



CSAZ group meets

By John Dearing

The East Finchley Community Safety Action Zone (CSAZ) management group met on 16 June at The Old Barn Centre. Representatives were present from various organisations including the Police, Barnet Council, Barnet Charities, Barnet Homes and the Neighbourhood Management team.

The meeting was chaired by Inspector Nigel Walton, who opened the meeting with an update on current crime and anti social behaviour issues in the CSAZ. Problems highlighted included stolen motorbikes and scooters being ridden around at speed at all hours, and an incident involving squatters. Local residents' concerns following the shooting incident two months ago were also raised.

The management group will identify problems, such as those already mentioned,

and raise them as a focus for the group, leading to a coordinated action plan being formulated and objectives set to measure success.

Participation by members of the public is seen as key to the success of the CSAZ and a public meeting is being organised for later in the year to give people an opportunity to voice their concerns in person.

In the meantime a survey is being conducted under the aegis of the group, which seeks to identify people's concerns

about issues adversely affecting their quality of life and the local environment. The survey asks people to say how they feel they are affected by the different types of crime and anti-social behaviour problems, and to offer some details on specific issues they may wish to raise.

A copy of the questionnaire may be obtained from various places including the East Finchley Neighbourhood Centre in Church Lane.

The management group will meet again in a month's time.



Spot the difference:

Norfolk Close before (above) and after (below) the demolition of the garages to make way for development.



Photos by John Dearing

Brian Coleman holds GLA seat

Brian Coleman, Conservative candidate for the Greater London Authority for Barnet and Camden held on to his seat with a much-increased majority.

In 2000 Mr Coleman won the seat by a majority of around 500 over his nearest rival, but this time he increased it to more than 11,000 over Labour's Lucy Anderson. Jonathan Simpson of the Liberal Democrats took third place and the Green Party's Miranda Dunn was fourth. The full results:

Brian Coleman (Con)	47,640
Lucy Anderson (Lab)	36,121
Jonathan Simpson (Lib Dem)	23,603
Miranda Dunn (Green)	11,921
Magnus Nielsen (UKIP)	8,685
Liz Wheatley (Respect)	5,150
Humberto Heliotrope (CPA)	1,914

Ring of confidence

Pupils at Christ's College Finchley have been involved with a particular crime prevention project for over a year. They have been working with Barnet Action 4 Youth on ideas for keeping safe and avoiding the theft of mobile phones.

This has resulted in the design of a card carrying useful tips for young people that, along with posters, will be distributed throughout the borough. If you wish to set up an action group at school, want more information or would like to have a card, try contacting ba4y@crimeconcern.org.uk

Bus Watch news

By Daphne Chamberlain
Bus Watch East Finchley conducted their first organised survey of the 263 and 143 last month. The survey, which lasted for a week, covered from the morning rush hour through to 10pm, with volunteers on duty for one hour at a time.

Some of the times monitored by the group have not been covered by Transport for London checks and the results are being analysed at the time of writing. Hazel Burnett, the group's organiser, is pleased with the response to this project, and grateful for the support given by West Haringey Bus Watch.

As this is an ongoing project, new members are always welcome. Contact Hazel on 020 8444 6824.

Pressure for bus route

Meanwhile, the West Haringey group is continuing its pressure on TfL to convert the 603 route, at present a school time bus, into a frequent seven-day service. The route, which runs from Muswell Hill to Swiss Cottage via East Finchley, is potentially a valuable orbital link. Its future will be reviewed soon.

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