

FINCHLEY & GOLDERS GREEN RESIDENTS FORUM
VENUE: Greek Cypriot Brotherhood Community Centre, Britannia Road, North Finchley, London, N12 9RU
Thursday 2nd July 2015
6.30PM

Chairman: Councillor Shimon Ryde

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)

	Parks Engagement	Response
	<p>Parks and open spaces are one of the best things about living in Barnet. They offer people the opportunity to relax, to exercise, to socialise, to learn and to play. The Council recognises how important parks are to local people and is developing a new strategy to improve the Borough's green spaces.</p> <p>The Council's aspiration is to make parks safe places for people to enjoy and to encourage people to use parks to adopt healthy lifestyles. Newly refurbished parks will form the centrepiece of the Borough's seven regeneration areas so that new homes and workplaces have access to the outdoors. Good quality parks can also support better educational outcomes and offer the chance for local people to volunteer, gain new skills and make new friends. Our open spaces are havens for wildlife and will limit the impact of climate change on the Borough.</p> <p>The Council wants to involve residents in the process of improving our parks to make sure that they deliver all of these outcomes as fully as possible. Through this engagement, we want to get a better idea of why Barnet's residents use parks and what their priorities should be for the future. We'll use this information to develop specific proposals on which we'll consult in more detail next year.</p> <p><i>Elsie Josland</i></p>	<p>No response required. There will be a presentation on resident engagement.</p>

	Issue Raised	Response
1	<p>The Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association recently held a meeting to discuss noise and other nuisances within the Ward.</p> <p>A particular concern, which was mentioned by a high proportion of the 50 or so residents who attended, was the level of noise that motorised garden equipment makes – particularly petrol-operated leaf blowers. They are keen to understand what the Council may be able to do to control the occurrence of this ‘nuisance’. They seem to be used by private contractors at all times of the day with great frequency. Introducing a bye-law to permit their usage only at certain times on certain days was an idea that was suggested.</p> <p>Hence I have the following questions, which I would be very grateful if you could answer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I understand the Council has powers under the Environmental Protection Act to investigate 'nuisances' and if necessary issue a statutory notice which if not complied with could lead to taking steps to stop the noise. I know that there is a process for complaining about noise which is set out on the Council's website, but my question is how does the Council decide what constitutes a 'nuisance' worthy of serving a statutory notice? Is this a fact-based analysis or within the Council's discretion? What factors are taken into consideration if the latter? • Does the Council have powers to introduce a bye-law as suggested? • Does the Council monitor or control the noise created by leaf blowers operated by its contractors which are used on public highways? • Is there anything else within the Council's powers that can be 	<p>Environmental Health understand that due to the nature of Hampstead Garden suburb there are more contractors engaged in leaf blowing than anywhere else in the borough and this is in fact the area from which the majority of gardening noise complaints are received.</p> <p>If residents are regularly being disturbed by gardeners very early in the morning and the noise is clearly audible inside premises and no improvement has been made after contacting neighbours to stop their gardeners working early they can contact Environmental Health Noise team to investigate.</p> <p>If the work is being carried out by council contractors it is not usually performed during hours that might be considered anti-social but for further information it is recommended that concerned residents contact Green spaces.</p> <p>However there is little formal control available for ad hoc leaf blowing.</p> <p>The beauty of the suburb is partly due to the tidy nature of the area. Contractors due to efficiency issues do not now sweep leaves. Therefore it would be difficult for the council to introduce a bye law controlling the noise during the day time which would have an impact on the aesthetics of the area.</p> <p>The suburb has a very good residents association and maybe this would be a good forum to decide local guidelines for noise from Garden contractors as there is no national legislation specifically to control this unlike for example construction noise.</p> <p><i>Re Officer</i> highways.correspondence@barnet.gov.uk</p>

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	<p>done to control this noise?</p> <p><i>Gary Shaw, Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association</i></p>	
2	<p>Negative Impact on Residents and the Local Community of Members and Users Attending FRS Synagogue & Kindergarten at 101 Fallow Court Avenue N12 0BE, Including Illegal and Inconsiderate Parking, Saturated Parking, Poor Driving, Dangerous Manoeuvres, Air Quality, Noise & Disturbance</p> <p>We are attaching logs of photographic evidence collected since the beginning of the year which irrefutably demonstrate the harm caused by the increase in Kindergarten numbers, Synagogue membership and activities on the site.</p> <p>Despite repeated requests for assistance from various departments within Barnet Council and their sub-contractors, the issues continue unabated.</p> <p>Residents have been led to believe that FRS will be submitting a new Planning Application shortly for redevelopment of the site with no car parking facilities on site, which will lead to a further increase in activities and numbers attending with no provision for the existing or additional numbers, the majority of whom arrive in private, single-occupancy cars. The streets surrounding the site are already over-saturated and residents often cannot even park in their own street and access to drives is obstructed.</p> <p>Residents request assurance from Barnet Council that best practise will be employed and an impact assessment carried out over a period of time without the knowledge of the kindergarten/synagogue to reflect the accurate situation and a Final Travel Plan for the synagogue submitted together with the Planning Application for redevelopment.</p>	<p>As part of assessment of yellow lines we look to see if there are any additional measures that can be implemented to alleviate the problems occurring.</p> <p>Officers will carry this out as part of the assessment and prioritisation of yellow lines and minor parking change requests which will take place this Autumn, with any agreed measures to be progressed throughout the remainder of the 2015/16 year.</p> <p><i>Re Officers (Traffic and Development)</i> highways.correspondence@barnet.gov.uk</p>

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	<p>Residents additionally request Barnet Council to ensure that FRS's plan for redevelopment includes sufficient on-site car parking provision for the numbers expected to attend current and increased activities and functions to prevent any further loss of residents' amenities.</p> <p>We understood from the Forum 15/1/15 that a Tracking Sheet had been assigned to Issues raised regarding Illegal Parking, etc. and that comments could be added. We have had no response to our email to an Officer on 21/1/15 despite a request for a response 8/3/15.</p> <p>DVDs containing all the photographs listed in the photographic logs can be supplied if required.</p> <p><i>Wendy & Louis Bernardelle</i></p>	
3	<p>There are currently two traffic islands on the street (near the corner with Park View Road and close to the junction with Park Crescent), they do not serve any useful traffic calming function, and an increasing number of vehicles appear to be using the street as a rat-run to avoid the traffic lights at the junction of Squires Lane/Long Lane and as a means to get to Ballards Lane. This has resulted in a fairly high volume of fast-moving traffic, particularly at night when cars are often driven at excessive speed.</p> <p>I understand that in the past there were speed humps on the road, but that these were removed due to concerns from the ambulance service, who regularly visit the elderly residents of Etchingham Park Road and the surrounding streets. My neighbours are of the opinion that since this removal the traffic situation has worsened, and I would like to rectify this to make the street nicer for all residents and to encourage through traffic to use Squires Lane/Long Lane, which are both of a more suitable width to accommodate higher traffic volumes.</p>	<p>The traffic islands in Etchingham Park Road (near the corner with Park View Road and close to the junction with Park Crescent) provide an opportunity for pedestrians to cross the road in two stages.</p> <p>Although some vehicles break the speed limit, speed surveys carried out in 2011 at two locations in Etchingham Park Road indicate that 85% of drivers travel below 28mph at one location and below 25mph at another. (The 85th percentile speed is a standard measure – most drivers exceeding this speed do so by only a small amount). Under these circumstances police enforcement may be more appropriate than introducing measures that affect all drivers.</p> <p>Etchingham Park Road is more lightly trafficked than Long Lane or Squires Lane, and does not have a bus route, but these roads are also homes to people who may have similar concerns. Etchingham Park Road serves a significant area even without</p>

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<p>There are many young families living on the street, and a high number of elderly residents, all of whom are vulnerable to speeding motorists, and I would like the forum to discuss the possibility of introducing more effective traffic calming measures, specifically:</p> <p>1) Widening of the traffic island close to the junction with Park View Road to restrict the width of vehicles able to travel the whole length of Etchingam Park Road and to slow down traffic at this point. Alternatively, to turn the existing island into a gated filter which would allow cyclists and emergency vehicles to pass but not motor vehicles.</p> <p>2) Creation of a similar traffic island or filter between Ballards Lane and Holdenhurst Avenue which would deter southbound drivers from using Etchingam Park Road as a short cut to Squires Lane and/or Long Lane.</p> <p>3) Construction of a further traffic island between Squiers Lane and the Etchingam Park Road/Park Avenue junction to deter drivers from driving north and using Park Avenue as a cut-through onto Long Lane.</p> <p>4) A similar level of traffic calming on Woodlands Avenue and Queens Avenue, ideally close to their junctions with Squires Lane and Park Crescent to discourage their use as alternative rat-runs.</p> <p>4) Signage at both ends of Etchingam Park Road (Ballards Lane and Squiers Lane) indicating "No Through Road - Access Only" or similar</p> <p>I am unsure if this is the correct procedure for raising this concern or indeed if the forum is the correct place for the matter to be discussed in order for it to be raised with the council's highways division - if this is best raised via an alternative means, please let me know how I should proceed from here.</p>	<p>through traffic, so access to these by residents and delivery vehicles will always be necessary.</p> <p>The request for introducing traffic calming measures such as those described or other features can be included in the annual assessment and prioritisation against all other traffic management schemes in the borough; where highest priority schemes would then be included in future years' programmes for approval by the Environment Committee.</p> <p><i>Re Officers (Traffic and Development)</i> highways.correspondence@barnet.gov.uk</p>

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	<i>Tim Fearn</i>	
4	<p>Safety concern around cars travelling at speed along Etchingham Park Road when there are three exits from Victoria Park onto this street. This park is used by a lot of local families, and in addition on warmer days there is usually an ice cream van located near the junction with Seymour Road that attracts children - there is a definite risk that a child could run out into the street and be hit by a speeding motorist.</p> <p><i>Tim Fearn</i></p>	<p>As for item 4 above this request can be included in the annual assessment and prioritisation against all other traffic management schemes in the borough; where highest priority schemes would then be included in future years' programmes for approval by the Environment Committee.</p> <p>The record of injury accidents in Etchingham Park Road (which provides an objective measure of the relative issues in different locations) indicates that there have been no injury accidents in the most recent three years data currently available (to the end of 2014). An incident is recorded in Park Crescent although this is not associated with speeding.</p> <p><i>Re Officers (Traffic and Development)</i> highways.correspondence@barnet.gov.uk</p>
5	<p>CPZ Consultation 25365</p> <p>Myself and a few other residents have taken the lead in highlighting to the Consultation that we have experienced issues with parking in these two road over the past 3 years, in the start at a result in the over expansion of the Palm Hotel, which now hosts parties for upto 300 guests in a function room granted an entertainment licence in 2012.</p> <p>Video of the chaos caused when 300 guests try and park in our narrow residential streets</p> <p>Cloister Road > http://youtu.be/TxWm2llrnHY</p>	<p>The issue of parking in Cloister Road and Garth Road is being addressed in a report which is due to be reported to the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee after this Forum.</p> <p><i>Re Officers (Traffic and Development)</i> highways.correspondence@barnet.gov.uk</p>

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<p data-bbox="168 272 967 304">Cloister and Garth > http://youtu.be/NcFfdqhQ8Z8</p> <p data-bbox="168 347 1178 600">More recently over say the past 24 months the number of commuters parking up in the street and leaving resident no space when they return from work and with all the surrounding areas already controlled by CPZ's we have no choice but to 'double park' illegally. Which has resulted in many residents of Garth getting PCN's and some in Cloister. (Map attached – Note the parking oasis of Cloister and Garth at the bottom)</p> <p data-bbox="168 643 1178 786">Adding to the commuters which increase with every Jan increase in the charge, we now have the building contractors and associated fitters parking up in their work vans and walking up to the building site at the top of Cricklewood Lane Jct with Finchley Road.</p> <p data-bbox="168 829 1189 1007">Driveways get parked on or across and residents have endured enough, we had the police attend an altercation between a resident and a hotel guest over parking and my wife has been abused when I popped out in the car for milk and she asked a Hotel party guest not to take my place as I would only be 5mins.</p> <p data-bbox="168 1050 1184 1193">We have submitted a 200+ petition some time ago now at the beginning of the problems – This relates to parking and the hotel, but since we collected this the problems have worsened and my wife and I are being actively stopped in the street to get update on 'the parking situation' ...</p> <p data-bbox="168 1236 1142 1305">I have emailed Barnet council (Karen Grinter and Martin Cowie) over this period with the 1st being 03/04/2012 (I shall forward this on)</p> <p data-bbox="168 1348 1133 1450">Thanks for taking the time to discuss this very important issue which quite frankly is affecting the lives of the residents in these two small residential streets</p>	

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	<i>Richard Davis</i>	
6	<p>Mortimer Close, NW2, is not included in the CPZ zone. This is unlike other roads off Cricklewood Lane. As a result of this there are significantly increased pressures on parking on Mortimer Close during week days. Residents ask for the introduction of a CPZ on Mortimer Close.</p> <p><i>Residents from Mortimer Close</i></p>	<p>The request for a CPZ in Mortimer Close, NW2 has been noted and will be considered as part of the annual assessment and prioritisation of CPZ requests where the highest priority schemes would be included in future years' programmes for approval by the Environment Committee.</p> <p><i>Re Officers (Traffic and Development)</i> highways.correspondence@barnet.gov.uk</p>
7	<p>The Kara Way playground has a multi-use games court which was intended to include a tennis court. Residents were told that folding tennis net posts, that could drop down into the tarmac when not being used, would be installed along with a storage box so the tennis net could be kept on site.</p> <p>The playground opened last August but, nearly a year later, this work has not been completed. We have been given tennis posts which are stored in a resident's shed along with the net. These are very heavy to carry to and from the playground so the tennis court is not being used. Before the playground was redeveloped, there was a storage box on site.</p> <p>At a recent meeting to discuss anti-social behaviour taking place in the Kara Way playground, councillor Longstaff suggested that a timetable be drawn up for the installation of the folding tennis posts and the secure box. This has not happened, so we have no idea when the work will take place. We would be grateful if you could let us know when the storage box and post will be fitted. Tennis will bring another user group to the playground and help reduce anti-social behaviour.</p>	<p>The Greenspaces Team has commissioned its contractor to design and fabricate the drop down tennis posts to ensure that they are both easy to use and vandal resistant. This type of post is not currently available in the market place and so requires designing and fabricating, this has unfortunately taken longer and caused the delay.</p> <p>The Greenspaces Team has had a number of discussions with the local residents and has already informed them that the council will not be purchasing or installing a storage box in the park as it would be subject to vandalism and theft.</p> <p><i>Greenspaces</i> (parks@barnet.gov.uk)</p>

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	<p><i>Sylvia Gauthereau</i> <i>Railway Terraces Residents' Association member</i></p>	
8	<p>So many issues were raised by the residents of the Railway Terraces. Officers have suggested conducting a walkabout with residents, in particular issues relating to damaged signage, missing bollards, road surfaces, potholes in the terraces and the very faded yellow box junction at the entrance to Kara Way.</p> <p>The walkabout took place during 2014. None of the issues raised during that walkabout have been dealt with and continue to affect residents who have continued to raise them with officers during the year.</p> <p>A further walkabout more recently covering the same issues has taken place but the same issues are still outstanding eighteen months after being raised at the Residents' Forum. Concern remains about the number of HGV's reversing down Kara Way on to the Edgware Road, blocking the road completely and the forklift operating in Kara Way, the main route to the newly refurbished playground.</p> <p>Jessica Howey Secretary Railway Terraces Residents' Association</p>	<p>Works have been arranged for next week comprising carriageway patching, localised footway repair and possible installation of half bell bollard if there is sufficient room to fit between existing BT chamber.</p> <p>We may undertake some of this work on Saturdays due to the presence of building merchants deliveries during the weekday.</p> <p>However, Terrace Cottages including Kara Way will be included in the assessment process for potential inclusion in the network recovery programme. The formulation of next year programme should be completed by December 2015.</p> <p><i>Re Officers (Traffic and Development)</i> highways.correspondence@barnet.gov.uk</p>
9.	<p>Kara Way is the main route to the new playground. Many families and children use the playground. Sometimes there are 120 adults and children in the playground. This means increasing amounts of litter are dropped in Kara Way. This road needs to be included in the regular street cleaning rota.</p> <p><i>Resident of Campion Terrace</i></p>	<p>A new street cleansing offer was launched in April 2015 which changed how cleanse these areas are cleaned.</p> <p>Kara Way is attended daily by the Town Centre crew who will remove litter and empty street bins. It is also mechanically swept as frequently as required, this occurs approximately every 6-8 weeks.</p> <p><i>Greenspaces Team</i> (parks@barnet.gov.uk)</p>

	Issue Raised	Response
10	<p>A number of streets in our neighbourhood have parts of the footpath obstructed through overgrown hedges. This causes an obstruction for people with buggies and wheelchairs – sometimes having to manoeuvre onto the road. What process is there for local residents to alert officers to the dangerous restriction of the footpath, what action will be taken by officers and in what time frame?</p> <p><i>Kieran Kettleton</i></p>	<p>If residents advise Officers of the footpaths in question Officers will ensure maintenance is undertaken on these footpaths.</p> <p>For future reference the process for members of the public to report overhanging vegetation is to contact the customer services via website, e-mail or telephone.</p> <p>An inspector will then inspect the site and if necessary instruct the resident/householder to cutback the offending vegetation. If no action within 7 days formal notice under the Highways Act 1980 will be issued.</p> <p><i>Re Officers (Traffic and Development)</i> highways.correspondence@barnet.gov.uk</p>
11	<p>The footpath beside Dollis Brook in West Finchley has recently been improved as a result of the GLA grant. The inclusion of a cycle path has given additional access to the area which was previously a no cycling zone.</p> <p>Parts of the cycle path run along the same path as the footpath. As it is designed, it is not an exclusive cycle path and is shared with pedestrians. Cyclists travelling at high speed on the new path have not always shown consideration to pedestrians.</p> <p>Can appropriate signage be displayed to a) request that cyclists slow down, b) that cyclists show consideration to pedestrians and c) that pedestrians have priority.</p> <p><i>Kieran Kettleton</i></p>	<p>The Greenspaces Team is having signage fabricated which will designate which parts of the footpath are shared use and which are pedestrians only. We are not proposing to install any further signage at this time.</p> <p><i>Greenspaces Team</i> (parks@barnet.gov.uk)</p>
12	<p>1. Please explain why more than £13.5 million of taxpayers' money has been spent on buying the site for the new waste depot when last year it changed hands for only £750,000? Why were councillors given</p>	<p>1. Land Registry entries indicate on 11 June 2014 a price of £750,000 was paid for the transfer of the freehold of the Abbots Depot site to Cergold Limited. The Council is not privy</p>

Issue Raised	Response
<p data-bbox="165 236 1178 416">misleading information that did not acknowledge this transaction before the decision to approve the purchase was forced through? Why is it the Tory administration is so quick to find £13.5 million to pay for this site when claiming it needs to slash our library service budget by £2.8 million?</p> <p data-bbox="165 459 1178 603">2. Why did the Tory administration secretly give away public land in West Hendon worth more than £12 million to private developers for the sum of only £3, and is this not another example of Conservative profligacy with taxpayers' money?</p> <p data-bbox="165 646 1178 858">3. Why has there been no real attempt to advertise the change in submission dates for Residents Forums, and why does there continue to be such poor publicity for the meetings? Is it not the truth that the Conservative administration resents the existence of the Forums and uses every means at its disposal to avoid reminding the wider public that the Forums exist?</p> <p data-bbox="165 901 1178 1045">4. Has the council managed to sell off the historic park keeper's lodge in Victoria Park yet? Are there any more publicly owned assets, historic or otherwise, in Finchley which are now marked for selling to the highest bidder?</p> <p data-bbox="165 1088 1178 1300">5. How much money is the council hoping to make from the sale of Church End library, and what is the latest news of the library promised in the Gateway House multimillion pound development that no one asked for but has been forced upon us? When will it open, how big will it be, and will it have any staff or be one of the new 'open' libraries with a few books and no librarians?</p> <p data-bbox="165 1343 439 1377"><i>Theresa Musgrove</i></p>	<p data-bbox="1270 236 2141 603">to the reasons behind this agreement but is confident that the £750,000 figure quoted does not reflect the open market value of the site Abbots Depot site. The reason that the Council is confident that the figure does not reflect market value is that the two companies involved in the purchase and sale of the freehold are owned by the same people. The monitoring officer has reviewed the decision making process through the committee on this matter and has confirmed that it was robust. For the reason set out above, the information provided to the committee was not misleading.</p> <p data-bbox="1270 646 1805 715"><i>John Hooton, Chief Operating Officer</i> (john.hooton@barnet.gov.uk)</p> <p data-bbox="1225 758 1906 791">2. Chairman to respond verbally at the meeting</p> <p data-bbox="1225 834 2136 1193">3. Residents Forums provide an opportunity for any resident to raise local matters. Following recent rounds of Residents' Forums and Area Committees, the Chairmen of these bodies expressed concern at the way that issues were being managed and responded to. Under the previous arrangements, it was not often not clear what had actions had been agreed following the discussion / debate on an issue. As a result, a number of changes are currently progressing through the council's committees aimed at improving processes.</p> <p data-bbox="1270 1236 2107 1305">Details of the background to the changes can be accessed via the references below.</p> <p data-bbox="1270 1348 2085 1450">The changes are designed to improve the processes and procedures relating to Residents Forums in the following ways:</p>

	Issue Raised	Response
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the amount of time that the chairman and officers have to provide responses to issues will enable more detailed information to be provided to residents. • Forum chairmen will have new powers to determine whether an issue has: i) been responded to fully and is therefore closed; ii) or requires a further response from officers within 20 days. This will provide clarity to residents regarding the status of their issue once it has been considered at the forum or area committee. • Forums will now produce minutes which will detail the discussion that has taken place, the decision of the chairman and, if there are any actions arising, who is the officer responsible for responding within the 20 day response timeframe <p>In relation to the reduction in the number of forums since 2009, consideration of the number and type of decision-making bodies and the frequency of meetings is a matter for Full Council.</p> <p>To ensure that residents have not been adversely affected by the revised deadline, the timetable for publicising the changes has been moved forward. The timetable for the 2 July Forums was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advert in local press – 17 June 2015 • E-mail to residents on the Residents Forum e-mail distribution list detailing changes to publicity arrangements – 19 June 2015 • Deadline for submission of issues – 10am, 25 June 2015 <p>If residents would like to receive e-mail notifications about</p>

Issue Raised	Response
	<p>forums, they can do so by notifying: governanceservice@barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>Impact of the revised deadline on the number of issues received:</p> <p><u>Chipping Barnet</u> March 2015 = 8 issues July 2015 = 18 issues</p> <p><u>Finchley & Golders Green</u> March 2015 = 9 issues July 2015 = 16 issues</p> <p><u>Hendon</u> March 2015 = 20 issues July 2015 = 13 issues 1 issue was ruled out due to references to planning. The resident was given an opportunity to amend the issue but declined to do so.</p> <p><u>References:</u></p> <p>31 March 2015, Constitution, Ethics and Probity Committee considered the proposed changes to arrangement for Residents Forums: http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=589&MId=7825&Ver=4</p> <p>The rationale for the changes are detailed in item 5 on pages 12 – 13 of the ‘Agenda and Report Pack’. The changes were approved by the Committee on 31 March and then by the Full Council on 14 April 2015.</p>

Issue Raised	Response
	<p>30 June 2015, Constitution, Ethics and Probity Committee proposed the addition of powers available to forum chairmen (page 67 of the 'Agenda and Report Pack' refers): http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g8390/Public%20reports%20pack%2030th-Jun-2015%2019.00%20Constitution%20Ethics%20and%20Probity%20Committee.pdf?T=10 These changes are subject to consideration and approval at Full Council on 28 July 2015.</p> <p>Residents can access these report online via the council's website. Procedures for Residents Forums and Area Committees are in the council's constitution which is available online via: http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/</p> <p>Governance Service governanceservice@barnet.gov.uk</p> <p>4. The decision by the Council to dispose the lodge has been already been made; the advertising and representations received by all interested parties are actively being considered at the present time. (Estates)</p> <p>A full list of Council assets was recently discussed at a meeting of the Assets, Regeneration and Growth Committee on 1st June 2015. The Community Asset Strategy can be found here: https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s23454/Community%20Assets%20Strategy%20-%20June%202015%20-%20Appendix.pdf (Governance)</p> <p>5. Planning permission has been granted for the new library in Gateway House. The footprint of the new library building is 840sqm. Estimated opening is circa 2017/18. There are currently no plans developed to sell the existing library building.</p> <p>Libraries Team (Hannah.richens@barnet.gov.uk)</p>

	Issue Raised	Response
13	<p>1) Barnet has areas which are Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation. How are they managed to ensure that their biodiversity is enhanced? When Barnet Council has works carried out in these sites, as part of the works are measures undertaken to ensure that weeds are not introduced during these works? Additionally, are surveys undertaken at regular intervals to ensure that flora not present in previous flora surveys of the site are identified and procedures undertaken to remove them?</p> <p>2) In the vicinity of Dollis Brook, which of the flora species below were present prior to 2010? In order to select Dollis Brook as a SINC surveys of flora would have been undertaken at different times. I am no botanist but I think the following are now along Dollis Brook. Some are only a few of a plant species but others are very common - Himalayan balsam, thistles, hogweed (giant and common), poppy, knotweed, wheat, yellow flowered plant, fat hen, hemlock, cornflower, docks, plant with big leaves, comfrey. Will Barnet Council control these - if so, when, as they are either in flower now or soon will be?</p> <p>3) As Dollis Brook flows into Welsh Harp, which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation is it even more important that species previously absent from Dollis Brook are prevented from seeding / breaking off and moving downstream so they eventually colonise Welsh Harp?</p> <p>4) Why are City Suburban Tree Surgeons cutting down so many trees? Why is this work being undertaken at this time of the year when such work should be undertaken outside the bird nesting season?</p> <p>5) What season does the Seasonal Pond between Dollis Brook and Finchley Golf Club operate?</p>	<p>1) We have a Countryside management contract in place which enables the council to manage meadows and sites of importance. In addition, the invasive plant contract in place which allows us to control and eliminate invasive plants such as Giant hogweed, Himalayan balsam, and Japanese knotweed.</p> <p>Surveys are not undertaken regularly due to the costs involved as we have large areas across the borough, unless a volunteer group carry them out on our behalf such as the London wildlife trust.</p> <p>2) We have always had the above plants growing along these stretches of water and others across the borough. The only plants we need to control are Giant hogweed, Himalayan balsam and Japanese knotweed which are managed through our invasive plant contract. The Environment Agency's conservation team often walk and monitor the stream bank areas and also carry out work to ensure the brook is free flowing.</p> <p>3) We work closely with the London wildlife trust and the Environment Agency regarding the natural environment along brook banks including invasive plants and their treatment. If the environment agency identifies a plant within open space land they believe is invasive and requires treatment then we manage this through the invasive plant contract.</p> <p>We are aware that the brook flows past many back gardens and we are unable to control plant seed / propagation escaping from gardens into the brook and</p>

Issue Raised	Response
<p>6) Victoria Park. At the last forum, a freedom of information request to determine who are the Victoria Park Recreation Ground trustees was initiated. No update to this has been posted in the Forum Issues List. What is the outcome of the FOI? Has the missing land register / indenture for the third section of Victoria Park to be obtained been located?</p> <p>7) The forums are a means for residents to make enquires of Barnet Council the answers of questions also being available to other residents on-line. Previously I had emailed Barnet Council Greenspaces and received answers in an email. However, I considered that these "answers" were not answering my questions so I asked them again at a resident's forum. The answers took the form of " This query has been raised with and responded to by the Greenspaces Team on 30th December 2014 and there is no further update. " Please can these be properly answered so they are available to all residents?</p> <p><i>Mary O'Connor</i></p>	<p>seeding on the banks of the brook downstream.</p> <p>4) The Councils tree stock is inspected on a rolling three year cyclical regime. The trees are assessed for both maintenance and risk management. Trees are only removed by the Council as a last resort usually because the tree is dead, dying or dangerous i.e. displaying signs that it is diseased or decayed and likely to fail if left to manifest. The Council aims to manage a sustainable tree stock by replacement planting, which is usually carried out the following winter planting season. Due to the large number of trees the Council has to maintain it would be impractical to cease all works in the nesting season which runs in line with the growing season. The Council's contractors are required to carry out an habitat assessment on all trees prior to proceeding with any tree works. If nesting birds are identified the tree is placed on hold until the nest has been vacated.</p> <p>5) If the question refers to the new small seasonal pond by the lovers walk bridge, then this pond still requires the addition of a puddle clay liner. Due to the weather conditions it has not been appropriate to add the clay liner as it will not hold water. Once the puddling of the pond has been completed, the pond should naturally fill up with water over the winter months in time to create a suitable place for invertebrates to breed in the spring. The pond due to the amount of adjacent trees etc is expected to dry out in the late spring and summer months.</p> <p><i>Greenspaces (parks@barnet.gov.uk)</i></p> <p>6) The Council is the sole trustee of Victoria Park, Finchley.</p>

	Issue Raised	Response
		<p>In regard to the second part of the question, officers are not clear as to what the resident is referring to. We invite the resident to liaise with officers after this meeting in order to clarify the question; they will then receive a detailed response within the next 20 working days, in line with the Council constitution.</p> <p><i>Property Services Judith.ellis@barnet.gov.uk</i></p> <p>7) If the resident is unsatisfied with the responses given at the time then they are welcome to email the issues through to parks@barnet.gov.uk, where the appropriate action will then be undertaken by the Parks Team.</p> <p><i>Greenspaces (parks@barnet.gov.uk)</i></p>
14	<p>Parking and speeding problems on Friary Way and Valley Avenue</p> <p>There was a resident led consultation that took place on Friary Way and Valley Avenue N12 between Sunday 30 May and Friday 12 June in relation to the significant parking issues in both streets and the speed and volume of traffic on Friary Way.</p> <p>Over 50% of the residents on both streets responded to the consultation and are demanding the opportunity to be consulted on options to address both issues.</p> <p>We draw your attention to the particular concerns residents have raised about the significant access problems and potential health and safety issues on Valley Avenue caused by the intensive commuter parking and the dangers of heavy and speeding traffic along Friary Way. In both cases there is an accident waiting to happen.</p>	<p>The request to consider the speeding issues can be included in the annual assessment and prioritisation against all other traffic management schemes in the borough; where highest priority schemes would then be included in future years' programmes for approval by the Environment Committee.</p> <p>Requests for CPZs or CPZ extensions/changes will also be assessed in a similar way, where the highest priority schemes would be included in future years' programmes for approval by the Environment Committee. The request for a CPZ in Friary Way and Valley Avenue will be considered as part of this process.</p> <p>A request to consider issues of volume and speed of traffic on adjacent Friary Road is already identified for assessment and consideration of the speed issues in combination might be</p>

	Issue Raised	Response
	<p>Given that the CPZ is already in operation in surrounding streets and is having a negative impact on Friary Way and Valley Avenue we request that a review of the CPZ should be incorporated into the Council's Highways team work programme as soon as possible.</p> <p>Many residents have suggested that a 1 hour per day CPZ would be the most effective way of addressing the parking issues by preventing commuter parking and dealing with the long term parking of people who do not live on these streets. There is already a 1 hour 2-3pm control in operation within part of the North Finchley CPZ near to Woodhouse Road so the precedent has been set.</p> <p>We are demanding the opportunity to be consulted on options to address the parking issue on Friary Way and Valley Avenue by extending the CPZ and reducing the speed along Friary Way through traffic calming measures such as introducing a 20 mph speed limit . We would like a commitment from the council and a program of action on the issues we have raised.</p> <p><i>Mr Behrouz Shomali</i></p>	<p>appropriate.</p> <p><i>Re Officers (Traffic and Development)</i> highways.correspondence@barnet.gov.uk</p>
15	<p>Petition with 42 signatures:</p> <p>'Golders Garden is one of the only roads in the whole of Barnet which has parking restrictions all day and 7 days a week. We the undersigned would like the restrictions changed to Mon-Fri 11-12'</p> <p><i>Lead petitioner: David Hersh</i></p>	<p>Golders Gardens falls within the Golders Green 'G' Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) which operates between 8am and 6.30pm, Monday to Saturday, and between 9.30pm and 6.30pm on Sundays. This CPZ covers a number of roads in the vicinity of Golders Green Underground Station/ Town Centre, with a view to protecting kerbside space in this residential road during the majority of the week from motorists visiting the Town Centre, and commuters/workers leaving their vehicles for long periods.</p> <p>The petition has been noted and will be considered as part of the annual assessment and prioritisation of CPZ requests where the</p>

	Issue Raised	Response
		highest priority schemes would be included in future years' programmes for approval by the Environment Committee. <i>Re Officers (Traffic and Development)</i> highways.correspondence@barnet.gov.uk
16	Petition with 78 signatures: 'We the undersigned petition Barnet Council to not sell Victoria Park Lodge (former park keepers lodge) in Victoria Park, Finchley' <i>Lead petitioner: Ms Mary T O'Connor</i>	The decision by the Council to dispose the lodge has been already been made; the advertising and representations received by all interested parties are actively being considered at the present time. <i>Estates Department</i> Judith.ellis@barnet.gov.uk

Contact: Edward Gilbert, Governance Service, Assurance Group, London Borough of Barnet, NLBP, Building 2, Oakleigh Road South, London N11 1NP.
Tel: 020 8359 3469, Email: f&gg.residentsforum@barnet.gov.uk

Future meeting dates:

Date of meeting	Location
21 st October 2015	Greek Cypriot Brotherhood Community Centre
13 th January 2016	TBC
30 th March 2016	Avenue House