



Robin Hodsdon, Barnet's Chief Traffic Engineer, the RA's Ken Murrell and Siddiek Meer, Chris Kellerman from the Trust and Cllr Alison Moore had an early morning meeting to discuss Barnet's controversial plan for the siting of new traffic islands intended to make it easier for children to walk to school. The RA and many residents of Ossulton Way were unconvinced by the Boroughs plan which is now being reconsidered.

RA AGM (cont. from page 1)

"The LA 21 committee is also discussing a scheme for getting traffic to slow down with stickers that say '20 is plenty', a slogan that we hope will stick in the minds of those who tear through our streets with little or no regard for the safety of children and other pedestrians."

He said that, "A great deal has been happening on the traffic front."

"Suffice it to say that there have been lots more meetings and the RA has been instrumental in getting Barnet to rethink what we saw as inappropriate development in Ossulton Way."

"The RA is contributing towards some greening of the Suburb which you will see taking place very soon. English Heritage, with funds matched by the RA and the Trust, are changing a number of bitumen roadside verges to grass, replacing those huge chevrons in Hampstead Way, and replacing a lot of concrete bollards all over the Suburb with more appropriate oak posts. All helping to, not just to conserve, but improve our environment."

"The Events committee is working on something for the next, rather special new year's eve. Our feeling is that whatever

else is happening in London or nationally that night we should provide something for those who don't want to leave the Suburb and, particularly for young families, we want to try to leave the children with something they will remember for the rest of their lives of the night the new millennium started on the Suburb."

The Report and Accounts were adopted by the meeting.

The officers proposed and seconded for the year were, Chairman Richard Wakefield, Vice chairman David Rapson, Treasurer Graham Cunliffe and Secretary Simon Abbott.

Past Council members

The Chairman thanked members who had retired from Council during the year, for their invaluable contributions. Chris Dickenson, Elizabeth Gundry, Talya Singer, Ruth Smith and said how much Council missed David Morrison, who had chaired Consam for many years.

New to Council

There were three nominations for the Council, Derek Chandler, Mervyn Unger and Peter Warland. Five previously co-opted members Samantha Ambrose who chairs the events committee, Peter Ayers, Charles Gale, Sylvia Pace, and, Vicar of St Jude's, Alan Walker, Alan Brudney who was thanked for his two years as Treasurer and two members who retired by rotation Denis Baron and Douglas Blausten. All were elected en bloc.

Hon Auditor

The Chairman thanked Paul Hartley for acting as Honorary Auditor and proposed his appointment for another year.

Life Member Dawn Orr

The Chairman said that the Council is delighted that Dawn Orr who took on the job of re-opening the Trust office in 1971 and stayed with it for 12 years, and subsequently, with others,

On Monday May 24 Suburb school children will be walking to the Garden Suburb school again. The Garden Suburb LA 21 Partnership and the Barnet Accident Prevention Centre have worked out the safest routes for children to walk to school and marked it out with footprints (removable) to follow.

Volunteers from The Henrietta Barnett School's Green Team, trained by Barnet Road Safety Officers to safely cross children from years 4-6, have volunteered to help children cross at dangerous corners along the route. Mrs Coleman, Deputy Head of the Garden Suburb Junior School, has liaised with Fellowship House Members who will be manning phones at the Garden Suburb Junior School to keep parents informed on the day.

For most of us it seems incredible that such cooperation and organisation is required to encourage parents to allow their children in years 4-6 to walk to school, but research shows that increasing numbers of children are driven to school every year.

To respond to this growing trend The Garden Suburb LA 21 Partnership have planned Walk to School Day to be safe and fun for the children whilst focusing parents' and drivers' attention

on serious road safety and traffic hazards issues (see below).

Children walking to school will be able to sign their names in chalk in giant footprints on their way to school. They can also design a LA 21 Logo or submit a Walk to School Short Story or a Journey to School Diary to the LA 21 Walk to School Competition. The organisers hope that children and parents will meet up with friends along the way and enjoy the beauty of the Suburb on foot.

The Garden Suburb LA 21 Walk to School Day is the first step in making the Suburb streets fill with the sounds of

children walking to school rather than the noise of traffic.

Safer Suburb Campaign

In tandem with the Walk to School Day the Garden Suburb LA 21 is launching a Safer Suburb Campaign encouraging drivers to slow down to 20 mph with the slogan '20 is Plenty'. The organisers hope this will reassure parents and other potential pedestrians that walking in the Suburb can be safe and enjoyable. Every Suburb resident will benefit from having more pedestrians and fewer drivers.

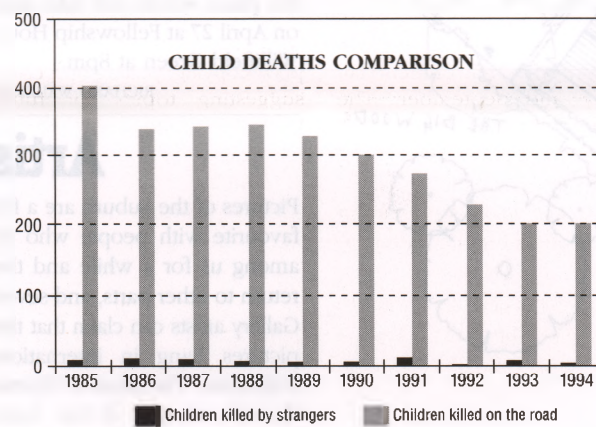
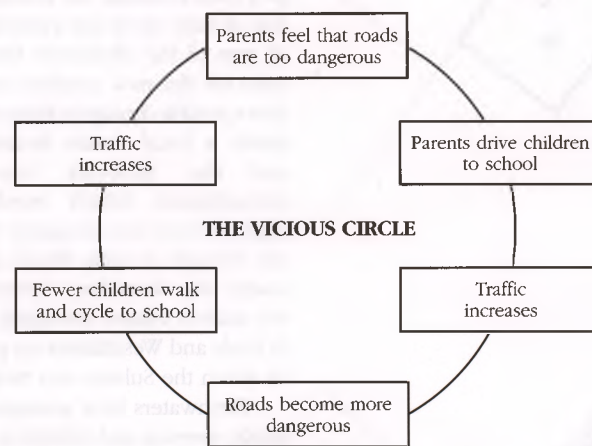
For more information visit the HGS website at www.hgs.org.uk

The Bad News

Accidents - One in fifteen children can expect to be injured in a road accident before their 16th birthday. 85% of accidents involving children occur in built-up areas. Driving our children to school may mean that they don't learn to be safe on their own.

Asthma - One in seven children in Britain now suffers from Asthma. Car exhausts aggravate breathing difficulties.

Congestion - Department of Transport figures show a 20% increase in car use at school dropping off and picking up times.



started the Suburb Abbeyfield and has worked tirelessly for that for years; has accepted our offer of Life Membership of the Association.

Architectural Award

Presenting the Alexander Stuart Gray Architectural Merit Award given by the RA to recognise building schemes or house improvements that enhance the Suburb Richard Wakefield said, "Ivor Hall, well known Suburb

architect, and I, assisted by Stephen Brookhouse, inspected a number of entries.

"We eventually decided that two equal first awards should be made to a garage and conversion in Brookland Hill belonging to Paul and Rachel Ryb and designed by architect Jane Collins and a delightful rear extension designed by Roz Archer for Mr and Mrs Peterson in Asmunds Hill.

Driving Speeds - Most children hit by a car are KILLED at 40mph. 50% are KILLED at 30mph. 5% are KILLED at 20mph.

Fitness - Fewer than one in twenty 9 to 15-year-olds take even the minimum regular exercise required to maintain fitness (a BBC Open Space 1994 study). Health professionals agree that patterns of physical activity need to be established in childhood so as to reduce the

chances of coronary heart disease, reduce blood pressure, counter obesity, lower lipids, retard osteoporosis and possibly reduce the risk of cancer.

Hearing Impairment - In major towns cars create a constant 90 decibel rate of noise.

Pollution - Catalytic converters do not work to reduce pollution on short journeys. Car fumes in cities can lower children's I.Q. by 5% to 15%.

The Good News

Stranger Danger - A Misleading Term. Nine out of ten children murdered each year in England and Wales were the victims of parents, carers or others close to the child.

Home Office figures show that an average of between 6 or 7 children were killed by strangers each year between 1985 and 1994, and whilst the numbers vary by year, the

statistics have shown no increasing trend.

Benefits of Walking to School -

- Aids fitness
- Encourages children to become streetwise thus increasing their safety
- Environmentally friendly
- Contributes to the safety and viability of our community - the more people walking the safer the streets are for everyone.

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