**CHIPPING BARNET RESIDENTS’ FORUM**

**MEETING HELD ON 19 JUNE 2007**

**ACTION NOTES at 6.30pm**

held at: Foulds Primary School, Byng Road, Barnet EN5 4NR

*Chairman: Councillor Andreas Tambourides  
Vice-Chairman: *Councillor Bridget Perry

* Denotes Councillor Present

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<th>Issue Raised</th>
<th>Response at the Meeting</th>
<th>Update (and by whom)</th>
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<td>1. A resident asked why the forum had been renamed Chipping Barnet Residents Forum instead of Barnet Area Forum as this suggested that New and East Barnet were now excluded and why was no reasonable point of contact was given on the distributed posters - No name, no telephone number, no address and no email address.</td>
<td>The Council resolved on 17 April 2007, on the recommendation of the Constitution Review Committee, that with effect from 2007/08 the Area Forums be amalgamated to form three to correspond with the Constituency boundaries and the Area Planning and Area Environment Sub-Committees. It was also considered appropriate to rename the forums Residents’ Forums emphasising that the forums are first and foremost for residents of the areas. Therefore the Chipping Barnet Residents’, Hendon Residents’ and Finchley and Golders Green Residents’ Forums were formed. The area covered by the Chipping Barnet Residents’ Forum covers the entirety of the Chipping Barnet parliamentary constituency. With regard to the posters, these do contain a telephone number, and the posters advertising the Forums individually also contain an email address although this does not appear on the poster which gives details of all three Forums. Consideration will be given to adding a contact name and postal address to the posters and the email address to the combined poster.</td>
<td>No further update required. (Contact: Flick Heron - 020 8359 2205)</td>
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The resident then suggested that more Ward Councillors should be present to represent the various areas of the constituency.

The Chairman responded by saying that both he and his Vice Chairman Councillor Perry were at the meeting. In addition, Councillors Joanna Tambourides and MacDonald were present and seated within the audience.

2. A resident referred to The Jewish Community Secondary School (JCoSS) who had now submitted their application to redevelop the former East Barnet School Westbrook Crescent site and it was understood that the ASDA proposals for a new supermarket on the Albert Road gas works site were proceeding quickly.

He asked whether the Council could assure residents that the JCoSS application would not be considered until after the New Barnet Environmental and Impact assessment had been published, consulted upon widely within the community and appropriate measures agreed to address the big increase in traffic that both developments would generate. He also asked what measures were the Council considering to address the extra traffic.

The planning application submitted by JCoSS for development at the former East Barnet School at Westbrook Crescent was registered on 25th May, 2007 and was currently the subject of consultation in the locality comprising 7 site notices in the area, a press notice and individual letters to some 700 local residents, the closing date for responses being 27th June, 2007.

With regard to the Gas Works site at Albert Road, New Barnet, it was understood that it had been acquired by Asda but no planning application had been received by the Council.

The JCoSS application had been accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment. This document included a Transport Assessment for the proposed development which formed part of the application and was available for inspection as were the other supporting documents submitted as part of the application. The traffic implications of the proposal would be taken into account when the application was determined.

(Contact Jo Dowling – 020 8359 4926)

A more extensive account to all issues raised both prior to the meeting and during the meeting are appended to this action sheet at Appendix A. The views expressed by residents have been referred to the Council’s Planning Department to form part of the ongoing public consultation in respect of this issue.
3. It was the view of a resident that from April 2007 new rules available to Local Planning Authorities had strengthened their powers to resist new development on private house gardens which had previously been classed as brown field sites. Councils now had the ability to set policies that specifically protect garden land and separate this out from their wider brown field development targets. He asked what steps had Barnet taken to adopt these new powers and when would they come into effect. He also asked where could residents see the changes.

Whilst a Department of Communities and Local Government spokesman had been similarly quoted in the latest issue of “Planning”, officers were not aware of the introduction of such legislation and the Council was continuing to check the accuracy of this statement. Irrespective as to whether or not residential gardens were included within the definition of “brownfield land”, policies within the Council's adopted Unitary Development Plan (UDP) seek to encourage development proposals that respected local character and amenity of existing as well as potential residents and occupiers.

In addition the Council had developed the Three Strands Approach to development within the borough under the banner of “Protection, Enhancement, Growth” which would provide a vision and direction to future planning and development within Barnet. This would be taken forward in the Local Development Framework (LDF) which would be a statutory development plan – replacing the UDP - and would underpin the vision and philosophy for developing the spatial policies and Area Action Plans. Strand Two is Enhancement which seeks to “Protect and enhance the best of Barnet suburbia” and would provide strong planning policy protection for preserving the character and amenity of existing as well as future residents. 

(Contact Ros Ward - 020 8359 4657)
openness of lower density suburbs and conservation areas. Lower traditional suburban densities applied where the character of the area was traditional high quality nineteenth century as well as 1920’s or 1930’s two storey housing with wide plots and spacious private gardens or surrounding open space and significant tree coverage.

Further details of the Three Strands Approach could be obtained from the Council’s website [www.barnet.gov.uk](http://www.barnet.gov.uk).

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<th>4. A resident asked Why did Barnet’s officers require JCoSS to provide a new road and bridge as part of their planned development in New Barnet.</th>
<th>The application included proposals for a new access driveway along the north eastern side of the site which it was proposed to link with Castlewood Road by means of a new bridge across Pymmes Brook. This would be considered on its merits when the application was determined.</th>
<th>(Contact Jo Dowling – 020 8359 4926) Please see Appendix A.</th>
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<td>5. The resident then said that residents had seen the JCoSS Green Travel Plan (GTP) and said it was not worth the paper it was written on. He asked what was the Council doing to ensure that there was a robust, viable, legally binding GTP. He also asked whether Barnet had consulted other Local Authorities and what lessons had they learned. Would there be a revised GTP before the Planning Committee met to consider the application and if not why not?</td>
<td>The comments raised in respect of the merits or otherwise of the proposed Green Travel Plan would be taken into account when the application was considered.</td>
<td>(Contact Jo Dowling – 020 8359 4926) Please see Appendix A.</td>
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6. A resident referred to the junction of Monks Avenue and Longmore Avenue, New Barnet. Cars parked in Longmore Avenue close to the junction meant that drivers leaving Monks Avenue were unable to get a clear line of sight.

Looking both ways and edging out into fast moving traffic had resulted in near misses and, as he understood, accidents including a fatal accident a few years ago had resulted.

Monks Avenue was used not only by residents of Monks Avenue and roads off it, but by drivers avoiding delays at the Netherlands Road and Longmore Avenue junction.

As drivers were not following Highway Code recommendations on parking near junctions he asked whether consideration could be given to the provision of double yellow lines at this junction.

| 6. A resident referred to the junction of Monks Avenue and Longmore Avenue, New Barnet. Cars parked in Longmore Avenue close to the junction meant that drivers leaving Monks Avenue were unable to get a clear line of sight. | This will be considered by parking officers. A survey at different times of the day will be carried out to establish whether there is a sightline problem and the extent of it. Officers will then make the appropriate recommendation on whether to install yellow lines. | The location has now been inspected and due to the presence of parked vehicles obstructing sightlines and impacting on safety at this location, Officers will be progressing a proposal to introduce double yellow line restrictions at the junction which would prohibit vehicles from parking at any time. Assuming Council approval will be given for the proposal, the restrictions will be advertised on a statutory basis in September 07, and assuming all statutory requirements are met, the double yellow lines should be introduced on-street by the end of the year.

Contact: Neil Richardson, Senior Engineer 020 8359 7525 |

7. A resident requested an update on the rebuild of Fould’s School. | The Leader of the Council initiated a consultation exercise in May this year on the future of Fould’s School. This set out four options for local people to consider. These were:

To retain the current Fould’s site and refurbish only:

Retain current Fould’s site, refurbish and extend to 2 forms of entry:

Rebuild Fould’s on the existing site: |

(The contact: Gillian Palmer 020 8359 7642) The comments made by residents at the meeting have been referred to the appropriate department who are currently preparing the options.

The issues raised at the meeting and referred on are attached to the action sheet at Appendix B |
| | Build a new school on an alternative site  
The responses to these options were now being analysed and the outcome would be announced as soon as possible. |  
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<td>8. A resident referred to Tarmac surfaces beside trees on pavements</td>
<td>The issue of tree root damage is not one that could be answered specifically as it was related to a Borough wide situation. Where tree roots damaged the footpath, bitmac was applied as it was a flexible material and hence removed trip hazards. Tree removal and/or root trimming was the responsibility of the Tree Section and when specific problems have been addressed, every effort was made to reinstate a level footway.</td>
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He had recently been in a number of streets in his wheelchair. It was particularly noticeable that where there was Tarmac covering the roots from the trees under the pavement area in most cases the tarmac was extremely uneven. It was so bad that on some occasions he feared his wheelchair might turn over.

This was not a local but a Borough wide problem. It was dangerous for children in push chairs, aged or infirm people with shopping trolleys, people in wheelchairs and even pedestrians. He suggested that this issue was raised with the responsible department with a request for a Borough wide review/request for details and a program of repairs instituted.

He further requested that in his absence, borough wide action be reported to the next meeting of all forums. | No further update pending.  
Contact Ian Caunce (Highways) 020 8359 7303 |
9. A resident raised an issue in respect of recycling and the difficulties experienced when defining paper/cardboard; one of which was recyclable, and the other not. It was acknowledged that all residents felt strongly about better options for recycling. However currently, the contractors would not accept certain items. The Council was looking towards expanding its options in the future.

Contact: Roger Jones, Chief Environmental Services Manager, 020 8359 7523
Barnet Council does collect paper for recycling from households, this includes: newspapers, magazines, leaflets, telephone directories and catalogues. We do not currently collect cardboard which includes: card such as cereal boxes, cardboard packaging and cardboard boxes. The process of procuring the new kerbside recycling contract has begun, and the contract will commence in October 2008. We are looking to add the collection of cardboard and plastic bottles into the new contract.

10. The resident then raised a concern that recently he had to gather grass clippings and put them into a plastic bag for collection as his green bin had become full. He said that because of this, the collectors had ignored all of the green waste. He said that common sense was needed and this should be made clear to the collectors. Another resident asked whether plastic would be collected in the future. The resident’s concerns were noted at the meeting and the Chairman confirmed that the collection of plastic in the future was an option being considered by the Council. He reminded residents at the meeting that there were various leaflets available in the room giving information on many aspects of recycling.

No further update pending.

Contacts:
Tel (020) 8359 7400, Fax 0870 889 6793, email recycling@barnet.gov.uk or visit www.barnet.gov.uk/recycling
| 11. A resident raised the issue of parking around Ravenscroft Park and the ongoing empty spaces during the day which had been allocated as residents' parking only. He requested again that some of these spaces be converted to visitor places to maximise the use and that they could be charged for. | It was understood that action could only be taken during the next review of the Controlled Parking Zone. | The Council has commenced a rolling programme of reviewing the Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ) in the Borough in order to find out whether they continued to meet the needs of the community. Issues such as the type and number of bays provided in any given area would naturally be reviewed if raised as an issue of concern through the review process. It is not now intended to consider changes to the parking bay provision in any given area unless there is a proven necessity that such action should take place in advance of a review. Ravenscroft Park is part of the Chipping Barnet all day CPZ and has been controlled since 1 September 2005, along with Marriott Road and Blenheim Crescent. A review of the CPZ is planned for the early part of 2008.

Since September 2005, neither the residents' parking or pay and display parking bays have been utilised to anywhere near their full capacity and it is not therefore considered that, at this stage, further consideration should be given to converting bays, as the existing provision is more than coping with the current demand.

Contact: Neil Richardson, Senior Engineer 020 8359 7525 |
12. The resident then raised a concern about overhanging foliage and requested that this be addressed particularly on busy thoroughfares and narrow pavements.

Highway Inspectors identify overhanging foliage issues when they carry out their dialing inspections. Having identified such a problem, a standard notice is served on the property owner with a statutory period for the offending foliage to be cut back. If the notice is not complied with, the Local Authority has the right to carry out the works and charge the owner accordingly.

Officers would contact the resident direct in respect of specific areas of concern.

Contact: George Pringle, Highways Street Enforcement officer 020 8359 7508.

13. A resident referred back to the previous forum and said that he had seen no improvement in the service of on line access to plans and planning applications.

Another resident complained about the poor quality of plans sent to him by the Council at a cost of £12.

The comments were noted and a response would be provided.

A letter of explanation has been sent to the resident in respect of access to plans on line.

This issue of the quality of the plans was being resolved with the individual concerned.

(Contact: Dave Prince – 020 8359 4671)
| 14. A resident complained about the 6 wheelie bins being kept on the pavement adjacent to the Griffin Public House, Whetstone High Road. He had brought this issue up at the last Whetstone Area Forum and he said that the situation had not improved. | It was reported that Trade Waste and Town Centres officers have been monitoring the situation. In addition ‘No dumping’ signs have been erected. | This site is being monitored by the Whetstone Town Keeper and until recently a 'No dumping' sign on the barrier seemed to deter the problem. However there has been a recent change for the worse since the sign went missing. Two signs have now been replaced and council officers responsible for Streetscene and Trade Waste have visited the site and given advice. The problem would now seem to be the Griffin Public House (excess bags) and Pizza Express overloaded bins (private Biffa contract). A Trade Waste Officer and street cleansing supervisor have visited the traders and they have agreed to increase the frequency of their collections. This will ensure that waste is stored within the containers in future. The Whetstone Townkeeper will now monitor on a daily basis to ensure the problem is resolved. |
Further Update:
The Town Keeper and Trade Waste officers have had further meetings with the traders in order to resolve the problem. Unfortunately, there was nowhere for five of the traders to locate their bins but on the highway. However, there has been an increase in collections to alleviate the problem. The idea of using bags instead of wheelie bins was discussed at length with the traders and was discounted because of health reasons and the volume and weight of the waste produced. This was because the premises were producing glass wastage which in turn made the waste much heavier. The current system would seem safest.

Contact Chris Chrysosostomou, 020 8359 7200

Date and Venue of the next Forum

Conference Area
Building 5
North London Business Park
Oakleigh Road South
New Southgate N11 1NP
Thursday 2 August 2007
6.30pm start

The meeting finished at 8.30pm

Officers Present:
Jill Stansfield  Executive Director for Communities
Dave Prince    Planning
Chris Chrysostomou Highways
Gangan Pillai  Highways
Peter Cridland  Property Services
Pauline Bagley  Democratic Services

MAP AND ACCESS INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED
Access to the Forum venue (by car or on foot):

- **From Oakleigh Road North**
  
  Past the security barrier at the entrance of the business park on your left. Continue forward to the cluster of buildings (multi storey car park on your left). Turn right and proceed down the slope (on foot only). Building 5 is on the right.

- **From Brunswick Park Road**
  
  Drive/walk through the car park keeping to your left. Building 5 is the first building on your left.
**Car Directions**

**Landmarks:**
- Pedestrian crossing at the entrance
- Bridge immediately before / after the entrance, depending on which direction you come
- A sign for the Southgate Rugby Football Club at the entrance

**Buses:**
- No. 34 (from Barnet to Walthamstow, via Arnos Grove and Edmonton)
- No. 251 (from Edgware to Arnos Grove Station)
- These run every 8 and 15 minutes respectively, and stop right outside the campus, only a two minute walk from the building.
- No. 125 from Finchley Central to Winchmore Hill stops at the junction of Osidge Lane and Brunswick Park Road.
- The current frequency is every 15 minutes.
- No. 184 from High Barnet to Turnpike Lane, via Arnos Grove.
- Runs at 9 minute intervals.

**Trains:**
- Arnos Grove tube station (Piccadilly Line) and the New Southgate railway station are both just a 15/20 minute walk away
APPENDIX A

CHIPPING BARNET RESIDENTS’ FORUM
REFERRAL TO PLANNING DEPARTMENT – 19 JUNE 2007

JEWISH COMMUNITY SECONDARY SCHOOL (JCoSS) APPLICATION

At the Residents’ Forum on 19 June, in excess of 80 people attended to raise issues and concerns in respect of the above planning application.

As the application is already ‘live’ neither the Councillors nor officers present on the night were able to venture opinions or respond, except in general terms, to the issues raised. Residents were angry that their questions could not be answered despite reiteration of the reasons why a full debate could not take place. One resident ventured to say that he would be requesting certain information under the Freedom of Information Act.

The Chairman of the Forum, Councillor Andreas Tambourides, promised those present that all of their views would be noted and that they would be referred to the Planning Department for incorporation into the report which will, in due course, be considered by members of the Planning and Environment Committee.

It is understood that the closing date for consultation is 27 June, and that the application will be considered on either 4 July 2007 or 19 July 2007, although it is more likely to be the later date. An undertaking was made to confirm the date with residents’ representatives.

A summary of the issues and concerns raised by the residents are as follows:

- Grave concern about the lack of notice in respect of this planning application.
- An assurance wanted that the JCoSS application would not be considered until after the New Barnet Environmental and Impact Assessment had been published, consulted upon widely within the community and appropriate measures agreed to address the big increase in traffic that both developments (JCoSS and Asda) would generate.
- What measures were the Council considering to address the extra traffic?
- Why did the Council require JCoSS to provide a new road and bridge as part of their planned development in New Barnet when the applicant had not originally asked for one?
- Concerns that the proposed Green Travel Plan (GTP) was ‘not worth the paper it was written on’. There was a need to encourage travel by bicycle or bus, which would have less adverse impact on the roads. Some residents felt that the GTP was aspirational.
- What was the Council doing to ensure that there was a robust and viable legally binding GTP?
- A majority of those present held no opposition to the new school, their concerns were in respect of travel and environmental issues and that this application should not be considered in isolation.
A concern that the application had been ‘fast tracked’ giving residents little time to respond within the consultation timeframe.

A concern that there was inadequate infrastructure in the area, which would result in increased traffic estimated to be between 6% and 14%. The view that it was unlikely that children from a wide catchment area, would travel to school other than by car.

Concerns on the cumulative adverse traffic effect of this application together with a likely application from Asda.

The view that there has been no joined up thinking by the Council and residents demanded feedback and dialogue with the Local Authority. They were concerned that Members and officers were not allowed to debate the issue at the meeting.

Concern that only one site notice had initially been erected, followed by six more when a resident had raised the issue with the Council. Numerous people said that they had not received the planning letters despite being told that 700 had been sent out.

The understanding that the Unitary Development Plan called for the protection of metropolitan open land and that this application went against this with the building of a road through a school field.

Issues raised about poor highways planning in the past in particular regarding the installation of unwanted traffic lights, and poor treatment remedies in respect of parking on pavements.

The view that the proposed road alongside the wood would increase access for dumping more vehicles and vandalism.

A reference to the proposed ten coaches to transport children from the Mount Pleasant area. It was the view that this level of transport could not be accommodated at the railway station.

The view that a radical controlled parking scheme was required as there was no off street parking provision in surrounding roads.

Feedback was requested on the views of the Environment Agency in respect of the proposed bridge across the brook.

Reassurance sought that although planners were already compiling the report, residents’ views would be taken on board.

It was reported that a petition was pending.

Residents were very concerned about the safety of local children when the extra traffic was generated, and the environmental impact.

A question as to who would benefit financially if the proposals were adopted and could any decision go to review.

The view that the Council had not consulted sufficiently, despite residents being informed that 700 letters were sent out, 7 site notices erected, and a notice placed in the local newspapers.
Residents at the Forum in particular Jenny Dodd, raised the issue of the Council’s options for the future of Foulds School. The following views were expressed at the meeting with the request that these be referred to the Planning Department for inclusion as comments within the future application.

Jill Stansfield confirmed that consultation had taken place and that a design had not been formulated. The outcome of the consultation would have to be analysed and referred to the Leader of the Council for his consideration. Any proposals would be subject to planning rules.

The issues raised by residents included:

- The four options within the consultation document did not reflect the intended development. Residents said that the document was insulting.
- Only two of the options had been outlined and there was no information on how the school could be refurbished.
- There was no explanation within the consultation document about education places and distribution. Children attending Foulds School came from a wide catchment area.
- It was a view that there was no argument for a two form entry at Foulds School unless Grasvenor School was closed and children were ‘bussed’ to the school. Clarity was sought in respect of targets.
FORTHCOMING PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS
(meetings usually start at 7.00pm)

- AREA PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE:

  Chipping Barnet The Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4
  Democratic Services Contact: Nazyer Choudhury, tel: 020 8359 2031 or email Nazyer.choudhury@barnet.gov.uk

  Hendon The Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4
  Democratic Services Contact: Pauline Bagley – 020 8359 2023 or email pauline.bagley@barnet.gov.uk

  Finchley and Golders Green The Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4
  Democratic Services Contact: Maria Lugangira – 020 8359 2761 or email maria.lugangira@barnet.gov.uk

  Finchley & Golders Green Chipping Barnet Hendon
  20 August 2007 21 August 2007 22 August 2007

Public requests to speak at 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 2nd working day before the day of the meeting.
Public requests to speak at Area Planning Sub-Committees on matters other than planning applications
Written requests to speak on matters other than planning applications must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 2nd 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 7th working day before the day of the meeting.
• AREA ENVIRONMENT SUB-COMMITTEE:

Chipping Barnet
The Town Hall, The Burroughs,
Hendon, NW4
Democratic Services Contact: Pauline Bagley – 020 8359 2023 or email pauline.bagley@barnet.gov.uk

Finchley & Golders Green
The Town Hall, The Burroughs,
Hendon, NW4
Democratic Services Contact: Stephanie Chaikin – 020 8359 2019 or email stephanie.chaikin@barnet.gov.uk

Hendon
The Town Hall, The Burroughs,
Hendon, NW4
Democratic Services Contact: Nazy Choudhury - 020 8359 2031 or email nazy.choudhury@barnet.gov.uk

Finchley & Golders Green
Chipping Barnet
Hendon

29 August 2007
29 August 2007
29 August 2007

20 November 2007
20 November 2007
20 November 2007

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\textsuperscript{nd} 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\textsuperscript{th} working day before the day of the meeting.

• PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The Town Hall, The Burroughs, Hendon, NW4
Democratic Services Contact: Jonathan Regal – 020 8359 2012 or email jonathan.regal@barnet.gov.uk

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.

Public requests to speak at Planning & Environment Committee on matters other than planning matters
Written requests to speak on matters other than planning applications must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 2nd working day before the day of the meeting.

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 7th working day before the day of the meeting.

8 August 2007, 5 September 2007, 8 October 2007