

FINCHLEY & GOLDERS GREEN RESIDENTS' FORUM
Monday 10th January 2022, 7pm

VENUE: Virtual Meeting (Teams/dial-in)

Chairman: Councillor Jennifer Grocock
Vice Chairman: Councillor John Marshall

ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE FORUM

	Issue Raised	Response
1	<p>Issue: Submitted by: Hani Mohammed</p> <p>Complaint against school parents parking in Heatherdene Close, N12 0JQ. I have been discussing the issue re school parents parking in Heatherdene Close, N12 0JQ with MP Mike Freer and have been advised to escalate the ongoing issue with yourselves re a signed petition from residents at Heatherdene Close to take this matter further.</p> <p>Just to provide you a high level summary: • Parents are parking in Heatherdene Close during morning drop off and afternoon pick up causing inconvenience to residents of Heatherdene Close. • From the pictures attached you can see parents do not care where the park and block driveways and low kerb areas. • Some parents park for the entire day as is unfair to residents.</p> <p>We have tried discussing this with the school and were told there is nothing they can do! Where as other schools in Barnet have marshals during these hours Bow Lane is a free parking street and has plenty of parking, don't understand why parents have to come into Heatherdene Close? It has got to a stage where we had to take pictures as evidence - attached As a member of NHS staff, supporting the Barnet covid response team, I struggle to get out of my own driveway in the mornings Please can you look into this as a matter of urgency as I feel we have the right to come into our place of residence as an when we feel and not sit in congested traffic on a daily basis.</p> <p>What action are you asking the council to take? To restrict parking to parents between drop off and pick up hours.</p>	<p>Officers have identified Heatherdene Close, and surrounding roads as part of their wider CPZ programme for 2022/23. This is due to the development planned on the Finchley Memorial Hospital site on Granville Road, and the potential parking and traffic issues arising as a result of the expanded ULEZ.</p> <p>Officers would encourage the submission of a petition so they can understand the extent and support for parking controls in this area. Details on how to submit a petition can be found here</p>

	Issue Raised	Response
2	<p>Petition: Extend Cherry Tree Wood Lead Petitioner: Roger Chapman Number of signatures: 108</p> <p>We the undersigned petition the council to support the proposals put forward by the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood to extend the Wood by incorporating the tarmacked area of Brompton Grove next to the High Road – approx. 50 metres near Monkey Puzzle day nursery. This will greatly improve the visual appearance of the High Road, make an attractive entrance to Cherry Tree Wood, increase biodiversity, reduce the heat island effect and help conserve this wonderful haven of local green open space and remnant ancient woodland for future generations.</p> <p>The Friends have put forward a plan to Barnet Council to extend Cherry Tree Wood at the Station Road gate to the High Road taking in the current tarmacked area of Brompton Grove adjacent to Park House, currently occupied by Monkey Puzzle nursery. Barnet Council propose, in the long run, that Park House should be developed for community use and housing retaining the trees and open space at the front.</p> <p>Extending the Wood to the High Road will give Cherry Tree Wood a new landmark entrance – which currently is recessed - opposite the Grade II listed East Finchley Underground station and would be a marked improvement on the High Road. It would remove a large section of tarmac which is currently only adding to the Heat island effect and replace it with natural open space which should be designed to complement the ancient woodland, provide shade and seek to improve pollinator activity to support the B line which runs through this site. (Cherry Tree Wood lies in the middle of a designated B - line through London which are a series of 'insect pathways' running through our countryside and towns, along which a series of wildflower-rich habitats are being created and restored.) We are doing our small bit towards this in Cherry Tree Wood by creating a meadow around the orchard area next to the tennis courts see more at: https://www.buglife.org.uk/our-work/b-lines/</p> <p>More information about the work of the friends can be found on our website https://friendsofcherrytreewood.home.blog/</p>	<p>To be dealt with in line with the Council’s constitution:</p> <p>The Lead Petitioner will be given three minutes to present the petition to the Forum. Following this the Residents’ Forum Chairman will decide to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take no action; or • Refer the matter to a chief officer to respond to within 20 working days; or • Refer the matter to the relevant Area Committee (if funding is required)

	Issue Raised	Response
3	<p>Petition: Scrap A1000 Traffic Scheme Lead petitioner: Barry White Number of signatures: 122</p> <p>The Traffic Scheme runs from East Finchley Station along the A1000 past the North Circular Road to Squires Lane. It was introduced with Government and TFL Funding so Barnet did not have to make a decision based on cost and benefit. There was no consultation as it is an 18 month experiment. It has resulted in traffic congestion in the morning and evening rush hours and at lunchtime, with cars crawling along, stopping and starting and emitting pollution. The benefit for cyclists is limited, as there are few of them using the lanes, which change from dedicated taking half the road, to rejoining the car part, sometimes half the size of the road and shared with buses, sometimes just a narrow lane. Side roads have become rat-runs to avoid the congestion. The introduction of double yellow lines has stopped parking outside local shops, some of which have already closed. Before the scheme, traffic flowed freely with very few jams, Hundreds of adverse comments appear in the local NextDoor online site, with many fewer objections, many of which just do not address the problem. Please sign to ask the Council to scrap the scheme altogether. It is proving a blight on all those who need to use their cars on this major main road, and is an example of big boss direction without consideration of the actual consequences.</p>	<p>To be dealt with in line with the Council’s constitution:</p> <p>The Lead Petitioner will be given three minutes to present the petition to the Forum. Following this the Residents’ Forum Chairman will decide to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take no action; or • Refer the matter to a chief officer to respond to within 20 working days; or • Refer the matter to the relevant Area Committee (if funding is required)
4	<p>Petition: Road safety around Friary Park, N12, to protect pedestrians and cyclists Lead Petitioner: Sarah Taggart Number of signatures: 148</p> <p>We the undersigned petition the council to Introduce measures to reduce the speed and volume of traffic on these roads; Torrington Park, Friary Road, Friary Way and the wider area surrounding Friary Park, N12.</p> <p>Very High Proportion of ‘Non-Local’ Traffic</p> <p>According to the ‘TFL Barnet Cycleway Consultation’ (see page 5) published in 2019, over 75% of traffic</p>	<p>To be dealt with in line with the Council’s constitution:</p> <p>The Lead Petitioner will be given three minutes to present the petition to the Forum. Following this the Residents’ Forum Chairman will decide to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take no action; or • Refer the matter to a chief officer to respond to within 20 working days; or • Refer the matter to the relevant Area Committee (if funding is required)

Issue Raised	Response
<p>on these roads is 'non-local'. This means that the large majority of traffic using these roads is cutting through this residential area to get from one main road to another.</p> <p>Inappropriate Speeds and Dangerous Driving are Common</p> <p>Much of this traffic breaks the 30mph speed limit, many drivers can be seen looking at mobile phones whilst driving and there is a clear danger to vulnerable road users (pedestrians and cyclists). Residents have also often witnessed skid marks from tyres, caused by speeding drivers.</p> <p>Popular Area for Locals</p> <p>There is a very popular park in the area, Friary Park, visited by many local people every day including children and the elderly. These roads are also home to a busy GP surgery, a church, a tennis club, several care homes as well as many young families. Many pupils from local schools also walk to and from school along these roads. There are also residents who use wheelchairs. The speed, dangerous driving and volume of traffic is putting these people in danger.</p> <p>Air Pollution creating a Health Risk</p> <p>Moreover, the air pollution caused by the traffic poses a risk to the health of local residents and road users.</p> <p>Road Safety Improvements Urgently Required</p> <p>We ask the Council to introduce speed-restricting and other road-safety measures, which should be done in a way sympathetic to the residential nature of the area including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the introduction of a 20mph speed limit and, importantly, means to enforce this • The widening of pavements at junctions and near entrances to Friary Park to give protection and priority to pedestrians and to further reduce the speed of traffic on the current 'high-speed curves'. Pedestrian crossings should also be considered. • Potential reintroduction of the mini-roundabout at the junction of Friary Road and Torrington Park in order to slow down traffic which often travels too fast at this location where the road is particularly 	

	Issue Raised	Response
	<p>wide.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action to be taken against illegal and dangerous drivers (eg those who are looking at mobile devices whilst driving) • The planting of more trees to improve air quality • The introduction of a one-way system on Friary Way to prevent this road being used as a 'rat-run' as is currently the case • Cycle infrastructure to give cyclists a safe path where they do not have to share space with either motor vehicles or pedestrians. The roads are wide enough to accommodate this. • General improvements to modernise the street scene, in line with leading schemes in other parts of London, to give the impression of prioritising active travel over motorists. This could be done through the use of chicanes (as on Friern Park), or more level surfaces for pedestrians meaning that they do not have to change levels when crossing roads • Other appropriate speed restrictive and traffic reducing measures which enhance the attractiveness of the street scene and do not detract from it. 	
5	<p>Petition: Help us kill speed on Dollis Road, N3 Lead Petitioner: Lisle Alden Number of signatures: 63</p> <p>We the undersigned petition the council to urgently look into the issue of speeding on Dollis Road and liaise with the Police to consider installing speed cameras on Dollis Road as a matter of priority. The Council has a duty of care to its residents and to maintain the safety and usability of roads that are kept at public expense. Given the number of serious crashes in recent months, along the length of Dollis Road, it is only a matter of time before there is an incident leading to serious injury or loss of life for drivers or pedestrians.</p> <p>The speed bumps that were introduced have exacerbated the reckless driving on Dollis Road: cars now slalom down up and down the road to avoid the bumps and drivers are regularly faced with cars heading straight up the middle of the road, in some sort of "game of chicken" lunacy. It is patently obvious that the speed bumps are entirely ineffective, and in fact, have made the driving conditions on</p>	<p>To be dealt with in line with the Council's constitution:</p> <p>The Lead Petitioner will be given three minutes to present the petition to the Forum. Following this the Residents' Forum Chairman will decide to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take no action; or • Refer the matter to a chief officer to respond to within 20 working days; or • Refer the matter to the relevant Area Committee (if funding is required)

Issue Raised	Response
<p data-bbox="129 236 1303 300">Dollis Road even more hazardous. Speed signs would be equally ineffective and have already been tried.</p> <p data-bbox="129 347 1370 627">Dollis Road requires speed cameras in a number of carefully considered places to ensure that cars do not fly up and down the road from the junction with Nether Street, picking up speed again at the bend near the bottom, at the entrance to Dollis Brook. Removing the speed bumps would stop the “slaloming” and would allow emergency vehicles and buses to pass along the route unencumbered. It is critical that the Council makes this a funding priority before there are further serious injuries or loss of life. Residents would also like to see a bollard installed on the corner of Crescent Road and Dollis Road. Cars regularly swing round the corner, mounting the pavement and narrowly missing pedestrians, many of whom are primary school children on their way to St Mary’s.</p> <p data-bbox="129 675 1361 914">For context, last weekend (4.12.21) there was yet another serious crash on Dollis Road, requiring hours of police presence and an air ambulance, with a nearby pedestrian treated for severe shock. The road was closed in both directions for 3 hours. Residents have now lost count of the number of accidents in the last year, all of which required hours of police and other emergency service workers’ time, in a climate where little can be spared. In addition to the major reported accidents, residents regularly lose wing mirrors, have their cars scraped and dodge speeding vehicles to cross the road or get into their own cars with their lives intact.</p> <p data-bbox="129 962 1352 1201">A few weeks ago, there was another crash metres from last weekend’s, where once again the car mounted the pavement and smashed into a lamppost and then into the allotments, tearing down the fence. Another car crashed at the same place as today’s incident a couple of years ago and once again mounted the pavement and became stuck between the arches of the viaduct. The bend at the bottom of Dollis Road is an extremely busy pedestrian route, particularly so because the entrance to Dollis Brook is located there. It is quite terrifying to think that one day, we will not be as lucky as in previous incidents and a family out for a walk, will be ploughed into by a speeding car.</p> <p data-bbox="129 1249 999 1281">Let’s work together to create a safer road and stop a tragedy happening!</p>	

	Issue Raised	Response
6	<p>Petition: Clean up Lambert Way Lead Petitioner: David Hollinworth Signatures: 63</p> <p>Lambert Way is a disgusting, unsafe mess. Barnet Council agreed to remove the commercial waste bins in 2020, but have done nothing since. Rats feed on the food waste spilling on to the street. Rubbish is dumped on a daily basis, despite the best efforts of local residents and road sweepers to clear it up. We call upon Barnet Council to provide an appropriate living environment for our community.</p>	<p>Following concerns raised by Ward Members and residents a tasking group was set up to review the issues raised in this location.</p> <p>The domestic and trade bins have been removed; residents have been provided with sacks for their waste containerisation. The Street cleaning team routinely attend and clear deposited waste & recycling.</p> <p>Lambert Way is also visited daily as part of the Town Centre cleaning schedule, this includes litter picking and daily sweeps as required.</p> <p>A joint visit took place with Environmental Health and Highways Senior Inspector in attendance. Following the site visit pest control is ongoing on both private and Council owned land. Furthermore, Environmental Health are in discussion with Thames Water regarding bating their assets along the highway.</p> <p>To assist with obstructive parking, and as a result of a request from the London Fire Service doubly yellow lines have been introduced along Lambert Way.</p> <p>A review of all measures completed to date and the effectiveness of them will be discussed at the next tasking group meeting towards the end of January.</p>
7	<p>Issue: Car Converter thefts Submitted by: Ajantha Tennakoon</p> <p>I would like to raise recent car converter thefts around Temple Gardens and Hendon Park Row area during midnight causing extreme anxiety among the local residents especially the older residents.</p> <p>The residents suggest the Council could arrange a regular community support officer during midnight</p>	<p>The Chairman has discussed this issue with the resident.</p> <p>Further response to follow.</p>

	Issue Raised	Response
	around this area.	

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:

Weds 2nd March 2022

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.