HENDON RESIDENTS' FORUM

18 January 2010

St Joseph's Pastoral Centre, St Joseph's Grove, The Burroughs, Hendon, London NW4 4TY

Forum Officers' Action Notes

Chairman: Councillor Brian Gordon* Vice-Chairman: Councillor John Hart

*Denotes Councillor Present

	Issue Raised	Response	Update
1.	Petition Received: Repairs to the front bedroom section of the two front bedroom maisonetts in Warner Close, Marriotts Close and Marsh Drive in order to meet the Government Decent Homes Standards. Can a copy of the Health and Safety condition survey report be supplied? Mr Derrick Chung sent to the Leader of the Council, Councillor Mike Freer. 156 signatures West Hendon Residents Association	The 4 Regeneration Estates, including West Hendon, were outside the Council's ALMO business cost model. Alternative investment was identified for the estates as part of wider regeneration initiatives. However, in September 2007 stock condition surveys were carried out on the four estates to establish the investment needs. A summary of the West Hendon Estate stock condition survey is attached as Appendix 1. Also included are comments as to how the recommendation has or will be dealt with. Please note there has not been a separate health & safety stock condition report. As result of these surveys, in conjunction with the Council, Barnet Homes adopted a Capital Works strategy for the Regeneration Estates. This strategy is based on a traffic light system in which capital works are prioritised based on health and safety requirements. The programme has been phased over a 3 year period and the budget for the works is £4.36 million. Barnet Homes are now in the second year of the programme and the majority of the capital works to the West Hendon Estate were carried out 2008/9. This included window renewals, upgrading of communal and internal electrical installations and environmental improvements totalling £1.4m. In addition to this, West Hendon received capital funding through the Repairs and Maintenance support programme in 2008/09, with approximately £180k	 Stock condition surveys were carried out on the four estates in September 2007 in order to establish the investment needs. Please see attached stock condition survey briefing report with comments as to how we intend or have dealt with the recommendation. Please note there has not been a health & safety stock condition report. Lifts Specialists has been contracted to service all our lifts within the Borough, including those on the West Hendon estate. The lifts are serviced on a monthly basis. We also have a Breakdown service. Where faults are identified remedial repairs actions are carried out. In addition, to ensure safety, Zurich insurers carry our two check per year on each of our lifts and reports back to Barnet Homes, the report details work which may need to be carried out immediately as well as supplementary works which needs to be completed to ensure Health & Safety of the lifts are maintained. We are currently in the process of agreeing new

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		of improvements to elements such as one off kitchen unit replacements and voids works being delivered.	monitoring processes in order to enhance monitoring and of each lift system,
	Following receipt of the Petition the following question(s) have been raised by the West Hendon Residents Association: What is the definition of a temporary tenant? If either class of tenant, temporary or secure respects the rules and operate the same can consideration be made to the class of their status?		l G
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2.	Petition Received Proposed changes to the Edgware K CPZ We the residents in the Edgware K CPZ area strongly oppose the proposed reduction in the current operational hours of the CPZ 54 Signatures	This petition was received in response to Council proposals to amend the current operating hours of the Edgware K CPZ from Monday to Sunday 8am to 9pm to reduced hours of Monday to Saturday 8am to 6.30pm. This proposal resulted from a review of the Edgware CPZs, through which dissatisfaction amongst residents was highlighted with the current operating hours in the K CPZ, which were considered unnecessarily long compared to surrounding restrictions. The Council are currently considering all responses received through the statutory consultation necessary to make any changes, including the sentiments of the petition. Once a decision has been reached, all those consulted in respect of the proposed change will be informed of the Council's intentions. Neil Richardson Neil.Richardson@hotmail.co.uk	condensation to the surface of the external walls. It should be noted that the costs of this would have to be considered along with other priorities. Chris Wilkins Chris.wilkins@barnethomes. Org.uk Although a large number of residents from Manor Park Gardens signed a petition requesting that no change be made, it was not considered to be representative of all of the residents of the road. Manor Park Gardens runs between Manor Park Crescent and Green Lane, both of which are roads in which the Council have proposed a reduction of CPZ operating hours. Given these points, and taking into account the potential for confusion to all motorists, it was therefore decided that the reduction of hours is to be introduced into Manor Park Gardens along with Manor Park Crescent, Green Lane, Old Rectory Gardens and Rectory Lane as proposed. Letters to residents will be delivered on Friday 26 February, and the changes will become operational on 29 March. Neil Richardson
			Neil.Richardson@hotmail.co.
3.	Having seen the beginning of the demolition of the high rise blocks, I am concerned about the presence of asbestos and other hazardous materials. Living on Stonegrove I want reassurance that all buildings scheduled for demolition have been surveyed by specialist	Barratt let the demolition contract to their principal sub contractor Rye demolition. As part of their contract they undertook an type 2 survey and as a result removed under rigid conditions all hazardous materials from site as part of the soft strip prior to demolition of the structure. In addition the equipment used includes a damping down fine	The Council is aware of residents concerns and will monitor future demolition contracts through our regular progress meetings to ensure that hazardous materials where found are managed and removed from site appropriately. Denny Adam Denny.adam@barnet.gov.uk

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	surveyors and that any hazardous materials have been and will be removed by specialists qualified to remove same. Rhona Myers	spray continuously used to reduce any dust disbursement. The demolition site was investigated recently by the Health & Safety Executive and given a clean bill of health. Denny Adam Denny.adam@barnet.gov.uk	
4.	Planning Enforcement	Mr Tucker will be provided with a	
a)	How many Planning Enforcement complaints has Barnet Council received each year for the last 5 years?	written response to these issues raised following this meeting. Paul Frost paul.frost@barnet.gov.uk	2009: 1679 2008: 1568 2007: 1547 2006: 1354 2005: 1245
b)	How many Planning Enforcement complaints have been investigated by Barnet Council each year for the last 5 years?		Every enforcement complaint received is investigated.
c)	What is the current waiting time for a case to be investigated?		The Council has a target to investigate alleged breaches of planning control within 4 weeks of receipt, with higher priority cases being investigated within shorter periods. A priority case may, for instance, relate to works to a tree or a listed building. Once an investigation commences it can take some time to resolve the identified breach as Government guidance (Planning Policy Guidance Note 18: Enforcing Planning Control and Circular No. 10/97: Enforcing Planning Control) encourages councils in the first instance to seek other means of addressing a breach before taking formal action. An obvious example is through the submission of a planning application to regularise a development. Once formal action is taken there is a right of appeal against most notices to the Planning Inspectorate and decisions on appeals take approximately 6 months.

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					received the lengthy com Thereafter, i not resolved the Council the courts.	peal decision is re is usually a pliance period. If the breach is only then can take the matter to
d)	How do these figures compare with neighbouring Planning Authorities and other London Councils?		sample of othe period betwee	er Lon en De	don planning cember 2007	authorities over and November
	Myk Tucker	The planning a London Borough	Number of complaints received	Num plan enfo	collating data ber of ning type rcement ces served	for 2009. Number of prosecutions
		Barnet	1575	149		12
		Brent	900	140		12
		Hackney	830	60		28
		Harrow	730	10		2
		Richmond	730	22		4
		Westminster		134		5
		Martin Cowie	, 2000	,		1
		Martin.cowie@b	arnet.gov.uk			
5. a)	Sheltered Warden Accommodation How much has the Council spent in regard to their confirmed policy to change the provision for wardens protection sheltered accommodation?	A full response provided due to receipt of this i A response will next Hendon R which is due to Wednesday 17 Sangam Comm Broadway, Bur Paul Frost Paul.frost@bar	o the lateness of ssue. I be proved at the Residents Forum of take place on March 2010 and munity Centre, and Oak HA8 0A	of the m t the 210	question is users and produced the services. In consultants appointed dugive independent of the service to reservice to re	at the question w much has on implementing ecision of 8 June abinet's decision ported by a full manager have st 6 months with roviders to new proposed addition were also uring this time to ndent specialist sidents and ost of this is in
b)	What is the cost of the Judicial Review?				· ·	has spent 000 on external r the Judicial
c)	What is the estimate cost to the Council if it is ridiculous				The council	has decided not

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	enough to challenge an adverse decision? Mr G Heaphy and Mr A Sloam		to appeal the High Court judgement and Cabinet will now consider the way forward in giving support to those older people whose needs are greatest and ensuring our services are delivered in the most effective way. Kate Kennally Kate.kennally@barnet.gov.uk
6	Icelandic Banks The President of Iceland has refused to sign the agreement to repay the money deposited in Icelandic Banks. At the last Forum, the Council stated that it excepted almost 100% repayment, including interest. In my calculation, this would be a total of about £31.7m Would the Council Comment? Mr G Heaphy and Mr A Sloam	The Icelandic President's decision relates to a loan agreement the Icelandic government had agreed with HM Treasury is in relation to the repayment of deposits to UK investors in Icesave. This issue has no impact on the council's deposits with Landsbanki and Glitnir. Karen Bannister Karen.Bannister@barnet.gov.uk	Mr Sloam thanked the officer for the response which satisfied his question. This information is available on the Council's Website: http://committeepapers.barnet.gov.uk/democracy/meetings/meetinglist1mth.asp?intSubSectionID=2&intSectionID=2&meetingType=cabinet&intComID=106
7.	Snow At the February 2008 Forum, the question was asked (November 28 by Mr C Cohen), would the Council consider investigating in some snow chains for essential vehicles for bad weather? The Council replied effectively, it's not really necessary. Does the Council have any thought? Mr G Heaphy	It's generally considered that snow chains on vehicles are not practical for use on UK roads, unless all roads were to be heavily covered in snow. Whilst major roads are generally kept clear of snow they would not serve a purpose. It would also be necessary to look beyond vehicles as the vehicle operators may also need specialist equipment in order that they may operate safely. Paul Bragg Paul.bragg@barnet.gov.uk	Councillor Gordon noted how well the Council did maintaining Council Services. He highlighted how well the Council performed with the gritting process, keeping main roads assessable. It is intended that a review of the grit bin locations will be undertaken as well as looking at the type of grit bins we use. Paul Bragg Paul.bragg@barnet.gov.uk On 26 January 2010, Council proposed that a Scrutiny Task and Finish Group should be established to review the Winter Maintenance Prog

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8.	Having experienced the	A full response is unable to be	ramme. This proposal will be presented to the Policy & Performance Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 13 April 2010 for possible inclusion in the overview and scrutiny work programme in the forthcoming municipal year. Andrew Charlwood Andrew.Charlwood@barnet.gov.uk The London Ambulance
	wonderful sharp end of the NHS for my emergency admission to the Royal Free Hospital, last Monday night, the mechanical condition of the ambulance was a paradox to their fantastic service. The ambulance, 53 plated, having been round the clock had no effective shock absorbers and I gathered that this vehicle was good compared to some. Had I been suffering from a heart condition the results could have been fatal. May I enquire as to why these vitally important vehicles are not subject to regular to replacement as other Barnet vehicles and the same strict inspection and mot requirements as other road users are? And	provided due to the lateness of receipt of this issue. The Council is currently in consultation with Barnet NHS. A response will be proved at the next Hendon Residents Forum which is due to take place on Wednesday 17 March 2010 at the Sangam Community Centre, 210 Broadway, Burnt Oak HA8 0AP. Mr Cohen will be supplied a written response as soon as possible. Paul Frost Paul.frost@barnet.gov.uk	Service is currently replacing ageing vehicles with brand new Mercedes sprinters. The new vehicles will initially replace the LDV ambulances, before adding to the existing fleet. The 53 plate ambulances are due to be replaced by new vehicles next year. All our ambulances undergo an annual MOT test, and they are serviced every eight weeks. Mr Cohen's contact details have been forwarded to the Patient Experience team who will investigate the issue. Barnet NHS
9.	who is responsible? Clive Cohen May I enquire the progress	Thank you for your interest, as	No further response
	in maintaining our war memorials as undertaken in the September Forum and is the Council intending to maintain the top part of the memorials as well as the lower? May I also enquire as to the progress being made in ensuring that our latest war dead are inscribed on the	you know the Hendon Memorial is one of several the Council maintains. We have taken advice on the state of the stonework and following the completion of the removal of the copper stains, no additional cleaning is planned for this year. This position will be reviewed at the end of the year. With regard to the addition of	Sue.Taylor@barnet.gov.uk

war memorials in an appropriate and speedy manor. Clive Cohen names the memorial already commemorates those who lost their lives in the second world war and we are not aware of any specific requests to have names added and so there are no plans for adding any additional names to this memorial at this time. We have also not received any requests to add specific names from people killed in conflicts post	
1945, to this or any of our memorials. Currently there is no precedent for adding post 1945 names to our memorials. Although the council would need to give permission for the addition of names, the council does not have a budget for adding names to memorials, so where names are added these must be funded independently. Sue Taylor Sue.Taylor@barnet.gov.uk	
10. Is the Borough aware that the side effect of the unavoidable use of excessive salt on our roads will effectively kill street trees 'big time' unless measures are taken to wash the Boroughs roads clean and speedily. Clive Cohen on behalf of The London wildlife Trust, Barnet Group. We will look to use a browser (mobile watering unit) to wash out the tree pits once the unsettled weather has stopped. If we washed the pits out now and we had another freeze, we would increase the need for salt in the areas we were trying to clear. Authorities are dealing with this current issue. Consultation is taking place in order to measure how other Local Authorities are dealing with this current issue. Andy Tipping Andy.Tipping@barnet.gov.uk The recent weather conditions have result big increase in the nu potholes and defective and this has resulted back log of work to be attended to. We are the address this as soon possible and have dean a number of contracted to work specifically or issues. Reported pot are compiled in a list sent daily to our content washer. Andy Tipping @barnet.gov.uk	imber of re Borough in a re rying to as redicated or teams and ractor. In streets he next uning.
11. In thanking the council for ensuring that some 20 provided due to the lateness of traffic cones were finally receipt of this issue. Neil.Richardson@barnet. The roundabout spor contract has ended a currently being review.	sorship nd is

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	removed from the Mill Hill roundabout reported in September Forum and for the list of roundabouts in the Borough which are sponsored, may I ask now who the sponsors are and how much the annual sponsorship actually is per roundabout?	A response will be proved at the next Hendon Residents Forum which is due to take place on Wednesday 17 March 2010 at the Sangam Community Centre, 210 Broadway, Burnt Oak HA8 0AP. Paul Frost Paul.frost@barnet.gov.uk	will shortly be open to tender. The sub-contracts with individual sponsors contain sensitive commercial information and cannot be disclosed. Vanessa Gearson Vanessa.Gearson@barnet.g ov.uk
12.	In the Septembers forum I reported a number of street lamps and sign illumination remaining on 7/12. The addresses given remain illuminated. Will the Council undertake to address this issue across the Borough and get their officer to report neglected illuminations. Two such examples locally is the give way sign at street lamp 45, the junction of Worcester crescent and Glenwood road and street lamp 24 in Uphill road outside number 75. Clive Cohen	The following was the response at 07 September 2009 meeting: The Council do not pay for any energy consumed outside of normal operating hours. This risk falls to our street lighting maintenance contractor. However, clearly the issue of energy efficiency and its impact on carbon waste is an area of concern for everyone and it is therefore desirable that such issues are identified and resolved as quickly as possible. The Council encourages residents to report all lighting units which are faulty including where they are operating at incorrect times and these will be dealt with within the timescales specified in the street lighting maintenance contract with Barnet Lighting Services. Where issues are reported and not resolved this should also be reported as mechanisms exist to deal with non-performance issues. The following was the updated response following 07 September 2009 meeting: This has been reported to Barnet Lighting Services and will be rectified with 2 business days of the report. The defects have been rectified according to our contractor. Paul Bragg Paul.bragg@barnet.gov.uk	It generally considered that snow chains on vehicles are not practical for use on UK roads, unless all roads were to be heavily covered in snow. Whilst major roads are generally kept clear of snow they would not serve a purpose. It would also be necessary to look beyond vehicles as the vehicle operators may also need specialist equipment in order that they may operate safely. Paul Bragg Paul.bragg@barnet.gov.uk

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13.	Although I enquired recently from Democratic Services for details of autistic and other related conditions and the availability of allotments and horticultural services available in the Borough and/or neighbouring Boroughs at least 3 times or more, no information was forthcoming unlike their usual excellent services. May I now enquire and ask why? Clive Cohen	We have various disability groups on our allotment sites. Barnet Garden Project Archfields Sense Bells Hill Family Learning Project Bells Hill The Harrington Scheme Childs Hill We do not have details of the tenants of leased sites however the Brook Farm allotments recently received a grant and have created raised beds for the disabled. All applications for allotment plots are treated in the same way. The prospective tenants would apply to the secretary of the site and plots are allocated in the order in which they are received. There is a waiting list for most sites. Mary Turp	No further update Mary Turp Mary.turp@barnet.gov.uk
14.	Mr Johnson raised the following issue during the meeting. Recycling During the collection process litter is dropped on the streets and roads. When recycling boxes are collected they are returned in the wrong places.	Mary.turp@barnet.gov.uk I have reported the issues to our re with them on 19 January, and they with Michael Lai Michael.Lai@barnet.gov.uk	, ,

The Forum which commenced at 6.30pm ended at 8:00pm

Officers Present:

Martin Cowie – Head of Planning and Development Michael Lai – Environment and Operations Paul Frost – Democratic Services

Committee Contact: Paul Frost, Forum Administrator, Corporate Governance Directorate, Building 4, Oakleigh Road South, London N11 1NP. Tel: 020 8359 2205, Email: paul.frost@barnet.gov.uk

Date of next meeting:

Date	Venue
Wednesday 17 March 2010	Sangam Community Centre, 210 Broadway, Burnt Oak HA8 0AP