

FINCHLEY & GOLDERS GREEN RESIDENTS FORUM

26 July 2010

ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE FORUM MEETING

	Issue Raised	Response
1	<p>Review of North Finchley CPZ - Opposition to any changes to the residents' parking bays in Torrington Park.</p> <p><i>Dr David Gutmann</i> <i>Torrington Park Residents' Association</i></p>	<p>The proposal, formulated as a result of the North Finchley Controlled Parking Zone review, was to convert some existing free bays to residents bays, general permit bays to residents bays, and free bays to general permit bays in order to provide more residents parking bays overall.</p> <p>As a result of the statutory consultation necessary as part of the process to make the proposed changes, a number of comments including the petition with 21 signatures were received.</p> <p>Although a formal decision is yet to be made on this matter, having reviewed the comments made and the level of concern expressed it is anticipated that a recommendation will be put forward that the proposed changes should not now proceed. The formal decision on this issue is anticipated within the next month.</p> <p><i>Neil Richardson</i> <i>Acting Highways Manager – Traffic and Development</i></p>

	Issue Raised	Response
2.	<p>Traffic Congestion in Golders Green Road and Side Roads:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suggestion of making the side roads off Golders Green Road eg. Woodstock Avenue, Highfield Avenue, Sinclair Grove or Golders Manor Drive one way to try and ease congestion. 2. Narrow the pavements – Pavements outside Windsor Court are 4m wide. They could be narrowed by half and used either for an extra traffic lane or for parking. 3. Move the pedestrian crossing traffic lights by Highfield Avenue 10m north towards the North Circular Road and make them dual purpose. This would allow buses in and out of Highfield Avenue. <p>Mr Sydney Nathan</p>	<p>Being a Town Centre it is expected that there will be a certain degree of congestion at times.</p> <p>Whilst the suggestions are appreciated any response as to their effectiveness or otherwise is theoretical as no investigation has been carried out and at present there are no plans to do so. Additionally the cost to implement any such measures cannot be justified as there is no evidence of what benefits could be achieved and no funding available to facilitate such changes.</p> <p>Neil Richardson Acting Highways Manager – Traffic and Development</p>

	Issue Raised	Response
3.	<p>1. At the Council meeting on 14th July 2010, the Mayor allowed item 5.3 (Supplemental Report of the Acting Democratic Services Manager) to be considered as an "urgent" item. Please state what the reason for urgency was.</p> <p>2. Please provide full details of the allowances all councillors will now receive following the changes introduced at the aforementioned meeting. Please show the full amount that each member is entitled to receive, whether or not they claim their full entitlement, and also show the figure they were entitled to receive before the changes.</p> <p>3. If any councillor has decided to forgo some of his/her entitlement, please state his/her name and the amount they will actually be claiming.</p> <p>4. Please confirm that if a councillor decides to forgo part of his/her entitlement this year, he/she will not be able to claw the payment back in subsequent years.</p> <p>Mr David Miller</p>	<p>The Mayor gave the following explanation at the Council meeting on 13 July 2010:- The Acting Democratic Services Manager's report appeared at item 5.3 on the Council Agenda. The item was set out on the published agenda and, as normal, individual papers under that item were circulated to Members and published as soon as they were available. Whilst the officers are satisfied that this meets the necessary requirements, a Member has raised a concern that it does not. For the avoidance of any doubt, I will take the item concerned at 5.3.1 – Item 5.3.1 Member's Allowances, was taken as an urgent item. Problems with IT within the Council have contributed to delay in distributing/publication of the paper, but I am satisfied that Council need to consider the London Councils Independent Remuneration Panel report as soon as possible after its publication in May, particularly given that the next Council meeting is not until 14th September 2010.</p> <p>The full details of the Members' Allowances agreed at the Council meeting on 13 July 2010 can be found at the following link: http://committeepapers.barnet.gov.uk/democracy/reports/reportdetail.asp?ReportID=9439</p> <p>The amount received by each member over the financial year is published annually and this will be published at the end of the financial year.</p> <p>Confirmed.</p> <p>- 3 -</p>

	Issue Raised	Response
4.	<p>'As the council voted in March, only weeks before the election, to accept the usual pay allowance rate for councillors, how is it justifiable for councillors to vote again in July, with no proper consultation, for a new scheme which gives them huge rises in pay, in the midst of austerity measures for every other member of society, and shortly before the imposition in Barnet of cuts of several million pounds in spending on essential services, numerous job losses and widespread pay freezes?'</p> <p><i>Mrs T Killick</i></p>	<p>The decision to amend the Member Allowances Scheme was taken by Councillors at the Council Meeting on 13 July 2010.</p> <p>Any resident wishing to put their views, ask questions etc, should contact their Ward Councillors either at their respective surgeries or via e mails.</p>
5.	<p>Discussion on Traffic Management in Ravensdale Avenue, N12</p> <p><i>Lou Kourra</i></p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
6.	<p>The Planning and Environment Committee is meeting this coming Thursday and has an item on Brent Cross on the agenda.</p> <p>One part asks the committee to extend by three months the deadline for agreeing the Section 106 elements. I understand this .</p> <p>The rest of the report makes a number of assertions regarding changes in national legislation and draws erroneous conclusions. It also includes 24 parts to the Section 106 agreement and which are the key documents in the planning permission.. 23 of these sections have been revised since the planning committee last November and are mainly dated June 2010. There are no tracked changes nor a summary of changes made and there are hundreds of pages to wade through to find out what they are.</p> <p>Why the indecent haste to ask to PEC to approve the whole report? Why not a simple report asking the committee to grant a three month extension of time and defer the remainder of the report until the planning committee in November?</p> <p>Mr David Howard</p>	<p>Brent Cross Cricklewood Planning Application 29 July 2010</p> <p>The report to the 29 July Planning Committee is necessary to extend the time allowed to agree the S106 and issue the planning permission. This is necessary as Recommendation 5 of the 18 & 19 Planning and Environment Committee gave a period of 6 months to issue the permission. It should be noted that the Secretary of State decision not to 'call-in' the application was not given until 16 June 2010 which was more than six months from the date of the original committee decision.</p> <p>The report also updates the committee in respect of changes to national planning legislation since November (PPS3, PPS4 and the CIL legislation) but concludes that there is no change in circumstances that would justify a different conclusion to that reached by the 18th and 19th Committee.</p> <p>Minor and non-material changes to extend the period to submit some Reserved Matters applications is proposed to reduce the risk of the planning application expiring before the necessary approval are in place (Condition 1.2) but this will not extend the period for commencement of the development and all phase 1 critical infrastructure (pre-phase) plus a detailed delivery programme for phase 1 will need to have been approved before the development commences. The conditions are attached as Appendix 1 to the report.</p> <p>A third agreed draft of the S106 was placed on the Planning Register on 16 July 2010. The S106 is a large document with 27 schedules which contain the detailed drafting in respect of various provisions of the S106 – for example the constitution of the Transport Advisory Group, Transport Strategy Group and Consultative Access Forum and the definitions used in the agreement. The latest draft of the S106 is a background paper to the 29 July Committee Report.</p>

	Issue Raised	Response
		<p>Planning and Environment Committee consider the Heads of Terms of any proposed S106 agreements. Approval of the full detail of the S106 is delegated to the Assistant Director of Planning and Development Management as long as the detail is in accordance with the Heads of Terms. Officers consider that the detailed drafting of the S106 (July 2010) accords with the Heads of Terms considered by the November Committee.</p> <p><i>Assistant Director of Planning and Development Management</i></p>
7.	<p>Child Hill Allotments</p> <p>1. The roadways throughout the site are in need of repair, please let us know when Barnet are able to do the work</p> <p>2. The perimeter fence needs to be replaced in many areas to protect the plots and plot holders, as the site has had items stolen from sheds and produce stolen from plots this year. Are Barnet prepared to carry out this work and if so, when?</p> <p>3. The water pressure is so low that it has been difficult to water crops during this dry weather. Please liaise with Thames Water to remedy the problem.</p> <p>4. We would like a Eurobin on site, to be emptied every 2 weeks to remove rubbish, can this be arranged?</p> <p><i>Hilary Burden</i> <i>Secretary, Child's Hill Allotments Association</i></p>	<p>Work requests for allotments are normally forwarded to the Greenspaces Department where urgent works and repairs are actioned with immediate effect and additional works are placed on the allotments work list for consideration. As the allotments has a limited operational budget works have to be prioritised.</p> <p>1. A letter received from the Society requesting plainings to undertake the works to the road was acknowledged and information provided advising that road plainings would not be available until August.</p> <p>2. The request for a review of the fencing has also been logged for a site visit.</p> <p>3. The water pressure on the site has been an on-going problem which we have been unable to resolve despite exploring opportunities to bring in a further supply and working with the water provider.</p> <p>4. Eurobins are not provided to allotment sites via the Council. A skip service of up to two skips per annum is available upon request. Please note that allotment rubbish is generated from allotment gardening activities and does not constitute non allotment items such as fridges, sofa's etc.</p> <p><i>Jenny Warren</i> <i>Greenspaces Service Manager</i></p>