



# Decision time for the pavilion is coming soon

A new tenant could be found for the dilapidated pavilion in Cherry Tree Wood, or the whole building could be demolished, under a set of options being examined by Barnet Council.

At the Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee Meeting in July the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood presented a petition, signed by more than 600 people in one week, to make the pavilion safe.

The Friends asked the council to report back on the reasons for the lack of progress on the development and why it had been left in such a poor state. An officer from the Estates Department stated that the current tenant had not carried out due diligence when taking out the lease and a major structural problem had subsequently arisen.

The Friends also raised health and safety concerns relating to the dangerous state in which the building had been left for many months. They were particularly concerned about increasing antisocial behaviour at the site and new serious crime escalating into the wood.

## Friends anticipate full report

The Estates Department is to produce a report on the pavilion for the next Area Committee meeting. This should provide details of the structural problems and costs encountered by the tenant. It should highlight whether the council was aware of the structural problems at the outset.

The report should also update the committee on the terms of the lease and whether they have been breached, including whether the tenant can be evicted. Consideration is

to be given to the feasibility of the project and any areas where the tenant could be helped. The report will also update on possible alternative tenants or the demolition of the building.

This report will be presented at the next Finchley and Golders Green Area Committee Meeting

on Wednesday 26 October at 7pm at Garden Suburb School, Childs Way, NW11. Friends of Cherry Tree Wood will attend, and all members of the community are welcome. For more information you can get in touch with the Friends of Cherry Tree Wood at [info@cherrytreewood.co.uk](mailto:info@cherrytreewood.co.uk).



Delapidated: The run-down pavilion

## Bonus for local autism charity

The CEO of a major telecoms company has donated her £220,000 bonus to Muswell Hill charity Ambitious About Autism, in Woodside Avenue, N10. Baroness Dido Harding, chief executive of TalkTalk, which suffered a major cyber attack last year, said it was her personal decision.

The charity said the gift will be a great boost for its drive to raise £4.4m for Ambitious College, offering education to 16-25 year olds with complex autism.

TalkTalk has supported Ambitious About Autism for 14 years, raising more than £2m for the charity.

Baroness Harding said: "Throughout the cyber attack we

worked hard to put our customers first, and we know that they have appreciated our efforts and our honesty throughout.

"Nevertheless, last October was a challenging period for TalkTalk and its customers and, in recognition of that, I have made a personal decision to donate my bonus to our charity partner."

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Chance meeting: Rebecca and Vijay after bumping into each other

## Fancy Siena you here!

This summer Siena railway station in the heart of Tuscany was the scene for a brief encounter when next door neighbours Rebecca Hawks and Vijay Patel bumped into each other by sheer chance. Neither of the Cherry Tree Road residents knew that the other was abroad, never mind in Italy.



A moveable feast indoors. Photo by Diana Cormack.

## Sausages keep sizzling despite the downpour

By Diana Cormack

For only the second time in six years rain fell on Cherry Tree Road's annual street party which was held on Saturday 10 September. But it still went ahead because good neighbour Sara invited everyone into her house, despite having to leave early for a previous engagement.

The barbecue was put into action under umbrellas on the back patio. Sizzling sausages and burgers joined an impressive array of savoury dishes people had brought, along with a luscious selection of contributed cakes and puddings.

There were musical offerings on drums, guitar, mouth-organ and trombone with some singing adding to the talent on show. The children ran two competitions for charity. They got their reward when the person who guessed the number of Smarties in the jar donated it to them.

Then the winner of 'Guess the Weight of the Cake', a terrifically tempting chocolate concoction, donated it to a neighbour who recently celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.



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