



# Crucial court hearing in parking campaign

By Diana Cormack

The outcome of a hearing at the Royal Courts of Justice on Wednesday 8 February is of vital importance to the Barnet CPZ Action group and its supporters. Solicitor David Attfield of Summerlee Avenue, represented by Martin Westgate QC, will ask the High Court for permission to take his claim against Barnet Council to trial. The group must win this hearing if the action is to proceed.

It is a public hearing which locals are encouraged to attend in order to convey the strength of feeling about this issue to the judge. Many residents object to Barnet having hugely increased the price of parking permits from £40 to £100 and the cost of visitor vouchers from £1 to £4 each. The group believes that these increases are unlawful, because the revenue generated would be used for road repairs throughout the borough instead of for controlling parking demands.

Last year their request for a judicial review was denied by a judge at the High Court who felt there were similarities with another case brought by a Barnet resident, which was also denied. However, the previous presentation of the case was on paper whilst this one is oral. David Attfield believes this will provide an opportunity to explain why Barnet Council's arguments don't stand up.

## Consultants' advice ignored

He told *THE ARCHER*: "We are confident because the case is strong both legally and morally. Also, more information has come to light since the court last looked at this. Barnet engaged consultants to advise on CPZ charges. The consultants, having studied charges in other boroughs, suggested much smaller increases (£60 for a resident's permit and £2 for a visitor voucher). In imposing far larger increases, Barnet ignored their own consultants."

At the time of writing Barnet was holding consultations about their proposals to increase the present charges from March.

For more information on the campaign visit <http://barnetcpz.blogspot.com>. If you want to attend the hearing, email [barnetcpz@gmail.com](mailto:barnetcpz@gmail.com) for details.



## Donating or dumping?

Despite a notice on the door asking people not to leave their donations outside, it looks as though someone left most of their flat contents outside the All Aboard charity shop at 124 High Road one Saturday in January. All charity shops ask that donations are in good condition and only left when the shop is staffed. Photo by Diana Cormack.

## Door-to-door scam

Barnet Boroughwatch has issued a warning to residents about people knocking on doors claiming to be collecting money for the YMCA. One resident in High Barnet reported a young man and woman refusing to show identification and then becoming aggressive. The YMCA has confirmed that it would not collect money door-to-door in this way.

Barnet Police advise anyone in the borough who experience this scam to phone 101 or their Safer Neighbourhoods Team and report it as soon as possible. Our SNT can be contacted on 020 7161 9014 or 07887 632767 or [eastfinchley.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:eastfinchley.snt@met.police.uk).

## Driver disqualified after collision

By Janet Maitland

A local man has been disqualified from driving for 12 months and ordered to pay £400 in costs and compensation after he collided with a car on the High Road on 21 October. Lee Garcia appeared at Brent Magistrates Court on 9 January, where he was also fined £135 for driving without consideration, £135 for not having insurance, and £100 for possession of Class A drugs.

Garcia's BMW collided with a black Vauxhall Corsa just by the gates of Islington cemetery, turning it over. The driver, a woman believed to be



Photo by Paul Dearing

in her 30s, had to be freed by emergency services. Her injuries were not serious.



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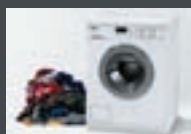
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