



The Archer

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Thank you to The East Finchley Constitutional Club for providing us with a meeting place.

The Archer team wishes to thank all the generous people who give up their spare time, in all weather, to deliver the paper for us.

If you have a story for us, please contact us at the above address. Comments to The Archer may be published unless clearly marked 'Not for publication' within the text.

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Go-ahead given for new housing on the Grange

By Janet Maitland

Plans for two blocks of flats on the Grange estate have finally been approved after two years of controversy. Construction is scheduled to start in spring 2023 and finish in summer 2024.

Each block, one on the High Road and the other on Central Avenue, will have just eight flats and are all that remain of original proposals to build up to 100 flats on the estate and surrounding streets to tackle an acute shortage of council housing.

Following protests from residents and a change of administration at Barnet Council, plans by Barnet Homes to build housing on green spaces on Brownswell Road and Tarring Road were dropped. However, the two new blocks still met with 79 objections, nearly all of which were about traffic congestion and parking issues.

Many objectors claimed that Barnet Homes does not appreciate that Elmfield Road and King Street are the only access roads into the estate and that these are already effectively single-lane routes due to parked cars on both sides. Residents also expressed concerns that the long construction period will worsen traffic congestion in the area and increase noise and pollution.

Parking overspill

Many existing parking spaces on the estate will be built over. Barnet Homes plans to re-provide 63 spaces but this will still mean "an overspill of 15 cars" which will have to be parked on nearby streets. Barnet Homes claims there is spare capacity and that the overall impact of the development will be "negligible", including the construction phase.

We asked if residents will be able to influence the construction plan. "It will be produced by the appointed contractor and so any resident input will occur after a contractor is appointed," said a Barnet Homes spokesperson, adding that they are "committed to following an 'informative' from the planning committee (part of the approval) to continue to engage with local councillors and the public about the traffic and parking issues raised".

"We are pleased that the informative had been added to the approvals," said a spokesperson for Elmfield Road Residents Association. "We continue to engage with Barnet Homes and



Short of space: Parking is an issue for the proposed new Grange housing block in Central Avenue

the council to ensure that road and pedestrian safety are given much needed consideration."

Planning informatives are

advisory rather than regulatory. They do not carry any legal weight and are therefore not enforceable.

Health club to host new art and gift fair

By Lynn Winton

Following on from The Muswell Hill Club's successful foray into exhibiting works by local artists this year, owner Hussein Lalani is hosting an inaugural pre-Christmas art and crafts fair on Saturday 29 October from 6pm to 9.30pm, and has held back the few remaining spaces for any creatives reading about it here.

Unusually for this kind of event, there will be no charges to exhibit at the club in Fortis Green, no entry fee for visitors, and there will be free refreshments and snacks. As well as creatives and gift exhibitors, including some members of East Finchley Open Artists, there will be wine and food tastings.

Hussein said: "Since offering our space to local artists to showcase their works, the team

here at MHC have further established a true sense of community. Our passion for supporting local artists now extends to local arts and crafts, with what I hope will be a great local experience for members and non-members to come together and enjoy an event celebrating local talents."

If you would like to apply for a table to display and sell your work, contact the curator Natalie at info@muswellhill-club.com



Mind how you go: A video advertising screen in Finchley Central

New obstacle to avoid on our crowded pavements

By David Melsome

Anyone walking past Iceland in the High Road will have noticed they now have to perform a sudden body swerve to avoid bumping into a new cabinet that has appeared in the middle of the pavement.

The large metal box is the base unit for a new 7ft or 2.2m advertising hoarding that will have a giant video screen on one side, possibly both, like the one pictured in Finchley Central. Other versions also have a payphone and defibrillator on one side.

Its installation was approved by Barnet Council but there is consternation at its position in the middle of an open area

of pavement. One shopper said it was "thoughtless and another obstacle to negotiate". A partially-sighted resident said it was a potential hazard to anyone with sight difficulties. There is little hope of reversing the planning permission now that the base unit has already been installed and in fact the full hoarding may already be in place by the time you read this. So watch where you're walking!

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James Drewe is a qualified teacher and has been studying tai chi for 45 years. He is the author of 3 books on tai chi & is a member of the TQUGB.

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Barnet Council
56 Bancroft Avenue, N2
 Single-storey rear extension: depth 6m, maximum height 3m, eaves height 3m.: first floor rear extension.
6 Brighton Road, N2
 Single-storey rear extension.
Development site north of 215, at former 217 To 223 High Road, N2
 Details of conditions for electric vehicle charging details, hard and soft landscaping, means of enclosure and privacy screens, pursuant to planning permission.
2 King Street, N2
 Mounted solar PV
3 Oakview Gardens, N2
 Single-storey rear extension.
33 Park Hall Road, N2
 Rear outbuilding.

47 Park Hall Road, N2
 Single-storey side/rear extension with roof lights. Changes to rear fenestration.
Haringey Council
34 Eastern Road, N2
 Single-storey, rear and side ground floor extension. Replacement of rear 1st and 2nd floor windows as detailed in proposed plans.
1 Ringwood Avenue, N2
 Demolition of existing detached house and erection of new three-storey detached house. Associated amenity space, including refuse storage and two off-street parking spaces.
32 Springcroft Avenue, N2
 Part extension at first-floor level with glass roof.