

**FINCHLEY & GOLDERS GREEN RESIDENTS FORUM**  
**VENUE: AVENUE HOUSE, FINCHLEY, LONDON N3 3QE**  
**WEDNESDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> March**  
**6.30PM**

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](mailto:f&gg.residentsforum@barnet.gov.uk)) by 10.00am on the second working day before the meeting (for example, if a meeting is due to take place on a Tuesday evening, questions must be received by 10am on the preceding Friday)

	Issue Raised	Response
1.	<p>At the Forum on the <a href="#">25<sup>th</sup> June 2013</a> (item 3, raised by Ms Rosie Page) Mrs Emmanuel believes it was agreed that a refuge and a halt box would be provided on Regents Park Road – outside Spencer Close. Whilst a halt box has been installed, a refuge has not.</p> <p>Mrs Emmanuel states that it can be very tricky trying to cross the road on foot – she notes that an elderly woman from the retirement flats opposite Spencer Close was nearly knocked down very recently.</p> <p>Mrs Emmanuel has not heard anything further about the possible installation of a refuge since May 2014.</p> <p>The forum is requested to provide an update on this issue.</p> <p><i>Mrs Jennifer Emmanuel</i></p>	
2	<p>Miss Pura Bolea requests the following information in relation to planning permission provided to the Compton School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What the restrictions are in place, and what assurances are given, to ensure land will not be used as a car park.</li> <li>- What road changes have taken – or are due to take – place for the Fallowfield Estate.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What noise disturbance is expected by out of hours use and private use and lettings evenings and weekends at the Compton School?</li> </ul> <p><i>Miss Pura Bolea</i></p>	
3	<p>Miss Pura Bolea has stated that the war memorial to fallen soldiers is to be moved out of Finchley, and that ashes of the members of the British Legion at Finchley are also to be removed. Who was this decision made by, and what were the reasons??</p> <p><i>Miss Pura Bolea</i></p>	
4	<p>Mr Levy has raised the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The fault reporting system for CPZ signage is not working. When he has recently reported faults with CPZ signs to the Council, they were all referred to the Parking Team, but the latter have issued no response nor reference numbers, even after reminders sent both directly and via First Contact.</li> <li>- Two such faults are a missing sign plate for the Loading Bay outside Tesco Express, 136 Golders Green Road, and its post being loose, reported on 22 January. So for two months now, there has been nothing to say what restrictions and times apply to this bay (2 car spaces).</li> <li>- Another fault is the CPZ signpost accidentally severed from its base outside 95 Golders Green Road, reported on 9 February. The post and base are gone and the hole neatly concreted over;</li> </ul>	

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	<p>this has left no parking restrictions sign or instructions for quite some distance along the bay on that side of the road.</p> <p><i>Mr Levy</i></p>	
	<p>Issues relating to an alley behind the shops at 170-192 Cricklewood Broadway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Sonia Byrant has stated that this alley way is in a 'filthy' state. She states that there the alley is filled with rubbish of all kinds and many bins are overflowing.</li> <li>- Fly tipping occurs in this alley way, recently including a large mattress at the end of the alleyway.</li> <li>- Rubbish bags possibly blocking drains in the alley way, causing the passage to stay wet for a long period of time following rainfall.</li> <li>- There is access to flats over the shops and some of these doors have iron grills over them probably for security. Does this contravene fire and safety regulations? Who would check this?</li> <li>- IS this alley the responsibility of Barnet Council? If so, has it fined anyone for fly tipping here to-date?</li> </ul> <p><i>Ms Sonia Byrant</i></p>	
6	<p>In 1900 when Victoria Park Recreation Ground Trust was established, the local authority was the Finchley Urban District Council and presumably the Councillors were the trustees.</p> <p>In 1933 Finchley became a municipal borough and in 1965, Finchley</p>	

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	<p>Municipal Borough became part of the London Borough of Barnet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What proof does the Council have that the current trustees consist of all the Councillors of the London Borough of Barnet?</li> <li>• Is it possible that the trustees are only Councillors whose wards cover the areas contained within the lands of the former Finchley Urban District Council?</li> </ul> <p><i>Mr Paul Phillips</i></p>	
7	<p>In the Public Notice regarding Victoria Park Lodge the public have the opportunity to make "representations". What is required to make such representations and what "representations" would convince Barnet Council not to sell?</p> <p><i>G Parris</i></p>	
8	<p>The following questions were also raised by G Parris regarding Victoria Park Lodge:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How can it be possible to sell The Lodge rather than change the use of The Lodge? Why is it possible to sell The Lodge when it is not possible to have someone other than a park keeper live in The Lodge while it is part of Victoria Park Recreation Trust? If the trustees can vote to sell The Lodge, could they not vote to remove the "restriction" on The Lodge?</li> <li>2. Why does Barnet Council state in one of their documents, (Empty Properties Grant) "Empty Properties can:</li> </ol>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. attract squatters, vandals and anti-social behaviour</li> <li>b. increase the likelihood of burglary in the local area</li> <li>c. devalue the neighbourhood</li> <li>d. increase the likelihood of fly tipping"</li> </ul> <p>when as trustees of Victoria Park Lodge, they have by their neglect made it very obvious that The Lodge was empty? How come Barnet Council gives money to private landlords to bring homes to "decent homes standard" when they did not bring this property back into valuable use?</p> <p>3. If The Lodge is sold, what guarantees are there that The Lodge will be remain? What are the planning restrictions for this site?</p> <p>4. It appears that Barnet Council have only pursued the sale option of The Lodge for over 5 years. Why were other options not considered?</p> <p><i>G Parris</i></p>	
9	<p>Ms Mary O'Connor raised the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In these times of austerity why replace Lovers Walk Bridge when it is not "rotten"? While bridge 3 does have some missing spindles, why can it not be repaired rather than replaced? Where are the documents available where an engineer has assessed them?</li> <li>2. The Department for Transport "Shared Use Route for Pedestrians and Cyclists" states "A width of 3 metres should</li> </ul>	

Issue Raised	Response
<p>generally be considered as the preferred minimum" and "designers need to ensure that introducing cycling to an existing route does not make conditions unduly worse for pedestrians" and "a shared use route will not necessarily be safer". Why is Barnet Council building shared use paths of 2.5 metres which are not safe? Why are Barnet Council not carrying out the assessments and audits mentioned in this document before converting footpaths to shared use paths? Why are pedestrians not considered?</p> <p>3. Barnet Council now has a Borough Cycling Officer. Can they also appoint a Borough Pedestrian Officer? There are more pedestrians than cyclists in the borough and with the need to increase the physical activity of residents, pedestrian spaces need to be improved.</p> <p><i>Ms Mary O'Connor</i></p>	

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Future meeting dates are yet to be confirmed.