

HENDON RESIDENTS FORUM

Monday 13 September 2010

St Peters Church, Stonegrove, Edgware, HA8 8AB

ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED

Issue Raised	Response
<p>1. No money spent on Sunningfields Crescent end of Sunnyhill Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15 foot metal railings have been removed• 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)• Stone steps into park covered by wire and metal trellis as they are dangerous (not being repaired – an eyesore)• No flowers at Sunningfield Crescent end <p>Mr Michael Sable</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">- Refurbishment of pavilion- Clearance of ditches, removal of redundant beds- Fence off oak tree saplings- New dog bins- New litterbins- Refurbishment of benches & picnic tables- New spring mobiles in playarea- Fully accessible toilet (joint project with café)- Playbuilder playarea- Enhance wildflower meadow <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 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>Jenny Warren park@barnet.gov.uk</p>

Issue Raised	Response
<p>2. 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>Val White Val.white@barnet.gov.uk</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>Mike Koumi Mike.koumi@barnet.gov.uk</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>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>

Issue Raised	Response
<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>Who pays for these guards? Is any of there cost put onto the library services?</p>	<p>Tom Pike Tom.pike@barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>Security guards are provided to support the Customer Service Centre on the ground floor. They are funded by the Council's Customer 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>d) Allotments</p> <p>There is much rumour of the Council intending to sell off allotments, is this so?</p>	<p>Tom Pike Tom.pike@barnet.gov.uk</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>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>Jenny Warren park@barnet.gov.uk</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 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>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 Councils intentions about this?</p>	<p>Martin Cowie Martin.cowie@barnet.gov.uk</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>

Issue Raised	Response
<p>Mr G Heaphy</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>Michael Kelly Michael.kelly@barnet.gov.uk</p>
<p>3. West Hendon - most of the shops are encroaching on the pavements/footways especially 203 West Hendon Broadway, NW9.</p> <p>Dr Arun Ghosh</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>Michael Kelly Michael.kelly@barnet.gov.uk</p>
<p>4. a) 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 & 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>b) The emergency gate from Tyrell Way into 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>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 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>Neil Richardson Neil.richardson@barnet.gov.uk</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 is appears that the lock is constantly broken and the gate access utilised. Requests will be made to the Council's Priority Intervention Team to</p>

Issue Raised	Response
<p>c) There is a section of fence missing from the side of the path near the play area in York Park. This means tha children can get right down to the waters edge and obviously this is dangerous. Could this please be replaced or repaired.</p> <p>Geoff Johnson Chair Woolmead Avenue and Welsh Harp Area Residents Assciation</p>	<p>see if the culprits can be identified to improve matters. Neil Richardson Neil.richardson@barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>Arrangements have been made to repair the fencing. This will be undertaken early w/c 13th September. Jenny Warren park@barnet.gov.uk</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 telephone to the appropriate office at Barnet, and he has been to see for himself. When he telephone to 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. 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>Theresa Harvey</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 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>Ralph Haynes Ralph@haynes@barnet.gov.uk</p>

Issue Raised	Response
<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>Peter Despard Church Way Neighbourhood Watch</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>Dave Ward Dave.ward@barnet.gov.uk</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>Michael Kelly Michael.kelly@barnet.gov.uk</p>
<p>7. (a) 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>(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>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>Keith Rowley Keith.rowlwy@barnet.gov.uk</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>

Issue Raised	Response
<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>Clive Cohen</p>	<p>Paul Bragg Paul.bragg@barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>The issue of providing burial spaces for London 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>Martin Cowie Martin.cowie@barnet.gov.uk</p>

Date of Future Meetings

Date	Venue
21 October 2010	Barnet Multicultural Community Centre, Algernon Road, Hendon NW4
30 November 2010	St Joseph's Pastoral Centre, St Joseph's Grove, The Burroughs, Hendon, London NW4 4TY
18 January 2011	Sangam Community Centre, 210 Burnt Oak Broadway, Edgware
15 March 2011	Barnet Multicultural Community Centre, Algernon Road, Hendon NW4

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

HENDON RESIDENTS' FORUM

27 JULY 2010

Barnet Multicultural Centre, Algernon Road, West Hendon, London, NW4 3TA,

Action/Update Note

Chairman: Councillor John Hart*

Vice-Chairman: Councillor Sury Khatri*

*Denotes Councillor Present

	Issue Raised	Response	Update
1	<p>Petition Received – Road Safety Campaign</p> <p>Increase road safety at Hendon School</p> <p>788 signatures</p> <p>Due to the information provided the petition can not be verified.</p> <p>Pervious reported issue – 23 June 2010 - http://committeepapers.barnet.gov.uk/democracy/meetings/meetingdetail.asp?meetingID=6168</p> <p>Additional Questions:</p>		
a	<p>Did you receive the 788 person petition?</p>	<p>Yes. This was received and notification was sent to the lead petitioners on Thursday 22 July 2010.</p> <p>Paul Frost Paul.frost@barnet.gov.uk</p>	<p>No further response required.</p> <p>Paul Frost Paul.frost@barnet.gov.uk</p>
b	<p>Can a breakdown of the £2,600 now quoted for a change in sign and the painting of</p>	<p>As advised previously, changes to the hours of control of the School Keep Clear markings</p>	<p>The school has since requested a breakdown of the estimated costs under a Freedom of</p>

Issue Raised	Response	Update
<p>enforceable double yellow lines be provided? We have already asked for this but have had no response.</p>	<p>requires carrying out a consultation that costs money to advertise and also for officers of the Council to deal with – including the amendment of the Traffic Management Order (TMO) that legally supports the markings. Additionally, there is a cost to manufacture and replace the old signs with new ones. However, money needed to do this would not normally be more than around £1500. It is understood that the request for restrictions has extended to include double yellow lines. There is a similar separate TMO that is required to be written for this and extra yellow lines to be costed – hence the increase in estimated costs.</p>	<p>Information Request which has been supplied. Neil Richardson Neil.Richardson@barnet.gov.uk</p>
<p>c Why have the Council said it's not a lot of money and could be done quickly if the school paid for it. How do we get the Council to consider the request that they pay for the necessary changes - they have all agreed it needs to be done.</p>	<p>Whilst the Council is happy to investigate and support road safety actions, schools are encouraged to identify these types of issues as part of their School Travel Plan (STP) , which also addresses other issues such as encouraging alternative forms of transport being used to travel to and from school and reducing the amount of car usage. Submission of a STP then triggers a process that can produce funding from Transport for London to apply for a number of traffic related measures and it is via this process that the Council normally addresses concerns such as the above. It is therefore considered appropriate to consider these measures through the STP process although if the school are prepared to pay for measures that the council agree are necessary then the introduction of the measures, subject to all legal obligations being met, can be speeded up if the school are prepared to fund them.</p>	<p>No further update.</p>

	Issue Raised	Response	Update
d	There is no signage to warn people that it is a school - can this be done?	The signage can be reviewed and presumably has been identified as a concern as part of the STP process detailed above.	No further update.
e	How do the Council respond to the fact that Barnet now has the second highest number of road casualties, a rise in 2009, compared to 2008.	<p>Casualty figures in the borough each year are higher in terms of absolute numbers this is the case for most boroughs because of the particular characteristics of the borough. The borough has the highest population in London and a large road network which includes significant lengths of major roads such as the A1, A41 and A406 North Circular Road that are managed by Transport for London, and the M1 motorway.</p> <p>The casualty data for 2009 show significant increases in casualties compared with 2008. A large increase in slightly injured casualties has had a big impact on the overall figures. This has been particularly evident on the Transport for London road network, where the borough has less influence, and seems to be a common issue for a number of boroughs in North London.</p> <p>We continue to analyse the data to help identify locations and types of accidents where we can make improvements. The council carries out road safety improvements at locations which have been identified using previous accident data - based on the number and type of accidents and also provides road safety education and training particularly in schools</p> <p>Neil Richardson Neil.Richardson@barnet.gov.uk</p>	<p>No further update.</p> <p>No further update.</p> <p>No further update.</p> <p>No further update. Neil Richardson Neil.Richardson@barnet.gov.uk</p>

	Issue Raised	Response	Update
f	<p>Why have Members of the Council had such big pay rises, including the Cabinet Member for Environment and Operations, the pay rise of just 1 person could have paid for our road safety project 10 times over possibly saving some lives!</p> <p>Hendon Citizen Schools Team</p>	<p>The decision to amend the Member Allowances Scheme was taken by Councillors at the Council meeting on 13 July 2010.</p> <p>Any resident wishing to put their views, ask questions etc, should contact their Ward Councillors either at their respective surgeries or via e mails.</p>	
2	<p>Is it possible as a standard condition of Planning Permission that a developer be prohibited from removing TOP SOIL on areas to be retained for garden use? This is generally believed to be "perks" and top soil is eventually sold to garden centres and other sources. This practice destroys the Biodiversity of the land, leaving just clay.</p> <p>Clive S. M. Cohen LWT (Barnet Group)</p>	<p>Planning conditions imposed on planning consents ensure existing landscaping is retained and proposed landscaping is planted and remained healthy thereafter. This would necessitate that sufficient amounts of top soil are retained on site, therefore protecting the biodiversity of a site or locality.</p> <p>A condition therefore specifically concerning the removal of top soil is considered not necessary and would furthermore be difficult to enforce.</p> <p>Martin Cowie Martin.cowie@barnet.gov.uk</p>	<p>The matter raised is under consideration</p> <p>Martin Cowie Martin.cowie@barnet.gov.uk</p>
3	<p>a Has the Council made any major financial savings, since transferring its in house services to arms length contractors?</p>	<p>Please refer to the attached for Efficiencies/Budget Reductions</p> <p>Karen Balam Karen.balam@barnet.gov.uk</p>	<p>No further response at this time.</p> <p>Jahangir Mannan Jahangir.mannan@barnet.gov.uk</p>
	<p>b What is the Councils position of £M's placed in the Icelandic bank?</p>	<p>9.2.1 The Icelandic Government has stated its intention to honour all its commitments as a result of their banks being placed into receivership. The U.K. Government is working with the Icelandic Government to help bring this about. At the current time, the process of recovering assets is still</p>	<p>No further response at this time.</p> <p>Karen Balam Karen.balam@barnet.gov.uk</p>

Issue Raised	Response	Update
	<p>ongoing with the Administrators. The Local Government Association is coordinating the efforts of all UK authorities with Icelandic investments. Members will be periodically updated on the latest developments on these efforts.</p> <p>9.2.2 On 9 December 2009, Bevan Brittan, the solicitors acting on behalf of the LGA, received notification from the Glitnir Winding-up Board that they had accepted all local authority claims as general unsecured claims, rather than priority claims.</p> <p>9.2.3 Bevan Brittan actively challenged this decision prior to the Creditor's meeting on 17 December 2009, but, it was not possible to reach an agreement. A mediation process has taken place and there has been no change to the general unsecured position. Therefore it is now a matter for the Icelandic judicial system.</p> <p>9.2.4 Without priority status local authorities are likely to get in the region of 25-30 per cent of their deposits back rather than 95% to 100% as previously assumed.</p> <p>9.2.5 The 2009/10 accounts, which assume local authorities have priority status, include impairments adjustments to the General Fund as prescribed by Financial Reporting Standards and LAPP updates. The risk is managed through the Risk Reserve.</p>	

Issue Raised	Response	Update
<p>c What is the position of the Brent Cross Cricklewood regeneration project?</p>	<p>This was reported to the Cabinet Resources Committee on 17 June 2010 and can be found at: http://committeepapers.barnet.gov.uk/democracy/meetings/meetingdetail.asp?meetingid=6138</p> <p>Karen Bannister Karen.bannister@barnet.gov.uk</p>	<p>The Planning and Environment Committee on the 29 July 2010 approved an extension of time to complete the Section 106 Agreement and issue planning consent.</p> <p>Martin Cowie Martin.cowie@barnet.gov.uk</p>
<p>d The Council sends out documents and offers these to be transcribed into other languages, is there a great demand for this and what are the cost implications?</p>	<p>A verbal update was given</p> <p>Martin Cowie Martin.cowie@barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>Documents and other translation services are not undertaken as a matter of course - i.e documents are only translated if someone asks for a translation.</p> <p>The most recent figures available are for the year ending April 2009.</p> <p>That year saw 332 documents translated and 491 face to face or telephone translations. The total cost was £164,323.13, or roughly £200 per translation.</p> <p>Preliminary figures for the most recent financial year show a slight reduction on the overall cost. (£159,000).</p> <p>Chris Palmer Chris.palmer@barnet.gov.uk</p>	<p>No further response required</p> <p>Chris Palmer Chris.palmer@barnet.gov.uk</p>

	Issue Raised	Response	Update
e	Following the build of 10,000 new homes in Colindale why are Barnet residents finding it so hard to find social housing?	<p>The Council has planned to deliver thousands of new homes across its strategic regeneration areas including at Brent Cross Cricklewood, Colindale and its priority housing estates. Despite the economic downturn substantial development is taking place at Colindale where new housing is being provided at Beaufort Park, Grahame Park and at the former Colindale Hospital site.</p> <p>These schemes are delivering a range housing types and tenures including affordable rent and shared ownership properties which will assist in establishing balanced and sustainable communities.</p> <p>Martin Cowie Martin.cowie@hotmail.co.uk</p>	<p>No further update Martin Cowie Martin.cowie@hotmail.co.uk</p>
f	Considering the Local and National reports of server cuts LBB Councillors voted to award themselves pay rises. How does this square with the austere times ahead?	<p>The decision to amend the Member Allowances Scheme was taken by Councillors at the Council meeting on 13 July 2010.</p> <p>Any resident wishing to put their views, ask questions etc, should contact their Ward Councillors either at their respective surgeries or via e mails.</p>	
g	<p>Future Shape Programme</p> <p>When is the No Frills Council to be introduced?</p> <p>Is the process being reviewed?</p> <p>Mr Dan</p>	<p>The council will be examining options as to how high quality, and in some cases, better quality services can be provided to its service users given the financial pressures it is facing. A programme (One Barnet) has been established to look at which areas can be delivered in a way which ensures resources are directed appropriately, that there is clear value for money and that the quality of services is not negatively</p>	<p>No further response required Claire Johnston Claire.johnson@barnet.gov.uk</p>

	Issue Raised	Response	Update
		<p>affected.</p> <p>A number of projects have been set up, within the programme, to examine options. Whilst some are nearing the end of this phase, no decisions have been made to date. This means that any large scale changes, if agreed, are likely to be approximately 18 months away. In the meantime, there are also projects looking at improving how we currently provide services and the customer experience with the council. This should result in positive changes by the end of the year.</p> <p>There has been engagement throughout with the Trade Unions.</p> <p>A scrutiny panel has been set up to review the programme. Panel meetings are open to the public (unless restricted information is being considered) and papers for meeting can be accessed via the following link: http://committeepapers.barnet.gov.uk/democracymetings/meetinglist1mth.asp?intSubSectionID=3&intSectionID=2&meetingType=Overview%20and%20Scrutiny&intComID=322</p> <p>Claire Johnston Claire.johnson@barnet.gov.uk</p>	
4 a	<p>At a time when the Government is cutting its financial support to Barnet and local government staff are facing pay freezes, how can the leadership of the Council justify the pay increases they have awarded themselves; and how can it be lawful for the Council to take the decision without proper</p>	<p>The decision to review the Member Allowances Scheme was taken by Councillors.</p> <p>Any resident wishing to put their views, ask questions etc, should contact their Ward Councillors either at their respective surgeries or via e mails.</p>	<p>No Further update Val White Val.white@barnet.gov.uk</p>

Issue Raised	Response	Update
<p>b notice to councillors or the public? As the Government has cancelled the building schools for the future programme, what does the council propose to do to rebuild St Mary's High School, and Copthall School, as was planned under the BSF programme? How much has the council and have the schools spent on the preparatory work for the rebuilds?</p>	<p>We are awaiting the outcome of the Government's review of capital investment in schools. Until this review is complete and has reported, we will not know how future capital funding will be allocated. Meanwhile, we are updating condition surveys of schools to inform the prioritisation of any funds that may be available.</p> <p>The estimated indicative cost to the LA of preparing for BSF in Barnet is approximately £757k. This includes a contribution to the costs incurred by schools.</p> <p>Val White Val.white@barnet.gov.uk</p>	<p>The HCA have now formally awarded funding to the first phase of the West Hendon regeneration. We now expect the project to start on site in October 2010.</p> <p>Colin Ross Colin.ross@barnet.gov.uk</p>
<p>c As the government has cancelled housing schemes, what does the council now propose to do for West Hendon estate, in terms of either regeneration or bringing the existing properties up to decent home standards? When does the agreement with the proposed developer partners expire? How much has the council spent on the scheme so far in terms of planning, design, negotiations, legal advice and other professional fees?</p> <p>Andrew Dismore Pavilion Way resident</p>	<p>The government has closed the Kickstart funding stream for which West Hendon was short listed. This programme provided a small element of the required project finance. More substantial tranches of funding from the National Affordable Housing Programme and monies contributed by the Council from its Growth Area Fund are secure.</p> <p>The Council has been in discussions with the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) on alternative sources of funding to replace the Kickstart monies and expects to hear the HCA's decision in the coming weeks. The Council remains committed to the regeneration.</p> <p>The date for satisfying the pre-start conditions of the Principal Development Agreement with the Council's Development Partners has been</p>	<p>The HCA have now formally awarded funding to the first phase of the West Hendon regeneration. We now expect the project to start on site in October 2010.</p> <p>Colin Ross Colin.ross@barnet.gov.uk</p>

	Issue Raised	Response	Update
		<p>extended a number of times whilst funding solutions have been sought. The current extension extends the agreement to December 2010. The council will decide nearer the time whether further extensions are merited.</p> <p>The agreement with the Development Partners requires the developer to cover the Council's reasonable agreed costs including negotiations, legal advice and other professional fees. Planning and design costs were paid by the development partners. The precise sums involved are, therefore, commercially confidential between the Council and the Development Partners.</p> <p>Colin Ross Colin.ross@barnet.gov.uk</p>	
5	<p>Do the cabinet members who are elected representatives of Barnet Council feel morally obliged to vote for an unwarranted pay rise for themselves when many of their constituents are forced by the present Tory government to accept a pay freeze or a pay cut?</p> <p>Did Barnet Council follow the democratic process of giving the required notice of the agenda of the meeting which voted for this unacceptable pay rise?</p> <p>Nagus Narenthira Colindale</p>	<p>The decision to amend the Member Allowances Scheme was taken by Councillors at the Council meeting on 13 July 2010.</p> <p>Any resident wishing to put their views, ask questions etc, should contact their Ward Councillors either at their respective surgeries or via e mails.</p> <p>The agenda of the meeting was published on Monday 5 July, meeting the statutory deadline.</p>	No further response
6 a	<p>Eaton Road & West View NW4</p> <p>There is a playground which has been neglected, the shrubs are over grown and</p>	<p>This is a Barnet Homes managed site. We cut the shrubs there but only on an annual basis and are next due to do so this winter. However, this concern has been passed to Barnet Homes</p>	<p>All 3 roads were swept and monitored during week 2 of August. Future sweeps of these roads will be checked for quality.</p> <p>Dave Ward</p>

	Issue Raised	Response	Update
b c	<p>the litter bins have been full for a long time? Can the Council pay this site some attention?</p> <p>Both Sydney Road and Heriot Road NW4 are both in need of a street clean. Can this take place?</p> <p>New Brent Street also needs a street clean, the pavement slabs are all broken, can they be improved and replaced?</p>	<p>requesting that they look into the concern as a priority</p> <p>Sidney Rd, Heriot Rd & New Brent St are all due to be swept during week commencing 2nd August.</p> <p>Investigation will take place regarding the state of the footway and remedial action taken where necessary</p> <p>Neil Richardson Neil.Richardson@barnet.gov.uk</p>	<p>Dave.ward@barnet.gov.uk</p>
7	<p>No Ball Game Sign – Orange Hill Road</p> <p>I have previously reported of a dangerous sign which had been damaged and left on the green. This has now been removed but the sign hasn't been replaced. Can a new sign be installed?</p> <p>Mrs Fielder</p>	<p>A housing visited the area today (26/7/10) and found that there are already 2 other "no ball games" signs within the vicinity of 26 Orangehill Road (on the corner of Littlefield Rd & Colchester Rd). These signs are seen as a polite notice and we have no powers to enforce them. The Watling is a conservation area and we feel that too many signs will look unsightly.</p> <p>Michelle Davies Barnet Homes Michelle.Davies@barnethomes.org</p>	<p>No further response required</p> <p>Michelle Davies Barnet Homes Michelle.Davies@barnethomes.org</p>
8	<p>Could we have an update on the undertaking that the London Borough of Barnet have already given last year to maintain the Boroughs War memorials fundamentally neglected for so long.</p> <p>What is the timing to enable the projected to be complete?</p> <p>Clive Cohen</p>	<p>The council takes its responsibilities over the upkeep of War Memorials seriously, however there is a limited budget and so we have to take care to prioritise the works that are undertaken.</p> <p>In addition to the regular maintenance given to all the memorials which includes rubbish removal, grass cutting and light cleaning we have recently undertaken more major maintenance at both Mill Hill and Hendon war memorials to remove verdigris staining and to re-wax the bronze elements against further</p>	<p>No further update</p> <p>Sue Taylor Sue.taylor@barnet.gov.uk</p>

	Issue Raised	Response	Update
		<p>staining. The removal of verdigris is a long process which has to be undertaken by specialists but it is now almost complete on both these memorials.</p> <p>Works have been ordered to the La Deliverence memorial to clean and protect the bronze figure, these should commence in the next month. We are also drawing up proposals for some works to the New Barnet Memorial though we do not have a timescale for these.</p> <p>All the memorials that the council are responsible for have been visited recently to update our condition survey; this will inform the next works to be prioritised.</p> <p>Sue Taylor Sue.taylor@barnet.gov.uk</p>	
<p>9</p> <p>a</p> <p>b</p> <p>c</p>	<p>During the meeting residents asked:</p> <p>What representations are Barnet making regarding the future of Barnet schools?</p> <p>What is the cost of the regeneration of Edgware School?</p> <p>Can details be given regarding the relevant part of the Councils constitution which a Forum is governed?</p>	<p>Barnet is preparing a written submission to inform the review that the Government is undertaking into the future of capital investment in schools.</p> <p>The cost of providing the new shared kitchen and dining facilities for Edgware Infant and Junior schools was approximately £3m.</p> <p>The Councils constitution is a public document and can be found on the Councils website and can be accessed in all Barnet libraries. http://www.barnet.gov.uk/article10.pdf</p> <p>Paul Frost Paul.frost@barnet.gov.uk</p>	

The Forum which commenced at 6.30pm ended at 8:05pm

Officers Present:

Martin Cowie – Head of Planning and Development

Neil Richardson – Highways manager, 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