



# Your questions on the new controlled parking zone

By David Melsome

As we reported in our last edition, a new controlled parking zone (CPZ) will come into force across a large part of East Finchley next month. From February, residents living in the northern part of N2 will be required to pay an annual charge to park close to their homes between the hours of 11am to 3pm from Monday to Friday.

Barnet Council says it is introducing the restrictions in response to concerns about commuter parking and general overcrowding raised by respondents to its public questionnaire two years ago.

*The Archer* has received a large number of comments from readers, some of which are printed on this page, so we asked Barnet Council's parking team to address them directly. Here are their responses.

**The Archer: What level of response did Barnet Council receive to the initial public consultation on the new zone two years ago?**

Barnet Council: Following concerns raised in relation to parking issues in the East Finchley area, the Council undertook an informal parking engagement between Wednesday 1 December 2021 and Wednesday 12 January 2022. 51 per cent of respondents either actively supported a CPZ or identified parking problems in their road, which can be tackled by a CPZ.

the statutory consultation period for EF CPZ.

**Roads such as Sedgemere Avenue, Brighton Road and Sylvester Road are a long way from any tube stations and many residents say they have no commuter parking problems. Why have these been included in the CPZ?**

Officers look for natural boundaries such as neighbouring CPZs, main routes, railways and rivers etc. to define the extent of the CPZ. Any CPZ has the potential to have knock-on effects on the surrounding area, but the probability of this is reduced by natural boundaries. The East Finchley engagement area is bounded by the A504 East End Road, A406 North Circular, neighbouring East Finchley M and M1 CPZs and London Borough of Haringey. Sedgemere Avenue, Brighton Road and Sylvester Road fall within that natural boundary. Also, if such roads are not included they are likely to suffer from displaced parking.

How much money is the new

the Council time to consider any comments received, assess the effectiveness of the parking controls, and make changes if required.

**How will the trial period be assessed by the council? Is it all or nothing, or would the council be willing to consider removing some roads from the CPZ if it is found to have made no difference or if it has been detrimental in some ways?**

Parking stress surveys are carried out three months after implementation of the scheme. All comments received as part of six-month consultation are reviewed. The results are then presented to Ward Members, with recommendations from officers.

The removal of some roads will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis, as their removal could lead to increased parking in those roads from vehicles displaced from roads that remain in the CPZ.

The scheme will either be retained in its current form and made permanent, removed, or amended (e.g. changes to the times and days) and made permanent. **What signage and road markings can residents expect to see in the new CPZ area?**

The works will include the marking of parking bays, yellow lines, and erecting signs and posts. Where possible, roads will be designated as Permit Parking Areas (PPAs). This avoids the need for marked parking bays and posts and signs, whilst max-

imising kerb space and reducing the environmental impact on the street scene.

Before works begin, we will erect warning notices on lamp columns in your street which will advise residents to keep some areas free from parked vehicles (usually 10m from road junctions and across driveways). In other areas, residents should park close to the kerb so that bay markings can be laid.

**Have the existing parking zones in the southern half of East Finchley been effective in controlling parking?**

As part of the process, we review CPZs to get an understanding of how effective they have been, and a review of the existing East Finchley zones will be progressed at the same time as the review of the new experimental EF CPZ in Autumn 2024.

**How will visitors pay to park in the new CPZ, and what are the arrangements for regular callers like carers and nurses?**

We have proposed pay-by-phone and shared use bays near amenities to support non-residents visiting the area. Residents can apply for visitors' vouchers and applicants can apply for carers' permits online at [www.barnet.gov.uk/parking/parking-permits-and-vouchers](http://www.barnet.gov.uk/parking/parking-permits-and-vouchers) **Are there alternative methods of payment for people who are unable to pay their annual parking charge online?**

The council offers resident permits as three-month or annual.

Applicants who are unable to purchase permits/vouchers on our website can contact our Client Parking Team directly at [parking.clientteam@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:parking.clientteam@barnet.gov.uk) for assistance. If you do not have internet access, please contact us on 020 8359 7446 (Monday to Thursday 9am to 5.15pm and Friday 9am to 5pm).

Applicants with disabilities, preventing them from being able to apply online will be referred to the council's Customer Service Group (CSG), who can assist.

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## From The Archer archives...

10 years ago:

January 2014

The Archer Academy's Stanley Road campus site received £500,000 from the London Marathon Charitable Trust to provide sports facilities to be made available for community use in perpetuity. The money would provide an all-weather pitch on the Stanley Road site, plus an inclusive climbing wall within the school. Roger Chapman, of Sport East Finchley, said: "The grant from the LMCT will enable this sports field to be brought back into active sports use for local people."

15 years ago:

January 2009

*The Archer* hailed a new competitor 'The Martin', a newspaper produced by Year 6 pupils at Martin Primary School. The first issue was sold to parents and carers during a parent consultation evening, with proceeds adding to school funds. Teachers were given complimentary copies. Deputy headteacher John Pickering said "If their good work continues it won't be long before a new generation of journalists takes over duties on *The Archer*."

23 years ago:

January 2001

Kevin Murphy of English Heritage accused London Underground staff of misleading passengers by telling them the lack of ticket machines at East Finchley station was the responsibility of his organisation, who would not let them alter the building. He said: "There have been a number of occasions on which London Underground has misrepresented English Heritage in this way. This is not acceptable and we will be taking it up with them directly." Now of course the ticket office is long gone and ticket machines have taken over the role of serving customers.



Pay to park: Resident parking signs will be springing up across the northern half of East Finchley

Having considered a number of factors, including the feedback received during the engagement and to address the majority of residents' parking issues it was therefore agreed to progress with the implementation of an experimental (trial) CPZ scheme.

**How many households and/or vehicles are expected to fall within the new EF parking zone?**

Barnet Council: 2,667 properties will fall within the EF CPZ, of which 2,539 properties will be eligible for permits. Residents living in private developments or on private roads are not eligible for permits.

**Why were the hours of 11am to 3pm chosen for the new CPZ, when others in the area are 11am-12pm and 2pm-3pm?**

Over time, the demand for parking has increased and one-hour zones have become ineffective, resulting in complaints from residents to review their CPZ operating hours. The implementation of CPZs for one hour is therefore no longer favoured and the council will be reviewing the neighbouring CPZs at the end of

CPZ scheduled to generate for Barnet Council each year, and what will that extra income be spent on?

At this stage the council cannot confirm exactly how much revenue the scheme will generate due to the fact it will be experimental and there may be changes as a result of feedback received from the statutory consultation. However, CPZs are intended to be self-financing, and the council has a legal obligation to reinvest any income generated to maintain and enforce the scheme. Any surplus income is used to maintain roads and other transport schemes.

**The trial period for the new CPZ is scheduled to last for 18 months but the window for accepting public comments is just the first six months. Why is this?**

The EF experimental CPZ will be implemented for a period of up to 18 months, during which time comments received during the first six months constitute the statutory consultation. An experimental scheme enables



Winding up: Lisa Jones and Stephen Thomas with Ernie at East Finchley Festival's Late Summer Social in 2021. Photo Mike Coles

## End of the road for Ernie's refill service

**Sad news that the People's Pantry door-to-door recycling and refill service is shutting down after two and a half years. Co-founders Lisa Jones and Stephen Thomas made the announcement to their customers last month.**

The couple couldn't be missed as they drove their refurbished 1973 milk float Ernie around the streets of East Finchley and Muswell Hill offering plastic-free refills for food and household goods. "It's been three wonderful years that we wouldn't change. During that time we tweaked and honed our trailblazing little business model and created something unique that we are very proud of," they said.

"But a force for change requires a will to change. And, as a low margin business, The People's Pantry required them in greater numbers than we were managing to regularly engage." Signing off, they thanked all their customers for their commitment and support.