



CONSULTATION ON THE POTENTIAL RELOCATION OF THE FINCHAMPSTEAD WAR MEMORIAL



The Finchampstead War Memorial is located at the junction of the B3348 Rectory Hill / The Ridges, and the B3016 Jubilee Road.

Monies for the Memorial were raised by public subscription and it was unveiled on 31 October 1920.

The Memorial has the names of 22 Finchampstead men lost in World War I; 12 lost in World War II and one lost in Afghanistan in 2007.

The War Memorial is owned and looked after by the Parish Council. It is a Grade II listed monument.

In 1920 this would have been a peaceful and accessible location with little traffic, but in 2021 the situation is quite different which is why the Parish Council is asking for your views on whether the Memorial should now be relocated.

The issues with the current location

- The Remembrance Parade and Service can no longer take place to / at the Memorial due to health and safety concerns.

In 2019 the Parade and Service were held in the Memorial Park, The Village.

- There is no parking at the Memorial and limited pavements leading to it, and it is considered unsafe for people to visit the Memorial.
- The roads are increasingly busy, with many large vehicles, and the Memorial is considered to be at risk of significant damage.
- The road junction is unpopular and is considered unsafe by many. There have been several injury accidents at the junction.
- A contractor cannot be found to maintain the Memorial surrounds due to the traffic management arrangements and public liability insurance required.
- Options have been drawn up for improvements to the junction while keeping the Memorial in situ, or moving it to the side, but no significant improvement can be made while keeping the Memorial in its current location, or one close by.

The potential location for the Finchampstead War Memorial

The Parish Council has looked at various sites and has selected the wide verge adjacent to the Memorial Park, between the Park and The Village, as the preferred location should the Memorial be moved.

The Memorial Park was purchased by the people of Finchampstead in 1946 to commemorate those lost in the two World Wars.

The Park is owned by the Parish Council as Custodial Trustee, but is managed by a Management Committee which includes representatives from the Parish Council and several other local organisations.

The Finchampstead Park Management Committee has agreed to the potential relocation of the War Memorial to the adjacent verge, which itself is currently owned by Wokingham Borough Council.



Illustration of the War Memorial on the verge by the Memorial Park, looking north.

- If the Memorial is relocated this will be funded by the Parish Council using existing Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds.
- If the Memorial is relocated the Parish Council will work with Wokingham Borough Council, the Highway Authority, to redesign the junction of the B3348 and B3016.
- The relocation of the Memorial will be subject to securing planning consent from Wokingham Borough Council, the Planning Authority.

The Parish Council wants to hear the views of Finchampstead residents on this proposal.

Please let us have your comments by 31 July 2021

You can respond in the following ways:

- Complete the short survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RHZL9T8>
- Email us at clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk
- Write to us at
Finchampstead Parish Council, FBC Centre
Gorse Ride North, Finchampstead RG40 4ES



The results of the consultation will be published in our e newsletter and on our website www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk



FBC Centre, Gorse Ride North,
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