

## FoHG aims ...

'to secure the conservation, protection and improvement of Haven Green and its environs as an important place of local historic, architectural, ecological and aesthetic significance and to safeguard the public right to the quiet enjoyment of the Green.'

### FoHG's 5 point agenda:

to work with the Council authorities who manage Haven Green to:

1. Maintain and improve the quality of the green environment.
2. Protect and enhance the historic character of the buildings that surround the Green.
3. Manage the traffic better and give pedestrians higher priority.
4. Encourage appropriate recreational activity and curb anti-social behaviour.
5. Protect the Green as Common Land and a historic Village Green.

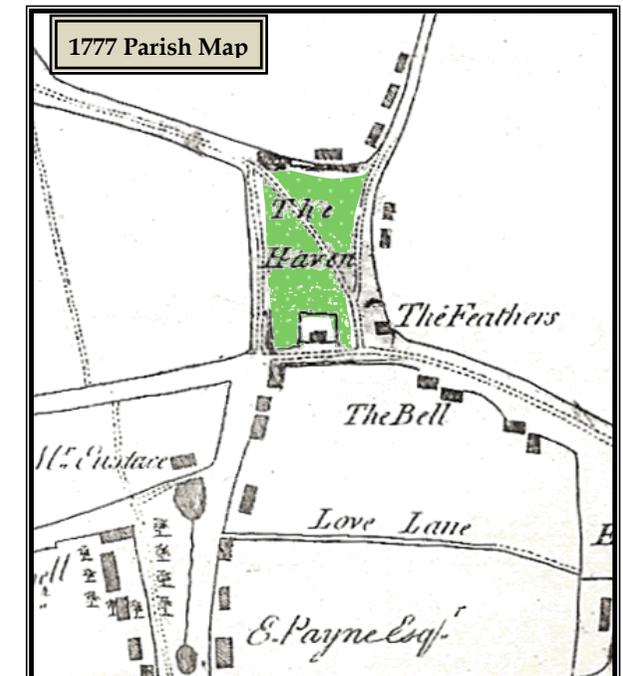


## Friends of Haven Green



*Keeping Haven Green at the Heart of Ealing*

Haven Green is cherished in Ealing as the Jewel in the Crown of the Queen of the Suburbs. The Friends of Haven Green (FoHG) is an independent community group which speaks up for the Green to protect it for the perpetual enjoyment of Ealing residents and visitors alike.



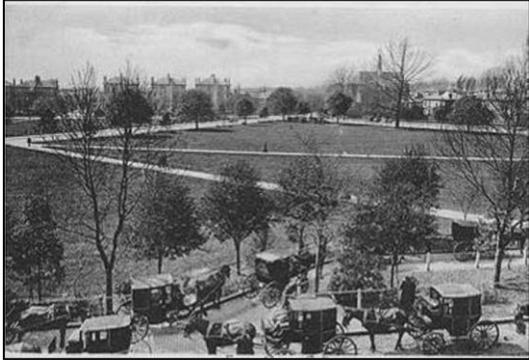
Records suggest that the public has used Haven Green as common land perhaps since before the Norman Conquest. Old maps show 'The Haven' arranged much as it is today – stretching north of the ancient road from London to Oxford, and surrounded on three sides by roads with a fourth running diagonally across it.

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*Keeping Haven Green at the Heart of Ealing*

Over the ages, local people enjoyed the right to graze animals and had freedom to engage in peaceful activities on Haven Green. In 1838 Brunel's railway took away the southern half but gave what remained a new significance as the gateway for visitors arriving at Ealing.



Haven Green has retained much of its 19<sup>th</sup> century village character. Its tranquil air contrasts with the hustle and bustle of nearby Ealing town centre and it is fringed mainly by Victorian houses and shops that preserve the domestic scale.

Today the Green faces some unprecedented threats. Over the years parts have been lost for carparks, bus stops, a taxi shed, bike shelters and an electricity substation. The area of green space has shrunk.

While still a place to sit quietly and enjoy, the Green is increasingly in demand for more commercial purposes like an ice rink or beer festivals. And like many open spaces it can become a focus for crime or antisocial behaviour.

Heavy traffic, countless buses and proximity to the Station make the Green the busiest open space in Ealing. Lack of care has ruined areas of grass while disease and casual vandalism is killing the trees. Without good management we shall all lose out.

Unsympathetic new development harms the Green's character. In 2009 the Government rejected plans for a 28 storey tower above the railway because of its impact on the Green, but new proposals are likely to come forward and they need to be well designed. Poor quality small-scale changes to houses and shop fronts are a more constant cumulative threat.



Crossrail wants to use a large part of the Green as a construction site for several years and the Council has eyed its empty space as a good place for a bus station. The danger is we shall lose those things that make the Green so special.



## **Keeping Haven Green at the Heart of Ealing**

### **What we are doing**

FoHG speaks up for the Green to press the authorities who manage it to treasure it in its own right.

Ealing Council now consults FoHG about planning and licensing applications that affect the Green and about requests to use it for events and functions.

FoHG defends the Green when it comes up for discussion in Council meetings or at licensing hearings.

We seek a programme to manage the green spaces better. This should include restoration and landscaping and planting for the future. We are calling on the Council to allocate funds from its parks budget and a fair portion of the income it receives from events on the Green for this purpose.

We are also calling for a traffic plan to reduce the conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists and motor vehicles. This should also reorganise bus stops and drop off points to the station and include measures to improve air quality.

### **To find out more**

Go to [FriendsofHavenGreen.com](http://FriendsofHavenGreen.com) for more Information about FoHG. There's a wealth of material about the History of the Green.

To be kept informed e-mail your details to: [Joinus@friendsofHavenGreen.com](mailto:Joinus@friendsofHavenGreen.com)

We greatly welcome your stories or pictures of Haven Green and its history and ideas for its future. Please email these to FoHG.