



CHILDS HILL NEWS SUMMER 2008

From **LIBERAL DEMOCRAT COUNCILLORS**

Jack COHEN Monroe PALMER Susette PALMER

TRAFFIC MATTERS

Cleanliness at the Claremont Road end of The Vale.

Your Councillors are continually pressing for an improvement in the state of this part of the road. Part of the problem is the spillage and dirt on wheels from commercial vehicles and we are pressing Council officers to use every control in their power and that of the Environment Agency to put a stop to problematic commercial vehicles.

Hocroft 20 MPH zone.

Cllr Monroe Palmer, with the involvement of local residents, is still battling away at the proposal for a 20 mph speed limit on this estate. Council Officers proposed a 20 mph zone just in Ranulf Road but including some very unpopular physical restrictions in Ranulf Road and Lyndale. Monroe was unable to support this divisive measure which has now been dropped. Monroe has suggested that legislation does allow a 20mph speed limit (not a zone) and Officers are now considering this scheme for the estate before re-consulting residents.

Finchley Road Hot Spot.

Cllr Susette Palmer is appalled by yet another fatality in the bit of Finchley Road between Hoop Lane and Alyth Gardens. She is pressing Officers to review any possible steps to make this stretch of road safer and will continue to do so.

Another problem in Temple Fortune is the 'pavement allowed' parking which as a grandmother wheeling a double buggy she finds decidedly problematic.

TOO MANY BURGLARIES

"What we need is more Bobbies on the Beat"

says Councillor Jack Cohen who has reacted strongly to crime figures which reveal that burglaries in Childs Hill Ward (which includes Golders Green) are the sixth highest in the whole of London & the highest residential burglary rate in Barnet. Cllr Jack Cohen describes the figures as shocking. Apparently the statistics show that many of these offences occur midweek during the day, afternoon and evenings. The most usual method is forced entry through a rear window or door. He is calling for action from the Police and the Council. "What we need is less target setting and more Bobbies on the Beat".he says. He is also demanding more foot patrols to swamp the area with police and give a clear message to burglars that they will be caught.



Councillor Monroe Palmer has called for Childs Hill/ Golders Green to be a "Cold Caller Free Zone" on the basis that 'cold calling' can be used to see if anyone is at home. The Police support this proposal used in other parts of London. Your Councillors are at a loss to understand why Barnet's Tory controlled Council is against this.

At the last meeting of the Council Committee concerned with Crime Councillor Susette Palmer reiterated our belief that Golders Green Police Station should not be sold. "If the MPA want to develop the building they should make sure they incorporate a Police Station facility there or in the immediate neighbourhood" she said.

And what about the Railroad?

Cllrs Susette & Monroe Palmer were pleased to be present as the new Aerodrome Road Railway Bridge was lowered into place. They are not at all pleased by rumours that the proposed new Brent Cross Station may result in the closure of Cricklewood. Cllr Susette Palmer has pointed out that this station is a valued Cricklewood link with the City and with Gatwick & the South Coast. She has asked to see the travel plan being prepared for the Brent Cross development, which is expected shortly, as soon as it known. "Cricklewood Station was opened by the Midland Railway in 1870 & has been well used ever since" she said. "We need to keep it open."



MORE LOCAL NEWS OVER THE PAGE

How to contact your Liberal Democrat Councillors:

Home phones: Jack Cohen 8446 7940 Monroe and Susette Palmer 8455 5140

Email: cldr.j.cohen@barnet.gov.uk cldr.m.palmer@barnet.gov.uk cldr.s.palmer@barnet.gov.uk

Website: www.chld.org.uk or write to us c/o The Town Hall, The Burroughs, NW4 4BG

We hold a ward surgery on Council related problems in Childs Hill library on the first Thursday of every month from 7.00-8.00pm at other times you can email us at cllr.s.palmer@barnet.gov.uk cllr.m.palmer@barnet.gov.uk cllr.j.cohen@barnet.gov.uk or phone Jack Cohen on 8446 7940 or Monroe or Susette Palmer on 8455 5140.



Councillors at the opening of a new pre-school facility.

All three of your Councillors (pictured with the Chair of Governors, Head Teacher, and staff) were delighted to be present at the opening of the new Childs Hill School pre-school facility at St Agnes Centre, Gillingham Road. It was a very happy occasion with children, parents and teachers clearly having an enjoyable time.

Planning Updates

Granville Road Development much too dense.

Barnet Council has given permission for large developments on the former Initial Laundry site in Granville Road and on the former BP garage site on the corner of Finchley Road and Cricklewood Lane. **Councillor Jack Cohen, our representative on the planning committee voted against both proposals.** He says, "The Granville Road proposal for housing is much too big and too dense. It does not comply with Barnet's Policies. I am mystified as to how other committee members could vote in favour."

TOWN HALL REFURBISHMENT MOVES COMMITTEE AND PLANNING MEETINGS TO BARNET HOUSE.

The refurbishment of Hendon Town Hall which is expected to take until May next year means that all Council meetings, Council Committee meetings and Planning meetings are taking place at Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone, N20 0EJ.

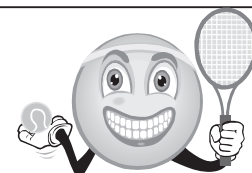
Cllr Susette Palmer who represents us on the refurbishment committee says "We are working with English Heritage to keep the best features of the original building but incorporating modern standards of heating, lighting and microphones and making the building fully disability accessible."



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WHO'S FOR TENNIS?

Just in time for the annual Wimbledon tennis tournament Cllr Susette Palmer has negotiated that the tennis courts in Childs Hill Park will return to being free.



BASING HILL PARK

Basing Hill park now has a café opened by the all-purpose court. The fence from this park on to the Hendon Way is a constant hassle. We have, at last, had one new section put in on the café side and the Wayside gate gap mended. Cllr Susette Palmer has been promised another new section in the near future and the mending of the remaining wire mesh. "I keep telling Officers that it is ridiculous spending money on locking the park if anyone can walk across the gaps by the main road," she said.

COUNCIL LEASEHOLDERS' PREDICAMENT

We are concerned at the thousands of pounds being demanded from Council leaseholders for major works to their properties. No provision seems to have been made for major expenditure such as lifts, re-cladding of high-rise blocks, windows and roof works. Many leaseholders, some with very limited means, are now faced with very large bills. Councillor Monroe Palmer has insisted that suitable options for payment are made available and discussed with Leaseholders.

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC LIGHTS, such as in West Heath Rd, CAUSE DELAY AND FRUSTRATION says Cllr Jack Cohen. He is calling on Barnet Council to ensure that these are only allowed when absolutely necessary and not merely for the convenience of Companies undertaking works.

GOLDERS GREEN GYRATORY SYSTEM.

Cllr Jack Cohen is asking why Barnet Council has to spend £45,000 to look at the gyratory system. He believes the money could be better spent elsewhere. A cheaper option would be to ask local people. IF YOU HAVE THOUGHTS OR SUGGESTIONS ON THE GOLDERS GREEN GYRATORY SYSTEM LET US KNOW. (address below)

JOIN THE LIBERAL DEMOCRATS for a BETTER BARNET

Liberal Democrats have represented you at Barnet Council for over 20 years. WE KNOW WE HAVE LOTS OF SUPPORT OUT THERE but we need you to show confidence in us by joining the local Liberal Democrats. **We would also be very pleased to hear from anyone who can help deliver this newsletter in their own or a nearby road.** Monroe is taking responsibility for membership in Childs Hill and wants to come and see you & sign you up. Send the form to 31 The Vale NW11 8SE or email monroepalmer@yahoo.co.uk

I would like to join the Liberal Democrats.

Name.....

Phone.....email.....

Address.....