

FINCHLEY & GOLDERS GREEN RESIDENTS FORUM

VENUE: Green Man Community Centre, Strawberry Vale, London, N2 9BA

Tuesday 24th January 2017 – 7.00PM

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).

	Issue Raised	Response
1	<p>Subject: Parking petition from the residents of Station Road and Station Close, Finchley, N3 Submitted by: Rachel Coleman Ward: Finchley No of signatures: 60 Link to petition</p> <p>Background: Station Road and Station Close residents request Barnet Council to review the current control parking zone (CE CPZ) in operation on Station Road and Station Close, N3, with a view to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Increasing the hours of operation and extent to greater than the current 2-3pm(ii) Increasing the days of operation from Monday to Friday to include the weekends.(iii) Changing the zoning of Station Road, N3, to be a separate zone to the current CE Zone.	

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2	<p>Subject: Petition to Barnet Council by Residents of Temple Gardens for increase in hours of the CPZ Parking Zone in Our street Only, Temple Gardens, NW11 0LL. Submitted by: Helen Fry Ward: Childs Hill No of signatures: 52 Link to petition</p> <p>Background: Appeal for an increase in the operational hours of the residents parking zone in the street for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Current 2-hour single slots (10-11am and 3-4pm) are proving insufficient. (ii) Increased number of the general public are parking in the street outside CZ times and making it impossible for residents to safely unload vehicles (shopping and young children) (iii) Increase in the last 12 months of general public who park their cars in the street after 4pm on a Friday and leave it there until late Sunday evening or before 10am on Monday. It is now nothing to find that at one end of the street alone, 7 to 8 non CPZ vehicles are parked for the whole week, meaning that we have immediately lost several resident parking spaces. 	
3	<p>Subject: Petition requesting for change of resident parking only hours on Beresford Road, N2 Submitted by: J king Ward: East Finchley No. of signatures:38 Link to petition</p> <p>Request that resident parking only hours are reviewed for Beresford road in line with other local streets which have resident only restriction of Monday-Saturday 10am-6.30pm.</p>	

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<p data-bbox="152 236 1137 416">Beresford Road is the first street north of these roads without such restrictions despite having similar geographies in relation to being situated off the High Road and in easy commutable distance from the tube. We request the precedent is extended to Beresford road to protect the parking rights and safety of residents.</p> <p data-bbox="152 459 1153 900">Beresford road has four pay and display bays at the start of the road (including one disabled space) and there are further spaces all along the high road for shoppers. This is more than adequate if the ration of resident parkers to shoppers is considered to ensure that there is parking for shoppers who are not local residents to access the High Road. At present the pay and display spaces on Beresford road and the High road are always mostly empty but our resident spaces full. Or if occupied are taken by residents desperate for a space. This leaves residents who have paid for permits and pay council tax in this area with no parking and out of area shoppers with free parking, rather than generating some income for the local council through very reasonably prices pay and display spaces on the High Road.</p> <p data-bbox="152 940 1160 1155">The parking has become unbearable on Beresford Road now making it near impossible for residents to return from work/school and find a space on the road and at all time at the weekend, The road being known by non-residents as free access to the High Road has led to dangerous driving on our street populated by many young children and vulnerable individuals.</p> <p data-bbox="152 1198 1146 1342">It has also been noted that several local businesses which have been given 'business permits' use Beresford road as a daily car park for extremely long periods or all day further reducing available parking for residents.</p> <p data-bbox="152 1385 1133 1453">The current situation of it being free to park on residential streets but charged on the adjacent high road actively encourages the parking in</p>	

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	<p>residential streets.</p> <p>Residents formally request that we are granted Monday-Saturday 10am-6.30pm resident only hours similar to that granted to other local N2 streets.</p>	
4	<p>Subject: Hedges need pruning on Causeway N2 Submitted by: Mr Ralph Eschwege</p> <p>I have contacted my councillor in regards to the Causeway N2 towards the station for East End Road. Barnet needs to prune the hedges as it is difficult to walk along this area. I have contacted the councillor about this matter previously and nothing has happened.</p>	
5	<p>Subject: Flow of traffic in Holders Hill Road Submitted by: Ms Elizabeth Cohen</p> <p>To either enforce the parking on one side of the road only or to make the parking bays onto the pavement as in other roads in the area.</p>	
6	<p>Subject: Parking on Woodhouse Road Submitted by: Christine Denny</p> <p>Last November a parking ban was introduced by RE - the councillors' said this was on a trial basis for a year but no feedback has been given to us.</p> <p>For residents on Woodhouse Road from School Way down to Crescent Way it is almost impossible to park our vehicles - the few available spaces left are taken by the MOT Centre at the top of Churchfield</p>	

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	<p>Avenue, two minicab firms, Shoppers who don't want to parking in Finchley High Road - school staff and students, and there are two "Zip Vans" these are vans which can be hired on an hourly basis - they are loaned out and the owner just tells his customers to leave them anywhere on Woodhouse Road the can fit in. Also a private trader has taken to parking cars on Woodhouse Road with for sale notices in the windows and they sit there for several weeks on end. All this leaves us as residents with nowhere to go And often I end up driving around looking for somewhere to park and often leaving my car up to a mile away from my home.</p> <p>I would like to make a formal application for residents parking - I understand there will be a cost involved - last year the councillors did say they would consider putting some sort of mesh on the grass in front of our houses (as they had done in Ingle Way) but I am told that was voted against. Apparently there was a consultation about 7 years ago when residents parking was declined but the situation has changed a lot since then and I would ask you to make an agenda item to review this when you next meet.</p>	
7	<p>Subject: Finchley Church End Consultation Submitted by Mary O'Connor</p> <p>The Finchley Church End Consultation has just closed. But how were residents to know this consultation was taking place? If it was important for the area why wasn't there a leaflet drop of the N3 postcode area or notices put up along Ballards Lane, Hendon Lane and Regents Park Road so most residents would be aware there was a consultation?</p>	

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8	<p>Subject: Junction of Golders Green Road Submitted: Mr Levy</p> <p>The junction of Golders Green Road and Princes Park Avenue is often very chaotic with motorists having to pull out aggressively to turn right from Princes Park Avenue, versus many others turning right into that street. This seems a classic case where a mini-roundabout would improve things. Will the Council please consider this?</p>	
9	<p>Subject: Resurfacing in Abbots Gardens Submitted by: Ralph Eschwege</p> <p>Following the resurfacing in Abbots Garden in October, can a senior engineer explain why in December most of the drains and manhole covers were repositioned. Surely this ought to have been done prior to the resurfacing in October.</p>	
10	<p>Subject: Finchley Church End name change Submitted by: Mary O'Connor</p> <p>Why is better signage for Finchley Church End not considered an option rather than a name change.?</p>	

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11	<p>Subject: Resurfacing of Golders Green Road (A502) Submitted: Mr Levy</p> <p>As a frequent cyclist along the full length of Golders Green Road (A502), for several years the only really bumpy area I have noticed is approximately the full area of the marked bus stop outside Starbucks (nos. 7-9). Why, then, have there been two consecutive resurfacings of most of Golders Green Road, but no resurfacing of the area that includes this bumpy patch? And please will Council at least resurface this bumpy patch soon?</p>	
12	<p>Subject: Highways parked in prospect place Submitted by: Ralph Eschwage</p> <p>Can Barnet explain why on the 24th December a Highways Maintenance on YF12 UFL was parked in Prospect Place until the 28th, with sand, paving slabs, bags of cement and tools.</p>	
13	<p>Subject: Finchley Church End Funding Submitted by: Mary O'Connor</p> <p>What is the current funding available and the future funding available For Finchley Church End?</p>	

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14	<p>Subject: Missing metal shaft covers in high streets Submitted: Mr Levy</p> <p>There is a widespread problem of metal utility shaft covers in the pavement disappearing especially in high streets, leaving dangerous shallow or deep holes. Many still remain dangerously exposed months or years after being reported to the Council, specifically in Golders Green Road and the clock tower area of Finchley Road NW11. Why doesn't the Council, as soon they are reported, deploy temporary covers over them all, then give all possible operators a few weeks to claim ownership and remedy them, beyond which the council will block them up itself? It seems this would achieve the same safety gains as many £ millions being spent on repaving whole streets, for a smidgeon of the cost.</p>	
15	<p>Subject: Article 4 Finchley Church End Submitted by: Mary O'Connor</p> <p>Having lost 25% of the B1 Business Floorspace in Finchley Church End since 2011, is Barnet Council likely to implement Article 4 and if so when?</p>	
16	<p>Subject: PCN to vehicles parked across drop kerbs Submitted: Mr Levy</p> <p>(i) Is it the case that Barnet currently issues PCNs to vehicles parked across drop kerbs even if they currently stand in front of brick walls or fixed fences, when no other parking restriction applies?</p> <p>(ii) The benefits to the community of permitting parking across dropped kerbs where they stand in front of brick walls or fixed fences surely greatly outweighs the occasional enforcement revenue of not permitting it. Therefore please can the Council develop a policy to</p>	

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	<p>allow such parking where no other parking restriction applies, in line with its stated value: "We actively listen, respond, collaborate and share ideas, to achieve the best outcomes with residents, businesses and colleagues."</p>	
17	<p>Subject: Consultation of Finchley Church End Submitted by: Mary O'Connor</p> <p>Much of what was in the consultation draft did not appear feasible even if funding was available. An example. What is the possibility that the station car park will be accessed from Hervey Close? What is required to make this feasible?</p>	
18	<p>Subject: Unnecessary idling across London Submitted: Mr Levy</p> <p>(i) Efforts have been growing across London to curb unnecessary idling across London, including radio advertising by TfL, and offenders being verbally warned by parking wardens in Westminster. The Evening Standard reported (10.1.17) that Bethnal Green Borough Police commander DCS Williams has for two years ordered her patrol cars not to idle their engines incessantly when stationary, in particular banning the use of 'run-lock'. This demonstrates that it should only be necessary to run the engine intermittently to keep police on-board electronics working continuously. Therefore please will Barnet Borough Police do the same, whether outside Council meetings or elsewhere?</p> <p>(ii) Please will Barnet Civil Enforcement Officers adopt the simple</p>	

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	<p>practice of verbally asking anyone they see on their beat idling their engine not to do it unnecessarily, copying Westminster Council's initiative in this regard?</p>	
19	<p>Subject: Street bins overflowing Submitted: Mary O'Connor</p> <p>The street bins are often overflowing and remain like this for days. My street has many London Plane trees yet unlike past years, this year there was no clearing of these leaves by Barnet Council. The street sweeper machine to sweep the gutter would come every few weeks but does not seem to have been for months. All since The Barnet Group has been responsible for these. I'm not sure if the flower beds are going to be planted in the future. Why can't this service be run by Barnet Council so these functions are properly done?</p>	
20	<p>Subject: Barnet.fixmystreet with Report-a-problem. Submitted: Mr Levy</p> <p>(i) Soon after the Council replaced Barnet.fixmystreet with Report-a-problem, I recall being assured that in due course, a map showing existing fault reports would be added to the latter, to save informants wasting time starting reports on issues already logged. Is this going to happen, if so when?</p> <p>(ii) When using Report-a-problem, after selecting the name of the street concerned, users are currently required to mark the position of a problem in a fault report on an on-line map to proceed. However, this often causes a different nearby street to the one already selected to be</p>	

Issue Raised	Response
<p>put into the location field, but then it seems the map position itself is not communicated in the fault report! This appears to be the case, as staff have responded to me asking for more information when I had made it clear on the map. Please therefore can either users not be required to click the map, or the exact map position be recorded in the report?</p> <p>(iii) The Description field is limited to 250 characters and this can make it very hard to describe some problems e.g. multiple blocked gullies in a street, in plain English. Please can it allow longer entries?</p> <p>(iv) I report many Highways related problems, and usually receive brief progress reports from that department containing only their own reference number and no other information about which particular fault it is. This makes it hard or impossible to know which fault they are referring to and to complete the feedback forms. I might want to give positive feedback! Please can their reports inform as to which problem is being referred to?</p> <p>(v) The automated response to Report-a-problem reports states that non-emergency problems will take up to 30 days to fix. However in response to a problem report I made on 24/10/16 I was told by Highways: <i>"At this moment of time Barnet council are undertaking emergency footway and road works, this falls under non-priority works."</i> and it still hasn't been worked on (a hard-to-read direction guide sign needed cleaning). So what is the true current situation as to how long non-emergency works will take?</p> <p>(vi) Also in the auto-reply to Report-a-problem, the link provided about timescales for responding to reports is broken.</p>	

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

Tel: 020 8359 4369, Email: f&gg.residentsforum@barnet.gov.uk

Future meeting dates:

Date of meeting	Location
22 nd March 2017	To be confirmed