



Flats 'in breach of planning permission'

By David Melsome

Residents have raised concerns over the new block of flats and offices under construction opposite East Finchley tube station, after discovering that it is being built too close to their homes.

People living in Ingram Road and Baronsmere Road, N2, alerted Barnet Council who sent in planning inspectors last autumn to take measurements. Subsequent correspondence seen by *The Archer* shows that the council has ruled the development is "in breach of its planning permission".

Barnet Council's planning regulations state that a new building must be at least 1.5m from neighbours' boundary walls. The inspectors found that the development has been built 0.9m too close to the rear brick boundary wall.

council are expected to issue an enforcement notice, which the developer can appeal. It seems such action, however, has to wait until the building is complete," said one resident of Ingram Road, whose home backs directly onto the development.

Ball in Barnet's court
A spokesperson for Barnet Council told *The Archer*: "The council has investigated and we are now in the process of considering what further enforcement action is necessary." They did not give details of what their options might be.



Under construction: How the High Road flats looked last month

Residents' concerns

Residents are angry and frustrated that construction work has gone ahead despite the situation. At the time of going to press, the main concrete structure of the block was in place and brick work was about to begin.

They say having the building closer to their homes and gardens will have a much greater visual impact, block more light and further diminish their privacy from being overlooked.

"There are no signs of work to change what has been built to comply with the original planning permission. Therefore, the

The Archer has contacted the developers Deniz Investments to ask for a response. The same company recently completed the new block of flats next to Viceroy Close, to the rear of Budgens and Iceland.

Their High Road development will provide 24 flats along with ground floor office space. The original plan for 21 flats was given planning permission in 2018, in the face of opposition from more than 1,200 people whose objections centred on congestion, risk of traffic accidents, insufficient waste storage, fire safety and lack of parking.



Pie in the eye: A youngster pastes a teacher at Monkey Puzzle Nursery.

Splat! Nursery staff in the stocks

Things got messy when Monkey Puzzle Nursery, based on the High Road opposite East Finchley tube station, held a fundraising event in aid of Children in Need. Children, families and staff paid £5 to buy a pie to throw at a member of the nursery management team of their choice. It was a very fun, if sticky, morning and most importantly they managed to raise £350 for the children's charity.



Pros and cons of musical buses

By Daphne Chamberlain

There may still be just enough time to contact Transport for London about its proposed changes to the 263 and 143 bus routes in our area. You can submit your views online until 9 January.

As we reported in last month's issue, the proposal is to swap the routes of these two services between East Finchley and Archway. The 143 would continue straight down Archway Road, while the 263 would travel up North Hill and through Highgate Village before resuming its current route at Archway.

Depending on where you live, there are undoubtedly pros and cons to this. Direct access to Highgate Village and Hampstead Heath, as well as to Whittington Hospital, is likely to arouse the most debate.

The changes are linked

with the proposal to remove route 271, which currently runs between Highgate Village and Moorgate, Finsbury Square.

The introduction of a double-decker between East Finchley and Highgate Village would also reduce the overcrowding on this stretch currently experienced on the 143.

However, a definite advantage to East Finchley would be the plan to extend the N271 night bus from Highgate to North Finchley, giving our section of the A1000 a night service at last. The dedicated school bus link between

Bishop Douglass School and Highgate Village would be retained and renumbered 620 to avoid confusion.

There is an extensive FAQ section on <https://haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk/routes-21-143-263-271>, which covers details such as bus stops and interchanges, fares and route frequencies, as well as explaining the reason behind the proposals. This is also where you can submit your comments.

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