

The Green and Stones Orchard Draft Management Plan Consultation Report

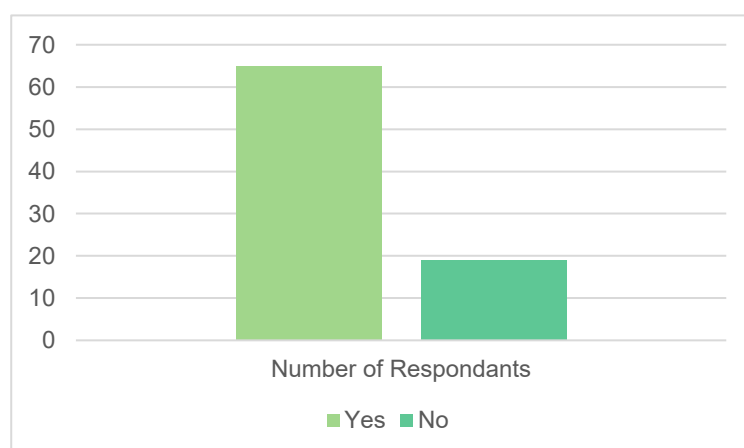
23/10/2025

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Green and Stones Orchard Draft Management Plan (2025-2030) was created to enhance the management and maintenance of both sites. Three Rivers District Council actively consulted with the public to understand the potential requirements or desires the community may have for these green spaces.
- 1.2 The initial consultation on the briefing document was held over four weeks between 4th November and 2nd December 2024. The council received 16 individual responses to the consultation.
- 1.3 The draft management plan was made public on the 7th August 2025 and the consultation period ran until the 30th September 2025, lasting a total of 55 days. 88 individuals responded to the consultation.
- 1.4 The consultations were hosted on the council's "Have your Say" platform.
- 1.5 The consultation period was advertised through the following forms:
 - social media
 - the Three Rivers District Council website
 - local community groups
 - posters within the sites
 - video promotion
 - direct communication with key stakeholders

2. Consultation Feedback

- 2.1 Q1. Do you agree with the aims and objectives of the draft management plan?



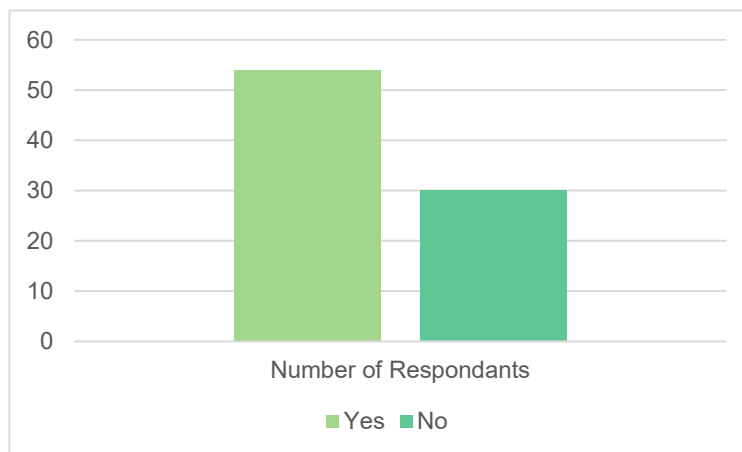
2.2 Q.2 Please provide any comments on the aims and objectives of the draft management plan

Topic	No. of mentions	How will this be addressed?
Memorial trees missing	1	Officers will review records and adhere to the Council's memorial tree policy (https://www.threerivers.gov.uk/memorial-tributes#Memorial%20trees)
Concern of paved/stoned footpaths	3	To further improve accessibility, there is a possibility of introducing a formal footpath through Stones Orchard, subject to funding and further consultation.
Concern of too much signage	1	This will be considered within objective A3.
Dislike of parking inhibitors on the green	24	Parking restrictions were previously introduced to prevent illegal parking following complaints from local residents and Councillors. This was a partnership project between Croxley Green Parish Council and Three Rivers District Council and is now complete and therefore sits outside of the future Management Plan for The Green and Stones Orchard
Concern of pond	1	A pond or wetland may be introduced to the site; this will be dependent on various surveys and research as to if it is an appropriate opportunity.
Keeping it natural	1	The aims and objectives of the management plan will aim to protect and enhance the site both for nature conservation and public amenity.
Ensuring management	2	The aims and objectives of the management plan will aim to protect and enhance the site both for nature conservation and public amenity.
Transfer of ownership to CGPC	3	Three Rivers District Council is the landowner of The Green and Stones Orchard. This comment therefore sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard.
Uniformity of management plans across the District	2	The management plans for major sites within the district all follow a similar template for their contents but will differ with the needs of each site.
Illegal parking on the green	1	Parking restrictions were previously introduced to prevent illegal parking following complaints from local residents and Councillors. This was a partnership project between Croxley Green Parish Council and Three Rivers District Council

		and is now complete and therefore sits outside of the future Management Plan for The Green and Stones Orchard
Speeding	1	Hertfordshire County Council responsibility
Concern of development	5	The aims and objectives of the management plan will aim to protect and enhance the site both for nature conservation and public amenity.
More tree planting	2	On the action plan within the future actions section there is an aim for orchard planting which would be sensitive to the sites.
Material (e.g. bark) used for footpath	1	To further improve accessibility, there is a possibility of introducing a formal footpath through Stones Orchard, subject to funding and further consultation.
More biodiversity actions	1	Future actions are subject to funding; within the action plan there are various actions that will improve biodiversity. If a future opportunity were to become apparent the council has the opportunity to consult on this if required. Following consultation, further opportunities to benefit biodiversity within grassland management and hedgerow restoration were identified.
More ecology surveys to be completed	1	In the action plan within the future actions section, this will be subject to external funding.
More signage	1	On the action plan within the future actions section and may be subject to external funding dependent on its contents.
Use of other parking inhibitors to be used (posts/bunds etc)	3	Parking restrictions were previously introduced to prevent illegal parking following complaints from local residents and Councillors. This was a partnership project between Croxley Green Parish Council and Three Rivers District Council and is now complete and therefore sits outside of the future Management Plan for The Green and Stones Orchard
Keeping the green as a conservation area	1	The aims and objectives of the management plan aim to protect and enhance the site both for nature conservation and public amenity.
Concern the aims and objectives are too vague/aspirational	2	As funding and/or resource become available the actions will be further developed.
More information on the green as a conservation area	1	This sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard; the Croxley Conservation Area is in relation to

		development management and planning policy.
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2.3 Q3. Do you agree with the action plan?



2.4 Q.4 Please provide any comments on the action plan

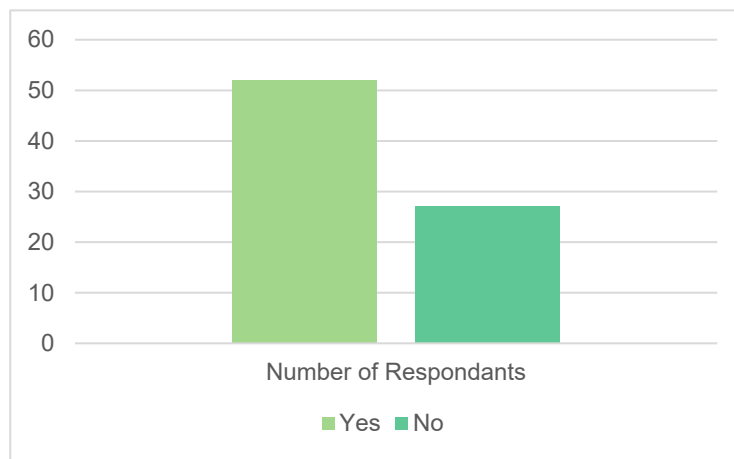
Topic	No. of mentions	How will this be addressed?
Hedgerows to be maintained	1	This is within the management plan as an annual/regular action.
In favour of a wetland area	2	A pond or wetland may be introduced to the site; this will be dependent on various surveys and research as to if it is an appropriate opportunity.
Enforcement of unauthorised parking	1	This sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard.
Fixing bunding	1	This will be reviewed within the site inspections.
Transfer of ownership to CGPC	1	Currently Three Rivers District Council is the land owner of The Green and Stones Orchard. This comment therefore sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard.
In favour of formal path	1	To further improve accessibility, there is a possibility of introducing a formal footpath through Stones Orchard, subject to funding and further consultation
Aims and objectives too aspirational/vague	2	As funding and/or resource become available the actions will be developed.
Plan should mention potential funding sources	1	Potential sources of funding will be dependent upon the nature of the

		project, the timeline it follows, partners that may be involved and the scale of the works. Some potential avenues may be as follows: National Lottery Funding, Landfill Communities Funding, Community Infrastructure Levy.
Concern of a formal path	4	To further improve accessibility, there is a possibility of introducing a formal footpath through Stones Orchard, subject to funding and further consultation
Concern of drop down bollards	1	The action of: Preventative measures to restrict unwanted vehicle incursion on The Green at key locations will be considered through the management plan period.
Dislike of parking inhibitors on the green	22	Parking restrictions were previously introduced to prevent illegal parking following complaints from local residents and Councillors. This was a partnership project between Croxley Green Parish Council and Three Rivers District Council and is now complete and therefore sits outside of the future Management Plan for The Green and Stones Orchard
Consulting on the plan via paper leaflets and talks	1	The consultation adhered to the councils standard methods. It was hosted on the council's "Have your Say" platform; publicised online, on-site through posters and local stakeholders were directly contacted notifying of the consultation
Dog litter bins emptied more often	2	This is outlined within the annual/regular actions and is the responsibility of Croxley Green Parish Council.
Using alternative parking inhibitors (smaller rocks, fences, wooden posts, steel posts etc)	4	Parking restrictions were previously introduced to prevent illegal parking following complaints from local residents and Councillors. This was a partnership project between Croxley Green Parish Council and Three Rivers District Council and is now complete and therefore sits outside of the future Management Plan for The Green and Stones Orchard
No more benches	1	There is no intention at present to increase benches on site.

Not in favour of a wetland area	1	A pond or wetland may be introduced to the site; this will be dependent on various surveys and research as to if it is an appropriate opportunity
More wildflowers	1	Following the site specific surveys, there may be the opportunity to sow wildflower seed inline with the plant communities present on site.
In favour of information boards	1	This will be considered within objective A3.
Plant more trees	3	Within the future actions section there is an aim for orchard planting which would be sensitive to the sites.
Survey on invasive species and flood risk	1	Within the future actions section, this will be subject to external funding. Within the site inspections, any invasive species identified are recorded and appropriate action taken.
Procedure to follow actions (with an independent body to ensure they are fulfilled)	2	Site management plans are internally reviewed annually and then renewed at the expiration of the plan.
Right to appeal against TRDC actions	1	This sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard.
Stop removal of ragwort	1	Action plan states ragwort will be kept and only removed when necessary
Option for grazing	1	Due to the nature of the Green being common land and the regulations surrounding this, grazing is not currently feasible. Similarly with the nature of events and the sensitivity of an orchard grazing is not currently feasible within Stones Orchard.
Clarification on aims for fauna and grassland	1	The objectives with D and E outline the aims of relevant actions.
Clarification on aims for path	1	To further improve accessibility, there is a possibility of introducing a formal footpath through Stones Orchard, subject to funding and further consultation.
Action plan for removing parking inhibitors	1	Parking restrictions were previously introduced to prevent illegal parking following complaints from local residents and Councillors. This was a partnership project between Croxley Green Parish Council and Three Rivers District Council and is now complete and therefore sits outside of

		the future Management Plan for The Green and Stones Orchard
The green as a conservation area to have more clarity	1	This sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard. The Croxley Conservation Area is in relation to development management and planning policy.
Concern of informational signage	1	This will be considered within objective A3

2.5 Q.5 Is there anything else you would like to see in the draft management plan?



2.6 Q.6 Please provide information on what you would like to see in the draft management plan?

Topic	No. of mentions	How will it be addressed?
Meadow creation	1	The council's Alternative Grassland Management initiative includes The Green & Stones Orchard - https://www.threerivers.gov.uk/services/environment-climate-emergency/biodiversity#Alternative%20Grassland%20Management%20Initiative . Through appropriate management the aim is that wildflowers will be able to thrive.
Craft fair	1	The council welcomes organisations to hire parks and open spaces through the Hire of Grounds process - https://www.threerivers.gov.uk/services/leisure-parks-culture/hire-parks-open-space
Transfer of ownership to CGPC	4	Three Rivers District Council is the landowner of The Green and Stones Orchard. This comment therefore sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard.

Dedicated car park/alternative parking	2	This sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard.
A plan for deterring parking, enforcing no parking/unauthorised parking	6	The action of: Preventative measures to restrict unwanted vehicle incursion on The Green at key locations will be considered through the management plan period.
Dislike of parking inhibitors	21	Parking restrictions were previously introduced to prevent illegal parking following complaints from local residents and Councillors. This was a partnership project between Croxley Green Parish Council and Three Rivers District Council and is now complete and therefore sits outside of the future Management Plan for The Green and Stones Orchard
Cycle lanes	1	This sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard.
Enforcement of speeding	1	The highway falls under the responsibility of Hertfordshire County Council and is outside of the remit of the management plan
Bus shelter	1	The highway/bus shelter falls under the responsibility of Hertfordshire County Council and is outside of the remit of the management plan
Enforcement of policing vandalism	1	Within the B2 aim; reports of ASB are reported to the Police.
Tree planting	2	Within the future actions section there is an aim for orchard planting which would be sensitive to the sites
Dogs to be kept on leads	1	A Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for dog control is active across the Three Rivers District, with clear signage at the entrance. For details, see http://www.threerivers.gov.uk/service/public-space-protection-order-pspo
No development	1	The aims and objectives of the management plan will aim to protect and enhance the site both for nature conservation and public amenity
More benches	1	There is no intention at present to increase benches on site.
Alternative measures for parking inhibitors (high kerb, wood posts)	7	Parking restrictions were previously introduced to prevent illegal parking following complaints from local residents and Councillors. This was a partnership project between Croxley Green Parish Council and Three Rivers District Council and is now complete and therefore sits outside of the future Management Plan for The Green and Stones Orchard

Link to other district plans, as well as traffic, visitors and branding	1	Within the Appendices, there is a section which outlines the relevant Policy Context.
Keep bee hives	1	The council are not bee keepers; however, if approached by a beekeeper this can be considered if it aligns with the management plan and does not impact health & safety.
Fenced dog area	1	Due to the nature of the Green being common land and the regulations surrounding this, fencing an area is not currently feasible. Similarly with the nature of events and the sensitivity of an orchard fencing an area for dogs is not currently feasible within Stones Orchard.
Dog free zone	1	<p>Due to the nature of The Green being common land and the regulations surrounding this, fencing an area is not currently feasible. Similarly with the nature of events and the sensitivity of an orchard fencing an area for dogs is not currently feasible within Stones Orchard.</p> <p>A Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) for dog control is active across the Three Rivers District, with clear signage at the entrance. For details, see http://www.threerivers.gov.uk/service/public-space-protection-order-pspo</p>
Clarity of management of unhealthy trees	1	Within the annual/regular actions tree maintenance is undertaken annually and additionally in the event of severe weather or a report of a dangerous tree.
Clarity on character and look of the green	1	This sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard; the Croxley Conservation Area is in relation to development management and planning policy.
Returning the green to a previous state	1	The aims and objectives of the management plan will aim to protect and enhance the site both for nature conservation and public amenity
H&S report for the parking inhibitors	3	Parking restrictions were previously introduced to prevent illegal parking following complaints from local residents and Councillors. This was a partnership project between Croxley Green Parish Council and Three Rivers District Council and is now complete and therefore sits outside of the future Management Plan for The Green and Stones Orchard
Bylaws to be upgraded and used	1	<p>This sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones.</p> <p>The byelaws covering The Green, also include all other common land in the District. The byelaws covering Stones Orchard were updated in 2020 - https://www.threerivers.gov.uk/services/your-</p>

		council/byelaws#Byelaws%20for%20pleasure%20grounds%20public%20walks%20and%20open%20spaces
Aims and objectives too aspirational/vague	1	As funding and/or resource become available the actions will be developed.
Clarity on the green as a conservation area	1	This sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard, the Croxley Conservation Area is in relation to development management and planning policy.
Community orchard creation	1	Within the future actions there are plans for future orchard planting and community events.

2.7 Q7. Please provide any further feedback on the draft management plan

Topic	No. of mentions	How will they be addressed?
Mention of CGPC surveys	1	Officers will compile and review all existing and available data to the council.
Dislike of parking inhibitors	16	Parking restrictions were previously introduced to prevent illegal parking following complaints from local residents and Councillors. This was a partnership project between Croxley Green Parish Council and Three Rivers District Council and is now complete and therefore sits outside of the future Management Plan for The Green and Stones Orchard
Enforcement of unauthorised parking	2	This sits outside of the remit of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard
Fix bunding	1	This will be reviewed within the site inspections.
Employment of a dog warden	1	There is an Animal Welfare & Licensing Inspector employed by the District Council that works across the district.
Consultation wanted on replacement building of red cross	1	This sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard
In favour of information boards	1	This will be considered within objective A3.
Control on speeding	1	The highway falls under the responsibility of Hertfordshire County Council
Clearer signage for dog bins	2	This will be considered within objective A3

Restoring the hedgerows	1	This is within the management plan as an annual/regular action.
Making a wider pavement	1	The highway and pavements fall under the responsibility of Hertfordshire County Council
Alternative means for parking inhibitors	3	Parking restrictions were previously introduced to prevent illegal parking following complaints from local residents and Councillors. This was a partnership project between Croxley Green Parish Council and Three Rivers District Council and is now complete and therefore sits outside of the future Management Plan for The Green and Stones Orchard
Plant more trees	1	Within the future actions section there is an aim for orchard planting which would be sensitive to the sites.
Opening hours of the recycling centre	1	This sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard
Transfer of ownership to CGPC	2	Currently Three Rivers District Council is the landowner of The Green and Stones Orchard. This comment therefore sits outside of the management plan for The Green & Stones Orchard
Ensure history is correct	1	Officers will review the historic element of the management plan and will credit/reference where the information was gathered.

3. Conclusion

3.1 Following the gathered feedback from the public, community groups, ward, parish and district councillors as well as our colleagues at Countryside Management Service (CMS) the draft management will be amended where appropriate taking into consideration all relevant responses given.

3.2 The final management plan will be shared in January 2026.

