



New primary school in Creighton Avenue

By Daphne Chamberlain

There will be a new primary school on the vacant site at 79 Creighton Avenue. Haringey Council approved the planning application unanimously at a meeting last month. A spokesman for Eden Primary told *THE ARCHER* that the school is co-operating fully with neighbouring residents, some of whom had expressed concerns at a public planning forum before the decision.

As *THE ARCHER* has previously reported, a reception class of 30 opened last month in its temporary home at Fortismere School. The plan is to increase pupil intake by 30 every year, reaching a maximum of 210 places in 2017. Eden will be a state primary, catering for all members of the Jewish community, orthodox, reform, masorti, liberal and secular, but also for non-Jewish children.

Harmony

Spokesman Peter Kessler told us, "We are indeed admitting local children who are not Jewish. Even in the first year there are some (can't give you the exact number as we don't

segregate), and we hope to see the proportion rise as we grow."

The declared aim is to bring children from different backgrounds under one roof in harmony. The headteacher-designate Jo Sassienie has worked in Islington, New York and Israel, and is particularly interested in "cross-communality".

The school also plans to provide for children with special educational needs, with their professional support staff possibly giving outreach help to other schools in the area.

Liaising with community

At the pre-decision planning forum, neighbours expressed

worries about loss of privacy, and traffic and planning problems. Because of restrictions on the site, on-site parking is extremely limited, and the school and Haringey have both commissioned professional analyses of traffic impact. Residents have said that Eden's traffic plan is unrealistic.

The school has undertaken to work to remove any problems and have set up a liaison committee to respond to neighbours and promote links between the school and the community. Mr Kessler said: "We want and expect this to be a school that will be valued and used by the people who live around it."



Pedal power: left to right, Kevin Hallett, Tibor Hobarth, Steve Harper and Chris Hampson

Gang of four cyclists in mountain challenge

Four cyclists from East Finchley have raised almost £10,000 in aid of Save the Children. Setting off on 3 September, Kevin Hallett, Chris Hampson, Tibor Hobarth and Steve Harper spent seven days pedalling through the French Pyrenees.

Starting from St Jean de Luz and ending in Canet Plage, their route mirrored parts of the Tour de France and presented them with the challenge of 18 mountain passes. Preparatory training for the 710km ride included cycling to work and taking part in a variety of cycling events both at home and abroad.

Hallett Retail, Kevin's

business on the High Road opposite East Finchley Library, has already raised over £60,000 for Save the Children through sales of their Fuse Loves Save the Children concessions in various stores in south east England. You can make a donation and help towards breaking the £10,000 barrier by visiting www.justgiving.com/HHHraid

Being an Appropriate Adult

By Ian Cormack

After the recent television production *Appropriate Adult* about the Fred West case, readers may be interested to know what an Appropriate Adult normally gets called upon to do.

Appropriate Adults are volunteers who are not connected with the police. Their role is to advise people in custody who are considered to be vulnerable by the police or a doctor. Such people may not have a parent, friend or social worker readily available or perhaps do not wish to involve them.

Appropriate Adults are present at police interviews to ensure they are conducted properly and that the detainee understands what is going on so as to facilitate communication. They do not discuss the alleged offence with the detainee as they are not privileged like a

solicitor and could be called upon to give evidence as to what has been said to them.

Common sense... and patience

Appropriate Adults need common sense more than a lengthy training, but they must have a basic knowledge of the code of practice concerning procedures with vulnerable people.

In Barnet they are normally called upon at short notice from a rota of about a dozen people who can, of course, decline to attend if circumstances do not suit. Police procedures often take a considerable time so the Appropriate Adult can be in a police station at unsocial hours. While most detainees are appreciative, some do not want to be allocated an Appropriate

Adult and can be challenging in their behaviour and attitude. Even though detainees may have asked for a solicitor, this does not obviate the pastoral role of Appropriate Adults, with whom solicitors usually work well.

Although Appropriate Adults may not approve of the detainee's alleged actions, they need to keep in mind their primary function is to facilitate communication and everything that entails. As well as giving comfort and support to those in need, they also help prevent undue delays in police procedures. Thus both parties should appreciate their presence as it can also mean that detainees are not kept in custody any longer than is necessary.

Development next to gatehouse rejected

By Daphne Chamberlain

"This is really good news. I am so pleased." That was resident Iggy Mascarenhas speaking after developers Regalfame Ltd lost their appeal against Barnet Council's refusal to allow new building right up to his boundary fence.

The building would have been an extension to the just-completed block of flats next to Iggy's home at 320 High Road, perhaps better known as the Grade 2 listed house at the northern gate of St Pancras and Islington Cemetery.

THE ARCHER has been reporting the fight against this proposed further development, and other local residents, The Finchley Society, English Heritage and the Garden History Society have all weighed in against the proposal.

After a site visit at the end of July, an inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government dismissed the developer's appeal. He ruled that the extension would make the existing block look unbalanced

and cramped, and would upset the spacing between buildings in that part of the High Road.

It would also harm the setting of number 320 and reduce its levels of light unacceptably. In addition, the developer had not made a suitable undertaking to contribute to local health, social care and library facilities.

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