

FINCHLEY & GOLDERS GREEN RESIDENTS FORUM

VENUE: Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley, London N3 3QE

Wednesday 13th January – 6.30PM

Chairman: Councillor Shimon Ryde
Vice Chairman: Councillor Reuben Thompstone

ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE FORUM MEETING

Items must be submitted to Governance Service (f&gg.residentsforum@barnet.gov.uk) by **10.00am on the fifth working day before the meeting** (for example, if a meeting is due to take place on a Thursday evening, questions must be received by 10am on the preceding Thursday)

Draft Parks and Open Spaces Consultation

On 18 January 2016 Barnet will be launching two consultations related to how we manage parts of our environment and environmental impact in the future. These consultations are for our Draft Parks and Open Spaces strategy and Draft Recycling and Waste Strategy. Please refer to Appendix A of the Issues List for more information.

	Issue Raised	Response
1	<p>Subject: Enforcement of Blue Badge Holders parking on double yellow lines Submitted by: Wendy Bernadelle</p> <p>Blue Badge Holders parking are regularly on Double Yellow Lines within 10 metres of the junctions of Fallow Court Avenue/Montrose Crescent and Montrose Crescent/Granville Road</p> <p>The Highway Code: 1. Waiting and Parking, 238 states:</p> <p>Double yellow lines indicate a prohibition of waiting at any time even if there are no upright signs.</p> <p>Part 243 reads:</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
	<p>DO NOT stop or park: Anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services Opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction; Where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles; In front of an entrance to a property/</p> <p>The Blue Badge scheme: rights and responsibilities in England (Safe and Responsible Parking) reads:</p> <p>Do NOT park where it would endanger, inconvenience or obstruct pedestrians or other road users. Examples of dangerous or obstructive parking include the following, although there are others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parking opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction - Where it would make the road narrow - Where the kerb has been lowered or the road raised to help wheelchair users - Where it would hold up traffic, such as in narrow stretches of road or blocking vehicle entrances <p>In view of the above, can Barnet Council please explain why their Parking Policy excludes enforcement of Blue Badge Holders parking on Double Yellow Lines within 10 metres of junctions.</p>	
2	<p>Subject: Refuse bins on Upton Close and Draycott Close Submitted by: Honora Morrissey</p> <p>There were 2 refuse bins - 1 outside Upton Close and the other outside Draycott Close removed late one Saturday night – I presume that it is someone new who has moved into the area and can these please be replaced?</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
3	<p>Subject: Ryan Herrmann Submitted by: State of Woodside Park Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Woodside Park Road is often dirty and I'm aware that Barnet only has to clean it once every six weeks. To me it should be more frequently – is this possible?- Also I find North Finchley to be quite dirty especially the Tally Ho end with lots of graffiti and it's a eyesore. The graffiti is mainly close to the Arts depot and outside empty shops. Can anything be done?- A previous London Borough that I lived in many years ago had a residents voluntary warden scheme whereby one was encouraged to report all those particular concerns., plus attended meetings with cleansing managers etc... - would this be possible in Barnet?	

	Issue Raised	Response
4	<p>Subject: Proposed CPZ for Heathgate Submitted by: Jane Bailey</p> <p>The residents of ‘south’ Heathgate wish to be included within the CPZ area but we request the modified CPZ scheme as planned for Hill Close of “permit holders only past this point”.</p> <p>In essence, ‘south’ Heathgate is an iconic example of enlightened town planning and it would be ruined with the posts and white painted boxes of the standard CPZ. We all believe that the modified CPZ of ‘Permit holders only past this point’ would control parking but have the least visual impact and we earnestly seek your support. The main points to be raised are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Non-resident parking in Heathgate is a problem, and needs to be controlled. 2. Heathgate is a road of two halves each with a different character and should be treated as such: ‘North’ Heathgate (between St Jude’s church and Meadway) is a through road. ‘South’ Heathgate (between Meadway and Hampstead Heath extension) is a rural cul-de-sac. 3. A ‘standard’ CPZ may be appropriate for ‘north’ Heathgate, but the residents of ‘south’ Heathgate are dismayed by the prospect of lines and posts. 4. We did not know that the modified Hill Close CPZ scheme was an option until October 2015. 5. The scheme will need to be Warden controlled and visitors will require temporary permits. <p>We understood that there was going to be a Public Consultation about the scheme in late November 2015, but we have heard no more about this and wonder if perhaps it has been postponed. If you could give us some guidance it would be most helpful.</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
5	<p>Subject: Clock on Cricklewood Broadway/dead trees on Cricklewood Broadway Submitted by: Marlene Wardle</p> <p>I would like to know what is happening about our new Cricklewood clock on the Broadway - why it has never worked properly. The time is wrong and I believe it has now stopped.</p> <p>I also would like to know when the dead trees beside the clock will be removed and replanted with live trees.</p>	
6	<p>Subject: CPZ in Leslie Road Submitted by: Sonia Singham</p> <p>There is a growing concern among many of the residents who find it increasingly difficult to park near to their homes during the day, as the parking places are taken up by commuters who park and walk to the station. A two or three hour parking restriction (like other County Roads) on Leslie Road, East Finchley, would help to defer much of the road rage suffered by the residents on this very narrow road with cars parked on both sides of the road.</p>	
7	<p>Subject: Dead trees in Kara Way pocket park Submitted by: Dervla Flynn</p> <p>I would like to raise an issue regarding two dead trees in the Kara Way pocket park. This issue was raised with a Parks and Open Spaces officer in June 2015 and is still not resolved. We were told that the trees would be replaced in Autumn 2015. It is now January 2016, nearly seven months since the issue was originally highlighted, and unfortunately the trees are yet to be replaced. The pocket park has been an amazing addition to the local area and has breathed life into a previously neglected space. As a regular user of the pocket park, I am extremely grateful for the council's investment in the park. However, the space needs to be maintained carefully to ensure its future success. We kindly ask that the trees be replaced as soon as possible.</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
8	<p>Subject: Traffic on Hermitage Lane Submitted by: Chris Woollery</p> <p>The resident is requesting an island relocation on Hermitage Lane. This request was pending as of last February, when officers indicated that the council had been unable to make progress with this project due to current workload.</p> <p>Furthermore, there was an agreement from officers to install speed activitated signage, which has not yet happened. What is the update in regard to this?</p>	
9	<p>Subject: Public Space Protection Order Submitted by: Jessica Howey, Secretary – Cricklewood Railway Terraces’ Association</p> <p>A Public Space Protection Order was issued by Brent police against unauthorised coached and minibuses picking up casual workers in Cricklewood following complaints about people urinating and defecating in public. This order covered the Brent side of Cricklewood Broadway only. However, Romanian coaches depart and arrive on a regular once or twice weekly basis on Cricklewood Broadway where there are no public toilet facilities for the 50 plus people on the coaches. The passengers use the shrubbery on Gratton terrace as their toilet facilities. Why wasn’t a similar order PSPO issued for the Barnet side of Cricklewood Broadway, given that our residents have complained endlessly for several years about people urinating and defecating in the street and in the bushes in front of our homes? It would seem that Brent listens and responds to complaints from its residents and Barnet does not. Please can a similar order be issued for the Barnet side.</p> <p>Given that Cricklewood is where three boroughs of Camden, Barnet and Brent meet, how frequently do officers from the three boroughs meet to share information and discuss action to be taken for the benefit of the residents of all three boroughs? Is there any joined up thinking? Are police and council officers working across the three</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
	<p>boroughs or simply in isolation?</p> <p>The Romanian coach company, http://www.partenertouring.ro/plecari%20din%20anglia.html advertises Cricklewood as one of its London destinations on its website.</p>	
10	<p>Subject: Damaged pavement – Kara Way; still not repaired Submitted by: Jessica Howey, Secretary – Cricklewood Railway Terraces’ Association</p> <p>The pavement on Kara Way was badly damaged 5 or 6 weeks ago when the kerb was presumably hit by a HGV reversing down Kara Way. A section of pavement is several inches out of the ground and so very dangerous for pedestrians. Barnet council was informed of the damaged and attended very promptly indeed to put red and white tape and bollards around the area. However, the tape has been broken and blowing in the wind for several weeks, half the bollards have vanished or been knocked over and the pavement still has not been repaired.</p> <p>Please could it now be repaired as a matter of urgency and please could someone explain to us why it was possible to put red and white tape around the area but not to carry out the repairs a few days later.</p>	
11	<p>Subject: Regent Close Submitted by: Jacky Kirwan</p> <p>Regent Close is in a filthy state, and as a result is attracting animals and insects to the rubbish left on the road. Large amounts of litter has been dumped outside our entrance. The rubbish also spills on to the road. We often have to walk on the road due to numerous bins for domestic and commercial waste on the pavement. To make matters worse the kerbs have broken away from the pavement making it uneven and difficult to negotiate.</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
	<p>I have a young family and this situation is not healthy or safe.</p> <p>I would like someone to clean regent close and also for someone to come and have a look at the management of waste collection on our street.</p>	
12	<p>Subject: Request for kerb markings and upright signs “No Waiting at Any Time” to reinforce Double Yellow Lines at junctions of Fallow Court Avenue/Montrose Crescent and Montrose Crescent/Granville Road and for these areas to monitored and regulations enforced by London Borough of Barnet Parking Enforcement</p> <p>Submitted by: Wendy and Louis Bernadelle</p> <p><i>Reference: The Highway Code</i></p> <p><i>Along the edge of the carriageway</i> <i>Waiting restrictions</i> <i>Double yellow lines mean no waiting at any time.</i></p> <p><i>Rule 239 Waiting and parking</i> <i>Double yellow lines indicate a prohibition of waiting at any time even if there are upright signs.</i></p> <p><i>Rule 243 Waiting and parking</i> <i>DO NOT stop or park</i> <i>Opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction</i></p> <p><i>Rule 247 Waiting and parking</i> <i>Loading and unloading</i> <i>Do not load or unload where there are yellow markings on the kerb and upright signs advise restrictions are in place (see ‘Road markings’).</i></p> <p>In view of the increase in numbers attending and activities generated 7 days a week, in the mornings, afternoons and evenings by the kindergarten and synagogue together</p>	

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	occupying the site at 101 Fallow Court Avenue N12 0BG it is absolutely essential that the Council assist in enforcing parking regulations in order to safeguard local residents, pedestrians and other road users.	
13	<p>Subject: Cost of relaying the pavement on Hendon Avenue Submitted by: Andrew Dismore, GLA Member for Barnet and Camden</p> <p>I would like to know how much the Council spent on relaying the pavement on Hendon Avenue in Finchley Church End ward, prior to sections of it being dug up again by utility companies doing work? When did the Council know that work was being done by utility companies?</p>	
14	<p>Subject: Derelict strip of land next to North Circular in East Finchley Submitted by: Andrew Dismore, GLA Member for Barnet and Camden</p> <p>There is a strip of land next to the North Circular in East Finchley on Long Lane, on the other side of the bridge from Long Lane Pastures. This is derelict, attracts antisocial behaviour and has been used by burglars to break into properties on Long Lane from back gardens. Transport for London and Barnet Council are in dispute over who is responsible for maintaining the land, will Barnet endeavour to decide who it is, and build a fence to keep people out?</p>	
15	<p>Subject: Deterring dumping around Cricklewood Lane Submitted by: Andrew Dismore, GLA Member for Barnet and Camden</p> <p>Will the Council take more action to deter dumping around Cricklewood Lane? There are often mattresses, trolleys and other items dumped in the area, and in the alleyways.</p>	
16	<p>Subject: Keeping Primrose Close N3 free of parked vehicles Submitted by: Andrew Dismore, GLA Member for Barnet and Camden</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
	<p>Will the Council take action to ensure that the entrance to Primrose Close N3 is kept free of parked vehicles, ensuring access for emergency service vehicles?</p>	
17	<p>Subject: Pedestrian Safety on Woodhouse Lane Submitted by: Andrew Dismore, GLA Member for Barnet and Camden</p> <p>What action is Barnet Council taking to improve pedestrian safety on Woodhouse Lane, particularly around the crossing outside Woodhouse College? It is difficult for crossing pedestrians to see oncoming cars because of a bend in the road and parked cars.</p>	
18	<p>Subject: Parking on Stanley Road Submitted by: Ziz Chater</p> <p>Stanley Road is a small cul-de-sac in East Finchley with limited parking. Up until September 2015 this was not an issue - some parents from Holy Trinity Primary School used it as a place to park when dropping and collecting their children but they were, on the whole, considerate towards the residents.</p> <p>In the months leading up to the opening of the Archer Academy I was in correspondence with the headteacher expressing my concern about the impact the opening of the school was likely to have on the residents of Stanley Road. I was assured that this would not be an issue as parents were being encouraged to use the entrance by the Market Place.</p> <p>When the Archer Academy opened in September 2015 it quickly became clear that parents were not following this advice. They regularly park in the road, often without any consideration for other cars, which means that residents get blocked in, are unable to park and now live in a road that not only resembles a carpark but has also become dangerous. Furthermore the attitude of some of the parents is extremely arrogant and unpleasant.</p> <p>We have been in contact with the school on many occasions and they have been understanding and have continued to try to persuade their parents against using Stanley Road. They have also occasionally placed staff members in the road to stop parents parking. Neither</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
	<p>of these actions have made any difference.</p> <p>I have written to Mike Freer expressing our worries - but have received no response.</p> <p>It seems to us that the idea of having two schools situated so closely together with such limited access by car and space for parking was extremely ill--conceived. Furthermore to have the address of The Archer Academy as "the Stanley Road campus" is only going to encourage people to use the road as access - even though it is not on Stanley Road - it is the other side of the railway line!</p> <p>I would like to know what the Council can do to help?</p>	
19	<p>Issue: Parking on Eversleigh Road, Finchley Central, N3 Raised by : Resident on Eversleigh Road</p> <p>Issue: Parking on Eversleigh Road for residents has become a nightmare because it is a free car park :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. To all residents of N3 – cars are parked here even by residents of Cornwall Avenue. b. Second hand car dealers – cars & vans which often do not move for over a month. c. Commuters using West Finchley & Finchley Central Underground Stations, often selfishly, without caring about residents. <p>Recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Grant each property owner, Council Tax Payer - one free Parking permit for their 4 wheelers – Cars or Vans or Mini Buses. Exempt Two wheelers from parking permits. A Parking Permit for each Council Tax Payer will cost less to the Council to administer and expose unlawful Houses / Flats in Multiple Occupation. 	

	Issue Raised	Response
	<p>b. Require residents with a second or third - 4 wheelers to purchase a Parking Permit to park on Eversleigh Road from Monday – Friday from 1300-1400 hrs.</p> <p>c. Introduce Daily Pay & Park or Monthly Car Parking Permits for Commuters parking for the Day, (at Station Car Park Prices) for commuters.</p> <p>Restricting from 1300-1400 hrs will allow school parents to park and walk their children to and from schools and nurseries in the area.</p> <p>Barnet Council, with my suggestions can maximise revenues from available parking spaces and also discourage owners from increasing pollution with ownership of second or third cars.</p>	
20	<p>Issue: Frequency of Residents' Forums Raised by : Mary O'Connor</p> <p>Why does Barnet Council have Residents' Forums and why is their frequency four times a year?</p>	
21	<p>Issue: Residents' Forums 'six month rule' Raised by : Mary O'Connor</p> <p>Why is there a 'six month rule'? Residents Forums are only held four times a year yet for ongoing concerns, matters can only be raised at residents' forums at most twice a year. Often they are raised again because they have not been adequately replied to. Also between residents' forums Barnet Council may have made decisions or carried out procedures affecting these matters yet the 'six month rule' prevents these being discussed at the next residents' forum. If the reason is that you are concerned about the time constraint allowed for the residents' forum then such matters could be placed at the end of the list. Please explain the reasons for the 'six month rule'.</p>	
22	<p>Issue: Sale of Victoria Park Lodge Raised by : Mary O'Connor</p> <p>A requirement of the Charities Act 2011 was that the proposed sale of The Lodge had</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
	<p>to be advertised and 'representations' could be made. How many 'representations' did Barnet Council receive in March 2015? How many were in favour of Barnet Council's decision to sell The Lodge, part of Victoria Park, and how many were against? What consideration has Barnet Council given to these 'representations'? Will the trustees act in the best interests of the trust as required by the Charities Act 2011?</p>	
23	<p>Issue: Victoria Park Lodge vandalism Raised by : Mary O'Connor</p> <p>In early August, 2015, Victoria Park Lodge was vandalised and had graffiti sprayed on it. If Barnet Council are the corporate trustees why have they not removed the graffiti and repaired The Lodge as some roof tiles were broken and removed? The hedge fronting Long Lane has grown to over 4 meters over the last 5 1/2 years since the previous tenants were 'decanted' so this lack of visibility encourages anti-social behaviour. As trustees are required to act in the best interests of the trust why has Barnet Council actively encouraged anti-social behaviour in The Lodge grounds? Why have they not repaired The Lodge after it was damaged, especially the roof, to prevent water causing more damage?</p>	
24	<p>Issue: Weeds along Dollis Brook Raised by : Mary O'Connor</p> <p>Invasive weeds, including Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed, along Dollis Brook have had little treatment to eradicate them last Summer and what has been treated has been ineffective. Is there a planned, detailed strategy to eradicate invasive weeds? Why have areas of Japanese Knotweed that have been treated in 2014 not had a follow-up treatment in 2015 when they are clearly still growing? Do Barnet Council staff check that the contractors work is effective? Is Barnet Council also required to control species in the London Invasive Species Initiative (LISI) and those listed in The Weeds Act 1959?</p>	
25	<p>Issue: Signs on the Dollis Valley Greenwalk Raised by : Mary O'Connor</p> <p>Recently signs have been placed on Dollis Valley Greenwalk between Fursby Road and Dollis Road indicating that on this footpath both pedestrian activities and cycling</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
	<p>are permitted. This is a footpath, and does not conform to the 'London Cycling Design Standards' (LCDS) and the 'Department for Transport Shared Use Routes for Pedestrians and Cyclists (SRPC). Has a Safety of Users (pedestrians and cyclists) Report / Risk Assessment been produced, and if so by whom? How does one obtain a copy? What are the safety concerns? An example of not conforming is the distance between the vertical features above 600mm on both sides of the path - both the LCDS and SRPC state a minimum of 4 meters, whereas at the allotments there are fences either side of the path that are about 2.5 meters apart. Additionally, along this fenced section there is a corner with little forward visibility. Other safety concerns include tight bends, an insufficient width path for pedestrians and cyclists and lack of visibility around corners.</p>	
26	<p>Issue: Signs on Lovers Walk Raised by : Mary O'Connor</p> <p>Lovers Walk is a public footpath so cycling is not permitted anywhere along it. Can Barnet Council erect additional 'no cycling' signs near Brent Way, the bridge and the golf course to ensure that cyclists are aware that it is a 'no cycling' path?</p>	
27	<p>Issue: Sale of Victoria Park Lodge Raised by : Mary O'Connor</p> <p>Can Barnet Council prove that they are the sole trustee of Victoria Park, Finchley? This has been asked at previous forums with replies saying they are but no evidence has been shown to prove this. Victoria Park was purchased in four blocks. Where is the indenture / land title for the third block?</p>	
28	<p>Issue: Issue relating to Capita contract Raised by : Theresa Musgrove</p> <p>It has been estimated that council contractors Capita will make around £80 million in fees from Barnet residents this year. On top of that they receive a great deal of revenue in the form of cash bonuses known as 'gainshare payments'. How much has been paid so far, since the contractual agreement began, to Capita in this way? How is it really possible, in the light of the massive fees and payments paid to Capita, that we are</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
	actually making "savings" from this contract, and where is the proof?	
29	<p>Issue: Cuts to libraries Raised by : Theresa Musgrove</p> <p>Councillors have claimed that no libraries will close, as a result of the devastating cuts in budget of 60% that they are imposing on the service, yet what will remain as a result of the cuts barely reaches the definition of anything we recognise as a library service, with a loss of 46% of staff, and the imposition of a new system of open or completely unstaffed libraries. This clearly raises many questions associated with the risk of using a library with no one on the premises to assist users. How will members of the public cope without any assistance from staff, and in case of emergencies?</p>	
30	<p>Issue: Access to libraries under new proposals Raised by : Theresa Musgrove</p> <p>Children under sixteen will be barred from the 'open' or unstaffed libraries: how can that possibly be justified, considering the impact on those from less advantaged backgrounds who rely on a local library for study space, and access to books?</p>	
31	<p>Issue: Closure of libraries Raised by : Theresa Musgrove</p> <p>Councillors have claimed that no libraries will close: in fact this claim is utterly misleading as four libraries would only run if enough volunteers willing to take the place, unpaid, of professionally qualified and trained staff, on a full time basis, can be found to run those libraries, including, in this area, Childs Hill library. As it is, and as noted in the report that went to council, Barnet struggles to find volunteers and is therefore highly likely to find enough people to take over, which means four libraries will close, and the buildings sold. How much will the council achieve from the sale of Childs Hill, Mill Hill, South Friern and East Barnet libraries?</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
32	<p>Issue: Libraries Raised by : Theresa Musgrove</p> <p>Why is it that the libraries which have best survived the cull imposed by Conservative cuts are largely in Conservative areas?</p>	
33	<p>Issue: Parking in Addison Way Raised by: Philip Okrent</p> <p>Parking in Addison Way has become increasingly more difficult as restrictions have been placed in surrounding roads. We are now one of only a very few roads between Henlys Corner and Golders Green Station that does not have restricted parking and it is almost impossible to find a parking space close to our homes when we come home</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p> <p>This, particularly for elderly people or those with babies/young children makes life very difficult. Currently outside 24 Addison Way there is a car that has been parked there for many months. I telephoned to enquire if the car was taxed and was told it was but on returning from a weekend away I now find that a Barnet Council Warning Sign has been affixed to the car. This is not the first time that a car has been dumped or left for a long period of time whilst people go away (I have actually seen someone get out of a van with suitcases and did not return for nearly nine months).</p> <p>We pay our rates to live in the London Borough of Barnet and I would suggest that most people who park all day long do not reside in our Borough but just use it for parking.</p> <p>I for one would be more than happy to pay for a parking permit as in adjoining streets.</p>	

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Future meeting dates:

Date of meeting	Location
30 th March 2016	To be confirmed