

CHIPPING BARNET RESIDENTS' FORUM

MEETING HELD ON 6 NOVEMBER 2008 ACTION NOTES

held at: Chipping Barnet Library, 3 Stapylton Rd , Barnet EN5 4QT

*Chairman: Councillor Bridget Perry Vice-Chairman: Councillor Caroline Margo

*Denotes Councillor Present

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Margo.

PRESENTATION ON THE PROPOSED WORKS TO THE BOROUGH'S WATER SUPPLY

At the beginning of the meeting, the Water Utilities gave a presentation on the proposed work to be carried out in the near future which would affect residents in the Chipping Barnet Area. The key issues raised in the presentation included:

- The upgrading of water mains pipes as current systems are leading to supply failure.
- The company are aware of the disruption the upgrading is causing for local residents and are endeavouring to minimise the impact as much as possible.
- 24/7 phone number was available for residents to call for information or if there are/were problems.
- Residents will be delivered cards noting time of disruption to their water supply. Generally in most cases it will be a maximum of 12 hours. However this stoppage does not affect heating systems for dwellings.
- The extent of the work was outlined with work starting imminently in the Cat Hill area.
- Work to Hadley and Hamilton roads would be completed by early 2009.

A question and answer session followed the presentation

Issue Raised	Response at the Meeting	Update (and by whom)
<p>1. Mr J Campbell spoke to a Petition with 87 signatures requesting the removal of a 'No Ballgames Allowed' notice in Brunswick Park Open space.</p>	<p>Jenny Warren noted that this area was designated as a play area, thus it was a requirement of the council to display a 'No Ballgames Allowed' sign.</p> <p>A long debate ensued with supporters of the petition who gave their views on the Council's actions and emphasising that they wished their children to be able to play ball games in this particular area and the reasons for this. Sgt Dawson from the Safer Neighbourhood Team agreed that children should be able to play in a safe environment, but there had been concerns raised at local meetings about anti social behaviour and damage to property in the vicinity.</p>	<p>Jenny Warren To organise a meeting with residents and Metropolitan police to further investigate possible options for Brunswick Park Open space.</p>
<p>2. Sir Michael Franklin represented the 46 residents in requesting for the implementation of speed reduction measures in Galley Lane. In referring to the written response, he was pleased that it will be considered by Chipping Barnet Area Environment Sub-Committee at its meeting on 2 December.</p>	<p>A written response was received from Neil Richardson that stated:</p> <p>The request to investigate the introduction of speed reduction measures for Galley Lane had been assessed against the Council's agreed criteria and a report is being presented for consideration by the Chipping Barnet Area Environment Sub-Committee at its meeting on 2 December. Subject to the committee's approval, it was anticipated that a Vehicle Actuated Sign would be erected, at a location to be agreed through local consultation, that would advise vehicles to reduce speed if they were travelling above the national speed limit for this road of 30mph. The sign would be the flashing 30 type.</p> <p>There were no recorded personal injury accidents in this road.</p>	<p>Neil Richardson</p> <p>The erection of a Vehicle Activated Sign was agreed at the meeting of the Chipping Barnet Area Environment Committee on 2 December 08.</p>

<p>3. Karen Miller expressed that it was her understanding Central Government had allocated £235 million for the regeneration of parks. With Boroughs having been asked to submit funding requests for their relevant borough. In note of this she asked the following in questions:</p> <p>Could Barnet have made an application for funds from this kitty.</p> <p>If yes, how much and which parks in particular would benefit.</p> <p>If no, why not?</p> <p>6 November 2008</p>	<p>A written response was received from Jenny Warren that stated:</p> <p>Two programmes of funding were announced by the Department for children, schools and families for creating more high quality places to play in the Children's plan, December 2007. Play pathfinders - £235 million to be spent in two years between 30 authorities. 20 pathfinders selected from an invitation to 65 local authorities of which Barnet was not one. A further 10 pathfinders were selected from an invitation to all local authorities. . Each authority is awarded 2.5 million to develop supervised adventure playgrounds or play parks aimed at 8-13 year olds in disadvantaged areas. The authorities will test innovative approaches to promoting and supporting play spaces. Barnet did not submit an application as delivering the path finder programme would require significant on-going revenue investment. The Council through it's Premier Parks strategy will be looking to improve play areas and will be pursuing the play builder grant which meets with the objectives of the strategy. Play builders - £235 million over the next three years. Every Local Authority will be offered capital funding of up to £1 million to deliver at least 20 play areas, replacing old equipment for new or building a completely new play area with emphasis on the needs of 8 – 13 year olds, and based on local needs analysis. Barnet is a wave three playbuilder and will be offered capital funding from April 2010. There were very clear criteria and objectives to be met in order to receive the funding, which Barnet will commence working up a bid for in 2009. At this time it is unknown which play areas will be identified in the bid.</p> <p>3</p>	<p>Jenny Warren</p> <p>No further update</p>
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	<p>Jenny Warren explained why the Council had not applied for Pathfinders and confirmed, in answer to Ms Miller's question that there was an overview on the website of the criteria and that specific information would be available in the future. Jenny referred to the need to deliver 22 play area targeting 8-13 year olds and young people with special needs.</p>	
<p>4. David Howard pointed out that in the in the notes of the last meeting it stated that Mr Cowie reiterated the Council had in place robust planning policies to consider schemes such as the ASDA and Tesco schemes in New Barnet prior to consultation. He asked that Mr Cowie explain exactly what this meant? And asked that a list of the relevant robust policies be provided</p>	<p>A written response was received from Martin Cowie that stated:</p> <p>A range of national, strategic and local planning policies and guidance would be relevant in the consideration of such schemes. These include:</p> <p>PPS1 – Creating Sustainable Communities, PPS3 - Housing, PPS6 – Planning for Town Centres, PPS9 – Biodiversity and Geological Conservation, PPG13 - Transport, PPS22 – Renewable Energy, PPS23 – Planning and Pollution Control, PPS24 – Planning and Noise, PPS25 – Development and Flood Risk.</p> <p>The London Plan Feb 2008 (Consolidated with Alterations since 2004) and associated Supplementary Planning Guidance.</p> <p>Barnet Unitary Development Plan 2006 and associated Supplementary Planning Guidance and Documents and emerging Local Development Framework.</p> <p>This list is not exhaustive but covers the key policy areas.</p> <p>Martin Cowie confirmed that although the Local Development Framework was developing, there were robust statutory planning policies and guidances in place in addition to the Council's relatively cup to date UDP.</p>	<p>Martin Cowie</p> <p>No further update</p>

<p>5. David Howard said The Three Strands Policy that was adopted by the Council in 2004 is not the same document that has been published as the new version two. He asked what Committee, Cabinet or Council meeting approved the use of version two and when? If the document has not been approved by Council should not the links on current development and policy documents be back to the original November 2004 policy approved by Cabinet?</p>	<p>A written response was received from Martin Cowie that stated:</p> <p>The latest version represents an update of the original document endorsed by Cabinet in 2004 and therefore does link back.</p>	<p>Martin Cowie</p> <p>No further update</p>
<p>6. David Howard understood that consultants have been appointed to carry out a town centre study of North Finchley. He asked if work has started on the New Barnet Town centre study? If yes when will local community groups and the public be consulted and if not when will it start?</p>	<p>A written response was received from Martin Cowie that stated:</p> <p>As part of the Councils Suburban Town Centres Strategy it is undertaking a number of local planning frameworks for key centres in the borough including North Finchley, Chipping Barnet, Edgware, Finchley Church End, Whetstone and New Barnet. As pointed out work is underway in relation to North Finchley and the local planning authority is currently scoping a brief for the preparation of a framework for New Barnet shortly. The community will be fully engaged as work progresses on a strategy and it is anticipated that initial consultation will happen at the beginning of the New Year.</p>	<p>Martin Cowie</p> <p>No further update</p>

<p>7. John Dix said that due to the failure of Barnet Council to determine a planning application for a Tesco Express in New Barnet, the case has now been referred to a planning enquiry. He asked to be informed on how much this is likely to cost Barnet Council and why this situation was allowed to arise in the first place?</p>	<p>A written response was received from Martin Cowie that stated:</p> <p>The application relating to the proposed Tesco Express is currently being considered by the planning department and the matter will be reported to the Chipping Barnet Area Planning Sub-Committee on the 18th November 08.</p> <p>The planning authority have not failed to determine the application, it has been negotiating with Tesco around issues concerning opening hours, servicing and delivery arrangements to ensure neighbouring residential amenity is safeguarded.</p> <p>Tesco have lodged an appeal in the event that the Council does not approve the proposal. However should deemed consent be given we understand that the appeal will be withdrawn. The matter has therefore not cost the Council anything.</p>	<p>Martin Cowie</p> <p>No further update</p>
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<p>8. John Dix noted that in a recent report by the Greater London Assembly, it was identified that 65% of Barnet residents live more than 20 minutes walk from a swimming pool. This ranked Barnet the fifth worst in terms of provision of swimming pools of all London Boroughs and by 2012 it will be the 4th worst London borough. He asked that in light of this report, is Barnet Council prepared to reconsider its statement from the last resident's forum that "The Council did not consider the Borough to be ill-provided in any area as regards leisure centres and particularly pools"?</p> <p>John Dix, in reply to the written to the response from Julian Mauger, said he has not received the email.</p>	<p>Julian Mauger emailed Mr Dix with information on pieces of work in the pipeline / due next year and invited him to share the evidence he had referred to at the last meeting.</p>	<p>Julian Mauger</p> <p>To follow up on the statement from Mr Dix that he has not been emailed.</p>
<p>9. Maria Nash asked what The Leader Listens is all about?</p>	<p>A written response was received from Aysen Giritli that stated:</p> <p>Every resident in a chosen polling district who appears on the electoral register is invited along to a Leader Listens meeting so that they can air their views to the Leader of the Council about issues that matter to them. All comments are acted on and the notes of each meeting are posted on the Council's website and to all the residents in the polling district. These meetings have been taking place around the borough for the last two years and are usually held in school/community halls.</p>	<p>Jill Stansfield</p> <p>No further update.</p>

<p>10. Mr Ashwood said it was his understanding that Barnet received £89 million grant funding for regeneration in Barnet. He asked how many social housing dwellings have been built?</p>	<p>Jill Stansfield amplified that the meetings were based on individual polling districts and a letter of invitation was sent to those residents who appeared on the register. These meetings were held throughout the borough and supplemented the Council's forums and other consultation meetings.</p> <p>A written response was received from Nicky Bird that stated:</p> <p>The £89 million funding is for the refurbishment of existing Council owned properties to meet the governments Decent Homes standard and not for the development of new social housing</p>	<p>Nicky Bird</p> <p>No further update.</p>
<p>11. Mr Ashwood asked why at this time of a credit crunch, is Barnet going ahead with the regeneration project in Edgware at Spur Road?</p>	<p>A written response was received from Nicky Bird that stated:</p> <p>The Council have a contract with Barratts and Family Mosaic to deliver the scheme and provide much needed new housing locally. A Principal Development Agreement has recently been signed and planning consent given and our partners are looking to commence the next phase of the development next year.</p>	<p>Nicky Bird</p> <p>No further update</p>

<p>12. Mr Ashwood asked who authorises the movement of funds and which banks has the Council invested in, bearing in mind that some £27 million has been invested in an Icelandic Bank and it is his understanding that there is a limit of £15 million that can be invested into any one organisation?</p>	<p>A written response was received from Patrick Towey that stated:</p> <p>The Council's annual treasury management strategy sets out the Council's strategy for the management of its deposits. The strategy available on the Barnet website, see link below, sets out the credit criteria for depositing funds with banks and building societies. This strategy is approved by Cabinet Resources Committee prior to the start of the financial year. The limits are also set out in this strategy and the limit with any particular counterparty for the year was £15m. The sum of £27m referred to in the enquirer's e-mail is split between two banks, £12.4m in Glitnir bank and £15m in Landsbanki bank.</p> <p>http://committeepapers.barnet.gov.uk/democracy/reports/reportdetail.asp?ReportID=6655</p> <p>http://committeepapers.barnet.gov.uk/democracy/reports/reportdetail.asp?ReportID=7341</p>	<p>Patrick Towey</p> <p>No further update</p>
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<p>13. Mr Ashwood asked to know where the balance of the income is spent in respect of income from housing rents?</p>	<p>Pamela Wharfe provided the following table: London Borough of Barnet</p>	<p>Pamela Wharfe No further update</p>																																																
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<p>14. Mr Ashwood asked to know why, at great expense, the recently laid pavement between the Odeon and Longmore Avenue is now being dug up again by the same contractors?</p>	<p>A written response was received from Chris Chrysostomou that stated:</p> <p>The work in progress on A1000 junction with Lyonsdown Road (not Longmore) is being carried out as a Local Safety Scheme. The works involve locally widening the southbound carriageway, by just over a meter, to allow the provision of a new southbound left turn lane into Lyonsdown Road and reduce congestion. The scheme involves the relaying of the footway slabs (laid some 4-5 years ago) only where there is realignment of the eastern kerb line and narrowing of the footway. These works are being done in advance of the planned carriageway resurfacing work of the A1000 Pricklers Hill / Great North Road between Potters Lane and Lyonsdown Road which is due to start on 6th November 2008.</p>	<p>Chris Chrysostomou</p> <p>Update on the resurfacing work on the A1000.</p>
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<p>15. Mr Mehta asked why there is no speed limit of 30 MPH on Russell Lane, N20. Cars are driving at 50/ 60 mph and it is dangerous to cross this road.</p>	<p>A written response was received from Neil Richardson and Mervyn Bartlett that stated:</p> <p>The national speed limit for this type of road applies in Russell Lane, which is 30mph – speed limit signs are not erected to indicate this as it is a national limit applicable in built up areas. Signing would only be erected if a speed limit other than 30mph applied.</p> <p>It is understood that the concern particularly relates to the Church Hill Road end of Russell Lane, and existing speed survey data recorded in 2007 indicates that 85th percentile speeds are between 30 and 35 mph.</p> <p>The 85th percentile speed is the speed that 85% of vehicles are travelling at or below and is an established indicator used when deciding if issues of speeding should be investigated.</p> <p>The Council does have an agreed process for reviewing requests for the investigation of issues such as speeding that assesses parameters such as the 85th percentile speed and the number of recorded personal injury accidents within the most recent 3 year period.</p> <p>Therefore this request will be assessed against the criteria and traffic management measures considered if deemed appropriate.</p>	<p>Neil Richardson/Mervyn Bartlett</p> <p>Feedback as to if/when the request for traffic management measures would be considered by the Council.</p>
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<p>16. Mr Mehta asked what the council is doing about the road surfacing at Russell Lane. The top of the road was done last month but not the bottom of Russell Lane.</p>	<p>Response already given by Gangan Pillai after the last meeting that stated: The remaining section of Russell Lane would be included for condition assessment later this year as part of next year's planned maintenance programme. Subject to meeting the criteria, funding availability and committee approval, this road might be included in next year's programme. Meanwhile the Council's reactive maintenance team will inspect the road and keep the highway in a safe condition.</p>	<p>Gangan Pillai</p> <p>No further update.</p>
<p>17. Mr Mehta noted that in the new flats – Osidge Park - Russell Lane there are no facilities for recycling for the tenants who live in these flats. Do you know what they should be since the council policy is to recycle.</p>	<p>Response to this question contained within the Action Sheets of the last meeting: The Council's recycling contractors originally received a request for recycling facilities from a resident in January 2007. They contacted the managing agents for the site (Peverel OM) and left messages asking the agents to return their call. No response was received. Since that time there have been several attempts to contact the appropriate representative of the managing agents, but with no success. The Council intends to write to Peverel OM to ask them to clarify who Officers should work with on this issue.</p>	<p>No further update.</p>

<p>18. Mr Mehta noted that at Cambridge Close N20 it is difficult to turn right because the cars are parked on the pavement. He asked what the Council is doing about it.?</p>	<p>A written response was received from Neil Richardson and Mervyn Bartlett that stated: The vehicles parked at this location are parked on the footway in marked out bays which are near to Cambridge Close which is a relatively new road. The Council are currently reviewing the provision of footway parking throughout Church Hill Road, and the early indication is that the bay in question will be reduced in length to improve sightlines when exiting Cambridge Close, although there are no plans to carry out this aspect in advance of any other measures identified as it is not considered to be of particular concern from a safety viewpoint.</p>	<p>Neil Richardson / Mervyn Bartlett</p> <p>No further update.</p>
<p>19. Christopher Nightingale asked would the Council please explain why a new notice has been put near the entrance to the Stapylton Road car park which effectively reminds people that the Market only has a site for 8 more months. The move to the car park for 18 months was sanctioned almost a year ago so it is hardly up-to-date news. It makes both shoppers and market traders wonder about the future when such a notice appears 'out of the blue'.</p>	<p>Martin Cowie explained that the notice is to purely publicise the fact and that a number of options are currently being considered with discussions ongoing.</p>	<p>Martin Cowie</p> <p>To provide an update at the next meeting.</p>

<p>20. David Howard noted that Hazel Blears announced on 30th October that up to £5million will be committed to promoting new ways to encourage community participation in planning. Councils could receive up to £70,000 each. This is in addition to the £7.5 million Empowerment Fund to fund third sector groups who promote community engagement in the planning system. He asked if Barnet has applied for any of this money? If not will they be applying? What will they spend it on?</p>		<p>Martin Cowie</p> <p>A written response will be provided to Mr Howard.</p>
<p>21. Mr & Mrs Garrod noted that part of Potters Lane is very narrow and large vehicles often have to turn round and find another route. There is a sign warning that the road is not suitable for large vehicles in Potters Lane near the junction with King Edward Road. This is often not noticed by drivers.</p> <p>A new pictorial sign with the same message, has recently been erected in Hadley Road at its junction with Potters Road. A similar sign, placed in Potters Road near the Junction with Meadway, might be more effective. Note: Potters Road becomes Potters Lane only at the Junction with Warwick Road</p> <p>In case cost is a consideration, fewer lorries attempting to go into the narrow part of Potters Lane would save the Council a considerable sum in repairing the marker bollards in Potters lane and in pavement repairs.</p>	<p>It was noted that in the absence of Mr & Mrs Garrod, a written response to their question would be completed.</p>	<p>Chris Chrysostomou</p> <p>A written response will be provided to Mr & Mrs Garrod.</p>

<p>22. Mr Upsdale raised the issue of general road maintenance/inspection of Rowley Lane. Specifically the flooding that occurs when water runs down the road and asked why drains were only at the bottom and not the top of the road.</p>	<p>Chris Chrysostomou noted the issues raised by Mr Upsdale and said he would investigate the matter and provide a written response to Mr Upsdale.</p>	<p>Chris Chrysostomou A written response will be provided to Mr Upsdale</p>
<p>23. James Topham talked about the negative affect the London Bus Priority scheme is having by removing speed humps on Churchill Road, thus increasing speeding on the road. He also pointed out it is proposed that part of ????? park will be removed to accommodate the scheme. He believes this is giving an unfair bias to buses.</p>	<p>Chris Chrysostomou noted the issues raised by Mr Topham and said he would investigate the matter and provide a written response to Mr Topham.</p>	<p>Chris Chrysostomou A written response will be provided to James Topham</p>
<p>DATES AND VENUES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</p>	<p>8 January 2009 17 February 2009 17 March 2009</p>	<p>Building 2, NLBP Danegrove School, Windsor Drive Chipping Barnet Library</p>

The meeting finished at 9.34 pm

Officers Present:

Jill Stansfield
Martin Cowie
Chris Chrysostomou
Jenny Warren
Sgt Carter
Pauline Bagley
Councillors

Lead Officer
Head of Planning and Development Management
Environment and Transport
Principal Parks & Open Spaces Operational Manager
Metropolitan Police
Democratic Services
Richard Cornelius, Lisa Rutter, Lynne Hillan, Joanna Tambourides, Andreas Tambourides were also in attendance.

FORTHCOMING PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(meetings usually start at 7.00pm)

- **AREA PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE:**

Chipping Barnet

Barnet House, 1255 High Road, N20

Democratic Services Contact: Nazyer Choudhury, tel: 020 8359 2031 or email Nazyer.choudhury@barnet.gov.uk

Hendon

Barnet House, 1255 High Road, N20

Democratic Services Contact: James Campbell – 020 8359 2205 or email james.campbell@barnet.gov.uk

Finchley and Golders Green

Barnet House, 1255 High Road, N20

Democratic Services Contact: Maria Lugangira, tel: 020 8359 2761 or email maria.lugangira@barnet.gov.uk

Forthcoming meetings:

Finchley & Golders Green

12 January 2009

3 February 2009

Chipping Barnet

12 January 2009

3 February 2009

Hendon

12 January 2009

3 February 2009

Public requests to speak at Area Planning Sub-Committees on planning applications

Written requests to speak on planning applications should be notified to the relevant Area Planning Officer by 10.00am on the 2nd working day before the day of the meeting.

Public requests to speak at Area Planning Sub-Committees on matters other than planning applications

Written requests to speak on matters other than planning applications must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 2nd working day before the day of the meeting.

Public requests to ask questions at Area Planning Sub-Committees

Any request to ask a question (exact wording) on the work of the Sub-Committee must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 7th working day before the day of the meeting.

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone N20

Democratic Services Contact: Jonathan Regal – 020 8359 2012 or email jonathan.regal@barnet.gov.uk

Public requests to speak at Planning & Environment Committee

Written requests to speak on planning applications should be notified to the relevant Area Planning Officer by 10.00am on the 2nd working day before the day of the meeting.

Public requests to speak at Planning & Environment Committee on matters other than planning matters

Written requests to speak on matters other than planning applications must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 2nd working day before the day of the meeting.

Public requests to ask questions at Planning & Environment Committee

Any request to ask a question (exact wording) on the work of the Committee must be received by the Democratic Services Manager by 10.00am on the 7th working day before the day of the meeting.

Forthcoming meetings:

21 January 2009, 11 February 2009.