



Letters to the editor

Objections to High Road flats plan

Dear Editor,

I'm writing to inform your readers of the proposed planning application for 58-60 High Road, N2. The proposal is to add a new third storey, rear extension and off-street parking. This comprises a conversion to six flats, making the building particularly out of keeping with its surroundings.

The additional height of the block and rear extension will not only impact on neighbouring Fairlawn Avenue with respect to appearance and increased traffic (already a busy one-way road with the Phoenix Cinema at the corner), but will affect the High Road and East Finchley in general.

58-60 High Road is an attractive building with a roof construction and height in keeping with the area and the listed Phoenix cinema nearby. The proposed third storey and rear extension, will ruin this architectural quality which is so characteristic of East Finchley's charm and village atmosphere.

Details of the proposal can be viewed at: www.barnet.gov.uk/planning-application (planning Application Number: F/02631/10). I would like to ask all ARCHER readers who care about East Finchley to view the plans and submit an objection as soon as possible, online or to write to: Mr Robert Marchant, Planning, Housing & Regeneration Service, Building 2, North London Business Park, Oakleigh Road South, London N11 1NP.

**Yours faithfully,
Name supplied,
Fairlawn Avenue, N2.**

Traffic lights tame traffic

Dear Editor,

I believe it would be a mistake to remove the traffic lights at the junction of East End Road and Ossulton Way, N2 (THE ARCHER, August 2010).

The locally generated traffic is light but this is a rat-run for drivers, mainly on autopilot, mainly at peak hours, working round the not-so-recent loss of the access to East End Road from the North Circular Road following the building of the underpass at what was once the Manor Cottage.

Drivers got seriously ratty after the building of the underpass and before the lights were installed because the sight lines at East End Road and Ossulton Way are poor, mainly because heavy vehicles have to be allowed for.

There may be ways to discourage the rat-run, and I'm sure residents fronting onto Ossulton Way would welcome this, but if this is not possible I believe the traffic lights are the best option.

**Yours faithfully,
Robert Morris
Heath View Close, N2.**

Pavilion plans are disproportionate

Dear Editor,

I read in the August edition of THE ARCHER about the 'revised' plans for the old pavilion building in Cherry Tree Woods. What exactly is 'new' about these plans? The only factor that has changed is that there is no longer to be a flat roof.

It remains the case that this development is proposed on precious Metropolitan Open Land, the equivalent to greenbelt in the UK. The

plans contravene all guidelines for redevelopments on such land. This is a factor that both Friends of Cherry Tree Wood Pavilion and Barnet Council have been alerted to and have blatantly ignored to date.

Any re-development on such land should be done so as to enhance the use of the open space, for example, to provide sports changing rooms, or for purposes of horticulture or agriculture.

The other factor that remains the same is the scale of the development. It has once again not been clearly emphasised that the re-development of the pavilion proposes to accommodate 120 people; 80 for a cafe, 20 for an 'education space' and 20 for people to have 'parties and classes'. Most cafes along the High Street cater for less than 40, none for over 50. These proposals are totally disproportionate.

If you too are concerned about any aspect of the development you can contact a group of residents at weloven2@yahoo.co.uk

**Yours faithfully,
Name and address supplied.**

Wrong time for pavilion work

Dear Editor,

In relation to the new plans released by The Friends of Cherry Tree Wood Pavilion (THE ARCHER, August 2010), it should be noted that this group does not by any means represent all the stakeholders, ie local residents and users, in Cherry Tree Wood.

Many continue to feel that an expensive and extensive six-month building programme which would create a seating area far larger than that of any cafe in the vicinity, as well as a second storey in order to accommodate leisure facilities, is both out of proportion and entirely unnecessary given the proximity of The Institute and the plethora of local venues and cafes, all within a stone's throw of Cherry Tree Wood.

In the current climate, with hundreds of far more essential projects such as schools and hospitals being scrapped and many services for the vulnerable at risk, to proceed with the pavilion development would be an irresponsible waste of resources.

**Yours faithfully,
Diana and Peter Forbes
Address supplied**

Kiosk serves community well

Dear Editor

Your article showed the "new" scheme which is proposed. Basically the plans remain the same, save for the fact that the roof is no longer a flat roof. The usage remains identical. It is for Sally Wigfield to seat 100 downstairs for her 'education space' about food, and cafe (including an exterior decking area not shown or mentioned in the Archer article). A further 20 will be able to hire out the second storey for 'parties and classes'.

The largest cafe on the High Road is Costa, which seats approx 50. Many others seat under 30. To have a new pavilion to cater for 120 is disproportionate, especially when the kiosk serves the community very well with 28 seats.

Also to be considered is that Cherry Tree Wood is deemed Metropolitan Open Land and should be protected at the same level as greenbelt. Buildings should be

re-developed only be in relation to the open space (sports changing rooms, agriculture, horticulture), not for cafes, halls to hire for parties and classes nor for 'education spaces' about food. Sally and our ward councillors are ignoring our concerns about this.

**Yours faithfully
Barry H White
Fordington Road, N6.**

Anyone for table tennis?

Dear Editor,

I've recently retired, am recovering from ME, not very fit (!!!) and am looking for somewhere in East Finchley to play table tennis, particularly over winter. I'd be grateful if any of your readers know of anywhere locally where I could get a regular game.

**Yours faithfully,
Jane Townsend
Address supplied**

Please contact us if you can help with Jane's request. Write to The Archer, PO Box 3699, London N2 8JA or email the-archer@lineone.net

Obituary:

Audrey Violet Cartwright

Audrey Cartwright, aged 76, died recently after a short illness. Audrey was a local lass, born in East End Road on 6 September 1934. She married Peter Cartwright at Burnt Oak register office in 1956 and lived at various places in East Finchley, moving from a small flat to larger premises as her family increased. She had been a widow for many years, but shared her house in Benedict Way with her son, Stuart.

She had two sons, Stephen and Stuart, on whom she doted. Her happiest times were spent with them and her grandchildren, especially at Christmas. A very sociable character, she loved her bingo and was an ardent Tottenham fan.

Audrey had worked at Florence Wyman and Halls, both ladies' outfitters, in Finchley. She became a dinner lady at Holy Trinity School, starting off in the old building on East End Road, now the Bobath Centre. Audrey retired in 2000 after



Audrey Cartwright. Photo by Diana Cormack

28 years at the school and her long service to the borough was recognised when she received a Civic Award from the Mayor of Barnet. Many local youngsters will remember her from those days and she will be sadly missed by her family and many friends and acquaintances.

Obituary:

Maria (Marie) Fry

By Jancsi Halasz, Carmen Stevens, Steve and Anna Fry

A resident of East Finchley for 40 years, known for sharing a kind word and a smile with those she met, Marie was one of those characters our community will miss. Marie passed away in December 2009 at Chase Farm Hospital aged 66 years.



Marie arrived in England from Budapest in November 1957 with her mother and brother, having lived through the Hungarian Revolution of 1956. After leaving school she worked as a trainee hairdresser at Fortnum and Mason in Piccadilly. Deciding that hairdressing was not for her, she went to France to further her education and to teach English. After returning to England, Marie married and set up home in East Finchley, where her son Stephen was born in 1965.

Marie returned to work teaching French at Parliament Hill School and during this time became a member of Gingerbread, having been one of the first women to represent herself in her own divorce case. She had an interest in the law, joined the Probation Service in Islington and worked for Education Welfare. Her work brought her into contact with Arsenal Football Club. She helped to manage a recreational football team and helped with French translation for the players.

As part of her role at Islington, Marie was responsible for licensing children to work in theatre and film. One of her most enjoyable tasks was being involved in the licensing of the young actors of the first Harry Potter film.

Despite a full working life, Marie still found time to keep an allotment in East Finchley. She loved gardening and was very much part of the allotment community. Marie was also a wonderful cook and is sorely missed by her many friends and family for her wisdom, warmth and tremendous sense of humour. She is survived by her son Stephen, daughter-in-law Anna and grandchildren Henry, Alice and Lizzie.

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