



The Archer

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Central Avenue



The High Road

Not started: How the two new Grange blocks in Central Avenue and on the High Road will look

No signs yet of construction on Grange or petrol station site

By Janet Maitland

Despite expectations that construction would start in the spring, it is still not known when building work will start on the long-awaited two blocks of new homes on the Grange estate in East Finchley. The same can be said for the proposed housing development on the former Esso petrol station site on the corner of the High Road and Church Lane.

The plots are owned by different people, so although a major issue for neighbouring residents is likely to be the impact of construction traffic on already congested narrow streets, particularly if busy delivery times coincide, coordination of the two sets of work will be difficult.

Grange new homes

On the Grange estate one block of eight flats on Central Avenue and another next to the High Road will together take about a year to build. Barnet Homes, who manage the Grange, hoped to get going in the spring, but have only recently appointed the construction company Stacks London.

At an event in 'late spring' local residents will be able to ask questions about how Stacks London will manage the construction. "They will be working to ensure that work progresses with the least amount of disruption to residents as possible," said a Barnet Homes spokesperson.

Meanwhile, developers Leopold Properties plan to build 20 flats in two blocks on what is now a wasteland fronting the High Road between Church Lane and Leopold Road, taking about two years. They gained planning permission in 2019 but last April submitted a plan to the council to vary the design, including the layouts of units, and to slightly raise the height of one of the blocks. The submission had still not been approved when *The Archer* went to press, although we understand the legal work is underway.

Building work was meant to

start by the end of last November, whether the submission had been approved or not, in order to avoid cancellation of the original planning permission which was conditional on work starting by that time.

Some preparatory work was done on the site in November, although nothing appears to have happened since. We were informed by a Barnet Council spokesperson that all that is needed is the "digging of a trench or the like". After that it's "down to developers as to the speed at which the development is completed".

Walkers step up

After our article in last month's edition on the new weekly East Finchley Wellbeing Walks, organiser Louis Victor reports that walker numbers are already increasing.

The gentle one-hour social walks take place at 10am every Wednesday, starting at the High Road entrance to Cherry Tree Wood, opposite East Finchley station, and are free to join. Get more information from efwellbeingwalk@gmail.com

Please help us deliver

We are looking for volunteers who can help deliver *The Archer* to our readers on the Strawberry Vale and Grange estates in East Finchley.

Can you spare 45 minutes each month to help our other deliverers in these areas? Newspapers are brought directly to you and can be delivered at a time that suits you. Please get in touch if you can help. Email news@the-archer.co.uk or leave a message on our free phone line at 0800 612 0748. Thank you.

BE PART OF IT Volunteers wanted

Compiled by Lynn Winton

A crucial element of **Finchley Foodbank** is their volunteering team who are sensitive to the needs of the clients, work from a position of trust and are great team players. Roles range from receiving deliveries and sorting food donations to restocking shelves and staffing Tuesday and Saturday sessions. Requests for help with food supplies are increasing week on week and volunteers are urgently needed. If this could be you, email the team at finchleyfoodbank@gmail.com

Do you enjoy having fun and using your imagination? Can you inspire young people aged between six and 10 years old to focus their energy and reach their full potential? The **North London Air Scout Group** based in Sheldon Avenue, N6, is looking for men and women to work as part of a team of adult volunteers, helping to plan and deliver an exciting programme of indoor and outdoor activities and challenges. Visit www.224northlondonscouts.org.uk/Adults/ or contact scout leader Derek Chambers on 07707 773344.

The **North London Hospice** shop on East Finchley High Road is looking for more volunteers. Whether you want to get work experience, help temporarily between jobs or are looking for a long-term role, please call in to the shop and talk to the manager Anastasiya. Age is no barrier; volunteers aged 14 - 94 are welcome. You will play a vital role in funding the hospice's work and enjoy the camaraderie of a very inclusive team. **Driving Aid to Ukraine** is a new non-profit organisation based in N2 and started by local resident Michael Byrne, who delivers lorries of humanitarian aid across Europe to the Ukrainian conflict zones, via border transfer points. They require all kinds of volunteers: to help build a social media campaign; fundraising and grant writing; organising collections of warm clothes and other vital humanitarian aid items; and people who'd like to drive locally to pick up the collections. A fantastic opportunity whatever your skill sets to bring vital aid to an utterly devastated people and learn about the international aid sector at a grass roots level. Find out more at Drivingaidtoukraine.org or get in touch with Michael on 07791 912389.

If you'd like your organisation to be included in this column please send details to Volunteer@ILoveN2.co.uk Max 80 words please.



Clean tubs only, please

Everyone involved with the N2 Food Project, which distributes free meals for people in need from the steps of the Phoenix Cinema every Tuesday morning, has thanked all the kind donors who bring along plastic tubs for re-use, but have asked that only clean tubs are donated.

The food containers can be left any time at Amy's hardware store in the High Road and at the Phoenix. They should be the standard takeaway size, 17.5cm x 11.5cm, come with their lids and be washed and clean.

Co-organiser Emma Frampton, of the Bin There Donate That project, said reusing plastic tubs in this way was a huge benefit to the community and the environment.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Barnet Council

26 Brim Hill, N2

Rear limestone patio to replace timber decking, including associated alterations to landscaping. Replacement of existing awning.

9 Durham Road, N2

Removal and replacement of two rear doors with bifold door. Three roof lights to existing extension. New sun tunnel to front roof.

7 Elm Gardens, N2

Part single, part two-storey side and rear extension, including conversion of garage into habitable room. Window to replace garage door.

Five Bells, 165-167 East End Road, N2

15m high monopole with wrap-around cabinet to replace existing 12.2m high monopole. Removal of Pogona cabinet. Installation of one Bowler cabinet and One RBS6130 cabinet.

99 Hertford Road, N2

Single-storey side extension to rear outrigger.

61-63 High Road, N2

Conversion of rear part of ground-floor shop and first-floor C3 unit into three self-contained flats with associated alterations and amenity space. Includes ground-floor rear extension, and roof extension to two-storey flat roof to create a new pitched roof and side facing rooflights.

66-68 High Road, N2

Part single, part two-storey rear

extension with one rooflight. Roof extension involving rear dormer window and one front rooflight.

208-210 High Road, N2

Three aircon units. One C02 gas cooler. Two new doors and timber fence with access door. Four non illuminated box fascias, two internally illuminated box fascias, one projecting sign, three internally applied vinyls and one store directory. Applicant name: Tesco Stores Ltd.

54 and 55 Homefield Gardens, N2

Change of use of first-floor from residential use to offices.

54 Leicester Road, N2

Part single, part two-storey side and rear extension, including conversion of garage into habitable room. Window to replace garage door.

76 Lincoln Road, N2

Single-storey rear extension, following demolition of existing extension.

1-3 Lyttelton Road, N2

Changes to shop front and side fenestration.

56 Manor Park Road, N2

Rear outbuilding.

16 Trinity Road, N2

Part single, part two-storey rear extension.

18 Trinity Road, N2

Single-storey side infill extension, following removal of existing extension.