



Lifting of CPZ restrictions thwarted

By Diana Cormack

At the end of October, following massive opposition from residents and traders, Barnet Council scrapped proposed plans to extend parking restrictions in East Finchley's controlled parking zones. At the same time Councillor Andrew Harper, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, announced that roads close to the station with all-day parking restrictions would revert to one hour a day.

The all-day restriction was imposed when The Institute moved to the High Road from Hampstead Garden Suburb. It was anticipated that an influx of students would increase demand for parking places, but this has proved not to be the case.

Some who live east of the High Road and south of Fortis Green were delighted with Councillor Harper's announcement, having complained about the all-day restrictions and extra expenditure on visitor vouchers since its inception. However, their delight was short-lived.

Another consultation

Apparently Cllr Harper was advised that a so-called "pilot scheme" prompted by The Institute's move had been introduced as a temporary measure in August 2004. Barnet Council made this permanent in February 2006. To change it would

require a statutory consultation in the area concerned, which could take up to six months and would be costly.

This raises the question why letters and emails already submitted to Barnet by those residents affected could not be used to gauge opinion, thus saving both time and money in an era of restraint.

Pilot or permanent

But another question is puzzling locals with long memories. Following an appeal by The Institute, a decision reached by the Planning Inspectorate in November 2006 stated that in October 2005 the council undertook to review the CPZ. Residents would like to know what happened about this review and how Barnet could make the "pilot scheme" permanent within four months of their undertaking and many months before the Inspectorate came to any decision.



Red and grey by Tom Falk

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It's not too late to get your copy of THE ARCHER Calendar 2010. There are 12 superb shots of life in East Finchley to enjoy all year round.

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Palsy in East End Road. They provide therapy, treatment and emotional support for families affected by this debilitating

condition.

Buy your calendar now

Thanks to all the local traders who are selling the calendar. You can buy it along the High Road at the Black Gull bookshop, Budgens, the Cherry Tree gift shop, Kokos, Lazooli, Tony's Continental, as well as the Lazy Sally kiosk in Cherry Tree Wood and several shops in East End Road. Look out for ARCHER Calendar 2010 posters in shop windows.

Turn to page 11 and use our form to order by post. Send us your name and address, along with payment, and the calendar will be delivered straight to your door. Delivery is free.

Can you lend your expertise?

A charity is looking for new volunteer trustees to help it run its services. East Finchley Advice Service gives free advice on debt, welfare benefits, employment, education, family matters and consumer rights.

The organisation is looking for new trustees to sit on its management committee, involving a two-hour meeting about once a month.

Anyone with a vocational background or knowledge of legal, social, educational or community matters would be particularly welcome, as would anyone with experience of advising in the charity or voluntary sector.

EFAS in its present form has

been serving the local community for some 25 years. It also runs a legal surgery, an employment training programme, drug and alcohol rehabilitation support and outreach projects for senior citizens and carers.

If you can help, please contact the manager Ruby Joseph on 020 8444 6265 or by email on help@efas.org.uk. The charity is based in Church Lane, N2, and its website is at www.efas.org.uk.



Grace shows off her dolphin-friendly face at the Holy Trinity School fair.

Angelic voices and fabulous faces

Young singers in the Holy Trinity Primary School choir stopped people in their tracks when they sang at the school's festive fair in December. The children's voices brought the main hall to a halt as they sang some seasonal favourites old and new.

Face-painting, home-made food and Father Christmas's grotto were other firm favourites at the fair. Money raised from the event goes to fund school equipment and special outings.

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