

# CHIPPING BARNET RESIDENTS' FORUM

## MEETING HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2010 ACTION NOTES

held at: East Barnet School

Chairman: \*Councillor Lisa Rutter      Vice-Chairman: \*Councillor Barry Evangelini  
\*Denotes Councillor Present

	<b>Issue Raised</b>	<b>Response</b>	<b>Update (and by whom)</b>
1	A presentation was made by Nick Lynch, Planning Policy Manager in respect of Progress on Barnet's Local Development Framework (appended to the action notes)	There followed a question and answer session and input by residents on their views	
2	<p><b>Ms Hazel Block</b></p> <p>1. What benefits do the residents of Barnet get from this twinning?</p> <p>2. Can anyone join the support group for a specific overseas town?</p> <p>3. Do members of these groups pay their own expenses when visiting or entertaining the twinned town?</p> <p>4. Are councillors involved in these support groups?</p> <p>5. If they are, who pays their expenses, the borough or themselves?</p>	<p><b>Mayor's Secretary</b> Barnet is twinned with <b>8</b> towns</p> <p>1. These connections were established to promote cultural, social and educational links between areas, as well as encouraging trade links and economic benefits.</p> <p>2. The support groups are known as The Friends of.....(Name of Twin Town) and operate independently.</p> <p>3. Yes, members of the Friends of..... ..pay their own expenses.</p> <p>4. Some Councillors are independent members of the The Friends of.....</p> <p>5. Unless Councillors have been nominated by the Leader of the Council to visit a twin town as an official delegate they would pay their own expenses.</p>	<p><b>The Mayor's Secretary to feed back on whether there was a specific budget for twinning and what was the actual cost to Barnet Residents during recent years.</b></p> <p>Town Twinning has a budget for 2010/2011 of £9240</p> <p>Cost to each LB Barnet Council Tax Account Payer is 0.07p</p>

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	<p>6. If councillors' expenses are paid by Barnet rate-payers what is the annual cost to the Borough?</p> <p>At the meeting Ms Block said that the response did not clarify the actual cost to the council and therefore residents, and did not sufficiently inform of the benefits derived from such visits.</p> <p>It was Mr Massey's view that in these days of most people travelling world-wide, there seemed little point in these visits. He said the council should be asking whether they were now absolutely necessary.</p>	<p>6. When a Councillor visits a twin town as an official delegate the Council will pay for their travel (flight or rail) Although this is not the case for delegates visiting Morphou in Cyprus as this cost is borne by Morphou Municipality. In every case accommodation costs are borne by the Twin Town being visited.</p> <p>For more information please visit  <a href="http://www.barnet.gov.uk/town-twinning">http://www.barnet.gov.uk/town-twinning</a> for facts, information and contacts for the Friends of.....etc</p> <p>Councillors Rutter and Longstaff outlined their particular experiences on how the respective towns can learn from one another and how there were differing arrangements in terms of accommodation. They also outlined the history of how some of the town became twinned with Barnet.</p>	
3	<p>A request for an update on the CPZ Review</p>	<p><b>Neil Richardson</b>  Analysis of the review is complete and conclusions drawn. Based on this it was anticipated that internal consultation with local ward members on the recommended actions resulting from this review would have taken place to inform the final outcome as part of the decision making process.  Subsequently though, the council's review of all activities related to funding streams for parking schemes and the interest and possible avenues</p>	

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		<p>of investigation related to the Barnet Town Centre strategy has meant that no further action as a direct result of the review will be taken for the foreseeable future, although the information gathered from the survey may be used to assist some elements of the strategy outcomes where applicable.</p> <p>However, the annotated response data is available for reference and should anyone wish to obtain details they are welcome to contact the council's Design Team who will be pleased to assist</p>	
4	<p><b>Mr Ashwood</b>          Raised an issue with regards to the quality of the pot hole repairs to Crocusfield and referred to his concerns about the status of the road in terms of whether or not it was adopted. Mr Ashwood held the view that adoption of this road should have taken place years ago.</p>	<p><b>Highways Department</b>          Currently Crocusfield is not an adopted road but we recognise that this road should have been adopted. Highways is therefore treating this road as if it was adopted and, at the same time, is working with Barnet Homes towards adopting this road. Essential drainage improvement works and carriageway resurfacing works have been identified to bring Crocusfield to adoptable standards. The Council intends to adopt Crocusfield once these works have been carried out. The drainage works involve the installation of new gullies and the replacing of undersized highway drains to avoid flooding. As the outfall of the new highway drain is proposed to be directly on the Dollis Brook, we are currently preparing a drawing for submission to the Environment Agency's for their approval. In the meanwhile essential repairs, like filling of potholes and kerb relaying, have been carried out at Crocusfield. This road will be regularly inspected for responsive highway maintenance until it is adopted</p>	

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5	<p>A resident raised a concern regarding the traffic problems in Chestnut Grove at school peak times. Parents were performing dangerous manoeuvres and parking inappropriately. He asked whether it was possible for the Council to consider making the road one-way. The issue had become worse due to the combining of the two school sites.</p> <p>At the meeting a resident said that there had been a school in Chestnut Grove for many years and she conceded that it was now much larger. She said that parents should not be dropping off their secondary school children so close to the site.</p>	<p><b>Sgt Coates</b> responded by saying that the police could only deal with road traffic accidents and obstruction and that all other activities came within the remit of the council. Police no longer issued penalty notices and he confirmed that they had received very few complaints.</p> <p>Councillor Evangeli said that shortly officers would be issuing warning notices in Mansfield as residents had raised concerns. It was also confirmed that issues in respect of pick up and drop off activities were included in the school's newsletter.</p>	
6	<p>Various other road related issues were raised at this point including rat-running in York Way and the congestion and off-peak speeding vehicles in Manor Drive.</p> <p>Concerns were also raised about the continual excavation of East Barnet Road, which caused extensive traffic problems. The resident said that there was no co-ordination with the works being carried out.</p>	<p><b>Highways (Chris Chrysostomou)</b> undertook to investigate the issue of speeding in Manor Drive.</p> <p>In respect of road works, Chris Chrysostomou confirmed that excavation was almost entirely due to the utility companies.</p>	<p><b>Highways Officer to feed back on the issue of speeding in Manor Drive</b></p> <p>Surveys will be undertaken in due course when traffic conditions in the area are considered to be normal ie during school periods and when road works will not temporarily influence driver behaviour and the outcomes and findings reported back at a later forum</p>

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7	<p><b>Mr Howard</b></p> <p>Raised a concern at the poor accessibility to residents of the council's calendar of meetings. He said that easier access could result in better attendance at meetings. He also raised a concern that the dates for these forums regularly clashed with the more local residents' association meetings.</p> <p>One resident felt that the forums should start half an hour later so that people who worked would be able to attend more easily.</p>		<p><b>Media Relations:</b>  <b>To feed back on any new initiatives to better advertise the forums</b></p> <p>The Council is aware that the website is not easy to navigate. It is intended to revise it in the new year and improvements will include making it easier to follow the Council timetable and to provide information (potentially including 'push' information – sent to those who request it) by post code.</p> <p><b>Democratic Services Officer</b>  Referring to meeting clashes, the Council calendar is set and published a year in advance, each May, at Annual Council. The dates take into account all the other formal meetings of the Council and endeavours, wherever possible, to avoid clashes in terms of Member attendance. At the same time, the venues for each of the forums has to be identified and booked. To change the date of a meeting could prove problematical for Councillors' diaries and would have cost implications in terms of cancellation fees.</p> <p>The view of a resident that forums should start half an hour later was noted. However as the forum was not formal, residents could attend throughout the duration of the meeting and still fully participate in debate and raising issues. Similarly, residents can, and do, leave the forum when they so choose.</p>

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8	<p><b>Ms Ann Fergusson</b> Raised the subject of the withdrawal of the roundabout in Friern Barnet Lane/Torrington Park. She outlined the traffic issues as a result of this action and asked whether the decision could be reversed.</p>		<p><b>Highways Officer to feed back on the traffic issues in this area and why the roundabouts had been removed</b></p> <p>Apart from the concerns raised through the forum officers are unaware of any significant issues being highlighted at this location following removal of the measures and reversion to give way. The concerns can be investigated but officers would be grateful if more detail as to the nature of the concern could be provided.</p>
9	<p><b>Mr Massey</b> Referred to the lengthy discussion that had taken place at the last forum and confirmed that a site meeting had taken place. A response was awaited from the Legal Section on issues raised by residents to Paul Bragg.</p> <p>In addition, residents had requested a meeting with the Cabinet Member regarding the Council's policy regarding crossovers.</p>		<p><b>Highways Officer to feed back on legal issues and the requested meeting with the Cabinet Member, Councillor Coleman</b></p> <p>Officers confirmed that the Council's Legal Department were still considering the issues.</p> <p>Residents are advised to approach their Ward Councillors with a view to taking the issue forward on their behalf, with Officers and/or the Cabinet Member.</p>
10	<p>Mr Massey referred to the response requested in respect of the CPZ consultations. He said that although the Council has indicated that there was no funding at the current time, residents should be informed of the outcomes so that it was clear on where Barnet would be heading in the future.</p>		<p><b>Highways Officer to respond regarding feedback</b> Contrary to what has been stated, it was explained at the strategy board that officers were to use the information gathered as a result of the review to inform changes formulated as an outcome of the town centre strategy but that no action would be taken at this time as a direct consequence of the review</p>

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	Mrs Massey said that Neil Richardson, Highways Engineer had attended the last Strategy Board meeting and had come up with little information regarding a long term strategy. He undertook to respond in writing.		itself. The long term strategy is to still encourage a vibrant trading environment in the town centre through sensible parking management and also to investigate and propose measures where necessary to mitigate against the existing and future parking demands in and adjacent to the Chipping Barnet CPZ.
	DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING	Coppetts Wood School, Coppetts Road on 29 November 2010 at 6.30pm  17 January 2011 at East Barnet School. <b>Any resident wishing to take part in a short tour around East Barnet school should arrive at the meeting venue at 5.30pm on the night.</b>	

The meeting finished at 8.05pm

Officers Present:

Chris Chrysostomou

Environment and Operations

Martin Cowie

Head of Planning and Development Management

Sgt Coates

Safer Neighbourhood Team, Metropolitan Police

Pauline Bagley

Democratic Services

Councillors Rawlings, Longstaff, Andreas Tambourides and Joanna Tambourides were also present

In addition, there were approximately 17 members of the public.

**FORTHCOMING PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS**  
(meetings usually start at 7.00pm)

AREA PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE: - ALL TO BE HELD AT HENDON TOWN HALL, THE BURROUGHS, NW4 4BG

Chipping Barnet

Democratic Services Contact: Pauline Bagley, Tel: 020 8359 2023

Hendon

Democratic Services Contact: Paul Frost, Tel: 020 8359 2205

Finchley and Golders Green

Democratic Services Contact: Stephanie Chaikin, Tel: 020 8359 2019

**Forthcoming meetings:**

**Finchley & Golders Green**

**Chipping Barnet**

**Hendon**

7 December 2010

6 December 2010

6 December 2010

***Public requests to speak at Area Planning Sub-Committees on planning applications***

Written requests to speak on planning applications should be notified to the relevant Area Planning Officer by 10.00am on the 3<sup>rd</sup> working day before the day of the meeting.

***Public requests to ask questions at Area Planning Sub-Committees***

Any request to ask a question (exact wording) on the work of the Sub-Committee must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 7<sup>th</sup> working day before the day of the meeting.

• **AREA ENVIRONMENT SUB-COMMITTEES:**

Venue: Hendon Town Hall, the Burroughs, NW4 4BG

Chipping Barnet

Democratic Services Contact: Stephanie Chaikin, Tel: 020 8359 2019

Finchley & Golders Green

Democratic Services Contact: Nick Musgrove, Tel: 020 8359 2024

Hendon

Democratic Services Contact: Jonathan Regal, Tel: 020 8359 2012

**Forthcoming meetings:**

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**Finchley & Golders Green**

**Chipping Barnet**

**Hendon**

1 December 2010

1 December 2010

1 December 2010

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***Public requests to speak at Area Environment Sub-Committees***

Written requests to speak on issues on the agenda must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> working day before the day of the meeting.

***Public requests to ask questions at Area Environment Sub-Committees***

Any request to ask a question (exact wording) on environmental matters must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 7<sup>th</sup> working day before the day of the meeting.

**PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Venue: Hendon Town Hall, The Burroughs, NW4 4BG

Democratic Services Contact: Maria Lugangira (tel: 020 8359 2761)

***Public requests to speak at Planning & Environment Committee***

Written requests to speak on planning applications should be notified to the relevant Area Planning Officer by 10.00am on the 2nd working day before the day of the meeting for non planning issues and the 3<sup>rd</sup> working day before the meeting on planning issues.

***Public requests to ask questions at Planning & Environment Committee***

Any request to ask a question (exact wording) on the work of the Committee must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 7<sup>th</sup> working day before the day of the meeting.

**Forthcoming meetings:**

**8 December 2010**