

**FINCHLEY & GOLDERS GREEN RESIDENTS FORUM
ACTION SHEET
5 JANUARY 2009**

held at St Michael's Church Hall, The Riding, Off Golders Green Road, London NW11 8DA
Forum Officers' Action Notes

*Chairman: Councillor Dean Cohen
Vice Chairman: Councillor Jazmin Naghar
(*denotes Councillor present)

	Subject	Response	Action
1	There is a Junction box in Llanvanor Rd, the doors of which keep swinging open to the annoyance of passing pedestrians	There are two Virgin Media cable TV cabinets side by side. When inspected the doors on both had been wedged shut. We have reported the defect to Virgin Media and asked them to carry out repairs.	No update necessary
2	There was a fire at Garth Hall and Garth House in Cricklewood Lane NW2. Would the Council consider turning the area into a Further Education facility? It is something that the area is lacking.	The Council will assess any planning application that is submitted in accordance with the Unitary Development Plan. The use of the site can not be determined prior to a formal planning application. Any application that is submitted will be consulted on with neighbours.	No update necessary
3	Why does the Council nor the Police do anything with regards to a lady named Susan who lives in shop doorways in Golders Green Road?	Susan has been offered more assistance by the Council and everything is being done to help Susan, however Ward Councillors do not wish to persecute her.	Susan was taken on 6 February 2009 by London Ambulance Services to Royal Free Hospital. She was offered treatment but refused as per her rights. She was then picked up by Camden's Housing Out of Hours Emergency Placement Team and taken to a Hostel in Englands Lane NW3. Susan accepted this placement as she was saying she had no money or food. She should have seen someone from Camden's Housing Options Team by Wednesday 11 February but simply

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			<p>walked out leaving behind her personal belongings. She was seen back in Golders Green on Thursday 12 February and is back there. She was spending her days in and out of Costa Coffee or Starbucks. The Council understands she is not sleeping in the bus shelters. It is possible she is sleeping in doorways. The Council is trying to arrange a briefing for Heads of Service- Dorne, Pam Wharfe, Irene Findlay, Shahin Farjami, the Police and Primary Care Trust (Mental Health) to try and reach a collective position on this case.</p>
4	<p>There are rumours appearing in the papers with regard to privatisation of Council services. What is the purpose and who has been consulted?</p>	<p>The Cabinet Committee received a report in December detailing information on the possibility of a joint venture between the Council and one or more private, public or voluntary sector partners. The Committee agreed decided that more consideration was necessary before a decision was made and a future report would be submitted to Cabinet in June 2009.</p>	<p>In May, the Council established an initial research programme to look at the shape the Council should be to respond to a number of very different challenges: the need to constantly improve services; a growing and changing population of the borough creating new demands for services; and year on year reductions in central government grant settlements, meaning we have to find new ways to improve performance while also reducing costs. The conclusion of this phase of work was the Future Shape of</p>

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			<p>the Council report that Cabinet discussed in December. Contrary to reports in some local papers, the proposals do not suggest largescale privatisation of Council services. They propose that the Council should focus on the things it does best and work with other organisations where they can provide the best results at reduced cost. As a result of this report, a programme of feasibility work has been set up, to report in the summer, to look at the potential for working more with private, voluntary and other public sector organisations to provide better results for lower cost.</p>
5	<p>What is the current financial situation of the Council after the financial crisis in Iceland?</p>	<p>Other Local Authorities have made deposits into banks in Iceland. These were not investments. The investments were made during 2006 and 2007 when the economic climate was different to the current conditions and the Council took government accredited advice before making any deposits. The Director of Resources for Barnet Council as well as the Director of Resources at Kent County Council are currently dealing with the matter.</p>	<p>Councils with deposits in Icelandic banks have organised themselves into an overall steering committee, with two bank specific committees underneath that – Heritable, and Landsbanki/Glitnir. The Council’s Director of Resources & Chief Finance Officer, Clive Medlam, chairs the Glitnir/Landsbanki committee. The overall committee has a wider remit, which includes engagement of legal support and liaison with the Treasury and CLG etc.</p>

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			<p>Two Informal Creditor Committee (ICC) meetings for each bank have so far been held in Iceland, in November and December. These ICC meetings are by invitation only, they are not required to be held at all but the fact that they are demonstrates the desire of the Icelandic FME (their regulatory body) and the Resolution Committees to work with creditors to maximise asset value and ultimately return of deposits, bonds etc. to them. Both banks are now what in Iceland is termed Moratorium, which means the assets of the old banks continue to be actively managed but with court protection against hostile legal action. This month, there will be an Open Creditors meeting for each bank, which is part of the formal moratorium process whereby the Resolution Committees and Moratorium Appointee have to present their case for a continuation of the moratorium. One aspect of this process is demonstrating that there is sufficient value in the old banks' assets to warrant a continuation of the existing asset management</p>

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			arrangements rather than move to a rapid closing down process. The moratorium can be extended for up to two years, in steps of six month intervals/decisions. There is no reason at this time to think that the moratorium won't be extended.

The forum, which had started at 6.30pm, finished at 7:00pm

Officers Present:

Jeff Lustig – Director of Corporate Governance
Nick Bell – Highways Strategy Manager
Karina Sissman – Planning

Committee Contact: Nazyer Choudhury, Forum Administrator, Corporate Governance Directorate, Building 4, Oakleigh Road South, London N11 1NP. Tel: 020 8359 2031, Email: nazyer.choudhury@barnet.gov.uk

Date of next meeting: 24 March 2009, St Michael's Church Hall, The Riding, Off Golders Green Road, NW11 8DA

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone, N20 0EJ
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.

**PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS
(meetings usually start at 7.00pm)**

AREA PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE

Finchley & Golders Green - Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone, N20 0EJ

Democratic Services Contact: Maria Lugangira – 020 8359 2761 or email

maria.lugangira@barnet.gov.uk

Date: 4 March 2009

Hendon - Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone, N20 0EJ

Democratic Services Contact: Pauline Bagley – 020 8359 2023 or email pauline.bagley@barnet.gov.uk

Date: 4 March 2009

Chipping Barnet- Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone, N20 0EJ

Democratic Services Contact: Nazyer Choudhury – 020 8359 2031 or email

nazyer.choudhury@barnet.gov.uk

Date: 4 March 2009

AREA ENVIRONMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

Chipping Barnet – Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone, N20 0EJ

Democratic Services Contact: Pauline Bagley – 020 8359 2023 or email pauline.bagley@barnet.gov.uk

Date: 11 March 2009

Finchley & Golders Green - Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone, N20 0EJ

Democratic Services Contact: Stephanie Chaikin – 020 8359 2019 or email stephanie.chaikin@.gov.uk

Date: 11 March 2009

Hendon - Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone, N20 0EJ

Democratic Services Contact: Nazyer Choudhury – 020 8359 2039 or email

nazyer.choudhury@barnet.gov.uk

Date: 11 March 2009