

Garden Suburb now zoned in the centre

Barnet Council's ambition to create controlled parking in the heart of Hampstead Garden Suburb was finally achieved last month with the introduction of the Garden Suburb CPZ on 21 October. The new zone includes much of Hampstead Way plus Temple Fortune Hill, Asmunds Hill, most of Willifield Way, part of Meadway and several smaller roads. Restrictions apply between 1-2pm on Mondays to Fridays during which times parking will only be permitted for vehicles displaying the appropriate permit. At other times any vehicle may be parked within the CPZ including on

the associated single yellow lines which will only be effective between 1pm and 2pm, except where existing yellow lines, to protect passing places and driveways, eg in Asmunds Hill, are signed 8.30-5.30.

Permits at present cost £40 for the first car plus £70 for a second or third car plus £12 for twelve visitor vouchers. Applicants for permits must produce proof of residence and vehicle ownership (showing the vehicle registered at the same address as that submitted for proof of residence). Company car drivers will need to supply a letter from their employer stating that the

applicant is an employee of the Company and confirming that the car will be kept at the applicant's address. Residents who drive a leased vehicle must satisfy the Council by producing a copy of an agreement carrying the same address as that submitted for proof of residence.

When the CPZ is operating, vehicles with permits are allowed to park only within marked bays. At other times any vehicle may be parked within the CPZ including on the associated single yellow lines which will only be effective between 1pm and 2pm. Failing to comply, including residents who park outside the bays or who fail to display a permit or who have forgotten to renew their permit, will incur a fine of £110 each time the vehicle is observed. Thus a delay of three days in renewing a permit could potentially result in three fines.

The introduction of the parking zone follows Barnet's parking survey of 2012 which showed that a large majority of residents living within the new

CPZ area did not want such a scheme. The subsequent formal consultation carried out during the summer of 2013 produced a similar result with objections outnumbering approvals by 163 to 95. All indications are, that among the major roads involved, it was only at Hampstead Way that a majority of residents could be found to support Council control.

That Barnet should have proceeded with the CPZ in such circumstances is no surprise. As residents of East Finchley, Temple Fortune and most of the Borough's other CPZs will already know it has long been the Council's practice to give greater weight to the opinions of supporters of CPZs than to those of the scheme's opponents. As a result many Suburb residents who have never had a parking problem will now be faced with costs and intrusive daily regulation whilst others living just outside the new CPZ may find they are affected by displaced traffic.

GARY SHAW

Now is the time to adopt

Thinking of adopting? The North London Adoption Consortium's annual information event will see people from in and around London come together to hear how they can adopt a child.

Parents who have already adopted children will be there to tell their stories – the real facts! People who were adopted as children will talk about their emotional journey and adoption professionals will provide information about the process; the children waiting and the support available that would help you become the parent you want to be.

Join us at Islington Assembly Hall, Upper Street, London N1 2UD on Wednesday 6 November 2013 at 6.30pm with the panel discussion at 7pm.

The panel discussion will aim to answer any of your questions or you can speak with a social worker or adoptive parent on a one-to-one basis if you prefer.

Adoption is rewarding and will change lives – just like all parenting it has challenges, but we'll guide and support you

through them. The North London Adoption Consortium has a wealth of experience and consists of local authority adoption agencies in Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey and Islington. By working together we can focus on finding the right families for children quicker and more effectively.

Even if you are at the start of your adoption journey and just want information, please join us. We welcome people from all backgrounds; especially for our black and mixed heritage children, and siblings groups from all ethnicities. Your personal experiences of life can help an adopted child grow and encourage them to reach their potential and become healthy happy adults.

Adoption is a great way to be a mum or dad and if you've been thinking about being a parent for a while, come along, find out the facts – you have nothing to lose, but everything to gain.

To register for this event please visit the website www.adoptionnorthlondon.co.uk.

Huge demand at Archer

Interest in the Archer Academy has been so high that the school has substantially increased the number of opportunities for parents and children to visit the school. Head teacher Mick Quigley doubled the number of tours of the school as well as putting on an extra open afternoon in October. Around 1200 parents and children attended the school's first open evening on 9 October, some queueing for over an hour for their first chance to see the school in action.

As Mick said, "We would like to thank all the parents and children who waited patiently for their chance to attend our open evening. We had already extended the length of the event due to the level of interest and we responded to the exceptionally high demand on the night by extending it even further and putting on six head teacher's talks instead of the two we had originally planned.

We've had some fantastic feedback since from prospective

Jewish festivals

The Jewish new year was early – on 5 September – so that the three festivals, concluding with Tabernacles (Succot, in Hebrew), finished on 27th, rather than the more usual mid-October. The calendar is lunar but with an extra month in 7 leap years in the 19-year cycle to ensure that harvest festivals are in season.

As the 10 days from the new year to the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) are a time for serious reflection, synagogues are packed for these two festivals with parallel overflow services in adjacent halls or marquees. Norrice Lea was visited on Yom Kippur by the new Chief Rabbi, Ephraim Mirvis (His role is actually to lead the United Synagogues, of which Norrice Lea is a member, although the title results in some expectation, particularly by the media, to represent the whole community's views on some issues – Ed). He referred to the Orthodox beliefs of the United Synagogues while recognising that its members varied in their level of practice, and the value in using the festival to set personal targets for increased observance.

Behind the tennis courts in Central Square, using St Jude's hall, is another very successful minyan (prayer gathering) that recently celebrated its tenth anniversary. About 160 attended over the high holidays and heard Rabbi Michael Pollack speak on the themes of how our relationship with God, although important, takes second place

parents who were very impressed with what they saw; in one parent's words, "It was definitely worth the wait." My thanks go to the team and, in particular,

to our relationship with our fellow man, and that we make a difference to the world by performing acts of kindness to those less fortunate than ourselves. It is this that gives meaning to our lives as human beings whilst on this world. For several weeks earlier in the year, while the St Jude's hall was being refurbished, the minyan held its services at Friends' Meeting House and on one occasion at Fellowship House in Willifield Way and to all three hosts grateful thanks are given.

On the edge of the Suburb, at Alyth Gardens and East End Road, the Reform and Masorti (traditional but with latitude) congregations held equally crowded services. Alyth used its regular building to accommodate five hundred under-fives and their parents for an exuberant New Year service while nearly two thousand people worshipped in a specially erected giant 'tent of meeting' in the grounds of the Sternberg Centre in Finchley.

The two main Masorti services of the New North London Synagogue were accompanied, as usual, by an egalitarian service where women are able to play a prominent role while remaining in the traditionally based movement. The new building, completed three years ago, accommodates these under one roof. Older Suburb residents will remember that for several years until 1980, the developing congregation met in the Free Church hall in Northway.

to our Year 7 students, whose enthusiasm for their school make them the best advocates any head teacher could wish for. We are incredibly proud of them."

Lifting the lid on blue wheelie bins



As this issue goes to press, Barnet are starting the new recycling system. Councillor Dean Cohen, whose portfolio takes in this project, was interviewed by Suburb News and gave the key reason – to raise the 33% of waste that we recycle to a level much closer to the potential 70%. The Barnet website gives a target of recycling 50% by 2020, but that could be sooner and higher as 'it all depends on the amount that residents put in the recycle bins – that is why we are making it easier; cardboard boxes can be put straight into the new bins and there isn't the previous problem of overflowing blue crates or the need to exclude some items such as yogurt pots and food tray packaging'.

He recognises that some adjacent cottages have already chosen to share a blue bin and mentions that if space is really limited there is an option for durable sacks. The actual ground space needed is little different from the crates, but nonetheless the size of the bins will be reviewed after January. This, and a number of other matters are covered by Questions/Answers at <http://goo.gl/njFX9V>.

Items from the blue bins are taken to the 'Materials Recovery

Facility' in Edmonton where the different materials are separated both by hand and through mechanical processes. They are then transported to different reprocessors both in the UK and abroad to be made into new materials such as newspaper, plastic packaging and cans.

The HGS group eLists is alive with discussion of national press reports on 16 October of a government letter to local councils alerting them to an EU directive requiring separation of different recycled wastes from January 2015. A spokesman is quoted as saying "This does not mean that mixed waste bin collections cannot continue." Barnet has not yet commented.

Suburb News, in its Winter edition, drew attention to the problem of wheelie bins being left on pavements for several days. This is a particular problem with the green bins which are left there by gardeners. The new fortnightly collection may increase the problem. It is linked to the reason for the new brown bins, as explained on the website by the following Questions/Answers:

• **Why is the green waste collection service changing to a fortnightly service?**
As [garden waste] is currently... mixed with food waste it has to be

collected weekly to avoid odours from the food waste. If food waste was collected separately on a weekly basis, the green garden waste can then be collected on a fortnightly basis at significantly lower cost.

The collection of green garden waste is not a statutory service that the Council has to provide and some local authorities do not provide this service. It is also a service that can be charged for, and some authorities have decided to take this route. However in Barnet we understand that this service is widely used and by changing the service to fortnightly we are able to continue to offer the service.

• **What will I do if one green garden waste bin isn't enough?**
We are unable to collect additional

green garden waste placed next to the green bin. However additional green bins can be purchased for a fee, and the Customer Care Unit (telephone 020 8359 4600) can make the initial arrangements for this. There is no limit to the number of green bins that can be purchased. Unfortunately we cannot offer additional green bins free of charge due to the need to reduce costs.

As an alternative the Council has also made arrangements so that residents can purchase home composting bins at a reasonable cost, www.barnet.getcomposting.com or 0845 571 4444. Residents may also take excess garden waste to the Civic Amenity & Recycling Centre, Summers Lane, N12 0RF.

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For your no obligation quotation contact a member of our team on **020 8658 4334** or email hgs@brownhillgroup.co.uk

Please quote "HGS08" when speaking with a member of our team.

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