

Dining on the Green

The dining on the Green scheme has been a big success and very popular. We want to support the businesses' ability to trade more effectively in lockdown but it should be remembered that it doesn't benefit all the businesses and also many residents who live on and near the Green. The negative impact on the Green itself environmentally and from a heritage perspective has been considerable.

Discussions about the changes to be made to the Green have been ongoing over the last year. The WHRA were not actively included in these discussions and we have kindly been included into the discussions with Cllr Barry and Cllr Alexandrou's help. Our councillors haven't been included by Enfield in this process either in the way they should be as councillors.

Late last year there was a decision made by Enfield that the cost of changes that were necessary as part of making the scheme permanent were to fall to the businesses that have benefitted. It seemed clear that if they were not willing to meet this cost then the road would be reopened.

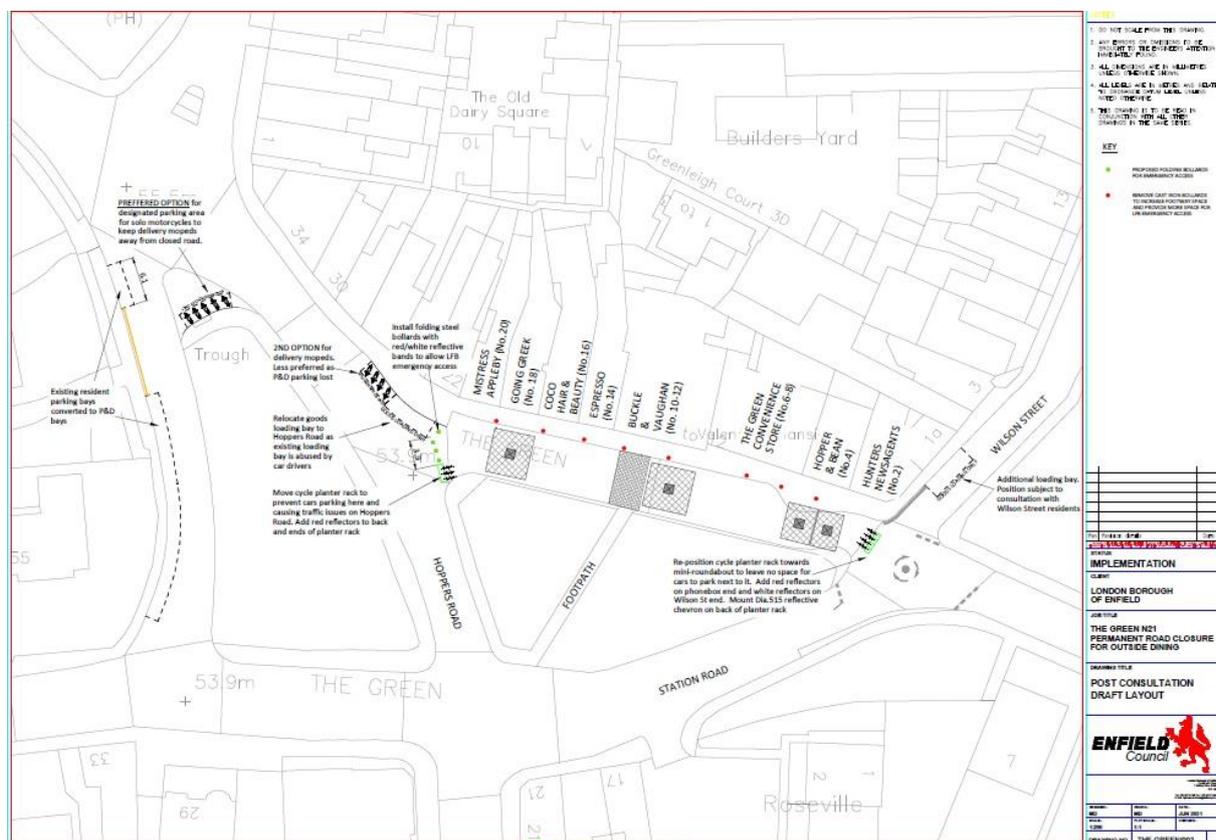
Asking and getting money from the businesses for the changes we felt would compromise the decision making in terms of how it was used. We do feel however that some of the food businesses have done very well out of this (not all food businesses and not all businesses) and that arguably they should contribute financially to maintain what is a significant amount of extra space for customers that they now have.

The details of these discussions with the businesses have not been made available and we think this information is in the public domain but what is clear is that the scheme was made permanent in January so we assume some or all of the money requested was paid.

The council rushed through the process of this with the deadline looming with the publishing of the necessary information and traffic orders etc in local newspapers. This rush meant that our councillors were not fully briefed, and they rightly felt further consultation was necessary before these changes came into force.

Here is the plan (you can zoom in to see more detail or access the original pdf below)

<https://whresidents.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Plan-for-changes-to-the-Green-post-scheme-being-made-permanent.pdf>



Here is a summary of what is proposed:

- Bike stands at the top of the Green near Mistress Appleby and Going Greek to be moved out and next to the kerb with the space

created to the left of these as you look from the road to be folding bollards for emergency access.

- Mopeds can only park in a designated space which is currently proposed as being on the cobbles at the top of the triangle near the roundabout.
- Loading bay to be relocated to outside the Larder
- Cast iron bollards on the pavement edge to be removed to provide better pedestrian access and for emergency service access
- Bike stands outside Hunters to be moved out to remove pull in that has been created currently.
- Loading bay in Wilson Street.
- The parking bays at the top of the Green by Uplands Court will change from residents parking to pay and display.

We are pleased that Enfield have recognised and can now design out and enforce the parking of cars front in on the loading bay at the top of the Green and also at the bottom of the Green outside Hunters.

We think the change to pay and display of the parking is a good change to replace some of the parking that was available to people visiting the shops and restaurants when the slip road was open.

While we accept that the mopeds need to be moved we absolutely don't accept that the best place for them is on the cobbles at the top of the Green.

This is a heritage space and in front of the trough that we believe will end up as an ashtray. There should be a space allocated for motorcycles in the section of new pay and display

This has been made clear to the council but they are reluctant to consider this presumably as they would lose a pay and display space but we want to put pressure on them to do this and we will be asking for the help of all of our members if they agree with us that this is the right place for the mopeds to be.

If we don't do this then I think we will always regret not trying harder to have changed Enfields mind and part of the appeal of the Green and the way it looks will be changed forever.

Enfield has promised based on pressure from our councillors to put the parking and other decisions out to consultation to residents. The timing and nature of this consultation isn't clear at the moment but we will be in contact with all our members when we have this information.