise complaints made to Environmental Health, with no formal action needed.

Aileen reported that complaints have been going to the university rather than to them. It's important that residents are aware that they need to contact the Environmental Health team for noise-related issues.

ACTION: The residents' associations EGVRA and ERA to include a message in their newsletters to reaffirm the need for residents to contact Environmental Health around noise issues.

- **Surrey Police**

Inspector James Wyatt provided the following statistics (data as it stood on 21 March 2023):

- Crime in Runnymede:

- Total Offences: -3.5% (-199)
- Solved: 14.5%
- Burglary: -39% (-90 offences)
- Anti-Social Behaviour:
 - This Year: 30 Reports
 - Last Year: 24 Reports
 - 10 location visits, giving verbal warnings to all tenants.
 - 10 ASB level 3 Warning letters

• Area/Location (FYTD)	ASB Reports FYTD 20/21	ASB Reports FYTD 21/22	ASB Reports FYTD 22/23
Egham	245	192	147
Englefield Green	286	209	150

Data: FYTD

Insp Wyatt reported on the new [Street Safe](#) tool. This is a service for anyone to anonymously tell the police about public places where they have felt or feel unsafe, because of environmental issues like street lighting, abandoned buildings, vandalism or because of being followed or verbally abused. 146 reports have been received, with dedicated patrols to try and improve those areas.

- **Royal Holloway – Estates**

Mike Berry reported on four projects:

- Rusham Park – demolition largely completed, with hoarding in place. Construction planned to be contracted towards the end of the calendar year.
- Piggery Gate access – the University is working with Surrey Highways to make the gate it accessible and provide another means of entry to the campus. Subject to consultation.
- Chestnut Building work will start on bringing this building back to academic use and letters will be sent out shortly to residents in the immediate area.
- Omnidrome facility – the grey structure, which is well hidden behind trees on campus will be usable from May onwards.

- **Royal Holloway – Student Wellbeing and Volunteering**

See report in Appendix A.

Helen Groenendaal updated on wellbeing and volunteering activity including:

- A donation of £2,000 to the local food bank from the collections from the Chaplaincy Christmas services.
- An event to celebrate 20 years of volunteering at Royal Holloway was held in February.
- The team is in the process of recruiting a new Community Support coordinator

- The team is planning for the next academic year and welcomes feedback on the Be A Good Neighbour guide; please contact via email address – community@rhul.ac.uk
- New to the report is a summary of the civic engagement projects the university is leading or supporting.

Cllr Williams provided positive feedback about student volunteers and asked about a member of the volunteering team to get in touch with regards to the Egham town team.

ACTION: Helen to put Cllr Williams in touch with the volunteering team.

4. Results from the meeting format questionnaire

Sarah Ixer-Pitfield thanked everyone for completing the questionnaire.

The following was agreed:

- We will have a mix of in person and online meetings.
- The June meeting will be in person with a new 5.30pm start time for the meetings going forward.
- Meetings will continue to be held on a Tuesday.
- Location: To alternate between RBC and Royal Holloway, with Royal Holloway hosting the first in person meeting in June.
- The SU President to be invited to attend.

5. AOB

The next [community call-in session](#) will be on Tuesday 16 May 2023. The next forum meeting will be held on **Tuesday 13 June at 5.30pm** in person in the Principal's Meeting Room in Founder's Building at Royal Holloway.

ACTIONS LIST

	Action	Owner
1	Andrea Berardi to share details of the South Road vegetation concerns so this can be addressed.	Andrea Berardi
2	Karen Scollick to send details of local events to Sarah Ixer-Pitfield, to communicate to staff and students	Karen Scollick
3	Inspector Wyatt to send a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding to Willy Burgess.	Insp Wyatt
4	The residents' associations EGVRA and ERA to include a message in their newsletters to reaffirm the need for residents to contact Environmental Health around noise issues.	Karen Scollick and Willy Burgess
5	Helen Groenendaal to put Cllr Williams in touch with the volunteering team.	Helen Groenendaal