

Report title	Events on the Green
Report author	Shaun Barnes, DSO Manager
Department	Direct Services Organisation, Environmental Services
Exempt?	No
Exemption type	Not applicable
Reasons for exemption	Not applicable

Purpose of report:

To resolve

Synopsis of report:

To ask the Committee to consider four events proposed to take place on the Green in 2024

Recommendation(s):

The Committee consider applications to hire Englefield Green for the events below to and resolve sequentially as follows -

If Committee Members would approve the events for the dates proposed:

- i) Runnymede Classic Car Show – 18 August 2024**
- ii) Downs Steam Fair – 16 – 18 August 2024**
- iii) Englefield Green Cricket Club Sponsors’ Day – 14 July 2024**
- iv) Englefield Green Cricket Club President’s Day – 25 August 2024**

If both event i) and event ii) are acceptable to the Committee Members, to instruct Officers:

- v) which is the preferred event.**

1. Context and background of report

1.1 To review applications for the hire of Englefield Green for the purpose of holding events.

2. Report and, where applicable, options considered and recommended

2.1 At a previous Committee meeting on 9 April, the Committee considered six applications for events to be held on Englefield Green. The Committee agreed three

events (an Easter Egg Hunt, the annual village fair and one funfair) could take place and rejected three events (a circus, a fun fair and a vintage fairground).

2.2 The Council has received four more applications to hire Englefield Green for the purposes of holding events. The event application forms are included in the Appendices.

i) Runnymede Classic Car Show – 18 August 2024

- a) The Runnymede Classic Car Show is an annual event (except for 2023) which raises money for charity. All profits from this year's Runnymede Classic car Show go to local charities including Runnymede food banks.
- b) The car show usually takes place on Runnymede Meadows and Officers agreed the application to hire Runnymede Meadows for the 2024 event. However, after permission was given to the organiser, it was discovered that we would not be able to get the hay cut on Runnymede Meadows before the event. The event was therefore unfortunately cancelled.
- c) The event organiser has now requested to move the event to Englefield Green village green keeping the original 18th August date. There are a number of classic car shows across the southeast and owners of classic cars typically attend several shows. The requested date is one of only a few dates available and the organisers have explained that if they are not successful in their application for Englefield Green on 18th August the Runnymede Classic Car Show for 2024 may have to be cancelled.

ii) Downs Steam Fair – 16 - 18 August 2024

- a) This vintage funfair proposes to come onto the Green on 12 August, operate the vintage fairground from 16 to 18 August, then depart on 19 August.
- b) They will have vintage (ranging from the late 1890s until the 1960s) funfair rides and attractions. They do not propose to serve alcohol but will be selling candy floss and confectionery.
- c) Please note that the application from the Runnymede Classic Car Show (see paragraph 2.3 above) for a charity fundraising event is for one of the same days applied for by the Steam Fair.

iii) Englefield Green Cricket Club Sponsors' Day – 14 July 2024

- a) The cricket club propose to hold an event which includes cricket and both live and recorded music. Food will be served by the pavilion from a food truck and alcohol will be sold from the cricket club bar. There will not be any fairground rides or inflatables.
- b) This event is similar to the one discussed at the committee meeting on 21 May and is outside of the club's usual agreement to play cricket.

iv) Englefield Green Cricket Club President's Day – 25 August 2024

- a) The cricket club propose to hold an event which includes cricket and both live and recorded music. Food will be served by the pavilion from a food vendor and alcohol will be sold from the cricket club bar. There will not be any fairground rides or inflatables.

- b) This event is similar to the one discussed at the committee meeting on 21 May and is outside of the club's usual agreement to play cricket.

3. Policy framework implications

- 3.1 Not applicable.

4. Resource implications/Value for Money

- 4.1 All event income is added to Englefield Green earmarked reserves. -

5. Legal implications

- 5.1 If the events involve the erection or setting up of any 'booth, tent or any other erection whether temporary or otherwise' the lease of the Englefield Green requires that consent to do so in the form of a 'licence in writing' to do so must first be obtained by the officers managing the event from the landlord, the Crown Estate.
- 5.2 As in previous years, the Council's standard Terms and Conditions of Hire of Open Spaces will govern the temporary non-exclusive occupation of the Englefield Green by the various fairs for the purpose of these events. These must be signed by the event organisers before the event proceeds. No interest in land (i.e. underleases) will be created by them.

6. Equality implications

- 6.1 The Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (as amended) which provides that we must have due regard to the need to;
- a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act;
 - b) to advance equality of opportunity;
 - c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share protected characteristics.
- 6.2 While there is little information regarding the proposed events to determine what impact it may have on anyone with a protected characteristic, it is considered that the proposed events may have a positive impact generally on people in the local area who may wish to take part.

7. Environmental/Sustainability/Biodiversity implications

- 7.2 There are potential negative environmental effects to the overuse of the green for events although this should be balanced with the positive social benefits.

8. Risk Implications

- 8.1 There are potential negative environmental effects to the overuse of the Green for events, especially where heavy vehicles are involved.
- 8.2 If Members agree to approve any application to hold events, the organisers will be required to sign a letter of agreement in advance, in which they agree to be bound by the Council's terms and conditions for the hire of open spaces, which were updated in December 2023.

- a. Section 15 of the terms and conditions require the Operator to reinstate any damage their event has caused to the Green.
- b. Section 7 of the terms and conditions of hire open spaces require event organisers to provide the Council with documentary proof that they have adequate public liability insurance in place for the duration of the hire.
- c. The terms and conditions of hire of open spaces can be found on the [Council's website](#).

9. Other implications

9.1 Not applicable.

10. Timetable for Implementation

10.1 The first event, the cricket club's Sponsors' Day is proposed to take place on 14 July.

11. Conclusions

11.1 The proposed events will offer social benefits to local people. The Green is in a location desired by funfairs and steam fairs, although there are practical problems associated with hosting them because of potential damage to the Green caused by heavy lorries.

12. Background papers

None

13. Appendices

- A. Runnymede Classic Car Show – 18 August – Application form with personal details redacted.
- B. Down's Steam Fair – 12 – 19 August – Application form with personal details redacted.
- C. Englefield Green Cricket Club Sponsors' Day – 14 July 2024 – Application form with personal details redacted.
- D. Englefield Green Cricket Club President's Day – 25 August 2024 – Application form with personal details redacted.