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Changes afoot to parking zones flooded by commuters

By John Lawrence

Major changes to parking zones in East Finchley are in the pipeline after residents raised concerns about their roads being clogged by commuters who leave their cars all day.

A new controlled parking zone, or CPZ, is being proposed for the roads closest to the tube station. It would operate from 10am to 6.30pm Monday to Saturday and is intended to deter drivers who move their cars there from elsewhere in the existing 'M' zone, which is in a curve as far out as Greenhalgh Walk, Trinity Avenue and Hertford Road.

At the same time, Barnet Council has agreed to add Leslie Road and Leopold Road to the existing M zone, where parking is restricted to residents only between 2pm and 3pm 'Monday to Friday. Until now, these two roads have been just outside the CPZ and have found themselves first choice for commuters who leave their cars and walk the final half-mile to the station.

Station parking

Residents in the roads closest to Cherry Tree Wood and on the other side of the tube station around Edmunds Walk and The Causeway have long reported difficulties with parking close to their homes. They say a number of commuters from further out in the existing M zone will get in their cars and drive to this area, rather than take a five or 10-minute walk to the station.

The proposed new M1 zone, which was put out for public consultation in November, would mean residents on these roads would be able to buy permits that will not be available to residents elsewhere in the M zone. A final decision on introducing the new zone will be taken in the spring.

Leslie and Leopold

The extension of the 2-3pm parking restrictions into Leslie Road and Leopold Road is likely to take effect in the first few months of 2020. Eightyeight per cent of respondents there declared in favour of the CPZ when a consultation was held earlier this year.

Residents Kathy Batten, David Johns, Delory Lowndes and Valerie Teague led the campaign. They told *The Archer*: "Once in place our CPZ will regulate non-resident/ commuter parking ensuring residents can park near their homes. It should also help reduce congestion and driver conflict, making parking a less stressful experience and creating a more pleasant and safer environment for all." *See Letters pg 11.*

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Tree planting: A new sapling in Lincoln Road. Photo Mike Coles.

What goes up must come down

Many residents in Lincoln Road, N2, were pleased to see Barnet Council contractors planting a range of new trees along the pavements outside their homes in late October, promising buds and greenery for springs and summers to come.

Meanwhile reader Diane Goodkind let us know that branches trimmed from trees in East End Road back in the summer, again by Barnet Council, were still waiting to be collected five or six months on. The tree debris is partially blocking the pavement.

Local councillors have repeatedly requested that the piles are collected but so far with no success. So, watch your step!



Tree debris: One of the piles of green waste in East End Road. Photo: Diane Goodkind.

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