

Shepherds Bush Common Improvement Project

Tell us what you think about improvement proposals for Shepherds Bush Common

Overview

From **23/01/2008** to **31/01/2008**, London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham ran a consultation entitled '*Shepherds Bush Common Improvement Project*'. This report covers the online element of the consultation process, which was run from <http://www.citizenspace.com/local/lbhf/ShepherdsBush>

Topic 1: About the improvement proposals

Q1: How do you rate the following elements?

Boulevards around the perimeter		
Rating	Value	Percentage
Very Good	75	53%
Good	31	21%
Satisfactory	13	9%
Poor	5	3%
Very poor	8	5%
Don't know	9	6%

Pedestrian path network within the Common		
Rating	Value	Percentage
Very Good	74	52%
Good	30	21%
Satisfactory	16	11%
Poor	5	3%
Very poor	8	5%
Don't know	8	5%

Cycle paths		
Rating	Value	Percentage
Very Good	63	44%
Good	32	22%
Satisfactory	11	7%
Poor	6	4%
Very poor	12	8%
Don't know	17	12%

Raised grass area and steps		
Rating	Value	Percentage
Very Good	66	46%
Good	28	19%
Satisfactory	15	10%
Poor	6	4%
Very poor	11	7%
Don't know	15	10%

Extent and location of toddlers play (1-4 years)		
Rating	Value	Percentage
Very Good	60	42%
Good	29	20%
Satisfactory	13	9%
Poor	10	7%
Very poor	10	7%
Don't know	19	13%

Extent and location of young children's play (5-8 years)		
Rating	Value	Percentage
Very Good	60	42%
Good	32	22%
Satisfactory	15	10%
Poor	8	5%
Very poor	10	7%
Don't know	16	11%

Extent and location of older children and teenagers play		
Rating	Value	Percentage
Very Good	58	41%
Good	28	19%
Satisfactory	12	8%
Poor	9	6%
Very poor	14	9%
Don't know	20	14%

Setting of the war memorial		
Rating	Value	Percentage
Very Good	64	45%
Good	36	25%
Satisfactory	10	7%
Poor	5	3%
Very poor	12	8%
Don't know	14	9%

Plaza at eastern end		
Rating	Value	Percentage

Very Good	63	44%
Good	39	27%
Satisfactory	12	8%
Poor	5	3%
Very poor	8	5%
Don't know	14	9%

Events space		
Rating	Value	Percentage
Very Good	64	45%
Good	30	21%
Satisfactory	12	8%
Poor	6	4%
Very poor	9	6%
Don't know	20	14%

Tree planting and removal		
Rating	Value	Percentage
Very Good	64	45%
Good	28	19%
Satisfactory	15	10%
Poor	5	3%
Very poor	14	9%
Don't know	15	10%

Cafe and outdoor seating area		
Rating	Value	Percentage
Very Good	76	53%
Good	21	14%
Satisfactory	14	9%
Poor	6	4%
Very poor	12	8%
Don't know	12	8%

Public toilets		
Rating	Value	Percentage
Very Good	78	55%
Good	24	17%
Satisfactory	7	4%

Poor	6	4%
Very poor	12	8%
Don't know	14	9%

Provision for dogs		
Rating	Value	Percentage
Very Good	50	35%
Good	26	18%
Satisfactory	15	10%
Poor	12	8%
Very poor	26	18%
Don't know	12	8%

Q2: Are there any other comments that you wish to add?

There are 137 responses to this question. Please see Appendix A for the text of these responses.

Appendix A

Are there any other comments that you wish to add?

1. I hope Shepherds Bush Central Line station doesn't close from 2nd Feb-October
2. Skate park is a good idea
3. Cycle paths-keep the fuckers of the pavement Dogs are not for life or Christmas! Only encourage Chavs too. Overall looks like an improvement. Now get surrounding shopkeepers in surrounding roads to do the same. Get them to replace the shite they've currently got with subtle design shopfronts (Get professional designers to advise them, don't leave the shopowners to decide or you'll end up with the same old shite).The only other improvement to your designs for the Shepherds Bush Green would be to include Queens Park Rangers New Football Ground shack in the middle of it.
4. keep railing for the memorial or you will get drunks sitting on the steps
5. boulevards around the perimeter - pointless Setting of the war memorial - pointless Skate park is a bad idea - it will encourage gang beghaviour. A cafe - doesn't Shepherds Bush have plenty round the green already.
6. I have concerns about dogs being mixed with children - problems of dog excreta and beligerent dogs
7. I found the end of the park will be dangerous for pedestrians as you still allowing the buses to use that turn (very dangerous)
8. The lunatics have taken over the asylum
9. I would prefer no bikes as they are dangerous, law unto themselves
10. Ban dogs from Common
11. 1. There needs to be a lot of tree planting on the other sides of the road around the green, to green up the entire space 2. There need to be better crossing facilities on to the green. Several wide, raised, non tarmac crossings at kerb height would make the green feel more connected to its surroundings. Perhaps covered with a material that looks similar to the pedestrian paths, or cobble stones.
12. Wardens/Park Police so that vulnerable youngsters feel and are safe
13. Public toilets are very important and more space for people to socialise.
14. Please factor in facilities for free live music performance
15. control strictly the use of amplifiers on the Green it is very disturbing for residents. Put a crossining opposite the post office. Please make the pedestrian crossings last longer for pedestrians and operate more frequently
16. Get rid of dogs and drinkers
17. I question the need for teenage space as I am convinced this will add to violence
18. We must have a dog run even if only one third the current size
19. Traffic needs to be 2 way on west and south sides to divert it away from north side to allow more link from north side to green, eg Trafalgar square and Shoreditch Triangle. The play area needs to be amazing,not mediocre.look at Westonia Arboretum Exploratree and Diana Playground Kensington Gardens.
20. madness to encourage play areas in an area which is surrounded by constant traffic and pollution
21. Well done on plans of showing war memorial off properly - I've nver actually noticed. Only major concern is getting across the green safely -what will traffic

calming plans be? Also how its lit - makes all the difference in look and feel after dark - affects feeling safe

22. you can only but improve the Green

23. People must be trained and learn to pick up dog waste looking very good and its improvement will lift the area hugely which will encourage people to take pride. Well done.

24. need more toilets

25. Concerned that the play areas will attract misuse/vandalism esp. after the pubs close.

26. To provide adequate parking for non-residents that will come to the area

27. looking good. Aim for high quality cycle path link to road at east end.

28. Must keep Ginglik - cafe would be good above ginglik. Colour coded bike paths bike path on east end past end behind war memorial

29. Why is all this necessary. for 20 years all SBG has neede is a little bit of cleaning and maintenance

30. I don't agree with letting dogs in there they make some nasty mess.

31. Concern re community safety(in relation to raised areas) Concern re skate area too small I think the existing dog area is well used and it is good to provide a dog area away from the other families We need to be kept informed-lots of scope for community involvement here. How about a parks friends group? Interesting design - we have a real problem with community safety and maintenance at the moment

32. The area needs to be managed to keep the space useable and safe with undesireable behaviour minimalised. Dog free, drunk free, drug free.

33. Pedestrianising/heavily limiting traffic flow on the Nort side would be good

34. The Green is fine as it is This so clearly illustrates a principle2if it works don't fix it- who says the green needs tidying. a bit of maintenance. just an excuse for developers to cash in

35. Very good for area

36. The improvement of Shepherd's Bush Green is long overdue. These proposals are generally good. It is vital to have as few fences and railings as possible, unlike the current situation with about ten different types. Railings are certainly not required around the perimeter, any more than they are required between normal pavements and roads. The pedestrian boulevards could be even wider than 3 metres, perhaps 4-5 metres. Most people would prefer no dogs at all on The Green; failing that, there must be a small, enclosed area just for dogs, with dogs banned from all other areas.

37. The lack of a fenced dog exercise area is a serious problem. This is needed when a)dogs are not safe off the lead with traffic b)if dogs are aggressive and Shepherds Bush has a lot of uncastrated male bull terriers who are aggressive to other dogs and a rsik to other dog owners if they try to protect their pets c) a bitch on heat is a serious risk if there is no fenced area as they will be chased into traffic. You are planning to remove most of the native trees (beech, ash and others which are in the centre of the green, leaving only the oriental plane trees around the perimeter. Birds need the central trees and there is no reason to remove mature trees in this part of the green. There should be public toilets in the plaza area also it is not enough to have them only in the cafe area.

38. I have concerns for the area as you are trying to make a family friendly area. Needs to be clear where dogs can go.

39. I see no need to put steps in to what was an accessible park

40. slightly curvy paths rather than ruler straight paths would be more soft natural. Overall a very considered design.
41. Events space - where? Public toilets - hours staffed? Provision for dogs - poop scoop? Very good start, congrats surface of cafe needs to be cleanable or renewable toddlers area needs very high maintenance
42. I agree there should be better crossing facilities. The plaza at the eastern end should have crossings there, or else it will be remote and isolated and not used. Raised pedestrian crossings would be good, to give the green more of a feel of being connected with the surroundings.
43. Re dogs, a dog area is essential. No small children should sit or play where dogs run free totally wrong to reduce north and south perimeter roads from 4 to 3lanes. Worsening traffic congestion will ensue.
44. At War Memorial put statues of great british or international classic composers, writers,poets,scientists and people working for peace. Help forget war forever. Past Belushi's, down the ramp in front of you, there is an empty, unused space. An entrance to the renovated Shepherds Bush Station should start there and go underground directly to the station. There is more but have no time or space left.
45. remove saets and put in lots of lighting - too many dero's in the park. get local skaters to design skate park and grafitti it.
46. It is desperately needed to make the common a nice area to be in. At the moment it is an unwelcoming place.
47. I like the proposals very much - a long awaited improvement
48. Who profits from all this
49. No removal of trees if possible
50. need flower planting area need additional diagonal going the other way very concerned with bicycle path connection from Shepherds Bush roundabout through to Green - awkward now
51. It all looks very exacting but don't feel we had enough detail to know if disabled people have equal access to all features will expand by email
52. Please keep the dog area, really important !!ONLY PLACE WHERE THE DOG CAN BE LET OFF THE LEAD.
53. A safe dog run is very necessary in the area
54. Who profits?Clearly not the public but the developers grab a tiny park
55. Keep dog area - find out why it works in Ravenscourt Park and not here. Ask dog walkers why they don't use the present area.
56. The point will be to prevent people using it as a shortcut dodging the busses etc. Every attempt so far has failed.I do not think this will work but its worth a try.
57. My only concern is the amount of trees protected/replanted. Trees make such a huge difference to a landscape. Otherwise, the plans look great - definitely part of the regeneration Shepheds Bush needs.
58. Overall I really like the plans but having said that it is difficult to see clearly on the drawings I have looked at on line. I would like the opportunity to have a look at a larger model of the green and the proposals. What about the upkeep? It is useless renovating/ renewing something and then not to have in place a well thought out scheme to maintain the green. At the moment it always looks dirty. It needs 24 hour policing due to the level of crime in the area and to dissuade the street drinkers from taking up residence in the newly restored green. What is going to happen about all this? Boulevards around the perimeter - is there going to be some sort of rail - between the road and the boulevard? I

could not make out if there was some sort of safety barrier which I think there needs to be. Needs safe crossings from the shops and from the stations. The scheme and proposals need to ensure that the play areas are not trashed etc etc But I am sure you have thought of all this. needs

59. Where is local input?

60. I hope that something will be done about the "Shepherds Bush" sign as you come from the tube station. Its a dreadful mess and gives a very bad impression of the area

61. A theatre would be nice

62. Looks like an excellent plan. I wish you luck

63. Dogs need space so please include

64. Has any research been done on pedestrian desire lines? Is this what has been designed for? I'm not sure the design reflects reality. Perhaps one of the design team should undertake a site visit! What is the events space for? What type of events are proposed? The green should remain open for information recreation – not clogged up with markets and ice-skating. Why can't we just have a grassed area to kick a football, run around, sit and let our sheep rest? Why do cyclists need paths – can't they use the roads like other vehicles? The park should be a place for recreation – not through travel. The café would benefit from being a greater focal point – to provide passive surveillance over the green. Welcome the provision of public toilets. You should look to Westbourne Grove in RBKC for an effectively managed facility. I would welcome the removal of the dogs area. Dogs in the existing green and surrounding area are a menace. The Council does not currently actively police dogs so why encourage them? What is the ongoing maintenance of the green going to be? Has the Council budgeted for this or will it fall into a state of disrepair? This is not addressed in the consultation.

65. Public safety is always very important which means lighting is very important also no areas where crime can go unattended.

66. Good luck with the improvements

67. Please stop people (men) from urinating down Shepherds Bush Place where I live with my Children.

68. We need the compound for our animals so we can let them off the lead and not roam the green, for children and people who are scared

69. Do not feel that dogs should be able to roam where children and families play. There should be a seperate dog area

70. Plans look very impressive, hopefully PCSO's/Police will supervise and deter the drunks

71. I like to see the older men that meet to play dominoes in the summer. Its a positive use of space and it would be a shame to push them out by not providing appropriate space for them to continue

72. The green has extensive use during the night by people visiting pubs and music venues on the western side. The playgrounds in the proposed location will attract a number of drunks etc once the pubs close. This will result in damage and the surfaces being covered in broken glass each morning. They would be better situated on the southern side opposite the BP garage site. Otherwise they need a fence of sufficient height to deter people climbing into the play areas.

73. What about the CCTV and Lighting What about the dog area? Plaza is too close to main road - who wants to be there?

74. Will there be seating areas and cameras

- 75.** Big Opportunity to change traffic flows to link green with Uxbridge Road - 2 way much better like Trafalgar Square or Shoreditch Triangle.
- 76.** Light the memorial Deal with the wasteland at the roundabout by Holland Road in a similar sympathetic and imaginative way
- 77.** Would be good idea to bring green area right up to the shops on northern side and put both lanes of traffic on southern side.
- 78.** I pass the green rather than use it and this probably won't change. I pass it all the time on public transport and am concerned that I won't see a nice grass area through the planned trees. If I had time to get off the cafe looks nice.
- 79.** Don't take away the railings office workers and other idiots cross the roads through heavy traffic now. They would cross over all over the place with no railings
- 80.** The new development of the project will create a superb well being factor to a busy and stressfull society
- 81.** Excellent idea