



Small businesses question council's stance

By Nick Young

The leader of Barnet Council, Richard Cornelius, has signed up as a 'Real Life Entrepreneur Champion' as part of a campaign being run by the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) to represent the interests of entrepreneurs at a national and local level.

The FSB is a non-profit organisation that has around 200,000 members nationwide. It is a well-known lobbying organisation which represents small businesses to national and local government. In the London area, it represents and promotes 7,000 small businesses.

"I strongly support the FSB's efforts in voicing the views of local businesses. Small businesses are vital for our local economy," said Councillor Cornelius (Conservative, Totteridge), who took over as leader of Barnet Council last year.

Parking rules harm business

However, his involvement with the FSB has been greeted with scepticism among business owners in East Finchley, many of whom have been badly affected by the council's decision to replace pay-and-display machines in favour of a cashless payment system.

"The Federation of Small Businesses lobbies on behalf of small businesses, so it's a very important voice for us," said Sue Tollerfield, co-owner of the Cherry Tree Gift Shop at 172 High Road. In contrast, "the

Council has done nothing for us ... all they've done is change the parking rules, which really killed business around here."

Her views were echoed by Nick Pearce, co-owner of Bike & Run at 128 and 134 High Road. "I cannot think of anything that the council has done that would help small businesses," he said. Speaking about the new parking regulations, under which traffic wardens and vehicle owners are informed at the same time by text message when a ticket is due to expire, he added: "If that's not just a recipe for making money out of people, I don't know what is."

Start-up support

Recently released figures show that a record 285 new companies were formed in the London Borough of Barnet between May and August 2012, higher than any other second quarter on record for the borough. Commenting on this, Cllr Cornelius said: "These figures show that the Council's policy of helping businesses wherever we can, and not getting in the way of business start-ups, is working."



Dozens of people in the High Road signed the petition to save Stanley Field.

"Inspire a generation, keep our playing field"

By Ruth Brown

On the last hot Saturday of the Paralympics, Friends of Stanley Field set up a stall under the "Inspire a Generation" banner outside Budgens. They pointed out to shoppers that Inspiring a Generation won't work if our only playing field is sold off.

In just over an hour, 105 people added their signature to the petition calling on Barnet to accept the Sport EF bid. Sport EF is a Community Trust with a plan to keep Stanley Field for sport, and the plan is fully funded by the London Marathon Trust. The plan can be seen on www.stanleyroadsports.org, where the petition can also be signed.

Finders keepers

The support from shoppers was overwhelming, although

some were curious to know where East Finchley's three acres of playing field was hiding! Stanley Field isn't visible from any road, making it a peaceful, fume-free space for sport.

For those still discovering the old paths of East Finchley, take a small detour to find our only playing field, now left by the Council to become our only wildflower meadow. Children play there, and it's a jogger's and dog-walker's paradise.

It's two minutes from the High Road: walk down Market Place behind Budgens and take the footpath just to the right of Holy Trinity School.

If you're inspired to keep your local playing field, then help out with the new monthly community litterpicking at 2pm on the second Sunday of every month (equipment provided). The next two litterpicks are 14 October and 11 November.

Second Wind Training

Personal training for adults, seniors and people with health issues. Held in the privacy of your own home.

Free initial consulting session



Fully insured
CRC by Jewish Care

Call Velo at:
020 3074 1041



brera gardens

- garden design
- maintenance
- hard landscaping
- irrigation systems
- soft landscaping
- East Finchley based
- indoor plants

Mob. 07939 557 934

Tel. 020 8365 3615

Email: breragardens1@btinternet.com

TaxAssist Accountants Small Business Specialists

- Limited Company Accounts and Tax
- Sole Traders
- VAT and Payroll
- Fixed fees agreed in advance
- Payment plans available



For a FREE initial meeting, call us on 020 8883 5258
or visit us at 209 High Road, East Finchley

Sporting talent

A pupil from Bishop Douglass School has been named as one of Barnet's best sporting talents in the 2012 Barnet School Sport Awards. Aaron Hammond won the title of Young Performer of the Year.

Other awards went to young volunteers, school games teams, primary team of the year and secondary team of the year. Rohan Plunkett, from Akiva School in East End Road, was named Teacher/Coach of the Year.

Organised by the Barnet Partnership for School Sport (BPSS) Team and supported by Pro-Active North London and the Barnet Youth Support Service, the award event was held on 14 September at the

Hendon Campus Forum, Middlesex University and attended by the winners.

Also highlighting Barnet athletes' Olympic and Paralympic achievements, the evening saw guest appearances from Taekwondo bronze medalist Lutalo Muhammad, GB Olympic fencer James Davis and former Olympian Julian Golding.

Midhurst Butchers

Certified organic meat at reasonable prices
Free-range poultry
Home-made sausages (including Boerwors)

2 Midhurst Parade,
Fortis Green, London N10
Tel. 020 8883 5303

Japanese Acupuncture & Shiatsu

Gentle, dynamic and effective

For more information please phone or visit my website www.fionahurlock.com.

FREE 20min consultation

Ph 07795203107

Fiona Hurlock MACs MRSS Dip Ac
UTOPIA 1a Leicester Mews, N2 9EJ

TELEPHONE FAULTS REPAIRED

50% CHEAPER THAN BT * the POST OFFICE * TALK TALK etc
HOME * OFFICE * FACTORY
LINES * EXTENSIONS * EQUIPMENT - TESTED & REPAIRED

Call RON COLLINS 0208 883 9325 * 07748 278728
email: roncallsaver@yahoo.co.uk