

Consultation to Replace Damaged Railings along the Station Road side of Barnes Green

Summary of Results

1. Background

The Parks and Open Spaces Team carried out a consultation which proposed to replace the railings along Station Road, on Barnes Green which had regrettably become damaged and no longer fit for purpose. The consultation provided respondents the opportunity to choose from three different types of railings:

- Black powder coated bow top railings (approximately 1200mm high)
- White single post and rail (approximately 600mm high)
- Black vertical railings (approximately 1200mm high)

This consultation took place between Saturday 27th October and Tuesday 27th November 2018.

2. Summary of Results

208 people responded to this consultation, however, only 204 people provided an answer on whether or not they supported the proposal to replace the railings along the Station Road side of Barnes Green. Of the 204 respondents, 135 (66.2%), declared that they were supportive of replacing the railings along Station Road. 47 of the 204 respondents (23.0%) voted against the proposal to replace the railings and 22 of the 204 respondents (10.8%) stated that they were undecided on the issue.

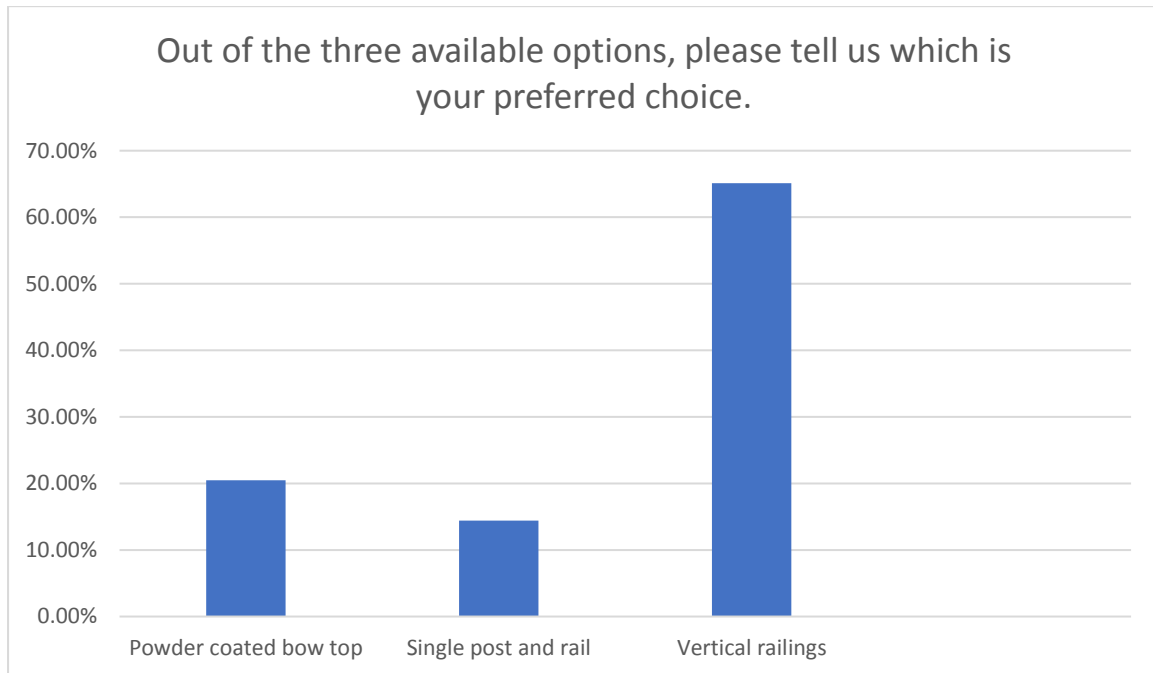
All participants submitted their responses through the Council's online consultation portal system.

2.1. Preferred choice of railings.

Of the 208 people who took part in the consultation, 195 respondents voted on their preferred choice of replacement railings. Due to the existing railings being severely damaged and deemed not economically viable to be repaired, participants were able to choose from three possible replacements:

- Black powder coated bow top railings (approximately 1200mm high)
- White single post and rail (approximately 600mm high)
- Black vertical railings (approximately 1200mm high)

40 of the respondents (20.5%) voted in favour of the powder coated bow top fencing, 28 respondents (14.4%) preferred the single post and rail and 127 respondents (65.1%) voted in favour of the vertical railings as their preferred choice.



Respondents who voted in favour of either the bow top or vertical railings, stated that they believed the post and rail to be an unsuitable option. They highlighted concerns that either dogs, children or footballs could easily access the road and risk becoming involved in an accident if post and rail fencing was installed. However, others believed that it would be in-keeping with the look of the rest of the green.

153 of the 208 participants left additional comments surrounding the proposals. Of those 153, 76 (49.7%) queried whether the existing fencing could be repaired rather than replaced. They felt that repair would be a better use of public money as many felt that only minor repairs to some sections were required as opposed to a total replacement. Many suggested that if the existing railings can't be repaired then they should be replaced by like for like railings, but if not possible then the vertical railings were the preferred option.

Other comments generally suggested that without knowing the costs of the three options, it would not be possible to comment on an appropriate replacement.

3. Next steps

Having discussed this report with ward Councillor's and the Barnes Community Association, the Parks and Open Spaces Team plan to:

- Replace the damaged railings with the new vertical railings in early 2019, as this was the most popular replacement.