

# News

## Childs Hill Ward

Festive edition 2009



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**It's so close here!**

<b>Lib Dem</b> 45%	<b>Con</b> 35%	<b>Can't win here</b> ↓ <b>Lab</b> 16%
Only the Lib Dems can beat the Conservatives in Childs Hill ward.		

From Cllr Jack Cohen, Cllr Monroe Palmer & Cllr Susette Palmer

## Easy Council Chaos over Future Shape

Tory Barnet council has dropped a bombshell regarding its flagship "Future Shape" proposals. Under these plans, which The Tory Leadership has likened to a Budget Airline Operation, it has been revealed your weekly refuse collection may no longer be a core service.

Leader of the Lib Dem group on Barnet Council Cllr Jack Cohen slammed the Tories plans.

"Barnet Council is in chaos over 'Easy Jet' Plans. It is now becoming clear that the Tory Council is running scared. They have been caught out and are

trying desperately to cover their tracks. But we are not fooled.

They are marching ahead with plans that will hit jobs, services, and mean Tax Payers forking out on even bigger bills but for far worse services. It is now becoming clear that no service is safe under this Tory Administration.

The latest revelation that refuse collection may not be a core service under an 'Easy Jet' Council is in my view final proof they have taken leave of their senses."



## Sheltered housing wardens. Lib Dems call for re-think

Tory proposals to cut site based sheltered housing wardens in private and Council properties have been thrown into disarray by a legal challenge mounted by angry residents.

The basis of the challenge is that Tory run Barnet Council failed to properly assess the impact of the cuts. There is also the possibility that residents contractual rights may have been breached.

Lib Dem Cllr Susette Palmer adds

"These cuts are ill thought out and damaging to some of our most vulnerable people in our communities. To add insult to injury they will not save very much money.

Our elderly and vulnerable people deserve better than this. I hope the legal challenge will force Barnet to re-think its policy."

## Lib Dems call for re-think of parking charges

Income from parking charges in Tory run Barnet rose a staggering £1.3 million pounds, a 30% rise and the highest rise of any council in the country.

Cllr Monroe Palmer slated the Council and called on parking chiefs to urgently review parking charges. Monroe commented

"The Council are raking in the money on parking revenue whilst our High Streets are dying because of punitive charges and over zealous traffic wardens. We

need to stimulate our local economy by allowing people to park for free for a limited time, for example up to one hour. This would also cut car journeys as less people would drive to out of town shopping centres."

Freeing up parking restrictions as part of a package of help for local traders and small businesses could make a real difference to our High Streets. The Council should act now.



## Contact us

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**Post:**  
31 The Vale, NW11 8SE

**Surgery:**  
1st Thursday every month at  
Childs Hill Library 7pm - 8pm

**Working for you all year round**

# Uniting Cricklewood

The nine local Liberal Democrat Councillors representing the three wards that cover Cricklewood are pressing their respective Boroughs of Camden, Brent, and Barnet to provide a more holistic service to residents.

The "Cricklewood Nine" as they are now known are working together to make Cricklewood a better place to live. Child's Hill

councillors, Jack Cohen, Susette Palmer and Monroe Palmer set out their vision for Cricklewood at a recent meeting of Barnet Council.

Cllr Jack Cohen wanted to set up a "Special Zone" that would cut across Boundaries. Cllr Cohen believes local people find it difficult to know who where the responsibility lies for services in

and around Cricklewood. No one is quite sure for example who is responsible for keeping the streets clean.

Each council seems to go its separate ways when it come to Licensing and planning issues"



## Lib Dems call time on street drinking

Following concerted pressure by your ward Councillors together with local residents, Barnet Council has finally agreed to impose an Alcohol Free zone on the Barnet side of Cricklewood Town Centre.. A triumphant Cllr Monroe Palmer welcomed the move as long overdue. "At last "he said" we can now do something to tackle the problems

of street drinkers. " Because Camden and Brent had alcohol free zones in their Boroughs, problem drinkers had taken advantage of Barnet's lax laws and were had been a constant nuisance on the Barnet side." Cllr Palmer is now urging the Council to implement the ban as soon as possible.



## B and Q Green Space

Cllr Susette Palmer is seeking assurances that the green space fronting Cricklewood Lane is properly maintained. Cllr Susette Palmer believes that Barnet Council must sort out who is responsible for keeping this piece of Open space clean and tidy.

Cllr Palmer points out that every time residents complain about litter or broken lighting there is an argument about who should undertake the work. It really is not good enough. This is a nice bit of amenity space which should be kept attractive and clean "

## Brent Cross Regeneration Lib Dems speak up for Local Residents

Barnet Council Planning Committee has given the green light to the Brent Cross Regeneration Scheme. Local Lib Dem Councillor Jack Cohen spoke up for local residents when he voiced concerns about the traffic impact, the lack of green spaces and the high Rise and high Density buildings. Cllr Cohen particularly expressed concerns about future traffic congestion at the junction of Cricklewood lane Claremont Road and the Cricklewood Lane Junction with the A5. Residents are also concerned about the operation of

the new Waste Transfer Station and the massive chimney proposed for the Combined Light and Heat Plant. Cllr Cohen said that although Barnet had approved plans they were still only "outline" so local residents will still have a chance to have their say when the details come in. Cllr Cohen welcomed a promise from the developers that they intend to work more closely with local people." I do hope that residents views will listened to and that there will be changes" added Councillor Cohen

## Welcome to Laura Edge

We are pleased to welcome Laura Edge to our team. Laura is the Liberal Democrat Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Finchley and Golders Green.

Laura says she is really excited at being chosen to fight the seat for the Lib Dems.

Pointing out the strength of the Liberal Democrats in the



Laura Edge

Cricklewood Area Laura is confident of building on local successes. "I am convinced " says Laura that the Lib Dem message and the Lib dem Efforts is beginning to make a real difference to Cricklewood"

# Working for you...

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## Read our Blogs

**Cllr Jack Cohen**

[www.times-series.co.uk/blogs/joinedupthinking/](http://www.times-series.co.uk/blogs/joinedupthinking/)

**Cllr Susette Palmer**

<http://susettepalmer.wordpress.com/>

[www.barnetlibdems.org.uk](http://www.barnetlibdems.org.uk)

