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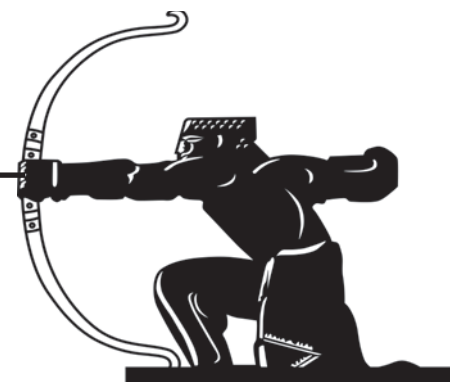
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# The Archer

Local News is our Aim



July 2021 No. 327

**A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.**



Tidy-up team: Sasha, Mala and Mara de-litter the playground in Market Place.

## Litter pickers out in force

These three youngsters are among dozens taking action into their own hands to keep the playground where

they enjoy spending time free from unsightly and dangerous rubbish. Sasha, Mala and Mara, who all go

to Martin Primary School, are regulars at the monthly litter picks at the Market Place Play Area in East Finchley.

Picking up litter helps to keep our streets and parks pleasant places to be... although it would be even better if no one dropped their rubbish in the first place! Turn to page 3 for the full story.

## New Grange homes plan at a crossroads

By Janet Maitland

**Barnet Homes and local residents have reached an impasse over proposals to build 64 new council homes on the Grange Estate in East Finchley to tackle the local housing shortage.**

Residents report that the consultation process, run by NormanFrancis, is not reaching them. They are also angry that most of the new homes will be built on Brownswell Green where three houses will be demolished. Residents want an indication that this five-storey block will be reconsidered. They feel equally strongly about the loss of green space on Tarling Road.

### Residents organise

The consultation began last September, but it wasn't until April that the plans became public via social media when a resident posted that they had just been told their home may be demolished. Two Residents Associations were then constituted, one for the Grange, Brownswell and Tarling Road (GBTR) and the other for Tarling Road and Sylvester Road (TRSR).

Since then a petition signed by nearly 700 residents has been submitted to the Finchley and Golders Green Residents Forum. One demand is that the consultation should be based on "clear principles agreed with the community, e.g. new develop-

ments should not destroy high/medium rated public green spaces".

### Consultation problems

In early May, NormanFrancis corrected its mailing list, which had inadvertently not included Brownswell Road or Tarling Road, and augmented their consultation methods. Three Zoom surgeries were



Redevelopment: A notice to Grange residents

offered. They also began to knock on doors. Just over five weeks later, a spokesperson from Barnet Homes told The Archer that only one resident had attended a Zoom surgery. They had managed to speak to 38 households on their doorsteps.

We asked if they'd met with residents whose homes may be demolished. "We have met in person as well as having phone/email correspondence," said the spokesperson.

**Continued on page 2**



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