



Anger at proposed changes to controlled parking zone

By Diana Cormack

Parking restrictions in one of East Finchley's controlled parking zones will be extended if plans by Barnet Council are approved. In addition, people with permits for one CPZ will no longer be able to park in another zone.

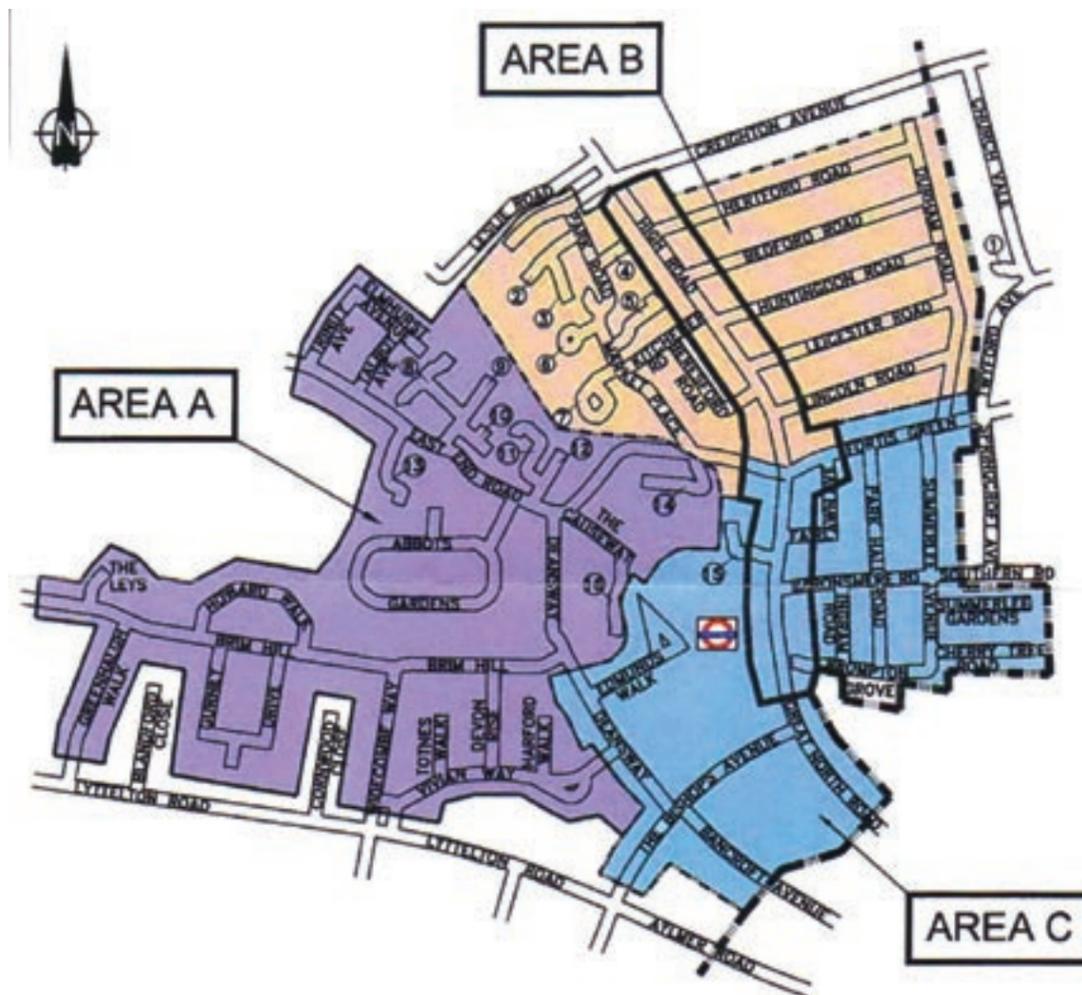
The proposed changes are revealed in Barnet Council's long-awaited letter announcing the outcome of its July 2008 local questionnaire which was finally delivered to residents on 18 August. Some residents are furious (see Letters page).

The proposals are for Area B (see map) to have the present one-hour restriction between 2pm and 3pm extended to operate from 10am to 6.30pm Monday to Saturday. Area C already has this longer restriction but a new M1 parking permit is proposed which would be valid only in Area C. This would mean that people in Area B could not use their permits to park in Area C and vice

versa. Area A would remain the same except for "minor parking issues".

The letter stresses that residents and traders will be consulted again as part of the process. However, this may not placate some in Area C who are angrily questioning the conclusions of the council. They feel their protests against longer restrictions imposed when Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute moved to the High Road in 2004 have been and continue to be ignored. At the time of writing plans were being made to protest against the proposals.

Concern is also being expressed about the effect



London Assembly members Joanne McCartney (far right) and Jenny Jones (next to her) with allotmenters and their families. Photo courtesy Nick Vosper

Save our plots

By Sheila Armstrong

Allotment holders in Fortis Green are battling to save the land where locals have grown fruit and vegetables for 80 years. Thames Water, which owns the site, wants to sell the land, and there are fears that it may be bulldozed to create space for houses or flats, despite planning restrictions put in place by Haringey Council.

Campaigners have won time to fight the plan. Thames Water announced that it was taking the site off the market and entering talks with the allotment holders, who may put together a bid of their own.

"This is a step in the right direction," said Nick Vosper, secretary of the Fortis Green Reservoir Allotment Association. "It doesn't mean the threat to the land is lifted, but it gives us a chance to work out a future for this lovely green space that benefits the local community."

Since Thames Water announced their plan to sell last month, the campaign to save the land has gathered more than 700 signatures for its petition and gained support from Haringey Council, who have written to the company to warn it against undermin-

ing the planning restrictions on the site.

Nick Vosper added: "We are tremendously grateful to everybody who has spoken up for the allotments but I'm afraid we are going to need a lot more help in the coming months if we are really going to see off the threat for good."

A Thames Water spokesman said the company was willing to consider an offer from the allotment holders, but added: "We owe it to customers to get the best price for property we no longer need because the proceeds help pay for essential upgrades to our network which would otherwise be funded solely by customers' bills." Visit the allotments campaign website at www.savefortisgreeallotments.com

these new measures might have on the elderly, on people getting to their doctor and on businesses in the High Road. Let *THE ARCHER* have your views on the proposed CPZ plans. Our contact details are on page 2.

In a comment to *THE ARCHER* over the delay in the survey results being delivered to residents, Barnet Council said: "The council received a greater number of responses than anticipated to the consultation letter. These responses were a lot more detailed than expected for this type of consultation."

KEY:

- Existing Stop and Shop scheme - Mon-Sat 8am - 6.30pm
- Existing AREA A - 1 hour zone Mon-Fri 2-3pm
- Proposed AREA B - extended hours Mon-Sat 10am - 6.30pm
- Proposed AREA C - Zone M1 Mon-Sat 10am - 6.30pm

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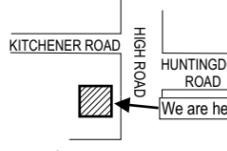
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