

CHIPPING BARNET RESIDENTS FORUM

28 July 2009 – As at 28 July 09

ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE FORUM MEETING

	Issues Raised	Response
1	Mr Hufford A survey was carried out by consultants in respect of the sheltered housing warden service. What was the cost of the survey?	Kate Kenally/James Taylor The cost of the survey was £22,491.00
2	Mr Hufford An update please on the planning proposals in respect of Asda/Tesco	Martin Cowie The Asda planning application was withdrawn on 30 th June 2009 and the local planning authority is yet to hear how the supermarket operator wishes to proceed. It is understood that Tesco are still seeking to pursue a planning application but no further details are known at this stage. The planning authority continues to progress the town centre strategy which it will be consulting the community on post summer.

3	<p>Mr Hufford</p> <p>JCOSS – There was an original intention to accommodate 60 coaches to transport children to the school. 30 of these were due to travel to the school site, 30 were due to drop off at New Barnet Station. Is this still the case? What are the plans to accommodate the coaches travelling to the New Barnet Station Site, and what mitigating action will be taken regarding the impact on parking within that area?</p>	<p>Martin Cowie</p> <p>The school intends to provide buses/coaches as part of their School Travel Plan to reduce the amount of trips by car. It is proposed that there would be a maximum of 9 bus/coaches using two drop off points, one at New Barnet Station and one at Mount Pleasant roundabout.</p> <p>It is considered that there is sufficient space at both locations for the proposed bus/coaches to drop off in the morning period and pick up in the afternoon. It should be noted that as the school will be occupied on a year by year basis the need to provide this level of service will not be necessary in the first couple of years of opening.</p> <p>It was never the intention to accommodate 60 coaches as part of the School's travel planning arrangements.</p>
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4	<p>Mr Hope</p> <p>How much money has the Council received from Barratts in s106 payments in respect of the development at Osidge Park (formerly Barnet College, Russell Lane, N20) ?</p>	<p>Responses:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="833 165 1052 261">Index-linked total received</th> <th data-bbox="1052 165 2047 261">Definition of the contribution as set out in the S106 Agreement</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="833 261 1052 400">N/A</td> <td data-bbox="1052 261 2047 400">"Affordable Housing Units" means 29 flats comprising 14 x 1 bed flats (2 person) and 15 x 2 bed flats (4 person) for shared ownership to provide Affordable Housing in accordance with the Affordable Housing Scheme or as otherwise agreed in writing with the Council.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="833 400 1052 539">£1,019,511</td> <td data-bbox="1052 400 2047 539">"Affordable Housing Contribution" means the sum of £1,000,000 towards the provision of new affordable homes and housing facilities to include housing needs survey to be allocated in such proportions as the Council in its absolute discretion considers appropriate.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="833 539 1052 711">£2,854,630</td> <td data-bbox="1052 539 2047 711">"Education and Community Contribution" means the sum of £2,800,000 (Index Linked) for the provision of Education and Community Facilities within the London Borough of Barnet in order to meet increased demand for such facilities as a result of occupation of the Development to be allocated in such proportions as the Council in its absolute discretion considers appropriate.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="833 711 1052 914">£555,723</td> <td data-bbox="1052 711 2047 914">"Highway Contribution" means the sum of £550,000 (Index Linked) towards improvements in the surrounding highway network including but not limited to the following roads and junctions; Church Hill Road and Russell Lane; Brunswick Park Road and Osidge Lane; Russell Lane and Oakleigh Road North and for traffic and travel monitoring of the site and surrounding area to be allocated in such proportions as the Council in its absolute discretion considers appropriate.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="833 914 1052 1051">£50,520</td> <td data-bbox="1052 914 2047 1051">"Monitoring Contribution" means the sum of £50,000 (Index Linked) towards the Council's costs of monitoring the progress of the Development and the implementation of the planning obligations by the Owner and the Developer.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Index-linked total received	Definition of the contribution as set out in the S106 Agreement	N/A	"Affordable Housing Units" means 29 flats comprising 14 x 1 bed flats (2 person) and 15 x 2 bed flats (4 person) for shared ownership to provide Affordable Housing in accordance with the Affordable Housing Scheme or as otherwise agreed in writing with the Council.	£1,019,511	"Affordable Housing Contribution" means the sum of £1,000,000 towards the provision of new affordable homes and housing facilities to include housing needs survey to be allocated in such proportions as the Council in its absolute discretion considers appropriate.	£2,854,630	"Education and Community Contribution" means the sum of £2,800,000 (Index Linked) for the provision of Education and Community Facilities within the London Borough of Barnet in order to meet increased demand for such facilities as a result of occupation of the Development to be allocated in such proportions as the Council in its absolute discretion considers appropriate.	£555,723	"Highway Contribution" means the sum of £550,000 (Index Linked) towards improvements in the surrounding highway network including but not limited to the following roads and junctions; Church Hill Road and Russell Lane; Brunswick Park Road and Osidge Lane; Russell Lane and Oakleigh Road North and for traffic and travel monitoring of the site and surrounding area to be allocated in such proportions as the Council in its absolute discretion considers appropriate.	£50,520	"Monitoring Contribution" means the sum of £50,000 (Index Linked) towards the Council's costs of monitoring the progress of the Development and the implementation of the planning obligations by the Owner and the Developer.
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5	How much of the money from the unilateral undertaking, in respect of the development at Osidge Park (formerly Barnet College, Russell Lane, N20), remains to be paid ?	Nothing remains unpaid, all affordable housing units have been provided.
6	When will the promised increase in capacity to the local road networks (including the roundabout at Church Hill Road / Brunswick Park Road roundabouts and others) be delivered.	Some initial works including resurfacing were undertaken in the financial year 2008-09 costing approximately £58,000. The remaining £500,000 is due to be spent over the next two years 2009-10 and 2010-11. Initial feasibility and detailed design is currently being carried out to investigate improvements to the capacity on the local road network in the vicinity of the former Barnet College, Russell Lane site including the Church Hill Road/ Brunswick Park Road roundabouts.

7	What has the money received by the Council in s106 in respect of the development at Osidge Park (formerly Barnet College, Russell Lane, N20) be spent on so far or committed to? Please list with details.	Affordable Housing Contribution	<p>2006-07 and 2007-08 Expenditure of contributions on Affordable Housing Capital Investment Programme. £131,608 applied to Hsg/01003.01.01 (Bunns Lane) £131,608 applied to Hsg/01003.02.01 (Bunns Lane) £137,166 applied to Hsg/01015.03.01 (Nicol and Wade Court) £47,800 applied to Hsg/01005.01.01 (Northfields Road Garage Site) £175,998.50 applied to Hsg/01018.01.01 (Page Street) £175,998.50 applied to Hsg/01018.02.01 (Page Street) £93,600 applied to Hsg/01019.03.01 (Osidge Park) £4,107 applied to Housing Needs Survey</p> <p>2008-09 Expenditure of contributions on Affordable Housing Capital Investment Programme £78,179.80 applied to Hsg/01007.01.01 (New Fieldways)</p> <p><i>Remainder to be applied to 2009-10 Capital Investment Programme.</i></p>	
		Education and Community contribution, incl. libraries and doctors surgeries.	<p>2007-08 Expenditure on Education Capital Investment Programme £30,000 applied to East Barnet Schools Libraries Programme</p> <p>2008-09/2009-10 Expenditure on Education Capital Investment Programme £213,057 - Parkfield Primary School £448,000 - Hyde Primary School £1,265,000 - allocated to Primary Schools Capital Investment Programme £792,000 - allocated to East Barnet School</p> <p>2009-10 Agreed expenditure on Libraries Investment Project £106,572.84 – Improvements and enhancements to Osidge, Friern Barnet, East Finchley, East Barnet, Mill Hill and Hampstead Garden Suburb libraries as well as expansion of WIFI free internet access programme).</p>	
		Highways Improvements, Traffic and Travel monitoring	For improvements to the roundabouts either end of Russell Lane and to the surface and footways. In total £555,723.08 is allocated to resurfacing & footway & junction redesign.	
		Monitoring of development and planning obligations	To be applied to funding S106 officer posts in 2008-09 and 2009-10.	

8	<p>Osidge Library is currently only open past 5pm for one day a week. When will Osidge Library be improved (from the s106 from the Osidge Park development) and opened in the evening so that people who go out and work for a living can also benefit from the Library they fund?</p>	<p>Osidge Library is due to be rebuilt, following a successful bid to central government for funds to redevelop public services in the area. The Department for Children, Schools and Families has approved funding of £6.5m for the first phase of the scheme, which will provide a new primary care centre, a replacement library, and a children's centre in place of the existing Hampden Way nursery. The new facilities will replace buildings which are spread over a wide area. Many are in a poor condition and require replacement. A new library development in the area will provide an excellent asset for the community to use.</p> <p>At present, Osidge is designated as local library with opening hours to reflect this status. Recent investment in leading libraries (Hendon, North Finchley, Chipping Barnet, Golders Green, Burnt Oak, and Edgware) has been made to improve these sites, and draw in users from across the borough to benefit from longer opening hours.</p> <p>The Council will review all opening hours of libraries later in 2009, to ensure that our opening hours meet the needs of our customers. This will reflect the needs of each site, and overall allocation across the borough.</p>
9	<p>Fay Silverstone For over a year I have been lobbying for better pedestrian access to New Barnet station from York Road. Following a study by the council a crossing has been dismissed but there was subsequently a proposal to make a footpath on the side of the York Road next to the railway subject to consent from Network Rail. I have repeatedly emailed both the council and Network Rail for a response and yet again this seems to fall into a dark black hole. Can you please update me on the situation</p>	<p>Response: Neil Richardson The Council met with Network Rail in November 2008 to discuss the proposals to introduce a new footway along York Road. Network Rail agreed to carry out a clearance application for the land swap to enable the council to progress the footway scheme.</p> <p>The council has called and emailed Network Rail several times since they submitted the clearance application to carryout the land swap in March/April 2009. However Network Rail have either not responded or have not provided a clear answer on when a decision will be made regarding the application process. Officers continue to press Network Rail for an improved response and intend to inform the Local MP of the position as they have taken an interest in this matter</p>

10	<p>Mrs Clinch on behalf of a friend The friend (who is an elderly resident living in Oakmead, Bells Hill) is suffering from young people perpetrating anti social behaviour directly outside her home and is concerned that she is not getting any help from either Barnet Homes or the Police. (a) a request that locks are fitted to the communal door to the flats so that unwanted people would not be able to gain access. (b) What can the police do to deal with the problem? (c) What can Barnet Homes do address the problem of ASB on their estates?</p>	<p>Barnet Homes</p> <p>It is understood that Barnet Homes do not install locks on communal main entrance doors unless it is encompassed in an electronically controlled system. Reason being is if an ordinary lock is fitted, this does not allow access to emergency services, postmen etc. They have undertaken to seek a quotation for this work before they are able to supply a definitive answer.</p> <p>The Safer Neighbourhood Police state that they are aware of the group of youths in the area and that regular patrols take place. This issue has been passed to the local Team to deal with.</p> <p>Housing Officers have also undertaken to contact the resident direct.</p>
11	<p>Ms Karen Miller RE: Town Centre Strategy What is the current status of the "Town Centre Strategy" document? When will local community groups be consulted? When will the public be consulted?</p>	<p>Response: Martin Cowie The council will work closely with town centre groups, landowners and businesses in developing town centre strategies for Edgware, North Finchley, New Barnet, Finchley Central and Chipping Barnet. Strategies will be subject to public consultation. This work will take place over the next 12 months and will feed into Barnet's Local Development Framework – the spatial plan for the Borough.</p>
12	<p>Ms Karen Miller 2. RE: Parks Has the list of Barnet parks who will benefit from the Central Government Regeneration Fund being completed, and if so how many and which parks?</p>	<p>Response: Jakki Redmond/Mary Turp The grant has been awarded to Children Service's who are working closely with the Parks department and other sectors of the Council and voluntary organisations to deliver 22 play spaces over the next two years. The first eleven sites will be decided upon and reported to CRC committee for approval and will be delivered before the end of March 2010, with a further eleven delivered next year.</p>

<p>13</p>	<p>Ms Karen Miller RE: barnetfirst magazine - July/August</p> <p>At a recent meeting of the Save New Barnet Campaign it was discovered that only one of the team had received a copy.</p> <p>Fordham Road - received Pymms Brooke Drive - not received Victoria Road - not received Victoria Close - not received Alexander Close - not received</p> <p>How much does this magazine cost to produce? How much does it cost to distribute? What is the print run?</p>	<p>Response: Lyn Hutton</p> <p>Each issue of Barnet First has a print run of 143,000 of which 140,000 are distributed door to door. Each edition costs £20,500 to produce – just over 10p per copy.</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>Mr Philip Fletcher Re.: Improvements to Dollis Valley Green Walk.</p> <p>Could we have an update on the mechanisms to provide public participation in the spending of the £ 400,000).- recently allocated to the Dollis Valley Green Walk by the GLC (any corrections please if any of this is wrong! What has been planned so far as far as the spending of this money is concerned? Could you please give an indication as to the timescale of this process?</p>	<p>Response: Lynn Bishop</p> <p>Dollis Valley Green Walk was successfully voted to receive £400k of the Mayor’s Priority Parks grant money. Resident’s have been invited to put forward any ideas they have via email: parks@barnet.gov.uk, whereilive.org, and contacting the Council’s customer contact centre. All contacts received are being collated and fed into the outline brief that is currently being formulated. Key stakeholders and interested parties/individuals will be invited to a working group (end August) to discuss the outline brief and work up the final bid which will then need to go to CRC (Target Oct) for approval and the MOL’s Office.</p> <p>The grant is to be delivered over the next three years.</p>

15	<p>Mr Fletcher Maintenance of Cycle track along Dollis Walk. Have overhanging branches impeding cycling along the cycle track next to Dollis Brook been cut back in the last few weeks? Is there a maintenance plan in place to regulate the cutting back of the vegetation to make cycling easier along this track? If so, how often will this maintenance work be carried out?</p>	<p>Response: Lynn Bishop Reports have been received within the last month regarding low branches in Brook Farm and the Laurel Way section of the walk. Works to the cycle path between Totteridge Lane and the bridge have been undertaken and works are due to be undertaken to the Laurel Way section within the next two weeks.</p> <p>There is not a maintenance regime in place for cutting back vegetation in relation to the cycling path. However we are working with the Environment Agency to agree the thinning out of vegetation along the brook to improve the health of the river and improve access.</p>
16	<p>Mr Constable What is Barnet Council doing to encourage attendance and participation at the Chipping Barnet Residents Forum?</p>	<p>Response: David Seabrooke The publicity for the meeting dates is sent to local shops, etc for display and are published in Barnet First and on-line. The Council uses local, accessible venues for the all the residents forum meetings. The Council is seeking to improve how questions and issues raised are dealt with at the meetings to ensure fair access for all.</p>
17	<p>Mr Constable What is the purpose of the whereilive.org website? Does Barnet Council consider it to be adequately fulfilling its purpose?</p>	<p>Response: Chris Palmer Whereilive.org was set up to provide a space for residents to debate with the council, other public agencies and each other about local issues which directly affect them. It was intended to identify topics of public concern that are difficult to unearth through traditional consultation processes.</p> <p>The pilot was also prompted by an examination of data based around fear of crime in two particular wards. One of the wards had a high level of crime but low fear, while the other had a low crime level but fear was high. From survey data the council was unable to work out why there should be such unexpected differences. In an attempt to understand these, the Council provided a space for people to describe what it was like to live in those two areas.</p> <p>Whereilive.org has provided the council with useful information about the fear of crime as well experience of running this type of social media. The lessons learnt will be fed into the council's mainstream engagement strategy.</p>

18	<p>Mr Constable Why has Barnet Council suspended the publication of public notices on its own website? (www.barnet.gov.uk/public-notices) Where online can the public find details of the Members Allowances Scheme for 2009/10 and a list of Members Allowances paid in 2008/09?</p>	<p>Response: Lyn Hutton</p> <p>This service has now resumed</p> <p>Response: David Seabrooke Link for Members Allowances 08/09 http://www.barnet.gov.uk/index/council-democracy/council-constitution.htm</p> <p>Link for Members Allowances 09/10 http://committeepapers.barnet.gov.uk/democracy/reports/reportdetail.asp?ReportID=7882</p> <p>Information on allowances paid during 08/09 will follow</p>
19	<p>Mr Ashwood What decisions have been made & what proposals are to be made to eliminate abuse & waste to residents' money across the whole spectrum</p>	<p>Response: Mr Ashwood is requested to clarify his question.</p>

20	<p>Mrs Burton A question about TPO's and what measures the Council take to ensure that any trees removed are replaced with indigenous species. What process has to be gone through to allow a TPO tree to be felled. What evidence is required to get a TPO tree felled?</p>	<p>Response: Martin Cowie If consent is granted to remove tree(s) included in a tree preservation order (TPO), where appropriate a condition is imposed requiring details of size, species, and siting of replacement tree(s) to be agreed with the council.</p> <p>Unless covered by the exemption provisions, consent is required to fell TPO tree(s) – requiring submission of a standard application form and supporting documentation as specified in the guidance notes issued by central government (DCLG / Planning Portal).</p> <p>Each application is treated on its own merit taking account of the amenity value of the tree(s), the reason put forward for the proposed felling and supporting documentary evidence, and factors such as the condition of the tree.</p> <p>The evidence required would depend on the reason for the proposed felling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Condition of tree – written evidence or other diagnostic evidence from an arboriculturist or other appropriate expert (ii) Subsidence – structural engineer / chartered surveyor report and technical analysis of roots and soil including various specified information (iii) Other structural damage – technical evidence from a relevant engineer, building / drainage surveyor or other appropriate expert.
21	<p>Mr Green Reiterated his question from the last forum about 'hubs'</p>	<p>Response: Martin Cowie The Interim Conclusions of the Mayor's Outer London Commission published earlier this month reject the super-hubs model on the basis that it would compromise prospects of other business locations. However the hub and spoke concept is considered more effective and practicable for business and the public transport network.</p> <p>These are early recommendations to the Mayor by the Commission and he will make his formal response to them with the publication of the Draft London Plan in Autumn 2009.</p>

22	Mr Newton What the Income and Expenditure budget is for the Planning Department in 2009/2010 and how much of the budget was it estimated would be met from Planning & Housing Delivery Grant (broken down between the grant elements).	Written response to come within the Action Notes
23	Mr Newton What the Planning Department Income and Expenditure outturn figures were for 2008/2009 and how much of the income was represented by Planning & Housing Delivery Grant (broken down between the grant elements).	Written response to come within the Action Notes
23	Mr Newton What the criteria and targets are for qualifying for the individual elements of Planning & Housing Delivery Grant.	Written response to come within the Action Notes
24	Mr Newton What steps the Planning Department is taking to maximise the grant payment for each element.	Written response to come within the Action Notes
25	J McKenzie (a) Is the Council in dialogue with Tesco over their supermarket plans for New Barnet? (b) Will they be asked by the council to contribute to a planning framework document for New Barnet?	Response Martin Cowie: (a) It is not known at this stage how Tesco wish to pursue the redevelopment of their site between East Barnet Road and Victoria Road. (b) In preparing the New Barnet town centre strategy, the council has engaged and will work closely with, town centre groups, landowners and businesses. The Strategy will be subject to public consultation. This work will take place over the next 12 months and will feed into Barnet's Local Development Framework – the spatial plan for the Borough.

26	<p>Mr Newton Request for information regarding temporary restrictions – Issue number 24 of the last forum</p>	<p>Response: Lynn Bishop Temporary Monday to Friday 8am to 6.30pm waiting and loading restrictions were provided in Holden Road under a Temporary Traffic Order related to a redevelopment of flats. These restrictions were in the place of Monday to Friday 2pm to 3pm waiting restrictions which were in situ prior to the building work taking place,</p> <p>The flats have been built and the temporary traffic order expired, and therefore we are expecting that signage will be amended within the next day or so (by w/e 31/07/2009), so the restriction reverts back to the original 2pm to 3pm.</p> <p>Similar for Station Approach, which under the temporary traffic order was provided with double yellow lines and kerb blips (at any time waiting and loading restrictions) and associated signage. It is expected that the signage aspect will be completed to revert back to Monday to Friday 2pm to 3pm waiting restrictions by w/e 31/07/2009) with lining work to reduce double yellow lines to single yellow lines to be completed shortly thereafter.</p>
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