

FINCHLEY & GOLDERS GREEN RESIDENTS' FORUM
Tuesday 15th June 2021, 6pm

VENUE: Virtual Meeting, please see further details [HERE](#).

Chairman: Councillor Jennifer Grocock
Vice Chairman: Councillor John Marshall

ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE FORUM

	Issue Raised	Response
1	<p>Petition: Keep the A1000 bus and cycle lane Lead Petitioner: Tim Fearn Number of Signatures: 306 Ward: West Finchley</p> <p>We the undersigned petition the council to make the temporary cycle lane on the A1000 permanent.</p> <p>The temporary bus and cycle lane on the A1000 which was installed as part of Barnet Council and TfL's covid response has made a significant improvement to the High Road.</p> <p>Journey times are now much more reliable for bus users as a result of having dedicated lanes across the A406, and safety has improved significantly for cyclists through the increased separation from motor vehicles.</p> <p>This has led to a noticeable increase in the number of people cycling along the High Road, including families with young children and older people who were previously intimidated by the amount of traffic on this busy road. Allowing more people to feel confident getting around the borough using active forms of travel, at the same time reducing dependence on private vehicles, will have major health and environmental benefits for all residents.</p> <p>We recognise that there are aspects of the scheme which may need to be adjusted in a final design, and that there are some congestion issues as drivers adjust to the new layout, but the principle of segregated facilities for cyclists has clearly worked, and the removal of parking does not seem to have had a noticeable negative impact on</p>	

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	<p>adjacent streets, with parking being easily accommodated elsewhere.</p> <p>We ask the council to keep the scheme under review, and to make any necessary design changes during the trial period in response to local feedback, but to implement it as a permanent measure once the trial is complete, with appropriate separation measures to replace the plastic wands in order to provide greater security for cyclist.</p>	
2	<p>Petition: Dollis Brook Wood bins Lead Petitioner: Joe Pavlo Number of Signatures: 100 Ward: West Finchley</p> <p>Every week, the rubbish bin and the dog waste bin near the Eversleigh Road entrance to Dollis Brook Wood get full to overflowing before they are emptied. The local foxes are attracted to the overflowing rubbish and spread it around further. These two bins are the only ones for a mile or more along this popular public space.</p> <p>We would like the council to increase the number of bins and also to consider more frequent emptying. Even just adding one more of each type of bin in the same location would be enough to reduce or possibly eliminate weekly overflow.</p>	
3	<p>Petition: Stop the Menace of Slot Machine ‘Casinos’ Taking Over Our High Streets Lead Petitioner: Cllr Gabriel Rozenberg Number of Signatures: - 477 Ward: West Finchley/Woodhouse</p> <p>I am writing to petition you on behalf of 477 local residents to stop the menace of slot machine ‘casinos’ that is taking over our high streets.</p> <p>We are all signatories to the following statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We the undersigned believe it is a disgrace that loosely-written local plans have allowed a second slot machine den to open in Finchley's town centre. These gambling centres create addiction and damage society and public health. We therefore petition Barnet Council to review its Local Plan immediately, and put in place robust rules to block any such high street casinos from winning 	

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	<p>approval in the future.</p> <p>The background to the petition can be read here:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://barnetlibdems.org.uk/en/petition/petition-no-more-casinos-in-finchley-town-centres <p>The full list of signatories can be found in the attached file. For data protection reasons, I have encrypted the file, and I will write to you separately with the password.</p> <p>Put simply, we are furious that slot machine dens are invading our high streets, after all the work we have put into improving our local communities and town centres.</p> <p>They are not just appearing anywhere – specifically they are being set up in the centres of our communities. As you know you have an active team working on developing Finchley Square of which the NatWest building on Ballards Lane was to be an integral part. I have personally led on this development both inside the administration and outside of it. Now any improvements we make to Finchley Square will serve to entice people to the Merkur Slots shop and lead the most vulnerable down a path of addictive and self-destructive behaviour. It's outrageous.</p> <p>Now that Barnet has lost its appeal, it is too late for Finchley Central. But it is not too late for the rest of the borough.</p> <p>Yet Barnet is on the back foot. A Merkur Slots appeared in North Finchley last year. As recently as last month, Licensing Committee gave Merkur a bingo licence for Golders Green. Our borough needs a strategy to stop these places from opening and it's very obvious that we do not have one.</p> <p>We have called on the council to make tackling gambling a part of its public health offer. We now call on the council to address the issue in its Local Plan. Perhaps you will argue that there is no way to do this – if so please provide details. And if there genuinely is no legal way that you can fully block slot machine centres within the context of planning law, then we ask you to petition central government for a change in the law. Enough is enough.</p>	
4	Petition: Repairs Required to the Orchard Footpath, NW11 6YN	

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	<p>Lead Petitioner: Miss Patricia Brydon No. of Signatures: 51 Ward: Garden Suburb</p> <p>We are the tenants of Orchard Housing Society, 1-62 The Orchard, NW11 6YN and residents of the local area are signing this petition in support of this request for the London Borough of Barnet to carry out the long-term repairs necessary to make the footpath safe for all to use.</p> <p>Orchard Housing Society, offers sheltered accommodation for those aged over 60, currently up to 99 years old. Many local residents using this footpath are also elderly, many frail and vulnerable.</p> <p>A number of tenants and members of the public have fallen along this footpath due to the uneven paving slabs and tar mac surface.</p> <p>Long term repairs are required to this footpath which runs from Hampstead Way to Willifield Way NW11.</p>	
5	<p>Petition: - Proposed development and expansion on The Grange, Brownswell Road and Tarling Road estates. Raised by: Grange, Brownswell and Tarling Road Residents Association No. of Signatures: 682 Ward: East Finchley</p> <p>As per our petition with >600 signatures (https://www.change.org/p/barnet-homes-newman-francis-save[1]brownswell-green-and-playground-no-to-3-house-demolition), we are dismayed by the plans to demolish three homes and build over much-loved and sorely needed green space in order to construct new dwellings. The five-storey block planned for Brownswell Green is out of proportion to the surrounding area, will destroy scarce green space, and will not comprise social housing. (2) Other developments outlined in the proposals also fail to reflect valid concerns of the community in terms of the estate's layout and requirements, and the level of detail and information provided to date has been insufficient to allay these concerns. (4) The proposals do not take into account existing problems with congestion, air pollution and parking that are the result of years of fragmented decision-making, for example the failure to institute a one-way system between Oak Lane and Sylvester Road. (5) Similarly, they do not take into account historic issues with management of buildings, safety/security and public realm on the estate, and the need to address these before building additional dwellings. (3) Finally, we are also disappointed at how the consultation process has been run, initially excluding the residents most impacted by the plans, subsequently not proceeding in good faith or with full information, and at all times failing to show a clear path between feedback from the community and a constructive outcome that balances different stakeholders' needs.</p>	

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	<p>What action are you asking the council to take?</p> <p>Recognise the community's belief that the proposals should not progress in their current form, as per the petition; 2) Disband the current consultation and re-form it in good faith and based on clear principles agreed with the community, e.g. new developments should not destroy high/medium-rated public green spaces.</p>	
6	<p>Petition: Restore Barnet's free green bin Lead Petitioner: Barnet Friends of the Earth No. of signatures: 26 Ward: all</p> <p>26 people have signed a petition on Action Network telling you to Restore Barnet's free green bin service via fortnightly black bin collection..</p> <p>Here is the petition they signed: Please reintroduce subscription-free garden waste collection by reducing black bin collection from houses in Barnet from weekly to fortnightly. Please use the surplus staff time / cost savings generated to increase the scope of free garden or allotment waste collection and to improve borough recycling services, restoring food waste collection if possible.</p> <p>You can view each petition signer and the comments they left you below. Thank you, Barnet Friends of the Earth</p> <p>Fortnightly black bin emptying and free green bin will satisfy me.</p> <p>Weekly general waste collections are unnecessary in 2021, as five in six councils recognise, but appear to be a blind article of faith for Barnet's leadership</p> <p>Living on an OAP pension leaves me unable to pay a fee for a garden waste bin like so many others like me.</p> <p>I totally agree that a green bin service is essential whilst the black bin is less full and once a fortnight would be</p>	

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	more useful and economical.	
7	<p>Issue: Extension of Holmwood Gardens CPZ Submitted by: David Greene Ward: Church End</p> <p>We wish for the residents forum to listen to our calls for an extension of the CPZ to Holmwood Gardens.</p> <p>The 1st lockdown made it abundantly clear which cars the local residents used. As it that lockdown eased traffic in our road was noticeably different, the extended CPZ roads were empty and ours filled up. Since the current easing and with schools back it has become fairly unbearable and speeds in the road are increasingly dangerous. The impact of traffic on our road has been devastating - the road is now under such parking pressure we fear that it will create an incident between residents and inconsiderate car drivers.</p> <p>The main problems are</p> <p>a) commuters who park and then go to work via the underground and other public transport</p> <p>b) the staff and attendees of the Terapia Centre located in Stephens House. Terrapia Staff use our road as a staff car park and they openly direct students and other attendees to use our Road as a free carpark. This is exacerbated by the dedicated 24 hour entrance to then centre opposite our road. The centre is open 7 days a week and they park in our street every day up to from 8.30 to 8/9pm. All attempts to engage the centre have failed as they say they can park lawfully wherever they want. One of their staff has even managed to obtain a CPZ charity pass (whatever that is) and parks in an adjacent road which substantiates the fact that there is a real parking issue.</p> <p>c) After the introduction of the extended CPZ Stephens House blocked all their parking spots (apart from one disabled parking spot) for staff. Many people attending the park and their own volunteers now use our road as a free car park rather than pay in East End Road</p> <p>4) School traffic causes further pinch points in the morning but especially in the afternoon</p> <p>We did petition the CPZ extension at the time but when you read the minutes of the decision there was no real basis for the</p>	

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	<p>extension - we have even queried the planning permission given to the Terrapia Centre but we were referred to your committee.</p> <p>I have made complaints about the original decision as I believe it was based on conjecture and supposition rather than data and research but to no avail.</p> <p>I don't know what the forum is to get noticed but I think there is a need for some action by the council.</p>	
8	<p>Issue: Tarling Road Development Submitted by: Tarling and Sylvester Road Residents Association Ward: East Finchley</p> <p>Tarling Road Development (part of The Grange Estate Development) Barnet Homes want to erect houses on communal green space near 52 Tarling Road. The car park at the rear of 52 Borrowdale Close will also be built on. Issues: Consultation has been substandard. 109 local households will be deprived of valuable amenities. The physical health and mental health of local residents will be undermined. Carbon footprint of 240 tonnes CO2e and increased levels of benzene, nitrogen oxides, PM10s and PM2.5s. With the North Circular in close proximity, a potential health hazard for local children arises. The Barnet Plan 2021-2025 will be undermined. Development will have a negative effect on the character and appearance of Tarling Road What action are you asking the council to take? (50 words max) Refuse planning permission Respect the views of 109 local households - Protect green space ! Reaffirm The Barnet Plan 2021-25.</p>	
9	<p>Issue: Speeding on fast road outside Surgery in Temple Fortune Lane, NW11 Submitted by: Brian Ingram Ward: Garden Suburb</p> <p>I would want to learn why there are no warning SLOW signs on the busy fast road outside the Surgery in Temple Fortune Lane NW11. Indeed there are no warning signs at all at this location.</p> <p>Have there been 'Conservation Area' objections to warning signs?</p>	

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	<p>This road is a rat run to and from Finchley way. This Surgery has over 25,000 registered patients.</p> <p>SPEEDWATCH recorded speeds to an amazing 50 mph along this Street Barnet Traffic then undertook speed recording works on this road which resulted in them installing 2 large flashing signs warning drivers. These signs are at the other end of this road from the Surgery.</p>	
10	<p>Issue: Fencing at the Oakwood road Playground in Northway Gardens Raised by: Brian Ingram Ward: Garden Suburb</p> <p>Could some of the fencing at the Oakwood road Playground in Northway Gardens be moved 4 feet please?</p> <p>This would give more much needed free space for young mums and toddlers and would bring in Tree shade to this often too sunny park. The distance from nearby Cottages would be preserved and no more play equipment is needed. Contractors used by Barnet have quoted c£2900. This park was originally planned to be the size it will be if this is approved.</p>	
11	<p>Issue: Northway Garden Tennis Courts Raised by: Brian Ingram Ward: Garden Suburb</p> <p>The 5 Tennis Courts in Northway Gardens need attention as not much seems to have been done since before 1980.</p> <p>These are often the only free (no cost) available Tennis Courts in HGS. (Local Family Tennis Club membership costs £1100+).</p> <p>To bring the Courts back up to good casual Park playing level will cost c£43,000. This quote from Contractors used by Barnet. This includes new fencing throughout To bring these Courts to Tennis Club level (with new 65mm deep open textured macadam) would cost c£110,000+.</p>	

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12	<p>Issue: Cycle Lanes on Deansway Submitted by: Esther Rinkoff</p> <p>As a resident of Deansway it has become more and more apparent that since the cycle lanes have been installed in the High Road, more and more cars are using this road as a cut through.</p> <p>With no speed limit, cars race along at a ridiculous speed, making it very dangerous for the residents.</p> <p>A few years ago I was actually knocked over trying to get into my car.</p> <p>It has also become at times impossible to cross over from Edmunds Walk to Deansway and vis versa at rush hour time.</p> <p>Why has the South side of the suburb got 20 mph speed limit and our side the North has none?</p> <p>Please advise how this problem can be resolved to help make Deansway safer and environmentally friendly.</p>	
13	<p>Issue: Reporting litter/debris on Report-a-problem Raised by: Mr Levy Ward: Childs Hill</p> <p>When reporting litter/debris via Report-a-problem, why is there no field to say what the problem is? For example it could be gravel or broken glass on a road, or bottles hidden under a hedge on public land, but the litter collectors might only be looking for visible litter on the pavement at the location given. There appears to be no other way to report such issues via Report-a-problem. When I've reported debris on roads to Highways they've replied that it's a street cleaning issue.</p>	
14	<p>Issue: Street litter and recycling Raised by: Mr Levy Ward: Childs Hill</p> <p>What is the current state-of-play for recyclables in street litter, whether gathered from the street or in litter bins? Are</p>	

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	any recyclables in this stream recovered via the MRF or are there any plans for this? Are any other ways of recovering recyclables from this source either in operation or planned?	

Contact: Email: f&gg.residentsforum@barnet.gov.uk

Tracy Scollin, Governance Service, Assurance Group, London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, London NW9 4EW

Future meeting dates:

Thursday 7th October 2021, 6pm (Virtual Meeting)

Issues must be submitted to the Governance Service (f&gg.residentsforum@barnet.gov.uk) by 10.00am on the 5th working day prior to the meeting.