

**CHIPPING BARNET RESIDENTS FORUM**  
**BARNET HOUSE, 1255 HIGH ROAD, WHETSTONE, N20 0EJ**  
**WEDNESDAY, 26 March, 6.30PM**

**Chairman: Councillor Kate Salinger**  
**Vice-Chairman: Councillor Barry Evangeli**

**ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE FORUM MEETING**

	<b>Issue Raised</b>	<b>Response</b>
1.	<p>I have read locally about plans for a 'new playground for Brunswick Park' that the Council hopes will especially benefit residents with young children in Brunswick Park Road. I Cannot seem to find any public information on this proposal. Can you explain what the proposal is?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where it is proposed to be located?</li> <li>• How can local people / users of the park take part in the apparent consultation as nothing is on the Council's 'engage' consultation hub website. When will consultation end and which Committee will be taking the decision?</li> </ul> <p><i>(Daniel Hope)</i></p>	<p>The Council has received re-occurring requests to provide some level of play provision in Brunswick Park for a number of years.</p> <p>The Cabinet on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2013 allocated £1 million to priority projects that were to be identified and agreed by Cabinet. Brunswick park was allocated £40,000 to deliver play equipment at the site.</p> <p>A proposal has been developed to fit within the constraints of the site, delivery timescales, available funds and children’s requirements, owing to the above there is no further consultation planned as the equipment to be provided is fixed and the locality of the equipment is limited. . An agility trail with zip wire and basket swing will provide a play offer within the natural setting of the site and will be located on the flatter ground to the rear of the scout hut and near to the main footpath. The location of the equipment is being dictated by the ground conditions on the site (slopes and changes to the made up ground).</p> <p>A copy of the site plan and equipment is attached. If residents have any suggestions of a better location to site the play equipment we would welcome the opportunity to review these.</p>
2.	<p>The Ancient Russell Lane Woodland. I have read recently that the Council has taken a decision to refuse to allow the planting of any new trees on this historic site to replace the many trees it has felled in recent years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can you say who took this strategic decision that</li> </ul>	<p>This information is incorrect, the Council are planting 16 trees here starting on 27/03/2014, and most of these are replacements for trees that have been removed over recent years as is common practice across the borough. This planting proposal has been developed in consultation with both Councillor Lisa Rutter and with Sue Scott of East Barnet Residents Association; this is the normal practice for this type of scheme. The information board has</p>

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	<p>only 'diseased' trees be replaced?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which local residents / groups have been consulted on this decision?</li> <li>• Was the local Member of Parliament consulted?</li> <li>• How much public money will the proposed 'information board' cost?</li> </ul> <p><i>(Daniel Hope)</i></p>	<p>not been finalised as yet, but it is anticipated to be in the region of £300 to £500.</p>
3.	<p>Proposed new Ashmole Primary School. I have read in the local newspapers that there is a proposal to build a new primary school in the borough on the Ashmole School site but that the pupils will be drawn almost exclusively from a special tightly designated area around Grovelands Park in Southgate in neighbouring Enfield.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the Council have any projections / estimates as to how many kids from roads in Barnet around Ashmole School will be eligible for admission?</li> <li>• Is the expansion of Osidge School (that would have been open to local Barnet kids) now on hold due to the building of the Ashmole Primary School?</li> </ul> <p><i>(Daniel Hope)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At this time, the council does not have sufficient information about the proposed admission arrangements for the new primary Free School proposed by Ashmole School to enable an estimate to be made.</li> <li>• The decision about whether to proceed with the proposal to expand Osidge primary school will be driven by the demand for school places within this part of the borough. Any proposal to provide additional primary school places in the area will inform this assessment. The council is waiting for further information about the proposal at Ashmole, including details of the proposed admission arrangements.</li> </ul>
4.	<p>Beresford Avenue / Russell Lane Bench. The Council removed and disposed of this bench and then replaced it with another after a local campaign and newspaper articles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who took the decision to remove the bench and why?</li> <li>• Why was there no notification on the site nor any consultation over the removal?</li> </ul> <p>The Council says it asked the three Ward Councillors if they supported the removal of the bench. How did each respond?</p>	<p>The Bench was removed by Highways as requested by residents due to antisocial behaviour and street drinkers using local Greenspaces and shop front as toilets. Both the Police and the Councils anti-social behaviour team commented that the removal would improve the aesthetics.</p> <p>The three ward Councillors were consulted, two replied within the deadline and advised for removal, the third was not in favour but didn't respond within the deadline.</p> <p><i>(Network Management)</i></p>

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	<i>(Daniel Hope)</i>	
5.	<p>Why has Hampden Square been excluded from having a pay by card meter?</p> <p><i>(Daniel Hope)</i></p>	<p>Hampden Square was one of areas of the borough where provision exists for free parking which is combined with the Pay by Phone facilities and voucher options. When we carried out a recent review of Town Centre Parking it was considered that parking in this area was working effectively for the local trading community. The existing roll out of Credit Card Machines has been primarily focused on busier areas, however, the Council be would happy to consider whether a Credit Card machine could be provided for Hampden Square if there is sufficient support from the community in due course.</p>
6.	<p>I write to you on behalf of several residents in Parkside Gardens who share my concerns about the state of the road surface in all of Parkside gardens and especially the section on the hill.</p> <p>It is now apparent that most of the houses on the hill section of the road experience severe vibrations when a large vehicle eg lorry or bus goes up or down the hill. We are concerned that if this is not attended to quickly, damage will be sustained by most of the properties in the road.</p> <p>This is, I believe due to the foundations and surface of the road having stated to collapse and is need of urgent repair. There are a number of potholes which have had poor quality repairs, so the surface remains uneven. In particular in the centre of the hill, there is a manhole where the surface of the road has sunk significantly.</p> <p>I have been in touch with both Councillor Ioannidis and Tambourides who both reassure me that they are making representations to the council on my behalf, but I am yet to see any commitment from the council to repair the road to a high standard. I have also reported this via the Fix my Street section of the council website.</p> <p>I think the next step is to find a seismograph so as I can record the vibrations.</p>	<p>The Chipping Barnet Area Environment Sub Committee is due to consider on 26th of March the 2014/15 Highways Planned Maintenance Programme. One of the recommendations of this programme is to resurface Parkside Gardens. This will also include repairs to the base of the road and the filling of any potholes. Subject to approval by the AESC, this work will be carried out by the Council's term contractor and this is expected to be done during the summer months. There will be further communications in a form of letter drops by both the Council and the term contractor before the works start on site.</p> <p>Regarding the suggestion that the condition of the road is causing house vibrations, there is no evidence to link the two. Ground borne vibration is dependent on a number of factors and road gradient and road surface characteristics may influence noise and to a lesser extend vibration. It is unlikely that any significant traffic induced vibration is transmitted to the properties. It is more likely that noise generated by vehicles (body rattle, axle movement, exhaust/engine noise and suspension system), due to the nature and low frequency of this noise, is perceived by occupants of properties as vibration. The fear of property damage also helps with this perception.</p> <p>Regarding the manhole with sunken surface we will send an inspector to check this as leaking water may have caused voids in the road construction. The sunken surface will be re-profiled when the road is resurfaced.</p> <p>(Network Management)</p>

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	<p>Can the Chipping Barnet Residents Forum please;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Make representations to the council about this matter please?</li> <li>2. Get a commitment from the council that the road will be properly repaired within 4 weeks?</li> </ol> <p>Failing that can the Chipping Barnet Residents forum</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Find a seismograph that can be borrowed so as I can show the council and councillors a proper record of the vibrations that we all experience in the street.</li> </ol> <p><i>(Harris Wolman)</i></p>	
7.	<p>Parking in the car park of Barnet hospital. As I have spend many years going to the hospital I have notice that during the school &amp; college term time the car park is full. In the summer holiday you can park easily. As for a whole week you can park there for £11. Everyone loses out on this as the patients &amp; visitors can't park the local residence find the roads are block by cars &amp; the council &amp; hospital loss out in parking charges. in other hospital you have to pay on the way out &amp; the parking machines are inside the hospital I know we will have more parking spaces but we will be having more uses when we get people from chase farm &amp; the qe2 when they both close. What can be done about this?</p> <p><i>(Frances Briers)</i></p>	<p>The surrounding area is mainly uncontrolled and it is assumed most people would park on road rather than pay or parking within the car park. However, it is recognised that a number of drivers maybe taking advantage of the relatively cheap parking charges for a weekly permit and we will raise the issues with the Hospital Trust.</p> <p>(Traffic and Development)</p>
8.	<p>East Barnet Community Festival asks if double yellow lines may be put in place along the northern hedged side of Parkside Gardens from Church Hill Road to beyond the entrance to Oak Hill Park.</p>	<p>The usual process is that when an event is taking place such as the East Barnet Community Festival, and where the Council is satisfied that disruption to traffic likely to be caused by the event should be reduced; they introduce a Temporary Waiting Restriction.</p> <p>This arrangement ensures that event-related traffic and parking issues which may arise are</p>

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<p>The Festival currently requests that this stretch of road is coned by the London Borough of Barnet for the period of the annual Festival in the first week of July, which has been costing us £420 each year.</p> <p>The reason is to stop any parking during the period when access is needed by emergency and many other vehicles into the entrance road to the park. You will appreciate that there are poles inserted all around the border of the park to deter entry by travellers. The only other entrance for vehicles is off Church Hill Road, opposite Rushdene Avenue, has drop down posts which need a special key and lots of strength by the operator to activate them.</p> <p>The Festival is popular and parking space is hard to find and the coning has been arranged for a number of years following congestion, to keep access open and for the convenience of the householders on the other side of the road.</p> <p>I write to ask if double yellow lines may be placed alongside the hedge, as since the coning was started, there have been further developments.</p> <p>(a) The 382 bus service has begun running, and any additional parking on the hedged side would create problems for the buses.</p> <p>(b) LBB now has a licence for public performance for up to 10,000 people in the park, and the Festival can attract nearly that many in July.</p> <p>(c) We also run a Theatre in the Park series on Sunday afternoons from June to September of performances of Shakespeare and children's events, where audiences are growing. We have the capacity for seating about 500 in the green arena in the woodland area. The open air</p>	<p>mitigated, maintaining safety and traffic flow on the event days. The usual process is that the event organisers are required to cover the costs of these arrangements, which includes Officer time in considering the request, carrying out site visits, drafting Traffic Orders, Notices, and organising contractors, plus the actual work in setting out of cones and their subsequent collection, plus the erection of and taking down of notices.</p> <p>It is noted that the event organiser's request for double yellow lines appears to be borne from the impact that the costs of covering the traffic arrangement on their budgets.</p> <p>Double yellow lines also known as "at any time" waiting restrictions, prohibit parking from taking place at all times of day, and on every day of the week.</p> <p>These restrictions are usually used at locations to address daily safety/traffic flow problems caused by parked vehicles.</p> <p>As it stands, although it is noted that Parkside Gardens is on the 382 bus route, we are unaware of particular issues on a day by day basis in Parkside Gardens which would merit the introduction of double yellow lines. Certainly it is likely that Transport for London (TfL) would have contacted the Council if their drivers encountered regular issues in Parkside Gardens (as they have regarding other locations in the borough) however no such contact has been received.</p> <p><i>(Traffic and Development)</i></p>

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	<p>gymnasium is also attracting more people, and the car park is quickly filled at weekends. If our audiences continue to grow as we hope there may well be more congestion.</p> <p>I understand from Tony Harding in the Traffic Section that TFL has never complained of problems with its buses but that is because we are paying for the coning each July. With the expansion of our own audiences on Summer Sundays and the possibility that that other people may wish to apply to use the park for large events there is likely to be congestion unless measures are taken each time there is an event to keep access clear at the park gates.</p> <p>The present expenditure of £420 creates difficulties in budgeting for the main Music and Dance Festival (for which we apply for a grant to the Borough Council) and would be prohibitive if we had to pay it each weekend.</p> <p>We would be grateful if in view of the licensing policy of allowing up to 10,000 people to use the park that double yellow lines should be put in place to safeguard access at all times, running from Church Hill Road to beyond the entrance to Oak Hill Park.</p> <p><i>(Pam Edwards)</i></p>	
9.	<p>Petition</p> <p>We the local people of Oakleigh Road North would like to request that zebra crossing needs to be imposed on the exit from Raleigh drive into Oakleigh Road. We feel there is a danger as there is on constraint on the traffic and there already have been accidents there. We ask that something is done as soon as possible.</p> <p><i>(Mr Hannan Sonmez - Lead petitioner)</i></p>	<p>Officers look forward to discussing the areas of concern in more detail at the Forum, in order to try to resolve the issues that are occurring.</p> <p><i>(Traffic and Development)</i></p>

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10.	<p>This is about the junction half way along Woodside Park Road - with Woodside Avenue/Gainsborough Road. My observation is that this junction is very accident prone. Please confirm what the police officer told me today - that it is the second most collision prone junction in Barnet! Most importantly: what measures are under way to determine the best way of reducing the danger of this junction, and on what schedule are improvements planned?</p> <p><i>(Ms A M Poppy)</i></p>	<p>There are currently no improvements planned for this junction, however, Officers are keen to hear from residents on the specific concerns that they may have so they can be investigated.</p> <p><i>(Traffic and Development)</i></p>
11.	<p>How will the proposed 20mph speed limit around schools in Barnet work? In particular I want to understand how big will they be and how will they be enforced?</p> <p>For context I started the Walksafe N14 petition which asked for several 20mph speed limits to be put in place around Osidge and Ashmole schools. This petition was considered at the Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the it agreed to look into implementing our requests.</p> <p><i>(Cait O'Riordan)</i></p>	<p>The process for the proposed 20mph speed limit has not yet been confirmed. A report is going to Cabinet on the 2 April 2014 - Task and Finish Group – 20mph Review for consideration.</p> <p>Officers will continue to work with Walksafe N14.</p>
12.	<p>Will Barnet Council grant a 10 year lease to Friern Barnet Community Library?</p> <p><i>(Reema Patel)</i></p>	<p>The Council is working with the Friern Barnet Community Library to enable them to develop a community library that is compliant and sustainable. A two year lease has been granted and in addition revenue and capital funding to improve the WC facilities has been committed. The community property strategy is being prepared to consider all community buildings and how they may be most effectively used to deliver community benefit. This will also address financial support, rent, repairs and compliance. On completion of the strategy consideration will be given to the agreements on all community buildings to ensure a consistent and effective approach.</p>
13.	<p>Will Barnet Council replace the bench removed from the bus</p>	<p>Currently there are no plans to replace the bench. The bench was replaced by the recently</p>

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	stop directly opposite the Ridgeway? <i>(Reema Patel)</i>	introduced bus shelter which came with a 'bench' and thus ensures commuters are now able to wait for the bus shielded from the elements.
14.	Will Barnet Council support Alexandra Parade Post Office which was recently closed and work with the Post Office to ensure that it is reopened? <i>(Reema Patel)</i>	We will support local residents in their attempts to encourage the Post Office to reconsider.
15.	Birley Road/Naylor Road N20 <i>(Ms Henkhusens &amp; Mr Crawford)</i>	Residents have previously been advised:  Following a petition being submitted to the Council it was agreed that an informal consultation to ascertain views on parking issues and controls should be carried out primarily centred on Naylor Road and Birley Road. However, having sought views from the local ward members on the extent of the area to be consulted concerns were raised on the appropriateness of such consultation being carried out.  Currently therefore there are no plans to explore this further however the issues can be discussed further at the forum.

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**Items must be emailed to [chippingbarnet.residentsforum@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:chippingbarnet.residentsforum@barnet.gov.uk) by 10am on the second working day prior to the meeting**

**Future meeting dates:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>
TBC	