

FINCHLEY & GOLDERS GREEN RESIDENTS FORUM

VENUE: Avenue House, 17 East End Road, Finchley, London N3 3QE

Wednesday 26th October 2016 – 6.30PM

Chairman: Councillor Shimon Ryde
Vice Chairman: Councillor Reuben Thompstone

ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE FORUM MEETING

Items must be submitted to Governance Service (f&gg.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).

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	Issue Raised	Response
1	<p>Subject: Status of consultation on Victoria Park redevelopment Submitted by: Tal Potishman Ward: Church End</p> <p>Background: A few months ago there was a rumour of a consultation that took place with a small number of neighbours on one side of Victoria Park.</p> <p>Question: Can you please advise if this consultation is likely to expand to include all neighbours of the park and what is the status of the redevelopment project?</p>	
2	<p>Subject: Bird, rat and vermin nuisance, owing to continuous bird feeding and food thrown in the open Submitted by: Tal Potishman Ward: Church End</p> <p>Background: We are bordering Victoria Park and are badly affected by huge flocks of birds (pigeons, crows). These flocks are growing in size abnormally as a result of constant feeding by the public and local shops/restaurants. This attracts not only birds but also rats, mice and other vermin, which then get into our houses. Due to this endless supply of food, the wild animals multiply at an unnatural rate exacerbating the problem. Their droppings are soiling the pavements, our driveways and gardens. The droppings are dangerous - they are slippery and carry disease (such as Psittacosis).</p> <p>Question: Can the council put up a large and visible sign to discourage (or possibly Ban?) feeding the birds and clear up the area</p>	

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	near the Ballards Lane Entrance to Victoria Park (NW side), which is constantly dirty with food.	
3	<p>Subject: Refuse Collections Submitted by: Betti Blatman</p> <p>When will the refuse collections be improved as it seems the staff should refer to the list of residents who are on "assisted collection" to ensure their refuse, whether general, recycled, food waste or garden waste is collected and wheelie bins returned to their original location.</p> <p>Despite numerous scenarios and various excuses, e.g. there is a new crew, which is irrelevant as they should all receive the same training and follow the same specification.</p> <p>In addition to collection scenarios, I've recently had my green wheelie bin "disappear" although after lodging my complaint, a new one was promptly replaced.</p>	
4	<p>Subject: Abbots Gardens, N2 ,Roads Works, Tarmacking Submitted by: Local resident Ward: East Finchley</p> <p>The Council has recently resurfaced the road. This has not been delivery to a satisfactory standard and it must be reviewed.</p> <p>Can you outline how this work was completed and who carried out the work during September 2016.</p>	

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5	<p>Subject: Bus route 263/ 214 Submitted by: Mead Stuart</p> <p>The 263 bus service is unsatisfactory. We need another route running between Archway and North Finchley coming from a different route to the 263. One option could be to extend the 214 from Highgate Village to North Finchley. Lobby TfL as they don't take any notice of single complaints.</p>	
6	<p>Subject: Bus 13 Submitted by: Andrew Dismore</p> <p>Will the Council be making representations to TfL against the proposed changes to the 13 bus?</p>	
7	<p>Subject: Rat issue in Old Farm Road in Strawberry Vale Submitted by: Andrew Dismore Ward: East Finchley</p> <p>Will the Council work with the Peabody Housing Association to reduce the problem of rats in the bins on Old Farm Road in Strawberry Vale?</p> <p>Will you ask the refuse team to ensure that bins are placed properly in their cages and bin lids are closed after they are emptied, with the supervisor checking every week that this is being done.</p>	

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8	<p>Subject: Beresford Road Submitted by: Andrew Dismore Ward: East Finchley</p> <p>Many residents of Beresford Road in East Finchley have written to me to express their dissatisfaction with the asphalt repaving of the entire footway. Will you listen to the residents and re-do the work as paving slabs.</p>	
9	<p>Subject: Abbots Gardens Submitted by: Andrew Dismore Ward: East Finchley</p> <p>Abbots Gardens in East Finchley has been resurfaced in an extremely poor quality, with uneven surfaces, lumps, lines from the roller etc. Will you re-do the work to a satisfactory standard.</p>	
10	<p>Subject: Victoria Park – trees in parks Submitted by: Mary O'Connor Ward: Church End</p> <p>Why is the Park's Department so secretive about works in parks? Signs were placed in Riverside Walk just before works began so there was no opportunity for input from users of this space regarding what was to be done there. The sign gave an email address (parks@barnet.gov.uk) for more information but an email to this was not responded to. Further, there are rumours of works planned for Victoria Park but there has been no consultation with users. Additionally, when trees are felled in parks, notices are not placed on them 7 days in advance of their being felled. Why?</p>	

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11	<p>Subject: Victoria Park tennis courts and fences Submitted by: Mary O'Connor Ward: Church End</p> <p>Two of the tennis courts in Victoria Park were recently resurfaced and the fencing replaced. Where did the funding come from for this and how much did it cost? Was there a condition that the tennis courts be free for the public to use?</p>	
12	<p>Subject: Parking controls – Ballards Lane/ Manorside School Submitted by: Theresa Musgrove Ward: West Finchley</p> <p>Why is the parking service so selective in the areas in which attendants patrol and give PCNs to residents? Specifically, why, despite raising the issue with local attendants, do all of them deliberately ignore the long term parking - often by cars for sale - along Ballards Lane, where there is a yellow line on the section parallel to Moss Hall Crescent? Why do they refuse to come to Manorside School and prevent parents from parking in the disabled bay or causing dangerous obstruction for children? Is this because quotas are easier to meet in busy high streets?</p>	
13	<p>Subject: Pothole- Finchley Central Submitted by: Theresa Musgrove Ward: West Finchley</p> <p>Outside Tesco in Finchley Central, by the bus stop, there is a pothole which keeps forming that is so deep, when it rains it fills with water and drenches those waiting for buses, often elderly travellers and children. It has been refilled at least twice, so badly, that it inevitably happens again: the filled in material is never properly flattened, and the line sometimes not properly repainted. Presumable contractors are paid again each time they have to repair their own shoddy work. Is this good</p>	

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	value for money for Barnet residents?	
14	<p>Subject: Alley/service road back of 170-192 Cricklewood Broadway, NW2 3EB Submitted by: Sonia Bryant Ward: Childs Hill</p> <p>The condition of this alley is much the same as first reported in March 2015. Some days it's reasonable but the same old problems duck up associated with fly tipping, inadequate cleaning and collection of both commercial and private rubbish and bad drainage. Rubbish still collects over the drains resulting in puddles of dirty water in many places. Exactly what action has Barnet council taken with regard to any of this over the last year particularly with regard to site visits and contact with management agents. Is this on a regular basis or just when someone complains about it? I had a walk down to the end just today. It's like a third world country and does not belong in a London borough.</p>	
15	<p>Subject: Loose utility cover in middle of A5, Cricklewood Broadway - Ref 110647 Submitted by: Sonia Bryant Ward: Childs Hill</p> <p>This utility cover is located in the middle of the crossroads with Ashford Road, Depot Approach and the A5, in Cricklewood.</p> <p>Having given up trying to speak to TFL I reported it to Barnet's Highways Dept on 3 Oct 2016.</p>	

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	<p>Every time a vehicle passes over this utility cover it makes a dreadful clanging noise and has been doing so for about the last three or four months. The LBB officer said she would find out which utility company was responsible for it (she didn't think it a matter for TFL). I have spoken to the manager of Martins the newsagent on the corner of Ashford Road who had customers complaining that they couldn't sleep at night because of the noise and had contacted Brent council who had said it was Barnet's responsibility!</p> <p>Here we go again same as the Ashley saga ref 103074.</p> <p>Who is supposed to check and report this and see something's done about it? It can't just be a member of the public, surely? Just think what it must be like to have to live with this and not get any sleep. It can be heard in Kara Way</p>	
16	<p>Subject: Ashley Fruit and Veg, 180 Cricklewood Broadway, NW2 3EB</p> <p>Submitted by: Sonia Bryant</p> <p>Ward: Childs Hill</p> <p>Obstruction of the pavement outside this shop was first lodged again on 28 June 2016, Ref No 91907, latest ref 103074 dated 1 September 2016. This has been an on-going matter for the last three years and well known to Barnet's Highways Department.</p> <p>Ashleys have persisted in putting out too many boxes of their produce resulting in inadequate room for passers-by and creating, at times, a dangerous surface particularly in wet weather from fruit and veg squashed on the pavement. I have now learned by email from Cllr Jack Cohen that following a licencing meeting, Barnet are introducing specific street trading designated areas and Ashleys is one meaning they will have to stay within an area of pavement marked out by studs.</p> <p>This, of course, is good news but raises questions.</p> <p>Why has it taken so long?</p>	

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	<p>What happens when, as they surely will, Ashleys just cover the studs with their boxes?</p> <p>Who is supposed to report this and to whom?</p> <p>We have been told before that studs were to be put on the pavement but it never happened. Why?</p>	
17	<p>Subject: Street Cleaning In Cricklewood Submitted by: Jessica Howey</p> <p>I would like the Residents' Forum, Barnet councillors and officers to know and indeed to take note of the fact that in Cricklewood they have two outstanding employees - both members of the street cleaning team. One is Michael Jackson who does his utmost to keep the litter and general detritus under control in Gratton Terrace - we would be lost without him. The Town Keeper, Anatoliy Somokha litter picks Cricklewood Broadway most mornings and when the traffic lights turn to red, he runs in front of the stationary cars and picks the litter from the carriageway. Both deserve to be recognised for their work. The Barnet side of Cricklewood Broadway would be buried under a mass of litter if it was not for these two very conscientious, dedicated employees.</p>	

Contact: Iphigenia Christophoridou, Governance Service, Assurance Group, London Borough of Barnet, NLBP, Building 2, Oakleigh Road South, London N11 1NP.

Tel: 020 8359 3822, Email: f&gg.residentsforum@barnet.gov.uk

Future meeting dates:

Date of meeting	Location
24 January 2016	To be confirmed