

AGENDA ITEM: 5a Page nos. 1 – 12

Meeting	Chipping Barnet Area Environment Sub-Committee
Date	23 June 2011
Subject	Members' Item – Traffic Consultation
Report of	Head of Governance
Summary	This report informs the Sub-Committee of a Member's Item and requests instructions from the Sub-Committee.

Officer Contributors	Maria Lugangira – Business Governance Service
Status (public or exempt)	Public
Wards affected	Coppetts
Enclosures	Appendix 1 – Rat Running thorough Hillside, Hollyfield & St Johns Avenues' and Queens Parade Close Appendix 2 – Consultation Document
For decision by	Chipping Barnet Area Environment Sub- Committee
Function of	Executive
Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in (if appropriate)	Not applicable

Contact for further information: Maria Lugangira – Business Governance Service – Tel: 020 8359 2761.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 The Sub-Committee's instructions are requested.

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

2.1 None.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 As and when issues raised in this way are progressed they will need to be evaluated against the Corporate Plan and other relevant policies.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

4.1 None in the context of this report.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

5.1 Members' Items allow Members of the Sub-Committee to bring a wide range of issues to the attention of the Sub-Committee in accordance with the Council's Constitution. All of these issues must be considered for their equalities and diversity implications.

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

6.1 None in the context of this report.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

7.1 None in the context of this report.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

8.1 Constitution Part 3 – Responsibility for Functions – Area Environment Sub-Committees perform functions that are the responsibility of the Executive including highways use and regulation not the responsibility of the Council, within the boundaries of their areas in accordance with Council policy and within budget.

8.2 Council Procedure Rules Section 2 - Committees and Sub-Committees – Paragraph 7.1 states a Member will be permitted to have one matter only (with no sub-items) on the agenda for a meeting of a committee or sub-committee on which he/she serves.

8.3 The Head of Governance must receive written notice of a Member's Item at least seven clear working days before the meeting. Any item received after 11p.m. will be recorded as received on the next working day. The item must be signed by the member and delivered by hand, fax or email. Under Council Procedure Rules, Section 2, paragraph 7.3 any item received after that deadline can only be accepted for consideration at the meeting if the Chairman agrees it as urgent.

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

9.1 Councillor Pauline Coakley Webb has requested that a Member's Item be considered on the following matter:

“To request that officers investigate traffic flows, speeding and accidents on Hillside, Hollyfield & St John’s Avenues and Queens Parade Close in the vicinity of Colney Hatch Lane, with a view implementing safety measures, including the option of closing Hillside to traffic exiting onto Colney Hatch Lane. This request and the proposed solution is supported by 97% of residents asked in the area

Within my Ward is a small network of roads, Hillside Ave, Hollyfield Ave, Queens Parade Close & St Johns Ave, that creates a 'rat run' for traffic to by-pass the controlled junction at the intersection of the A1003 and the B550 to get to and from Colney Hatch Lane and Friern Barnet Road. It is also used by traffic by-passing the right hand turn from Woodhouse Road into Colney Hatch Lane as there is no filter for this at the junction.

In recent years Barnet Council has allowed a number of local developments which have exacerbated the general impact of traffic on these roads. These include the residential development of the former Friern Barnet Hospital and its grounds with access roads onto Colney Hatch Lane and Friern Barnet Road but without any through routes, the building and subsequent extensions of Tesco's Colney Hatch, Friern Bridge Retail Park, and the adoption and tarmacing of Queens Parade Close. No steps have been taken to alleviate the impact on the Hillside, Hollyfield, St Johns and Queens Parade of the increase in traffic caused by these developments. The quantity and speed of the traffic on these roads is having an adverse impact on the quality of life of the residents who are denied the peaceable enjoyment of their own homes. Minor traffic accidents are a regular occurrence, properties have been damaged by cars that have left the road and residents have been subjected to verbal and physical aggression from drivers trying to speed through the roads to beat the change of the lights at the controlled junction.

The residents of these roads have made a number of approaches to Barnet Council requesting that measures be taken to control traffic on these roads, but without any action being taken.

The residents have carried out a detailed survey of traffic movements that shows up to 300 cars per hour using the rat run at peak times. They have also conducted their own Consultation within the affected roads. Returns were received from 85 households representing 177 adult residents. 174 residents (98%) voted in favour of closing the through routes between the B550 (Colney Hatch Lane) and the A1003 (Friern Barnet Road). “

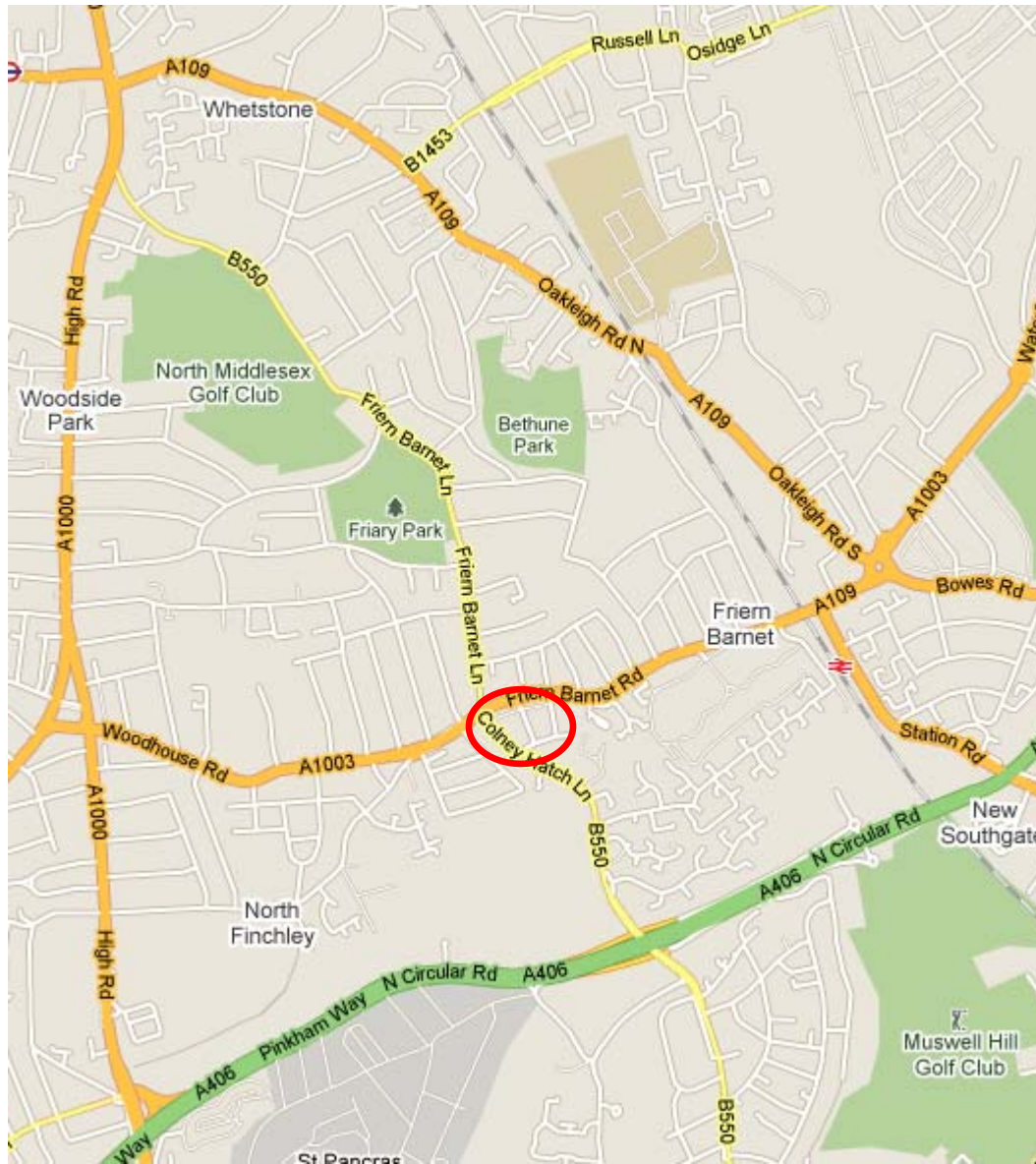
Further supporting information is attached at Appendix 1 and Appendix 2

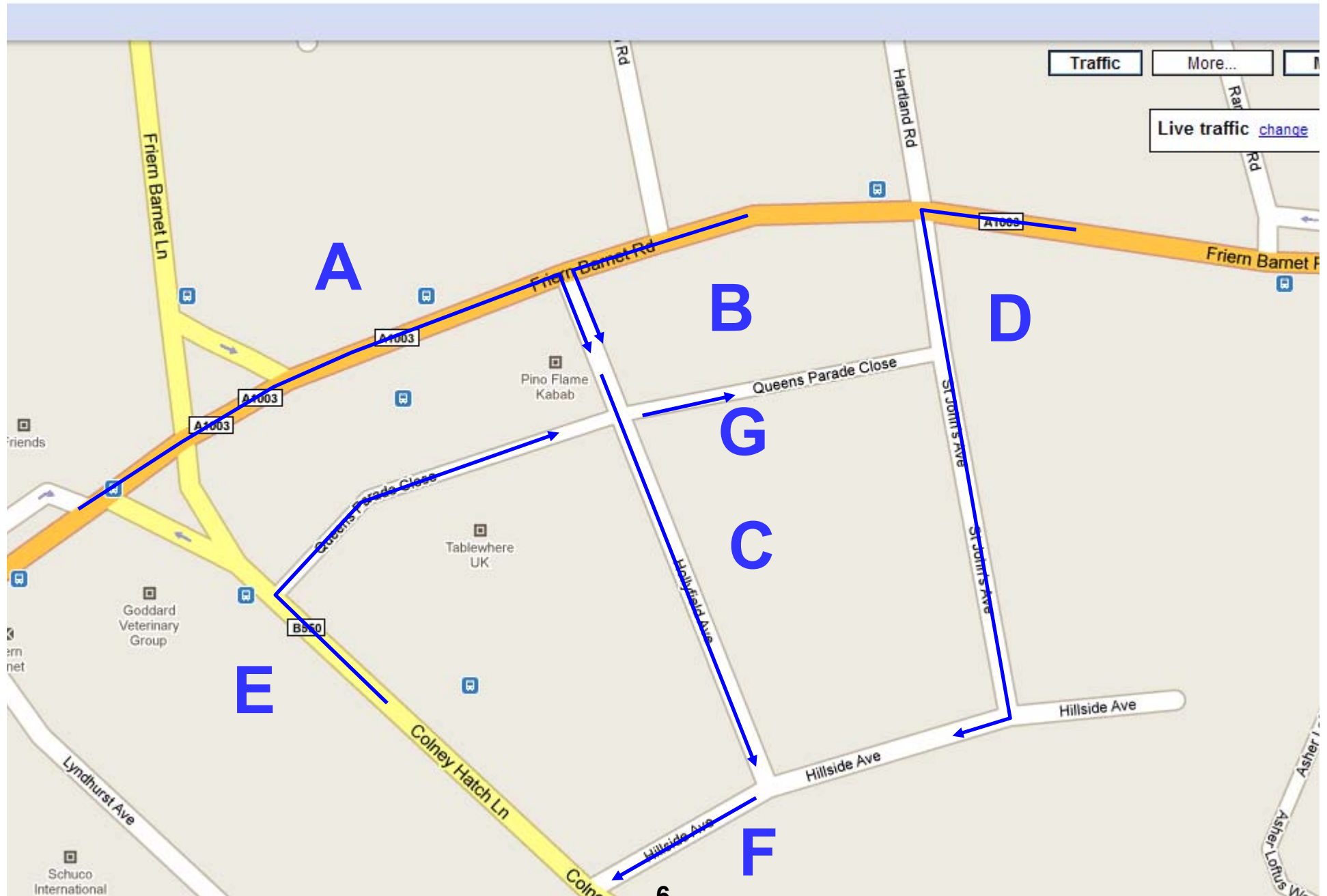
- 9.2 The Interim Director of Environment and Operations will arrange for officer comment to be given on the item at the meeting.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 Email from Councillor Coakley Webb dated 9 June 2011.
- 10.2 Any person wishing to inspect the background paper above should telephone 020 8359 761.

Rat Running through Hillside, Hollyfield & St Johns Avenues and Queens Parade Close

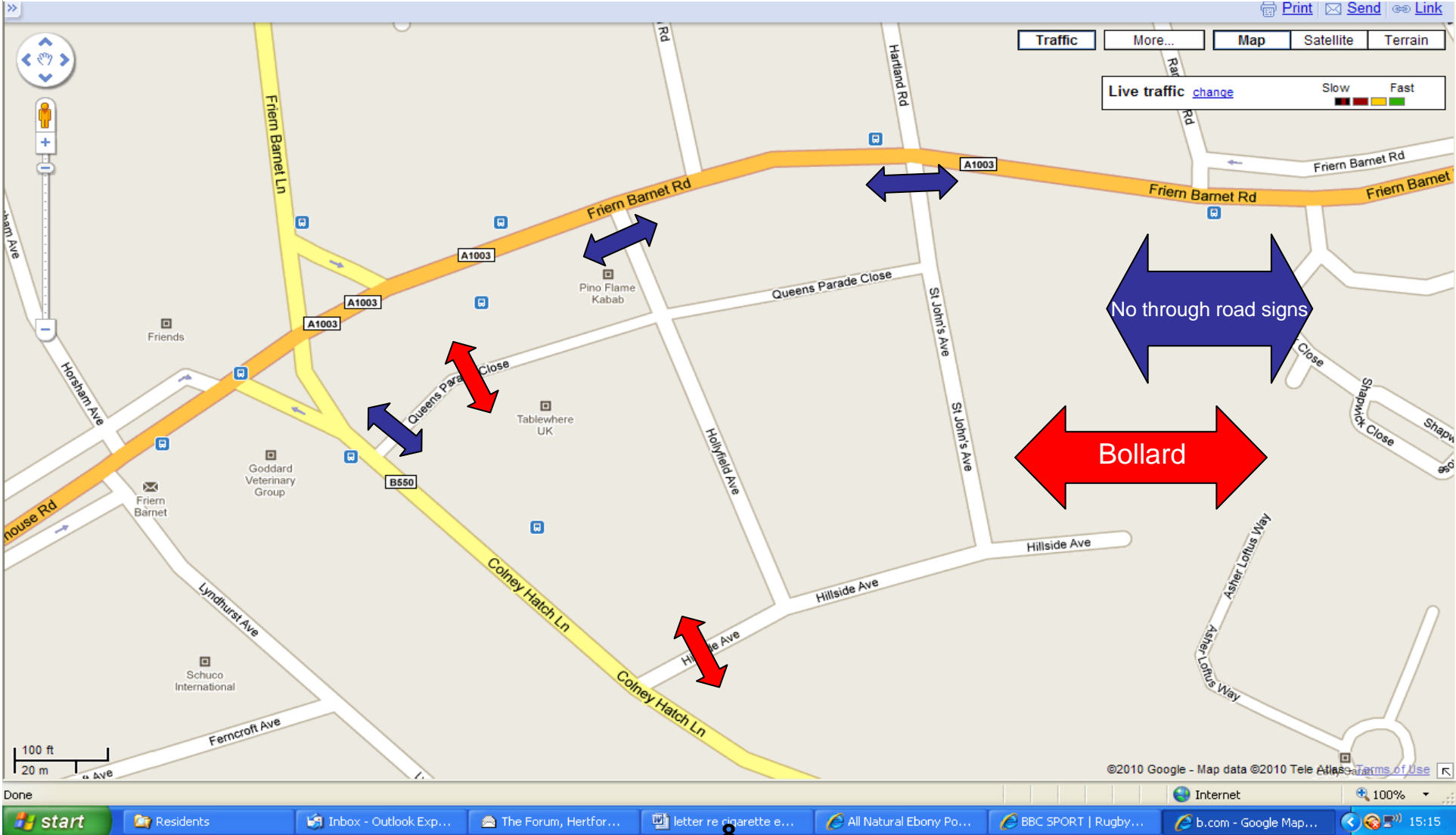




Traffic Flows

Traffic Route ►	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Time of Day ▼							
Weekday 8.15 - 9.15	15	38	53	198	32	251	2
Weekday 16.30 - 17.30	40	46	86	140	78	226	4
Saturday 11.15 - 12.15	38	70	108	150	30	258	2
Saturday 15.15 - 16.15	52	88	140	108	44	248	3
Sunday 11.15 - 12.15	28	40	68	96	26	164	1
Sunday 14.00 - 15.00	50	114	164	132	29	296	1
	Right turn into HA	Left turn into HA	Total HA	Total SJA	Total QPC	Total HIA	Unmade road rear St Johns Villas

PROPOSED SOLUTION



Consultation Results

	Households	Residents	Yes	No
Hillside Ave	8	16	16	0
Hollyfield Ave	36	75	72	3
Queens Parade Close	9	13	13	0
St Johns Ave	30	71	70	1
Others	2	2	2	0
Total	85	177	173	4

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

FRIERN BARNET TRAFFIC SCHEME

BACKGROUND

In 2009 some of the residents of Hollyfield Avenue got together to discuss local issues which affected them and one of these was the increase in the traffic using Hollyfield Avenue and Queens Parade Close as a "Rat Run".

As a local resident you will be very aware that the problem has only got worse. A survey carried out by local residents found that at peak times up to 300 cars an hour travel down Hillside Avenue into Colney Hatch Lane and up to 130 per hour through Queens Parade Close. Excessive speed has also resulted in a number of serious accidents, most noticeably the demolition of the front of No.10 Hillside in 2010 by a car that failed to stop and drove off. The wall of the car park for the flats in Hillside and garden fences behind the houses on Colney Hatch Lane have also been demolished several times by cars failing to stop at the bottom of Hollyfield Ave. The phone lines were cut when the telegraph pole at the entrance to the one way section of Hillside was struck recently. In addition a number of cars have been written off by hit and run drivers. There have also been a number of collisions at the exit from Queens Parade Close into Hollyfield Avenue.

We believe that the best solution to the problem is to close the access to and from Colney Hatch Lane via both Hillside Avenue and Queens Parade Close. We have organised several public meetings attended by local Ward Councillors and questions have been raised at Barnet Residents' Forums, but it became clear that the Council is unwilling to do anything about the problem. This Consultation has been prepared to demonstrate to the Council the views of the residents of the affected roads and formally request that the through routes between Colney Hatch Lane and Friern Barnet Road are closed off.

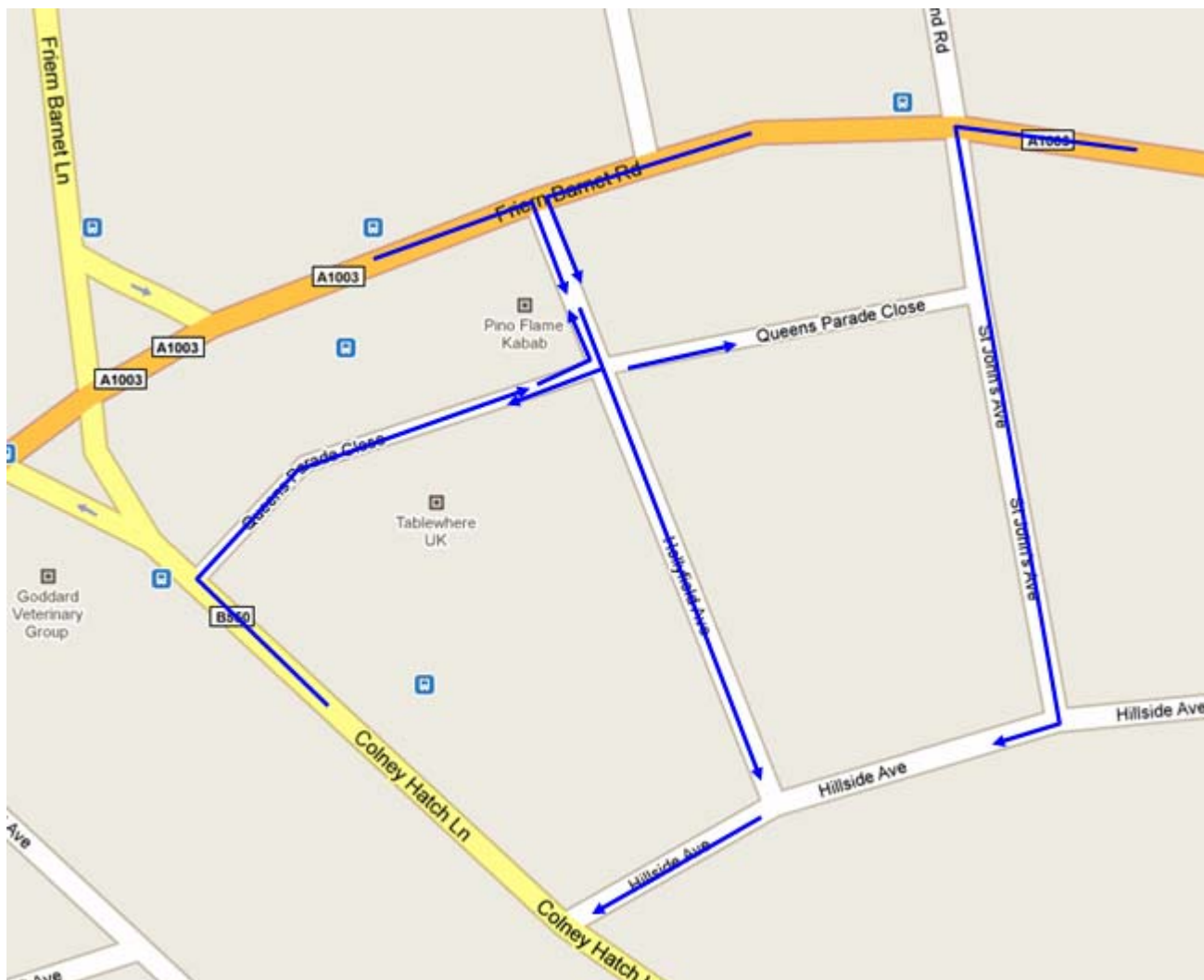
The Main Problems

1. Vehicles travelling west along Friern Barnet Road use St Johns Avenue & Hollyfield Avenue as a rat-run to bypass the traffic lights and exit into Colney Hatch Lane towards Muswell Hill. This commonly results in either excessive speed or congestion at the bottom of Hillside Avenue.
2. Vehicles travelling north along Colney Hatch Lane turning right into Queens Parade and either turning left into Hollyfield causing even more congestion as they force their way out into Friern Barnet Road, or they cross Hollyfield Avenue into the alley way behind St Johns Villas and turn left into St Johns Avenue
3. Vehicles wanting to turn right from Woodhouse Road into Colney Hatch Lane cross the lights and turn right into Hollyfield Avenue. The effect is a three way jam of vehicles from opposing directions trying to get into Hollyfield with one trying to get out with parked cars either side of the road.

The aim of the consultation is to stop our roads being used as a major Rat Run

OPTIONS

- Block Hillside Avenue and Queens Parade Close to through traffic. The exact position and nature of the barriers are still to be decided.
- Take no action and accept the status quo.



Adult Residents

(1).....

(2).....

(3).....

(4).....

Address.....

Post Code.....

Phone Number.....

1. Block Hillside Avenue & Queens Parade Close to
through traffic to and from Colney Hatch Lane

2 Take no action and accept the status quo

Signature.....

Paddy Pugh will call in the next few days to collect your response.
Alternatively, please return your completed response by Saturday 16th April to
Sue de Botton 3 Hollyfield Avenue.