

Suburb 'Engagement on Parking'

CLLR ROHIT GROVER

In the last Suburb News, we reported on the Barnet Council survey on parking carried out a year ago in the south side of HGS, and Councillors Grover and Mire provided a resumé of the latest position. Councillor Grover has provided a further update:

Between October and November 2021, Barnet Council carried out an 'Engagement on Parking' survey in the south side of the Suburb. This is a geographical area that is partly covered by Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) restrictions which limit the ability of non-residents to park. However, most of the area doesn't have a CPZ, which makes some streets a target for commuter and other non-residential parking from taxis, commercial vehicles and staff working at local businesses.

Every street that is not within a CPZ was surveyed. This was an unusually large area for such an exercise which the Council piloted in order to avoid a piecemeal approach to the introduction of CPZs which has historically had the impact of displacing parking pressures into neighbouring streets.

In August, officers from the Council's Parking department presented Cllr Mike Mire and me with the results of the engagement exercise. Of the 1791 households that were surveyed we learned that a total of 397 responses were received (22%), and only 27% of respondents were in support of a CPZ, with 68% against. Despite

this, the Council's parking officers indicated to us that they would be recommending an extension of the existing CPZ arrangements so that they would effectively cover most of the south side of the Suburb.

Both of us disagree with this recommendation. We think that instead of implementing a CPZ across a very large area that for the most part does not experience parking pressures and where residents have not expressed support for one, a CPZ should only be implemented on streets that do experience parking pressures and where residents have expressed support.

As this is a complex issue that has the potential to affect a very large number of residents, we have submitted a detailed response to the Council's parking officers setting out our reasons for making this alternative recommendation.

In the interests of transparency, this response is publicly available at: www.barnetconservatives.london/response.

As to where we go from here, Cllr Mire and I have asked to meet with the Council in order to try and agree a way forward. Both of us are committed to working with the Council in order to try and find a resolution that deals with some long-standing parking issues in Garden Suburb, without – to borrow the phrase – 'using a sledgehammer to crack a nut'.

The Garden Suburb Ward councillors can be contacted at: Cllr.R.Grover@barnet.gov.uk and cllr.m.mire@barnet.gov.uk.



Switch to Eco-heating for a greener world.

Whether you're looking to install a heat pump, learn about the technology or just want to visit our showroom in Mill Hill East (a short trip from the Suburb), we're here to give you the ultimate service.

 Heatpumps

020 8346 8000
www.heatpumps.london

Heath Extension playground now open



William Upton KC, Olivia White, her brother Elliot and the Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Alison Moore (Photo: Emma Howard)

COLIN GREGORY

After months of planning, an energetic campaign led by 12-year-old Olivia White, and with the magnificent support of local residents, the fully refurbished playground on the Heath Extension was opened on Saturday 5th November. The ceremony was performed by William Upton KC, Chair of the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee of the City of London Corporation who own and run the Heath.

Also present were the Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Alison Moore,

representatives of the City and the RA, significant donors and local residents of all ages who were treated to tea and cake under a specially erected gazebo that also had the effect of discouraging all but the slightest of showers.

The cost of the playground was £48,000 and the Residents Association contributed £7,500 towards the project and paid over a grant of £7,500 received from a City of London charity for the scheme. A Netflix production company that shot a film last year on nearby Wildwood Road contributed £6,000 towards the appeal. There were also some very

generous donations from local individuals who wanted to support this initiative meaning that the full amount was raised in a relatively short space of time.

The refurbished playground, designed with input from Olivia and other young residents features equipment designed to appeal to a wider age group than before with special provision for disabled children. Olivia commented: "I feel proud of everybody's efforts and happy for the local children who now have a playground that they deserve: hard work pays off."

Many thanks to everyone who has supported this exciting project.



Play your part in keeping our Suburb special

The Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association was formed over 110 years ago. With nearly 1,900 members, it has become a strong, enthusiastic community in the Suburb. It:

- organises social events including the Summer Fair and Hallowe'en/New Year's Eve festivities •
- maintains and enhances the greenery in the Suburb by funding the planting of street trees and setting up of a community orchard •
- supports residents to prepare for environmental challenges •
- works with LB Barnet to keep the Suburb clean and supports local litter picking volunteers •
- supports local community groups and donates to local charities, including Proms at St Jude's •
- produces the quarterly Suburb News and annual Suburb Directory delivered by volunteers to all households in the Suburb •
- produces the monthly Suburb eNews with local information and events circulated by email to members only •
- provides access to the Master Tradespeople List with recommendations from fellow Suburb members and the HGS List email group: both available to RA members only •

Join the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association online at hgsra.uk/join or call 020 3488 9131