

# HENDON RESIDENTS' FORUM

13 September 2010

St Peters Church, Stonegrove, Edgware, HA8 8AB

## Action/Update Note

Chairman: Councillor John Hart\*

Vice-Chairman: Councillor Sury Khatri\*

\*Denotes Councillor Present

Issue Raised	Response	Update
<p>1. No money spent on Sunningfields Crescent end of Sunnyhill Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 15 foot metal railings have been removed</li><li>• Stone wall built in 1920s is falling down but Council won't repair (has letter from Matthew Offord dating back to Feb 2008 nothing has been done)</li><li>• Stone steps into park covered by wire and metal trellis as they are dangerous (not being repaired – an eyesore)</li><li>• No flowers at Sunningfield Crescent end</li></ul> <p><b>Mr Michael Sable</b></p>	<p>SunnyHill Park is treated and managed as one entity. Considerable investment has been made in the park, outlined below are some of the works that have been undertaken since April 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Refurbishment of pavilion</li><li>- Clearance of ditches, removal of redundant beds</li><li>- Fence off oak tree saplings</li><li>- New dog bins</li><li>- New litterbins</li><li>- Refurbishment of benches &amp; picnic tables</li><li>- New spring mobiles in playarea</li><li>- Fully accessible toilet (joint project with café)</li><li>- Playbuilder playarea</li><li>- Enhance wildflower meadow</li></ul> <p>There are no flower beds in Sunnyhill Park and it is not intended to install any. Throughout the park there are substantial shrub beds, including the Sunningfields Crescent end.</p> <p>The belvedere and steps at the Sunningfields Crescent entrance require substantial works; an</p>	<p>No further response.</p> <p><b>Jenny Warren</b> <a href="mailto:park@barnet.gov.uk">park@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>

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		<p>interim repair to the steps to make them serviceable was explored in 2008 for approximately £12,000. However, the entire area needs completely re-constructing and investment of this level would be wasteful.</p> <p>There is no funding available to carry out the works and a lottery or capital bid would be needed to try and obtain funding for the works which may exceed £200k; this is a large project for which there are no resources available to invest in at this time.</p> <p><b>Jenny Warren</b>  <a href="mailto:park@barnet.gov.uk">park@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>	
2.	<p>School Gates – Edgware Junior School</p> <p>a) I observe that new gates at Edgware Junior School are of the electronically controlled rolling gate variety. These gates weigh between ½ and ¾ ton on average.</p> <p>In view of the fact that 2 five year old girls have been crushed to death in recent weeks by this type of gate, have the Council carried out any assessment on the safety of this type of gate? How many have been installed at other Council establishments in the Borough?</p> <p>b) Libraries</p> <p>There is much rumour of the Council intending to close down or sell off libraries, is this so?  Burnt Oak Library</p>	<p>Health and safety is a local function that is the responsibility of schools. Schools can however seek advice from the Council's Health and Safety Unit. The Director of Children's Service will alert this unit to the resident's concerns</p> <p><b>Val White</b>  <a href="mailto:Val.white@barnet.gov.uk">Val.white@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>The Health and safety unit are aware of this and have produced a bulletin which will be circulated to all Schools and other interested parties this week. It will also be posted on the Barnet Grid for Learning.</p> <p><b>Mike Koumi</b>  <a href="mailto:Mike.koumi@barnet.gov.uk">Mike.koumi@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Barnet Council will be running a review of our library service this autumn. We would like to hear from library users and other residents to make sure our library service meets their needs.</p>	<p>No further Response</p> <p><b>Val White</b>  <a href="mailto:Val.white@barnet.gov.uk">Val.white@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>No Further Response</p> <p><b>Mike Koumi</b>  <a href="mailto:Mike.koumi@barnet.gov.uk">Mike.koumi@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>No Further response</p> <p><b>Tom Pike</b>  <a href="mailto:Tom.pike@barnet.gov.uk">Tom.pike@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>

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<p>c) Last Thursday 02 September 2010 at 7:55pm I was stopped from entering the Burnt-Oak library by 2 security guards, ( I only went there to collect a free newspaper as the library closes at 8pm) Understandably I was annoyed!</p>	<p>We will be asking residents and library users about their experiences of using library services, priorities, strengths and weaknesses of our library service, and ideas for the future.</p> <p>Our library service has been successful because it has a history of innovation, and we need to continue to adapt to ensure our services are fit for purpose as needs change. £1.3m was invested in our network of leading libraries in recent years, creating a more pleasant customer environment, adding self-service technology, replacing our library system, and building a new library in South Friern. We have also renovated Burnt Oak library into a new library customer service centre and successfully invested in e-books. As a result, visits to libraries grew by almost 11% last year, bucking the national trend, and 86% of our users view the service as 'very good' or 'good'.</p> <p>At this stage, no decisions have been taken and no options have been proposed for how the library service will operate in the future. While this review is taking place with a backdrop of a challenging financial situation for the public sector, the prime intention of the review is to support the provision of a service that is fit for purpose, now and in the coming decade.</p> <p><b>Tom Pike</b> <a href="mailto:Tom.pike@barnet.gov.uk">Tom.pike@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Security guards are provided to support the Customer Service Centre on the ground floor. They are funded by the Council's Customer</p>	

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d)	<p>Who pays for these guards? Is any of there cost put onto the library services?</p> <p>Allotments</p> <p>There is much rumour of the Council intending to sell off allotments, is this so?</p>	<p>Services team, and there is no cost to the Library Service.</p> <p>We will remind the security firm that they are there to support access to our services for the whole of our opening hours.</p> <p><b>Tom Pike</b> <a href="mailto:Tom.pike@barnet.gov.uk">Tom.pike@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>The Council are currently working towards piloting a devolved allotment management model with an individual site in which the site is managed entirely by the allotment society with the Council maintaining the ownership of the land. This is with the view that if the pilot is successful this would be rolled out across other allotment sites. In cases where sites are unviable i.e. below 75% occupancy rates and no management process can be put in place the Council would need to consider disposal as an option.</p> <p><b>Jenny Warren</b> <a href="mailto:park@barnet.gov.uk">park@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>We are currently investigating this site together with a tenant of another sports use site in Grahame Park Way, neither of which sites</p>	<p>No further update. Report to Cabinet expected in November 2010.</p> <p><b>Jenny Warren</b> <a href="mailto:park@barnet.gov.uk">park@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>

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<p>e) Pavilion Way Playing Fields</p> <p>Pavilion Way Playing Fields off Deansbrook Road, Edgware are still not being utilised. What is the Council intending regarding this site?</p>	<p>provide modern facilities for the community, to see whether more effective opportunities, and better use of the land can be provided. Discussions are in progress concerning Pavilion Way, with the tenant of the Grahame Park Way premises who have proven experience of modernising and successfully managing such facilities.</p> <p><b>Martin Cowie</b>  <a href="mailto:Martin.cowie@barnet.gov.uk">Martin.cowie@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>The Council is continuing its evaluation of its options for the property.</p> <p><b>George Church</b>  <a href="mailto:George.church@barnet.gov.uk">George.church@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>
<p>f) Shop Cages</p> <p>As I predicted several years ago at Residents Forums, the situation in Watling Avenue, Burnt Oak would spread around the Borough. I noticed the problem in Mill Hill, Hendon Central, Finchley and Edgware. What is the Council's intentions about this?</p> <p><b>Mr G Heaphy</b></p>	<p>Cages erected on public land or that are sublet require a licence from the council and we can exercise some control over their removal. If the trader has erected the cage on private land and is not subletting then we cannot do anything from a street trading/licensing perspective.</p> <p>Recent focus has been on three hot spot areas for street trading - Finchley, Burnt Oak and Golders Green and have been taking enforcement action as appropriate. We are now shifting focus to the other areas in the borough in relation to illegal street trading. It is essential that members of the public continue to report issues direct to the team so that we can target resources accordingly.</p> <p><b>Michael Kelly</b>  <a href="mailto:Michael.kelly@barnet.gov.uk">Michael.kelly@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>If the structure erected is on highway land then enforcement action by the council's Highway Team is likely to be taken in order to secure its removal.</p> <p>If the structure is permanently fixed, on private land and considered to result in a visually obtrusive feature detrimental to the appearance of the street scene, then a planning enforcement notice would be served to secure its removal.</p> <p>Whilst the council's Planning Enforcement service has a comprehensive list of properties where investigations have been carried out it does not have specific lists relating to types of breaches and the area they are located. If complaints are made relating to specific properties then an investigation would be carried out and the complainant notified of the council's</p>

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			<p>actions.</p> <p><b>Joe Henry</b>  <a href="mailto:Joe.Henry@barnet.gov.uk">Joe.Henry@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Premises trading on the public highway, and therefore licensed under a street trading license, continue to be monitored to ensure that no cages are being erected on the public highway.</p> <p><b>Emma Phasey</b>  <a href="mailto:Emma.phasey@barnet.gov.uk">Emma.phasey@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>
3.	<p>West Hendon - most of the shops are encroaching on the pavements/footways especially 203 West Hendon Broadway, NW9.</p> <p><b>Dr Arun Ghosh</b></p>	<p>In addition to the 3 target areas for street trading recently targeted we have also been dealing with any specific complaints brought to our attention.</p> <p>We have not had any recent complaints about this particular premises however we will ensure that the area in general and this premises in particular are visited.</p> <p><b>Michael Kelly</b>  <a href="mailto:Michael.kelly@barnet.gov.uk">Michael.kelly@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>We continue to monitor this in West Hendon and will be re-visiting the area shortly to apply any appropriate enforcement required (203 very specifically included).</p> <p><b>Emma Phasey</b>  <a href="mailto:Emma.phasey@barnet.gov.uk">Emma.phasey@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>
4. a)          b)	<p>After two serious accidents recently, when is Barnet Council going to do something about the death trap traffic lights at the junction of Cool Oak Lane &amp; West Hendon Broadway. The traffic lights change to quickly resulting in vehicles jumping the lights at this junction. The Residents Association have asked for a cross now light to ass it elderly people trying to cross this dangerous road for the last eight years and nothing has been done is the Council waiting somebody to be killed.</p> <p>The emergency gate from Tyrell Way into</p>	<p>Officers have contacted Transport for London with a view to establishing the possibility of introducing a controlled pedestrian crossing. Having discussed the issue with Transport for London, they are of the opinion that all the junctions along West Hendon Broadway would need to be studied together in order to obtain an operational model that would not result in worsening the congestion that can occur currently. At this stime there is no funding available to undertake such a study.</p> <p>However, plans do exist as part of the West Hendon Regeneration programme that include</p>	<p>No further comments</p> <p><b>Neil Richardson</b>  <a href="mailto:Neil.richardson@barnet.gov.uk">Neil.richardson@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>No further comments</p>

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<p>Cool Oak Lane has been left open again and cars are using it as a short cut, the ward Councillors get constant complaints about this problem. Why can't the people who leave this gate open close it.</p> <p>c) There is a section of fence missing from the side of the path near the play area in York Park. This means the children can get right down to the waters edge and obviously this is dangerous. Could this please be replaced or repaired.</p> <p><b>Geoff Johnson</b> Chair Woolmead Avenue and Welsh Harp Area Residents Association</p>	<p>the provision of pedestrian facilities at the junction. While no timescale is available at this time in the absence of funds to pursue an independent study of West Hendon Broadway the Council will at this time have to investigate this location as part of the regeneration process rather than as a separate issue.</p> <p><b>Neil Richardson</b> <a href="mailto:Neil.richardson@barnet.gov.uk">Neil.richardson@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>The emergency gate should only be used in emergencies and is not meant to be used for normal traffic purposes. Unfortunately although the gate is locked regularly it appears that the lock is constantly broken and the gate access utilised. Requests will be made to the Council's Priority Intervention Team to see if the culprits can be identified to improve matters.</p> <p><b>Neil Richardson</b> <a href="mailto:Neil.richardson@barnet.gov.uk">Neil.richardson@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Arrangements have been made to repair the fencing. This will be undertaken early w/c 13<sup>th</sup> September.</p> <p><b>Jenny Warren</b> <a href="mailto:park@barnet.gov.uk">park@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Neil Richardson</b> <a href="mailto:Neil.richardson@barnet.gov.uk">Neil.richardson@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>The fencing was repaired.</p> <p><b>Jenny Warren</b> <a href="mailto:park@barnet.gov.uk">park@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>
<p>5. Burnt Oak Market is swamped with large rats. These are coming from the shops either side of the steps down to the market. I have telephoned the appropriate office at Barnet, and he has been to see for himself. When he telephoned me he explained that he had been there previously. However, NOTHING has been done, and the rats are growing in number, with many baby rats.</p>	<p>We are aware of the situation getting worse late last week and the district officer Mr Sedman is serving notice in several places where the problem is acute.</p> <p>Earlier this year we have served over 5 notices on premises to treat rats and Pest control service baited areas putting a lot of bait down and got refuse removed and some fences repaired and we had hoped this would improve</p>	<p>Environmental Health are continuing with taking enforcement action to get landowners to bait for rats in the vicinity of Watling market.</p> <p>We have also used tubelines to bait their land which also helps the situation.</p> <p><b>Ralph Haynes</b> <a href="mailto:Ralph@haynes@barnet.gov.uk">Ralph@haynes@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>

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<p>Barnet seems to be reluctant to do anything about this, and I will therefore have to go to the Health and Safety Dept. I am sure you know how the Black Death started in 1348 !!</p> <p><b>Theresa Harvey</b></p>	<p>the situation.</p> <p>The district officer visits the area almost weekly however due to the stream, the transient nature of the area with a lot of food premises and vagrants means the area is susceptible to rat infestations. We will of course continue to monitor and get all landowners to treat for rats and remove refuse where this is evidence of rat infestations and food attracting pests. If residents have specific information where rats are nesting or food waste is present or broken sewer pipes please contact us and we will investigate.</p> <p><b>Ralph Haynes</b>  <a href="mailto:Ralph@haynes@barnet.gov.uk">Ralph@haynes@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>	
<p>6. (a) How frequently are Church Way footpath, Heming Road, Fairfield Crescent, Fairfield Avenue and the footpath/steps between Fairfield Crescent and the Deansbrook Road bridge swept?</p> <p>(b) Would "no littering" signs help to reduce the amount of litter dropped?</p> <p>(c) What steps are taken to enforce the litter laws in this area?</p> <p><b>Peter Despard</b>  <b>Church Way Neighbourhood Watch</b></p>	<p>All of these locations are swept every 4 weeks as part of our neighbourhood sweeping schedules. In addition to this responsive works are carried out as and when required.</p> <p>I will arrange for ' no littering signs to be put up on lamp columns '</p> <p>PIT team ' Paul Lamb ' will need to comment on this.</p> <p><b>Dave Ward</b>  <a href="mailto:Dave.ward@barnet.gov.uk">Dave.ward@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>The PIT will liaise with cleansing regarding the report of littering at this location. PIT will monitor and are able to take action where littering is witnessed.</p> <p><b>Michael Kelly</b>  <a href="mailto:Michael.kelly@barnet.gov.uk">Michael.kelly@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>Unfortunately we do not have spare resources at present to carry out more frequent sweeping at this location. The key is to persuade people not to make a mess in the first place. Residents can call 02083594600 to report any accumulations of litter, dog fouling, broken glass. we will respond to these reports within 24hrs Mon to Fri.</p> <p>We have installed 'no littering signs' and are reviewing their impact.</p> <p>No dog fouling signs will be put up in the Ramilies Road/Worcester Crescent area.</p> <p><b>Dave Ward</b>  <a href="mailto:Dave.ward@barnet.gov.uk">Dave.ward@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Uniformed PIT officers have monitored this area and liaised with cleansing. There have been no</p>



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			<p>littering offences witnessed in the immediate area; however three fixed penalty notices for fly-tipping were given in Burnt Oak ward during September.</p> <p><b>Michael Kelly</b>  <a href="mailto:Michael.kelly@barnet.gov.uk">Michael.kelly@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>
7. a)	<p>Could you please advise an update on the agreed maintenance of the 25 war memorials in Barnet, in view of the Budget mentioned previously? When will each memorial's renovation be expected to be completed?</p>	<p>There are currently three main war memorial projects this financial year; La deliverance (complete) and some cleaning operations still underway at Hendon and Mill Hill. Condition surveys have been undertaken at churchyards and memorial sites to inform future programme of maintenance works. The renovation of memorials is ongoing but subject to available funding, prioritises in condition of each memorial site are reviewed annually.</p> <p><b>Keith Rowley</b>  <a href="mailto:Keith.rowlwy@barnet.gov.uk">Keith.rowlwy@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Maintenance programme</b></p> <p>We have the responsibility to maintain 11 memorials. The maintenance programme is proceeding and is on going. Works have been completed at the Hendon War memorial and La Deliverance, while the Mill Hill Memorial will be finished before Remembrance Day. A programme of improvement has commenced on the New Barnet Memorial. Phase one, involved the removal of trees (the roots of which had caused severe damage) together with a small scale presentation and maintenance programme (supported by a generous gift ) .Phase Two is being worked up at the moment to effect the long term repair of the roots damage.</p> <p><b>Addition of names</b></p> <p>Following the successful addition of a plaque to the East Barnet memorial a similar request has been received by us to allow a plaque to be added to the New Barnet Memorial bearing the names of New Barnet Residents who gave their lives and who are not recorded elsewhere. All necessary funds have been raised by those proposing the addition.</p>

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<p>b) Uphill Road / Mill Hill</p> <p>Could the Authority issue instructions regarding temporary traffic signals which should no longer be operative when no road works exist.</p> <p>c) Can I enquire when in accordance with the UDP adopted in 2006 as to when the authority will review its cemeteries and the lack of them? Having undertaken to do so by 2010, practically when we are to expect 60-70 thousand new comers, not then anticipated.</p> <p><b>Clive Cohen</b></p>	<p>A Street Works inspectors has visited Uphill Road and identified that no works are currently taking place and there are no temporary traffic signals in place.</p> <p>Our records show that some work was recently carried out by Veolia Water which involved excavations in the footway and partially in the road. The notice of works received from the contractor did not indicate the need for traffic signals to be placed. It is a requirement of the Street Works team that a request to place temporary signals is made with the notice of the intention to work. Such requests are reviewed and after careful consideration of the need and impact are either approved or rejected. As we are concerned that in this instance the process has not been properly adhered too by the Utility contractor we will raise our concerns with them and request that this situation does not repeat itself. Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.</p> <p><b>Paul Bragg</b> <a href="mailto:Paul.bragg@barnet.gov.uk">Paul.bragg@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p>The issue of providing burial spaces for London</p>	<p>The council is willing to consider such proposals where the memorial can support such additions and where the necessary funds are raised by those proposing the addition.</p> <p><b>Mark Armstrong</b> <a href="mailto:Mark.Armstrong@barnet.gov.uk">Mark.Armstrong@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>No further comment</b></p> <p><b>Paul Bragg</b> <a href="mailto:Paul.bragg@barnet.gov.uk">Paul.bragg@barnet.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>No further Comment</b></p> <p><b>Martin Cowie</b> <a href="mailto:Martin.cowie@barnet.gov.uk">Martin.cowie@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>

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	<p>and addressing the needs of its diverse communities is a complex one which cannot be simply addressed by a borough acting alone. This was highlighted in Barnet's UDP. The draft revised London Plan highlights that there has not been an assessment of burial space in London for over 10 years and it is clear that the Mayor has to work with boroughs and cemetery providers to establish what is the current situation with regard to supply. This assessment should look at barriers to supply including the re-use and reclamation of burial space. The LDF is an evidence based document and it is imperative that evidence is up to date. We understand that the Mayor has commenced work on this assessment in the Summer.</p> <p><b>Martin Cowie</b>  <a href="mailto:Martin.cowie@barnet.gov.uk">Martin.cowie@barnet.gov.uk</a></p>	

The Forum which commenced at 6.30pm ended at 7:50pm

**Officers Present:**

Martin Cowie – Assistant Director of Planning & Development Management  
Neil Richardson – Acting Highway Manager  
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](mailto:paul.frost@barnet.gov.uk)