

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>MEETING</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>DATE AND TIME</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>WEDNESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER, 2018</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>AT 6.30 PM</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>VENUE</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>HENDON TOWN HALL, THE BURROUGHS, LONDON NW4 4BQ</b></p>

Dear Councillors,

Please find enclosed additional papers relating to the following items for the above mentioned meeting which were not available at the time of collation of the agenda.

Item No	Title of Report	Pages
1.	PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS (IF ANY)	3 - 14

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Qn No	Item Number	Raised by	Question Raised	Answer
1	8	Mr Levy	<p>1. (i) Does the new annual charge for additional green bins mean that a block of flats needing more than one green bin for its communal gardens will have to pay annual charges, even if it has no more green bins than there are addresses in the block?</p> <p>(ii) If the answer to (i) is yes, then what equalities impact assessment (5.6.1) has been made of flat-dwellers having to pay more annually to have green garden waste collected on average than house-dwellers, even if their arisings per address are less?</p>	<p>The Council Household Recycling and Waste Policy's, including those on Garden waste can be found at <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/citizen-home/rubbish-waste-and-recycling/household-recycling-and-waste/Household-recycling-and-waste-policies.html">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/citizen-home/rubbish-waste-and-recycling/household-recycling-and-waste/Household-recycling-and-waste-policies.html</a></p> <p>-----</p> <p><u>Policy 4:</u> <u>Communal Collections</u> Communal collection properties within Barnet will be offered a garden waste collection service subject to operational capacity, and where no third parties are involved in the generation of the garden waste, i.e. the garden waste is generated by the residents. When the container is provided confirmation will be required that the container will not be used by a commercial company such as a gardening company. One container will be available per 5 flats.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>An additional charge would apply for where one container was requested over and above</p>

				one per 5 flats. In most cases unless a commercial company such as a gardening company is used flats would not produce this level of garden waste. As stated in the policy if a commercial company such as a gardening company was used then a garden waste collection would not be available.
2	11	Mary O'Connor	The parks and Open Spaces Strategy (POSS) claims to have assessed parks and open spaces for their quality and value. No mention was made that this was “social quality/value analysis”. Can you please explain if the analysis was only done with social considerations why this was not stated as such in the POSS? If the analysis was only considering social analysis, when will the environmental value and quality of these be recognised by Barnet Council?	Environmental outcomes, including the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and the wider environment constitute one of a number of key themes running through the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy and on which the strategy is based. Environmental value has been considered together with social and economic value in the quality/value assessments of sites. The term social value is not exclusive in this context but is used to differentiate non financial benefits from cash values.
3	7	Ruth Geiger	Where will the new cycling routes be?	The Council is planning to develop a strategic cycling network which will aim to increase participation and break down barriers associated with cycling. This will include high quality on-road and off-road cycle routes which are suitable for cyclists of a range of abilities. These will reflect the demand and the potential demand for cycle routes identified in Transport for London’s Strategic Cycling Analysis. producing a Long-Term Transport Strategy

				which will include a substantial section on cycling. The formulation of the Long- To complement this approach the Borough is also Term Transport Strategy will include a public consultation so that all interested parties can provide their views on where cycle routes should be supported.
4	8	Mr Levy	<p>2. (i) Do the "New Charge" notes for "Commercial Waste - Garden Waste" and "Collection Only Garden Waste" imply this material isn't collected from them? Please clarify.</p> <p>(ii) Do the proposals mean businesses and schools will be unable to put garden waste in with ordinary refuse?</p> <p>(iii) Is this a new rule?</p>	<p>Garden Waste has in the past not be offered as commercial service, but due to requests this year it has been added.</p> <p>The Council does not accept garden waste in household bins, this would apply to Schools as these are classed as household waste in law. This is policy 16 of the household recycling and waste policy's.</p> <p>The Council Household Recycling and Waste Policy's, including those on Garden waste can be found at <a href="https://www.barnet.gov.uk/citizen-home/rubbish-waste-and-recycling/household-recycling-and-waste/Household-recycling-and-waste-policies.html">https://www.barnet.gov.uk/citizen-home/rubbish-waste-and-recycling/household-recycling-and-waste/Household-recycling-and-waste-policies.html</a></p>
5	11	Mary O'Connor	<p>Where is the evaluation of the possible impact of not locking parks at night? What will the financial saving be? Has a risk assessment been carried out and if so where is it?</p>	<p>As indicated in the report, ceasing the overnight locking of parks will be implemented following consultation with the Police and the Community Safety Team. This will include a risk assessment and identify the sites which will cease to be locked; following which, final savings will be identified.</p>

6	8	Mr Levy	<p>3. (i) Is no allotment waste currently charged for, but under this it all will be? Please clarify.</p> <p>8(ii) The Allotments Skip charges seem to imply that over 3 tonnes in a skip would be cheaper contaminated. Is that so?</p> <p>(iii) Has it been assessed that over 3 tonnes of mainly "green" allotment waste in one skip would not occur in practice?</p>	<p>Some allotment society's in 2018 approached the council to discuss a garden waste collection. As such trials have been taking place this summer and autumn.</p> <p>The prices in the fees and charges are cumulative, which is made clear all new customers.</p> <p>i.e. If an allotment society's signs up to the collection the following would apply</p> <p>1 skip collection of 1 tonne = £269.37 1 skip collection of 2 tonne = £339.37 (£269.37 + £70)</p> <p>If a skip is found to be contaminated: 1 skip collection of 2 tonne = £439.37 (£269.37 + £70 +£50*2 for 2 tonnes in a contaminated loads)</p> <p>During the trial, no loads have been contaminated</p>
7	11	Mary O'Connor	Will floral bedding continue in Victoria Park, Finchley? If not, what will happen to the current flower beds? If annual bedding has become too expensive, has consideration been given to planting spring bulbs and	The Greenspaces Team has designed a sustainable replacement plan for the annual bedding which uses a mixture of approaches including spring bulbs, trees, low maintenance

			sowing wildflowers? In Item 10, why is grassing them over considered an “improvement”?	<p>shrubs and perennials and in some cases grassing over.</p> <p>The annual bedding at Victoria Park has been retained subject to the adoption of the Master Plan where it is proposed to replace the traditional bedding with contemporary sustainable planting. Although it should be noted this of a lower priority compared to other proposed improvements.</p>
8	8	Mr Levy	<p>(i) Officers admitted to me that the last major change that increased the cost/complexity of disposing of green garden waste led to a fall in volumes collected. Therefore, what estimates has Barnet made of the additional amounts of waste of ANY kinds likely burnt in bonfires as a result of all the proposed changes?</p> <p>(ii) What assessments have officers made of the additional amounts of waste of ANY kinds likely to be fly-tipped as a result of all the proposed changes?</p> <p>(iii) If these new charges are approved, will the forthcoming Air Quality report at least note that there is a likely adverse effect on air quality from additional bonfires?</p> <p>(iv) What considerations have officers made of offering modestly priced collections of excess green garden/allotment waste, to discourage burning, as proposed (I) to Cllr Dean Cohen and a waste officer by Barnet Friends of the Earth some years back (II) in the Air Quality Petition presented to July 2017 F&amp;GG</p>	<p>The garden waste service moved from weekly to fortnightly October 2013. Annual collections of green waste fell by approximately 2,500 to 3,000 tonnes. This increase was not seen in the residual waste. At the same time London authorities which had seen no change in service also experienced a fall in garden waste tonnage collected, so direct comparisons are difficult. With a move to chargeable garden waste, the council will encourage those who do not wish to pay to Home compost and use the summers lane CA site. A clear message will be given about bonfires.</p> <p>Where such schemes have been introduced there has not been a significant increase in fly tipping or reported instances of bonfires.</p> <p>The Council believe that for householder £50 a year for up to 25 collections, is modestly priced and good value. An additional bin for</p>

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			Residents Forum (III) in a Public Question highlighting the same Petition to this Committee's July 2017 meeting (IV) in an email inquiry by Cllr Zinkin highlighting the same petition to Officers on 25/2/18? E.g. a special collection could be offered for a large volume e.g. from felling/pruning a tree or large amount of shrubbery.	£70 - less than £3 a collection is also very good value. The prices for the allotments are also modestly priced for the service on offer.
9	10	Mary O'Connor	In 2.15, R4, is a reference to see section 8.5 below. But section 8.5 is a link to a previous Environment Committee Meeting. However, in that document there is no mention of Parks and Open Spaces. Additionally I can find no reference to Parks and Open Spaces in the 5th June meeting. Please explain.	The report that was submitted to the Committee on 5 June 2018 identified two references to parks and open spaces at section 2.4 G1 and G7. Similarly the report that was submitted at today's meeting outlines additional £200,000 of savings to be achieved in 2019/20, this is described in the Business Planning report.
10	8	Mr Levy	Now that our refuse ordinarily goes to incineration, what is Barnet doing to discourage disposal this way of items generating the most harmful air pollutants?	<p>Energy from Waste facilities such as those which Barnet use are amongst the most tightly monitored for environmental performance. The Environment Agency regulates and monitors to ensure emissions are as low as possible in order to protect the environment and human health. The operation is also subject to the <a href="#">European Union Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC)</a> regime. The IPPC aims to prevent, reduce or eliminate pollution at source.</p> <p>Residents are encouraged to use battery take back facilities which are found in shops, as well as take electrical goods to the summers</p>



				lane HWRC
11	10	Mary O'Connor	Why, given the number of objections to the sale of The Lodge and subsequent planning applications was there no option to put money aside to enforce the Restrictive Covenant?	<p>On the 13 July 2017 Environment Committee agreed that a Master Plan be developed for Victoria Park subject to a full consultation. As such a master plan was proposed with options for improvements to the park and this was taken through a full public consultation.</p> <p>The council has taken Queens Counsel advice and it has been confirmed that Barnet Council would not be able to enforce the covenant referred to related to the Lodge.</p>
12	14	Mr Levy	<p>Does the present situation mean that where residents or businesses leave items outside their property for re-use or scrap collection e.g. furniture with notice attached "please take", stair gate propped against front wall, they can expect a Fixed Penalty Notice without warning?</p> <p>(ii) Will the new proposals merely reduce the severity of the FPN in such circumstances?</p> <p>(iii) What has been done, or will be done, to publicise this policy to the many residents and businesses who leave items out like this with good intentions?</p> <p>Now that I am often having to report Missed Bin</p>	<p>Residents and businesses should not be leaving items outside their property for re-use or scrap collection and should ensure pre-arranged collection is arranged and suitable storage of the items (not on the highroad and pavements). The scrapping of items should also be organised either through pre-arranged collection and/or taken to the Summers lane recycling centre.</p> <p>The new policy does not reduce the severity of the FPN – an FPN will be served and upheld in all circumstances where the waste has not been disposed of according to the council's policy.</p> <p>The proposals address the allegation made in</p>

			Collections, I have found the Council's report-it pages fail to complete and send the report in some browser(s) including Firefox. Please can officers urgently test and fix this for all the commonly used browsers.	the members item that the enforcement agency deliberately targets residential areas issuing fines to residents that are legitimately placing rubbish outside for collection or for recycling and visits taking place shortly before the waste collection run.  Officers will investigate anomalies with the report it pages
13	10	Mary O'Connor	Why, given the number of objections to the sale of The Lodge and subsequent planning applications was there no option to request that the funds be held in an available form to buy-back The Lodge, should this become a possibility (no funds spent unless this cannot be achieved, as if the Restrictive Covenant can be enforced the site will be worthless for any private development, so may be offered back).	On the 13 July 2017 Environment Committee agreed that a Master Plan be developed for Victoria Park subject to a full consultation. As such a master plan was proposed with options for improvements to the park and this was taken through a full public consultation.  The funds from the sale of the Lodge have been ringfenced to improvements within Victoria Park
14	6	Mr Levy	I often see wheelie bins put out two or more days before when Jewish holiday(s) would forbid the bin being put out the day/night before. So, will it be allowed for folded cardboard to be put out early beside a blue bin when it could be justified by Jewish holiday(s), and will this be publicised?	We would not publicize or encourage cardboard to be placed out before the scheduled day of collection, even during a religious holiday. The cardboard would be liable to get wet, and reduce its ability to be sorted and recycled fully, or it could result in an increased chance of creating litter.
15	10	Mary O'Connor	Is consulting the public and determining the order of "improvements" on which items were most selected the best way to determine the priority for works? e.g. There was no information given about the large number of tree species in Victoria Park. If this was highlighted, this valuable feature of Victoria Park could have been	The council wanted residents to drive the improvements for Victoria Park, we did this in two ways; 1. We asked residents to priorities each proposed improvement from 1 (very low priority) to 5 (extremely high priority).

			offered in the list and resulted in a high choice.	<p>These were then averaged as set out in 2.1Ci of the Master Plan Consultation document.</p> <p>2. We also asked residents to pick their top three improvements.</p> <p>Although the exact placings were not identical they very similar. Residents were also asked to include anything they feel should have been included that had been missed.</p> <p>Additional tree planting and tree works to allow for additional planting was included and were the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> prioritised items respectively.</p>
16	10	Mary O'Connor	<p>Why was it not explained on the online survey that voting for a new cafe and toilets would mean that the toilets would only be available when the cafe is open? If this had been included, the results may have been very different? What arrangements will there be when the toilets will be closed, but people will still be in the park and need a toilet?</p>	<p>The way in which the toilets would be managed is yet to be agreed. In order to reduce the amount of vandalism and anti-social behaviour that happens in parks toilets a change of operation is required. The council has other parks across the borough where having the café operator lock and unlock the toilets has reduced vandalism and ensured the toilets and clean and available for members of the public.</p> <p>It should be noted that the council intends to cease the locking of parks in consultation with the Police and Community Safety, as such an alternative approach must be found in order to ensure toilets can continue to be provided in Victoria Park.</p>

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17	10	Mary O'Connor	1.7 in the report on Victoria Park - Master Plan has an 'evaluation' of the consultation process. My understanding is that until you 'submit' one of these surveys, that nothing is sent. So if someone got to the question which asked you to choose option 1 or option 2 and you wanted neither so choose not to choose, how could they complete the survey? If that person terminated it there, I would expect none of their responses would be recorded. Is this correct? If so, why, <i>"The Final Consultation Report at Appendix A sets out the response rate to each question, and there is no evidence of a significant drop off in response rate as a direct result of respondents not being able to select "Alternative" or skip responding the question"</i> ?	No, if a resident only completed some of the questionnaire then the closed it without finishing then it is recorded as an incomplete questionnaire but all answers that have been given up until that point are logged and counted.
18	10	Mary O'Connor	Is funding available from other sources for playgrounds? Other parks in the borough have had playgrounds renewed. Why cannot the same alternative funding be used for Victoria Park playgrounds?	The Greenspaces Team will investigate if any Section 106 monies are available for the area as well investigate if any additional external funding can be brought in to augment the available funding
19	10	Mary O'Connor	1.10 Who is the "we" in the "Instead we are seeking ....." As it is in Victoria Park, are you aware that any partnership agreement must be approved by the trustees?	The "we" refers to the Council. Any leasing arrangement would follow the relevant and correct governance process.
20	10	Mary O'Connor	In Appendix B, Committee Priorities for 2019-2024 how is it planned to, "Developing a cycle network to major destinations in the Borough without impeding main traffic	When designing a cycle or pedestrian route the Council considers all aspects including the local environment in the design process in order to ensure the proposals are suitable for the desired use and for the local area in

			<p>routes”? If you are intending converting footpaths to shared cycle-pedestrian paths how can this be justified when pedestrian activities can be undertaken by nearly all the population to improve health and wellbeing through activity. But the introduction of cycling limits some individual’s access to these footpaths and affects the enjoyment and health benefits for others? Further, many footpaths are though SINC’s and the introduction of cycling will negatively impact on these, given the need for increased width paths. As green chains and SINC’s require darkness for some fauna, will alternative on-road cycleways be required for night-time?</p>	<p>consultation with local interest groups. Additionally the relevant bodies approached for any required permissions or permits before any works take place, for example a permit was sought from the Environment Agency prior to the start of the enhancement works recently completed along Brookside Walk.</p>
21	10	Mary O'Connor	<p>Why is the “Victoria Park Finchley - Master Plan” on the Environment Committee agenda, when the allocation of funds from the Victoria Park trust is the sole responsibility of the trustees? Is there any legal monitoring to ensure that trusts are administered appropriately? When was the last time all the trustees were involved?</p>	<p>The Victoria Park Master Plan was reported to the Environment Committee as it is delegated the responsibility for Parks and Open Spaces. The master plan will now be reported to Full Council where the trustees will be asked to approve the adoption of the master plan and its delivery. This matter was last considered by Full Council on the 4 November 2014 when the decision was taken to sell the Lodge.</p>

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