

**FINCHLEY & GOLDERS GREEN RESIDENTS FORUM**  
**Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley, London N3 3QE**

**WEDNESDAY, 13 MARCH 2013**

Chairman: Councillor Reuben Thompstone  
 Vice-Chairman: Councillor Graham Old

**ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE FORUM MEETING**

Items must be emailed to the Governance Service (f&gg.residentsforum@barnet.gov.uk) by 6.00pm on the day before the meeting

	<b>Issue Raised</b>	<b>Response</b>
1.	<p>In Holdenhurst Avenue N12, a residential street with no parking restrictions and no need for any (since we do not have any commuter parking). In common with much of the local area, however, we do have growing pressure on parking space in the evenings and at weekends, due to increased numbers of multiple-occupied dwellings and vehicle ownership.</p> <p>Many residents are responding to this pressure by concreting over their front gardens and installing, with the Council's permission, vehicle crossovers (or hardstandings) so that they can park right outside their houses. The most recent was a new driveway which fell between two existing ones and left to either side less space than is required to park any car - thus depriving the street of two spaces, to provide one reserved solely to the resident. The situation is common: in ours and many streets like it, clustered crossovers mean</p>	<p>From an entirely highways perspective under the common law rights of a frontager, the owner of land adjoining a highway has a right of access to the highway from any part of his premises (<i>Marshall v Blackpool Corporation</i> [1935] AC 16, 22). As such we would only be likely to refuse a crossover if there were a safety concern, an obstruction such as a tree or other street furniture or if there was a restrictive planning matter such as a listed structure.</p> <p>When cross over applications impact designated parking bays within controlled parking zone the opportunity is given for local residents to object to the cross over on the basis that insufficient parking would remain. Objections are then considered on their own merit before a final decision is made.</p> <p>It is also worth noting that the space taken by a single cross-over is less than that which will be taken should a vehicle be parked on the street equally the space taken by a double cross-over is less than that taken by two cars. Although there will be instances where the remaining kerbside between two crossovers space cannot accommodate the full length of a car the Council tries whenever possible to locate the crossovers so has to maximise the remaining available on street parking.</p> <p><i>Antoine Aubert, Highways Maintenance Manager</i></p>

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	<p>that no parking is publicly available for considerable portions of the street, and in effect, make worse the problem they are designed to address.</p> <p><i>Mr Bernard Lyall</i></p>	
2.	<p>Petition: Harman Drive NW2 pavements (38 signatories)</p> <p><i>Mr Howard Johnson</i></p>	<p>When it comes to maintaining assets, the Council can either carry out punctual repairs or renew entire sections. The decision on how to treat defects is informed by a number of factors including the annual condition survey of the council's assets and budget availability. A list of the footways to be resurfaced in the borough is then drawn up and agreed at the start of each financial year.</p> <p>Harman Drive did not make that list and a Highway Inspector was therefore sent to assess the condition of the footway on 28 February 2013 to see if any of the defects met the council's intervention level. A number of defects were identified during the visit and an instruction was sent to our maintenance contractor to rectify these defects within 21 working days.</p> <p>The repairs have now been completed and officers are satisfied that the footway in Harman Drive offers a safe walking environment to pedestrians</p> <p><i>Antoine Aubert, Highways Maintenance Manager</i></p>
3.	<p>Issues regarding Northway Gardens play area and upkeep of the rose garden</p> <p><i>Mr Brian Ingram</i></p>	<p><b>Play Area</b></p> <p>A small residents group has developed proposals for the re-development of the play area in conjunction with the Council. The plans have been developed following an initial consultation and the group is now applying for external funding for the proposals which are supported by Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association and have the approval of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust.</p> <p>Residents will be provided with the opportunity to comment as part of the consultation process, and any offers of support or involvement in the project would be taken up by the Group should they wish to accept these. In the case of play areas there has been parallel interest from different people at the same time, and the Council can suggest that the interested parties may wish to work towards a joint outcome, but in cases the existing group may not wish, or need to utilise the additional resource.</p>

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		<p>It is not possible for the Greenspaces Team to meet and engage directly with all residents on all matters as the number of requests far outweighs the resource envelope available.</p> <p><b>Rose Garden</b>  The original rose garden has become derelict overtime with the roses dying; an attempted re-plant some years ago was also un-successful, leaving many of the beds empty. As roses are a high cost maintenance item proposals were put forward to the Hampstead Garden Residents Association proposing to remove the redundant rose beds and replace them with spring bulbs.</p> <p>The Council has confirmed that an application to adopt the rose beds would be an acceptable outcome rather than removing them. A new scheme 'Adopt a Place' is currently being finalised which will facilitate the adoption of such areas, and provide residents with a mechanism by which to do this. It is anticipated that the scheme will be launched by the end of April. In the interim the Council will continue to prune the roses and weed the existing beds, the winter pruning work was undertaken on 21.02.2013.</p> <p><i>Jenny Warren, Greenspaces Manager</i></p>
4.	<p>We would like to highlight a road safety issue that exists in Ravensdale Avenue focusing on the vehicle crossover to Sainsbury's - just a small aspect of a larger area in Ravensdale Avenue which needs closer examination from the point of view of traffic manoeuvres. Recent results in consulting residents and the wider public will be presented and explain why the opportunity should be seized to implement a solution.</p> <p><i>Mr Louis Kourra  Ravensdale Residents Association</i></p>	<p>Response to be given at meeting subject to the specific details given.</p>
5.	<p>General pedestrian safety and over-crowding issues at Finchley Central bus</p>	<p>Response to be given at meeting subject to the specific details given.</p>

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	stop (Golders Green/Hendon direction) <i>Mr Peter Walker</i>	
6.	Continuing traffic problems outside Brookland Schools <i>Mr Brian Ingram</i>	<p>Brookland Junior School have completed their travel plan for 2012/13 and is therefore up-to-date. The school is committed to tackling and reducing the number of car journeys to the school by promoting 'Park and Stride' (parents park away from the school entrance and walk their child to the school) and 'Walk once a Week' (pupils who walk to school at least once a week receive a badge) schemes. The school is also raising awareness with parents in the newsletter about parking on the road.</p> <p>Brookland Infant School is still in the process of writing their travel plan and it will include similar initiatives as the Junior school.</p> <p>Brookland Junior School have a document on 'Parking Protocols' which is called 'Code and Conduct for delivery and collection of children'. This is given out to all parents when their children move from the Infant school to the Junior school and also when a new child joins the school. It includes encourages parents to walk to walk their children to school, to not park on the grass verges or across residents drives.</p> <p><i>Neil Richardson – Highways Manager Traffic and Development</i></p>
7.	Brookland School - The streets around the school junctions are very steep and when slippery or icy, parents are forced to walk in the road or try to park closer to the school which creates danger in the ice. Why can't the council's gritters ice these 6 pavements when they grit the roads here? These roads are categorised as high priority by Barnet. <i>Mr Brian Ingram</i>	<p>The council are promoting a grit keepers scheme and encourages schools and local residents to sign up to the scheme which involves the council providing grit supplies to be distributed by school staff and the local community.</p> <p><i>Paul Bragg – Highways Manager Network Management</i></p>

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**Future meeting dates:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Tuesday, 25 June 2013	Greek Cypriot Brotherhood Community Centre, Britannia Road, North Finchley, London N12 9RU
Tuesday, 22 October 2013	Avenue House, East End Road, Finchley, London N3 3QE