

SUBURB NEWS



The Newspaper of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association AUTUMN '88

HENLY'S CORNER PROGRESS

The Inspector at the Henly's Corner enquiry, Sir Peter Buchanan, announced his decision on July 20 to refuse most of the Residents Association's requests for further information and figures put to him by Ronnie Jaffa, barrister and RA Council member.

However, the Residents Association wrote requesting a further hearing at which Dr John Adams made further representations.

Almost immediately, on August 5, the Inspector, having considered the matter, said that he appreciated 'that a major plank in the Residents Association's case will be that the Department of Transport has exaggerated the economic benefit which it claims for this scheme'. He went on to say that the debate on the subject should be as informed as possible and that it would be fair for the additional information to be provided. The Inspector then asked the Department of Transport to provide all the information that the RA had originally requested.

It appears that Sir Peter was willing to listen to reasoned argument and realised that the RA's requests for information were not only justified but essential to his proper consideration of the Department's evaluation of the scheme.

The RA's Traffic Committee is now finalising the case to present to the enquiry in early November.

Any Suburb resident wishing to assist in the presentation of the RA case, please write to David Rapson, Chairman of the Traffic Committee, 48 Hampstead Way. RJ



The march of the wheeled bins. Pictured here and on page 7 wheeled bins in Finchley all photographed at around midday on Saturday October 1. The Suburb could look like this.

Resignation of Councillor

On September 20, Councillor Mrs Coral Sebag-Montefiore announced her resignation.

Mrs Sebag-Montefiore writes: 'It is with much regret that owing to the continuing ill health of my husband I have formally resigned from the Barnet Council as a Conservative Councillor for the Garden Suburb Ward.

Shortly after I was elected in November 1986 my husband became seriously ill and I have been unable to carry out my obligations to the Ward in the way that I would have hoped.

By-election

The by-election will take place on November 10. At the time of going to press only the SLD has announced a candidate, local resident, Michael Pickering, who points out that, at the last by-election in the Suburb 'our candidate came within only 172 votes of winning'.

TRUST AGM AND WHEELIE MEETING

The occasion of the AGM of the New Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust was also used as a further public meeting on the issue of wheeled bin refuse collection.

Trust Chairman Gerry Mansell commenced the Trust AGM with his report, see precisised version in advertisement on page 6. Reports and accounts were adopted.

A number of members raised questions concerning an apparent inconsistency, on the part of the Trust, in rulings on planning applications.

Wilfred Court, Trust Architect, said that it was wrong to assume that decisions are not consistent but pointed out that

Please turn to page 3.

CORRING WAY ANOTHER VIEW

Never have so few waited so long for so much. This does not appear to be an inappropriate misquote to describe the three year delay since the first inception of a scheme for the redevelopment of Corringway.

It has not been an easy task; no one with any memory of the abuse and overuse of the site by E. L. Mendel Limited wanted a return to high industrial usage which required no planning consent. On the other hand, neither was it desirable to have some highly offensive architectural monstrosity, heavily over densified and out of character with the Suburb.

The scheme approved by the Trust is both a delight to the eye and practical in its domestic application. One can only admire and thank the Trust, particularly Mr. Kellerman, Mr. Court and the appointed architects, David Baker Architects Limited for the countless hours of time and careful attention to detail they have given, to what at times, must have appeared to be a very thankless task. One must also give credit to Berkley House who have suffered some very unpleasant and often uncalled for

censure, for daring to attempt in the course of upgrading this neglected area, and to risk making a profit for their company. It is difficult to understand the mentality of those who thought it should be a charitable gesture. If censure should be directed anywhere it should be placed firmly in the court of Barnet Council. Not however, the Planning Department, who badly understaffed have done a sterling job, but with certain councillors who not only do not know the Suburb and have not even bothered to learn the history of the site or, until a few weeks ago, bothered to view it for themselves, and one suspects allowed their political leanings rather than common sense and humanity to prevail.

The present state of the site is a public scandal, particularly in the Hampstead Garden Suburb. The neglect and dereliction is appalling. One broken street lamp, rusted petrol pumps and canopy, pot holed road and courtyard, graffiti on the walls, smashed windows and a maze of

overgrown alleyways used as a runway for train vandals and other criminal activities.

It is particularly ironic that Waterlow Court so vociferous in its comments about thrushes' nests and wild flowers, forgot to mention that one of the sources of violence and criminal activity lies within its own estate and indeed terrorises its own community, their overgrown nature preserves by day become places of anxiety by night.

However, we understand that at last common sense, good neighbourliness and the quality of life for the residents of Corringway is about to emerge triumphant at last. No one can imagine unless they have lived here the sense of frustration, anger, fear and neglect the residents of this long standing black spot have experienced. Not that we are naive enough to suppose there will not be some drawbacks to the development, both during its construction and after. But compared to what we have endured and still at present exist with, it is hard to convey the sense of hope and optimism that the rubber stamping of the scheme will give us. Mainly it is a feeling that after years of being the poor relations of the Suburb, and despite the nature of the opposition much of which was 'thou shalt not envy what thy neighbour maybe about to have' we shall at long last become fully fledged members of the Suburb enjoying the same amenities, but mainly the right to the peaceful enjoyment of our homes.

V.J.St.J.P.J.R.W.

EXECUTIVE HOMES

....The agents who care

458 8644

1109 Finchley Road, London NW11 7HB



**BUYING
SELLING
RENTING**

TONY MANDELSON

Those who fondly and gratefully recall Tony Mandelson and his long and active association with the Suburb will shortly get a chance to come together to celebrate his life and work. The Residents Association is organising an informal social evening at the Institute Hall in his honour, to take place on Saturday 19th November at 7.30 pm. There will be food, wine, music, as well as brief tributes from some of Tony's old friends and colleagues. It is intended to be a warm and affectionate occasion, to match Tony's warm and affectionate personality. Tickets, which are free, can be obtained from the Institute office or the Trust office. They will entitle you to food and a glass of wine, and in addition there will be a paying bar. But there's one snag: the Institute Hall will only hold about 200 people, so, if you intend to come, hurry and apply for a ticket NOW, or you may find there are none left.

The occasion will be used to launch a Tony Mandelson Memorial Fund, which will serve to finance causes which would have been close to Tony's heart, such as a hospital car service, something lacking in the Suburb and which would be valuable to those without other means of transport who, for instance, have to make the long trek to the Royal Free for outpatient treatment. The Fund's chairman is Gerry Mansell, assisted by David de Saxe and John Boulter, the RA's Treasurer. You can make your gift now. Cheques should be made to 'Tony Mandelson Memorial Fund' and sent to John Boulter, 62 Corringham Road, NW11. GM