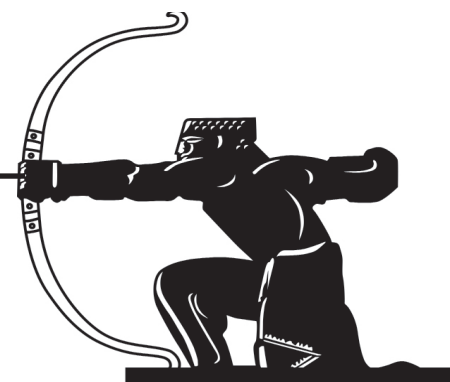




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High Road rubbish still a mess



General waste: Overflowing bins, fly tipping and food bags ripped open by wildlife can leave a grim spectacle along the High Road and its side roads. Photos Mike Coles

By Diana Cormack

A year ago, The Archer reported on the growing concern of locals regarding rubbish strewn along the High Road. Now, despite the provision of new litter bins for general and mixed recyclable waste as well as designated community food waste bins, we have recently received more complaints and disturbing photos of the morning mess which greets passers-by.

Some streets adjoining the High Road are also badly affected, particularly where rubbish is left on the pavement around household wheelie bins for a daytime collection and in spots close to High Road collection points. However, flat dwellers above the shops without bins have to put out their sacks of rubbish somewhere to meet collection times. Part of the

problem is that bags left for collection are a magnet for foxes and other wildlife, which rip open waste sacks and scatter the contents in their search for food. Without the provision of secure sealed rubbish bins it is virtually impossible to protect household waste from these nighttime marauders. It was also pointed out that a significant lack of commercial waste

storage and bin capacity for local businesses (which often contain food) can lead to overflowing and decomposing debris. A Huntingdon Road resident told The Archer that these combined factors lead to waste spread across their pavement with their area on Tuesday mornings resembling "a street that has been abandoned after a major event".

waste being dealt with, and is there adequate bin/waste storage and frequent enough collections to remove the amount of rubbish generated?

Suggestions given to us include regulating household collections with set times for putting out and collecting rubbish and better co-ordinating the collection of commercial

waste, which is currently handled by a variety of companies at different times.

East Finchley councillor Alison Moore is working on these problems with relevant council officers and the East Finchley Town Team. They are looking to find other town centres to emulate where the situation has been sorted out.

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Admiration has been expressed for the hard-working Barnet Council cleaners who clear up the frequent mess but wouldn't it be better to prevent it happening in the first place? Couldn't there be some sort of impregnable lidded container large enough to store the sacks from the flats waiting for collection? Questions include how effectively are any businesses who continually flaunt rules regarding disposal of their

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