



## Pavilion plans change

A revamped pavilion in Cherry Tree Wood would be run by a local trust, and the area occupied by the existing refreshments kiosk near the tennis courts would be returned to woodland, according to the latest proposals.



How the new Cherry Tree Wood pavilion might look. Illustration by James Le Ball

The existing basic shape and look of the pavilion would be retained, with the addition of a dormer window into the south side of the roof facing the park. There would be no windows overlooking Brompton Grove or Park Hall Road.

### Local concerns addressed

The details are outlined in a question and answer sheet from the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood Pavilion that people were able to pick up at the East Finchley Community Festival. It addressed a number of concerns that have arisen in the two years since the pavilion refurbishment was first proposed.

Building work would be expected to take six months, if planning permission is granted. The site would be fenced off during the work and no trees would be damaged. Children would be able to continue using the playground nearby.

The kiosk by the tennis courts would relocate to another park and that area would be returned to woodland. Sally Whigfield, who runs the kiosk and has submitted the refurbishment ideas to Barnet Council, would run the new pavilion.

Sally and her husband Robert would be employees of a Community Interest Company, earning revenue by selling refreshments and hiring the new top floor of the pavilion to community groups for exhibitions, meetings and leisure activities like yoga and meditation.

### Preferred option

The preferred option would be for the pavilion to be transferred from Barnet Council into the ownership of a local trust, run by a board of trustees which would not include Sally or Robert. The trust would oversee the activities of the Community Interest Company.

The handout said the top floor space would accommodate around 15-20 people and would not have a music or dance licence. No alcohol will be served and the café will be a healthy eating venture.

The new pavilion would operate within park opening times and all year round, unlike the current kiosk which had to stay shut for 120 days in 2009 due to bad weather. Wildlife and nature information would be displayed on the outside of the pavilion so that it could be viewed even when the building is closed.

## Curtain up at new-look theatre

A newly refurbished Finchley Youth Theatre has officially opened its doors. More than 60 dancers and actors aged 11 to 23 showcased their talents at a special opening night celebration, with film extracts being shown by student film makers.

The facelift of the High Road theatre includes a new foyer, box office reception, drinks and seating area. Retractable seating now allows the whole of the theatre space to be used for workshops and teaching.

The theatre is part of the Barnet Youth and Connexions Service and is open to children and young people in Barnet. To enquire about membership, or find out more about performances, call 020 8359 3542 or email [fyinfo@barnet.gov.uk](mailto:fyinfo@barnet.gov.uk)

## Twenty is plenty, say Church Lane residents

By John Lawrence

East Finchley Village Residents Association (EFVRA) is keeping up its long-running campaign to have Church Lane designated a 20mph zone, spurred on by two recent accidents. A young girl was knocked down crossing the road near East End Road and a car was in collision with a scooter crossing the railway bridge.

The girl was not injured in the accident but was badly shaken. Her mother has written to Barnet Council to complain that the width of the junction means drivers come round the corner off East End Road too fast.

The scooter was travelling the wrong way over the one-

way bridge when the collision occurred. Although this is a separate issue from speeding, EFVRA believes it is an indication that Church Lane has a number of potential hazards and therefore speeds need to be controlled.

**15% break speed limit**  
Traffic surveys show that

nearly 4,000 cars travel along Church Lane every day. About 85% of these observe the 30mph speed limit.

Chair of EFVRA, Bob Owens, commented: "Another way of looking at this data is that 15% of cars are travelling at more than the current 30mph speed limit. There is a growing body of evidence that lowering speeds by even a small amount can greatly reduce not only the likelihood of accidents, but the severity of injuries to any pedestrian struck by a car. Members of EFVRA do not want to wait until someone is killed or seriously injured before the Council takes action."

### Police and Council attitudes

Barnet Council told *THE ARCHER* that the Metropolitan Police were responsible for enforcing speed limits on roads and have monitored motorist behaviour on an ad hoc basis around Church Lane. To date, they have not advised the council of any issues of concern.

A spokesman said: "Local authorities have to make very difficult decisions about the best use of highways funding. In Barnet, the potential adverse effect of some traffic calming measures, such as speed bumps, impact on emergency service response times, leading the borough to seek other ways of dealing with road safety issues when they arise."



Two Martin School mums camp it up on the school field.

## Temporary tent village on school field

By Rachel Ellis

The school field at Martin Primary School turned into a campsite for the night last month when around 150 children and their families swapped home for a night in a tent.

There were drinks, snacks and barbecued food on sale, and the hot weather meant that water fights were the favourite game. Later a campfire was lit as everyone enjoyed the long summer evening.

This is the second year the school has opened up the field for camping and once again it was a big success, raising £500 for the school.

Alison and Richard Gold, parents of Joey (year 5) and Laura (year 2), organised

the event again this year but it couldn't have gone ahead without the hard work of Suzy Osborne, who works in the school office, and school caretaker Tristan Green, as well as all those who helped on the day.

Alison said: "For many it was their first experience of camping and we hope to make this an annual event. Lots of parents helped out at the barbecue and we made some money for the school which was an added bonus."

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