

MEETING**HENDON RESIDENTS FORUM****DATE AND TIME****WEDNESDAY 13TH JANUARY, 2016****AT 6.30 PM****VENUE****HENDON TOWN HALL, THE BURROUGHS, LONDON NW4 4BQ**

Dear Councillors,

Please find enclosed additional papers relating to the following items for the above mentioned meeting which were not available at the time of collation of the agenda.

Item No	Title of Report	Pages
1.	HENDON - ISSUES LIST WITH RESPONSES	1 - 16

hendon.residentsforum@barnet.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank

HENDON RESIDENTS FORUM

Wednesday 13 January 2016

6.30PM

HENDON TOWN HALL, THE BURROUGHS, LONDON NW4 4BQ

Chairman: Councillor Sury Khatri Khatri BSc Hons) MSc (Lond)

Vice Chairman: Councillor Councillor John Hart BA (Hons) MA (Vice-Chairman)

ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE FORUM MEETING

Items must be submitted to Governance Service (hendon.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 1 Parks (and Open Spaces) of the Issues List for more information.

General Budget Consultation 2016/17

Barnet Council is currently consultation how the savings being proposed for 2016/17 can be made. The savings being looked at are divided across the portfolios of the Council's Themed Committees, including Adults and Safeguarding; Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding; and Environment. This will help to inform the final decision on our 2016/17 annual budget.

The consultation is also asking for views on council tax in 2016/17.

The consultation has been running from 18 Dec 2015 and ends on 12 Feb 2016. Please refer to Appendix 2 of the Issues List for more information.

AGENDA ITEM 2

	Issues Raised	Response
1	<p>Subject: Council land to the rear Ravensfield & Fenella House, Hendon</p> <p>Issues: a - d Submitted by: Tony Mason</p> <p>BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT “Request by adjoining property owners to purchase the unused & unmaintained Council land to the rear Ravensfield & Fenella House” at the Jan 2016 meeting of the Hendon Residents Forum. As you are aware, this issue was first raised at the Hendon Residents Forum in Jan 2015 (see attached email).</p> <p>As a direct result of raising this matter at the Jan 2015 meeting, LBB Council offered local residents the option to lease (but not purchase) the land. The proposed Heads of Lease included a number of significant limitations & restrictions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 26th Oct 2015 Guy Rubin (writing on behalf of the residents) responded to LBB Councils offer to lease the land. Guy’s email flagged our concerns related to restrictions and obligations imposed by LBB and again expressed our preference to purchase rather than lease the land. • On 16 Nov 2015, Mr Church responded on behalf of LBB Council Officers (see attached) stating: “Council Officers have agreed in the past that the land should not be sold and hence a lease has been offered as set out in the Heads of Terms enclosed with my letter to you dated 5th May. I have to tell you that it is still considered that this view should not be changed”. 	<p><i>Response below under each issue</i></p>

Issues Raised	Response
<p>Note: the statement made by Mr Church that Council Officers have agreed in the past that the land should NOT be sold is misleading and only partially correct. The facts are that in 1995 a full economic analysis was undertaken by LBB and a decision was made by Council Officers to sell all of the surplus land behind Ravensfield for use as garden extensions to adjoining properties (no other use was permitted). Approx. half of the available plots were sold between July 1995 and Aug 2001. In Aug 2001 Council Officers reversed their original decision to sell the land in favour of retaining the land on the basis that: “the council is proposing to redevelop the site”. As far as I am aware, over the last 15 years no re-development plans have ever been submitted and as a result it has not been possible for the residents to challenge any proposed plans for how the land would be utilised and thus challenge the 2001 decision not to proceed with the sale of the remaining plots.</p> <p>ISSUES</p> <p>As this issue is still not resolved (and the Council Officers have not put forward any suggestions on how to resolve) I wish to re-raise this matter at the Hendon Residents Forum. I specifically wish to raise the following items:</p> <p>a. That this matter has been ongoing for 15 - 20 years without a satisfactory conclusion. It is my belief that LBB deliberately chose to hide this matter from public oversight by including this land as an Annex to the 2007 – 2014 lease for Fenella House to MDXU. MDXU have already responded to an earlier FOI request and have confirmed to the ICO that they have absolutely no documents related to this land. It is therefore reasonable to assume that MDXU never had any</p>	<p>Response from: Chris Smith Head of Estate Management Smith, Chris Email: Chris.Smith@Barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>There is no intent to hide any plans from the public. Taken as part of the wider Ravensfield House plot, the land in question contributes substantially to the overall value because the allowable density of any property development on the land is directly proportional to the size of the plot. Were the council to dispose of the land in isolation now, it could potentially affect the future marketability of the Ravensfield land and of course the magnitude of any capital receipt. Whilst the council has no immediate plans to sell the land, there has been some informal interest. So, by offering medium-term leases only, the risk of devaluing the plot will be mitigated and the council will also retain a</p>

	Issues Raised	Response
	<p>need for this land (otherwise there would be documents to support this need) and it may well be that this Annex was imposed by LBB on MDXU. If I am wrong in this assumption then I am happy to review documentary evidence to the contrary. Note: I was surprised when MDXU stated that they held no information related to the unused land. However, Mr Peter Vermeulen undertook a detailed internal review of my FOI request and has formally confirmed to the ICO that MDXU hold no information related to the unused land.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The lack of transparency by LBB Council Officers in their decision making process (to reject the option by local residents to purchase, rather than lease, the land). As an LB Barnet b 2. , I find it unacceptable that Council Officers are not required to give a full account of their decision not to sell the land, particularly given #1 above. I request that this issue is retained on the Agenda for future Hendon Residents Forum meetings until the matter is fully resolved. Note: I have found it necessary to use the full scope of the FOI Act legislation to obtain relevant information from both LBB and MDXU (including, in the case of MDXU, the need to escalate a formal complaint to the ICO). I shall continue to use those avenues available to me to ensure transparency over LBB decision making process and also obtain information related to MDXU estate strategy (which MDXU has chosen to withhold in their response to my FOI request). 	<p>useful source of future income. It is hoped that a satisfactory conclusion to the matter can be reached by offering the option for residents to lease the land.</p> <p>A similar response to the comments shown above was passed to Cllr Braun on 12 Feb 15. This response was designed to fully explain the decision not to sell the land at that time.</p>

	Issues Raised	Response
	<p>3. The lack of any proposed plans for the redevelopment of Ravensfield House (and as a result no ability for local residents to challenge any proposals put forward for the use of the unused land). Of particular interest are: the Restrictive Covenants that relate to the land as a result of the 1934 deed of sale (to, at that time, Hendon Borough Council) and also any legal requirements related to change of use for the land. Note: these Restrictive Covenants were imposed by LBB as part of the earlier garden extension land sales and are therefore known to LBB Legal.</p> <p>4. The lack of any maintenance of the unused land (by either LBB or MDXU) over the last 10 years (resulting the land being overgrow, and eye sore and a haven for vermin). The current condition of the land behind our properties is not acceptable.</p>	<p>As soon as any definitive proposals are developed they will be fully open to scrutiny by the public as part of the statutory planning application process.</p> <p>Should residents take up the current option to lease the land, maintenance responsibilities would transfer across to lessees. Should this not be the case, the council will retain responsibility for the plot, in which case a council management plan will then have to be developed.</p>
2	<p>Subject: Update on Pedestrian Safety investigations - Holders Hill/Devonshire Road Area Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>Could you update us on plans to improve pedestrian safety in the Holders Hill/ Devonshire Rd/ Dollis Rd area?</p>	<p>Response from: Traffic and Development Manager Email: gangan.pillai@barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>As part of the Highway Improvements associated with Millbrook Park Regeneration Scheme, some pedestrian improvements will be undertaken during this year on all four arms of Holders Hill Circus as well as on Bittacy Hill between Holders Hill Circus and Frith Lane roundabout. No new Zebra crossings are proposed on Dollis Road or Devonshire Road as part of this scheme.</p>

	Issues Raised	Response
3	<p>Subject: Mill Hill East Tube Station – step free access upgrade query</p> <p>Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>Mil Hill East tube station will only receive an upgrade to step free access in the event of any excess profits from development in the area. Have the excess profits been generated? If not, when will they be assessed?</p>	<p>Response from: Mario Lecordier Interim Strategic Lead Commissioner - Transport and Highways</p> <p>Email: Mario.Lecordier@Barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>Additional contributions are only required in the event of an uplift in values greater than 20% IRR. The viability of the scheme has been reviewed once post commencement and is likely to be revisited before the submission of a reserved matters application for Phase 5.</p>
4	<p>Subject: Quakers Course bus stop</p> <p>Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>When will accessibility be improved at the Quakers Course bus stop? It was supposed to be done around August or September last year.</p>	<p>Response from: Mario Lecordier Interim Strategic Lead Commissioner - Transport and Highways</p> <p>Email: Mario.Lecordier@Barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>Bus stop accessibility work at Quakers Course was programmed for September as part of a footway relay scheme. Unfortunately this scheme has been deferred. Part of the bus stop accessibility requires removal of pedestrian guardrail and the bus stop needs to be closed while the works take place and TfL have raised some objections. However, there is a meeting this week to discuss ways of progressing this work.</p>
5	<p>Subject: Millbrook Park - Are cycle lanes proposed</p> <p>Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>Will there be dedicated cycle lanes in Millbrook Park? Why were they not installed on Inglis Way when the road was being re-laid?</p>	<p>Response from: Mario Lecordier Interim Strategic Lead Commissioner - Transport and Highways</p> <p>Email: Mario.Lecordier@Barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>There will be no dedicated cycle lanes in Millbrook Park, but as part of the overall scheme, a shared cycle way is being proposed along Inglis Way which will be implemented once remaining phases are completed. Inglis Way is currently a private road and will not be adopted by this authority until 2019 and is currently maintainable by Inglis Consortium.</p>

	Issues Raised	Response
6	<p>Subject: London Fire Emergency Agency Public Consultation Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>What representations are Barnet making to the LFEPA consultation?</p>	<p>Response from: Peter Clifton Community Safety Manager Email: Peter.Clifton@Barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>We are aware that the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority are consulting on how they can make £6.4 million of budget savings for 2016/17 and that the consultation is seeking views on two different options that have been put forward to help inform the decision on how those budget savings will be made. We are assured that neither of the options includes closing fire stations in Barnet or elsewhere.</p> <p>During the consultation period we will be encouraging public participation with the consultation and making clear that as a local authority we regard with great importance both the vital fire-fighting and rescue services being delivered, and the substantial value of the proactive and preventative work that London Fire Brigade undertakes to reduce the number of fire incidents within Barnet and more widely across London. We will continue to work in close partnership with the London Fire Brigade including through the Safer Communities Partnership and the Local Resilience Forum.</p>
7	<p>Subject: Hendon Library cuts Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>What is the present position concerning library cuts in the Hendon libraries?</p>	<p>Response from: Chris Munday Commissioning Director – Children & Young People. Email: chris.munday@barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>We are consulting on a range of library proposals, we will listen to what residents tell us of their concerns before a final decision is made by the Children’s, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee.</p>
8	<p>Subject: Stonegrove Children’s centre Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>What is happening with Stonegrove Children’s centre?</p>	<p>Response from: Chris Munday Commissioning Director – Children & Young People. Email: chris.munday@barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>The children’s centre services delivered from the Stonegrove site were temporarily suspended before Christmas due to a number of health and safety concerns in relation to the building and the</p>

	Issues Raised	Response
		demolition works happening around the centre. We are working with the lead from the church in order for the health and safety issues to be addressed and will then recommence service delivery. The current site is due for demolition.
9	<p>Subject: Public Conveniences near the tube Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>What will the council do to improve public convenience facilities near tube stations, once the night tube comes in?</p>	<p>Response from: Richard Chalmers Associate Director Higways Email: Richard.chalmers@capita.co.uk</p> <p>There are no current proposals.</p>
10	<p>Subject: Government consultation on national planning policy Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>What representations are the council making to the Government consultation on national planning policy which would permit development in the green belt?</p>	<p>Response from: Nick Lynch Planning Policy Manager Email: Nick.Lynch@barnet.gov.uk Heri.odoffin@barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>The Council intends to respond to the Consultation on proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework and will make comments about revisions to Green Belt policy. The deadline for comments is 22nd February 2016.</p>
11	<p>Subject: Metropolitan Police consultation on Borough Command Unit mergers Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>What representations is the council making to the Metropolitan Police over their plans to merge Barnet BCU with other boroughs; and to cut the number of police stations?</p>	<p>Response from: Peter Clifton Community Safety Manager Peter.Clifton@Barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>We are aware of the financial pressures the police are facing and understand that the police are looking at various options to identify how to meet the financial challenge while continuing to deliver high quality policing services to local communities.</p> <p>As part of the on-going MET Change programme the Metropolitan Police have been looking at many options for change, one of which would involve implementing a model that would see a number of boroughs sharing services and resources. We continue to maintain a local dialogue with the MET in relation to change and transformation, however it is our understanding that no decisions have yet been</p>

	Issues Raised	Response
		<p>made in relation to cross borough models, and no specific plans have been published for consultation.</p> <p>In relation to the matter of police station closures: While the police corporate real estate programme regularly re-assess its building needs and requirements, we understand that there are no current plans for any police station closures in Barnet.</p> <p>Of course, should the position change, either with respect to cross borough working plans or police station closure, Barnet Council would examine very carefully any plans put forward and make appropriate formal representations.</p> <p>Barnet Council maintains the position that a strong police visible presence in local communities and effective engagement between police and residents is a vital part of delivering community safety.</p> <p>The Safer Communities Partnership will continue to work closely together with Barnet Police, both at the strategic and operational level, with the aim of building on the crime reductions archived over the last five years (including 1100 fewer burglaries per year and 550 fewer robberies compared to the four years ago¹) to ensure that Barnet remains one of London's safest boroughs.</p>
12	<p>Subject: Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>How many secure accommodation places does the council provide to enable juveniles detained by the police to be transferred from police custody, as required by law?</p>	<p>Response from: Thompson-Omenka, Paulette Head of Children in Care and Provider Services</p> <p>Email: Paulette.Thompson-Omenka@Barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>Barnet does not have any secure accommodation as these institutions do not 'belong' to the council and are owned by Her Majesty's Prison Service who have responsibility for running the</p>

¹ the MOPAC 2011/12 baseline

	Issues Raised	Response
		<p>service. Very few boroughs have secure accommodation located within their boundaries, and if they do, referrals to place in youth custody would be received from across the region and not just from within a borough boundary. Youth custody referral are made through the courts following criminal proceedings only. In addition local authorities can make a referral to a secure accommodation to protect a young person at risk from harm.</p>
13	<p>Subject: Silkstream Flooding Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>What is the council doing to support residents affected by flooding from the Silkstream?</p>	<p>Response from: Mario Lecordier Interim Strategic Lead Commissioner - Transport and Highways Email: Mario.Lecordier@Barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>The Council have been in discussions with the Environment Agency who are responsible for the main river and they are currently progressing a proposal to fund a project for a 6 year investment. The EA have requested, in the form of a questionnaire, details from residents affected by the flooding and have commenced the initial assessment so that options can be considered later this year. The Council will continue to liaise with the EA and provide assistance as required.</p>
14	<p>Subject: Residents parking in Garden City Edgware Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>What is the council doing to improve residents' parking in Garden City, Edgware? With the Premier House conversion already happening, there will be even more cars parking in Garden City and Manns Road at night, leaving residents unable to find spaces.</p>	<p>Response from: Mario Lecordier Interim Strategic Lead Commissioner - Transport and Highways Email: Mario.Lecordier@Barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>The residential parking controls currently operate Monday to Sunday 8am – 9pm and this is considered to be sufficient to ensure non-permit holders are prevented from parking in Garden City and Manns Road. The Council works with the planning department to ensure that parking permits are restricted to the space available and additional permits are closely reviewed for new high rise developments.</p> <p>However, as the Council receives many requests for minor parking changes from local residents and other road users. It is expected that</p>

	Issues Raised	Response
		<p>an exercise where the requests are assessed and then prioritised will take place before the end of the financial year, with a view to progressing all those schemes which are considered appropriate to progress in future work programmes.</p> <p>The request to review the parking controls in Garden City and Manns Road will be assessed in this way.</p>

Contact: Governance Service, Assurance Group, London Borough of Barnet, NLBP, Building 2, Oakleigh Road South, London N11 1NP.
 Tel: 020 8359 3104, Email: hendonareaforum@barnet.gov.uk

Future meeting dates:

Date of meeting	Location	Deadline Date for Issues
30th March 2016	Hendon Town Hall	23 March 2016 – 10am

This page is intentionally left blank

Chairs Briefing – Environment Consultations **Area Committees & Residents Forum, January 2015**

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. Barnet is now the most populous London borough and is set to grow further in the coming years. Along with a booming population, the council faces financial challenges. So we are asking members of the public to get involved and give us their views, about how we can manage these services in the future.

Draft Parks and Open Spaces strategy

Barnet has a collection of over 200 green spaces which are widely loved by residents. At the heart of the new strategy is a vision that the borough's parks and open spaces will i) continue to make Barnet a desirable place to live and do business, ii) that parks can improve the health of residents and iii) that they help reduce pollution in the borough. The strategy also supports the council's commitment to ensuring the borough's parks and green spaces are "amongst the best in London."

The draft strategy sets out five alternative options to the current Parks and Green Spaces service structure, for how the borough's parks and open spaces could be managed. These include Shared public services, Third party contract management, Social enterprises and partnerships, Trusts and foundations, Area based precepts and levies.

Recycling and Strategy

Key to the draft strategy is encouraging residents to take more responsibility over the waste they produce and to encourage them to recycle more. The four key aims are:

- To provide services that help Barnet manage its environmental impact
- To encourage residents to re-use more to manage costs of waste collection and disposal
- To encourage residents, businesses and visitors to recycle the waste they produce, using enforcement where necessary
- To embrace new technologies and ways of working that help improve the council's waste and recycling service

The draft strategy outlines the council's plans to provide every household in the borough, including people who live in flats and above shops, with easy access to the mixed recycling service. It stresses the importance of the council working in partnership with property developers, landlords and joint organisations such as North London Waste Authority to help find new ways to communicate and engage with residents to help improve recycling rates within the borough. The draft strategy sets a goal of 50% recycling rate by 2020.

How to get involved

The consultation will be on the councils web site from 18 January, or as paper copies at council buildings including libraries.

Fliers will be available at the meeting with details on how people can get involved.

This page is intentionally left blank

Chairman's Briefing - Barnet's General Budget Consultation 2016/17 and Council Tax Consultation 2016/17

Area Committees & Residents Forum, January 2016

All councils have a legal duty to set a balanced annual budget. Barnet Residents are being asked for their views on the Council's budget for 2016/17, which includes our savings plans and Council Tax proposals for the year.

Context

We are forecasting an estimated budget gap of £81 million between 2016 and 2020. This means that, by 2020, our spending power will almost have halved compared to 2010. Despite these challenges, effective forward planning has meant that Barnet has managed the first five years of budget reductions since 2010 without a significant impact on local services. Resident satisfaction with Barnet as a place to live, and with the council, has also increased during this period. We want to meet our budget gap whilst still delivering the commitments set out in our [Corporate Plan](#) to 2020.

Proposals

We would like to hear residents' views on savings being proposed for 2016/17 as well as on Council Tax.

Next year, the council will need to find savings of approximately £20 million due to continued reductions in Government funding and increasing pressure on services as a result of a growing population. The budget proposals include changing the way some services are delivered for residents to remain in their own homes for longer instead of moving into more costly residential care as well as strengthening the council's in-house foster care service in order to save money.

Since 2010 Barnet has not increased Council Tax, with a one percent reduction in 2014-15. The Council is proposing not to increase the element of bills that can be spent on general services in 2016/17. However, in recognition of the pressures facing adult social care services, the Council is consulting on whether or not to introduce a 2% 'adult social care precept' in 2016/17, which would increase Council Tax bills by up to 2% and would generate up to £3m for spending exclusively on adult social care, including care for the elderly. This new flexibility for Council's to introduce a 'social care precept' – which allows Council to increase council tax by a further 2% on top of the existing 2% threshold (after which a local referendum is triggered) - was announced by the Chancellor as part of the Autumn Statement in November.

The results of this consultation will help to inform the final decision on our 2016/17 annual budget, which will be taken at Full Council on 1 March.

How to get involved

The consultation can be accessed via our [Engage Barnet](#) and will be open until 12 February.

This page is intentionally left blank