



## CPZ: Letters special

*Many people wrote directly to THE ARCHER or forwarded us the letters they had sent to Barnet Council giving their opinions on the CPZ proposal. Here we print extracts from what they had to say:*

► Since shoppers are normally only parking for short periods throughout the day, their need to park does not disrupt the parking of local residents. In fact, it all dovetails quite nicely and there is rarely a problem for anyone who needs to find a place to park, and very little expense involved. This helps to make our High Rd an attractive place to shop.

**Sue Sutherley,**  
Lincoln Road, N2.

► The present scheme, as it applies to Area B & C and roads close to the High Rd, is a restriction of an hour between 2pm and 3pm intended to prevent commuter parking of vehicles all day, which would block access to local amenities such as schools, shops, businesses and the parking of residents' own vehicles. Everybody accepts that parking has to be controlled, and the success of this scheme in its present format is very much to the credit of the Council. However, to extend the restriction to an all-day basis, including Saturdays, would seem to add nothing to the success of the present scheme, whilst instead severely limiting access to shops, and all local amenities, thus actually causing the very problem it sought to prevent.

**Adrian Levine,**  
Prospect Ring, N2.

► As in many cases Barnet has used a cleverly worded questionnaire to re-enforce a badly thought out scheme. In fact the results of the questionnaire when read correctly go against your proposal. Only 30.5% were not happy with one hour's restrictions (not the majority) and only 27.3% were happy with all-day restrictions (again, far from the majority). How can you ignore these statistics in favour of a scheme that will serve to see further empty shop units?

**James Elliott,**  
Baronsmere Road, N2.

► The fact the proposals are based on less than 20% response to 4,000 questionnaires (closer to 1 in 6, actually) means they are based on a minority sample, skewed towards those having a problem in either zone. It is a great shame that so many of our neighbours did not bother to fill out their questionnaires, and we are seeing the con-

sequences of that now. Barnet can justifiably point to having to work with what responses they were given. But it is not too late to redress the balance and get the bigger picture perspective back into focus. Hopefully.

**Name and address supplied.**

► When Barnet Council introduced the Residents Parking Scheme into this area, we were supportive due to the curtailment of commuter parking for residents living nearest to East Finchley Tube. When the HGS Institute moved from Henrietta Barnet School to Park House, Barnet imposed a new set of restrictions without our approval on the basis that it was a trial and that some of the residents would benefit from increased restrictions due to the assumed influx of HGS Institute students. The reality is that this influx never transpired and the HGS Institute vacated Park House two years ago.

The new trial CPZ scheme imposed draconian restrictions from 10am to 6.30pm Monday to Saturday. Many residents have suffered genuine hardship as a result of these restrictions and many have had to bear exorbitant costs and inconvenience in connection with visitor permits for receiving visitors and tradesmen.

**Mike and Jackie Randall,**  
Summerlee Gardens, N2.

► My suggestion is to extend the dual use (pay and display/resident) parking all the way down the county roads. This should leave spaces free when people want to pop to the shops or nursery, and get rid of the people who bung up the spaces for the whole day.

**Alan Paterson,**  
Lincoln Road, N2

► As your local Labour councillors we recently sent a letter to all those living in the East Finchley CPZ inviting comments on the Council's proposals. The response was overwhelmingly in favour of retaining the existing hours and reverting to a one-hour restriction in the Cherry Tree Wood area (the proposed M1 zone). A majority also mentioned the detrimental effect on traders.

**Councillor Andrew McNeil.**

## CPZ: what happens next?

**East Finchley waits to hear whether Barnet Council will press ahead with the CPZ proposals. Here's what could happen next.**

1. Barnet Council could view the number of protests they have received against extending the CPZ hours as an indication that the majority of people in the community are opposed to the proposals. In this case, the council could decide to scrap them altogether.

2. Barnet Council could decide to press ahead with the extended CPZ hours regardless of the protests, or issue an

amended version of them. This would be the statutory consultation stage. In either case, the council would be obliged to contact every property affected by the plan once again. Each property would then have 21 days to write back to the council expressing its support or opposition. The council would be required to take all those views into consideration before making a final decision.



Photo by John Dearing.

## Oktoberfest success

**The Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Brian Coleman, opens the East Finchley Constitutional Club's third annual Oktoberfest by pulling the ceremonial first pint, watched by Bill Dempster (centre), Chairman of the Club, and Peter Borscheid (left), Third Secretary, Culture and Education, of the German Embassy.**

## CPZ: Barnet Council under fire

*Many questions and concerns about the parking zone changes were raised at the Finchley and Golders Green Residents Forum. Here's how Neil Richardson, acting highways manager in the traffic and development team, responded:*

**Why were these proposals put forward when only a small minority said they had a problem with the current CPZ?**

Neil Richardson: "There was some concern from residents living close to the station and nearer the High Road that they were having trouble parking. We proposed measures to protect the residents there."

**Does the council have a hidden agenda?**

"There is no hidden agenda. We have been carrying out reviews of CPZs across the borough for many years. In each area, we ask whether the CPZ is continuing to meet the needs of the community."

**Are the longer parking restrictions a money-making scheme for the council?**

"It would take something like 20 years before the council would see any money from a scheme like this so there is no immediate profit for them."

**Why did some people receive a questionnaire while others didn't?**

"We use hand delivery to get questionnaires to property rather than relying on Royal Mail. In this way, we have an audit trail of the deliveries that have been made. I can only apologise if some properties were missed and I'd be happy to look into why that was."

**Has Barnet Council already made up its mind about longer parking restrictions?**

"We have not proposed anything formally or legally yet. The letter sent out to residents in August was simply communicating the results of the questionnaire."

**What will you do in the light of the objections from residents and businesses?**

"I have no problem in going back to the drawing board and asking whether we have got some or all of the proposals wrong. The council does not want to see a negative impact on trade in East Finchley."

## Concern over Fortis Green CPZ

By Martin Page

**About 130 people attended a public meeting organised by Haringey Council to discuss the proposed controlled parking zone extension in Fortis Green. The meeting was a lively one with strong feelings expressed by many.**

The audience faced Councillor Brian Haley, cabinet member for the environment and conservation, who did not take notes. He began by saying that in July last year 53 residents of Eastern Road, Lynmouth Road and Lauradale Road had signed a petition in favour of a CPZ extension.

The 29 signatories for Eastern Road constituted about 60% of the households in that road, 14 signatories in Lynmouth Road constituted 29% of all households and 10 signatories in Lauradale Road constituted 21% of households.

During the summer of this year, however, only 196 people out of 800 responses expressed support for the proposed extension.

Points made by members of the audience were that currently parking is not generally a problem in the area. Many residents who worked from home, and local businesses, would suffer under a CPZ.

Concern was expressed about the will of the majority being ignored by the council. Councillor Haley indicated that a decision on the matter should be known by November.

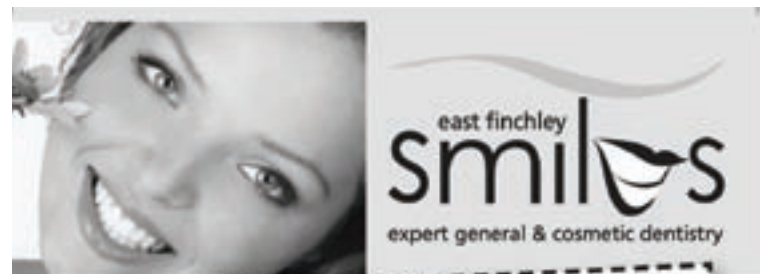
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