

# ENFIELD DISPATCH

Nº. 30 THE BOROUGH'S FREE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

MARCH 2021

## FEATURES

Looking back over the 88-year history of a family-run furniture shop

P. 5

## NEWS

Cladding woes continue despite government pledge

P. 6

## ARTS & CULTURE

An update on the progress at Trent Park Museum

P. 12



USUALLY A VENUE hosting live comedy, theatre, music and other entertainment, the Dugdale had remained dormant during the pandemic lockdown. That was until Enfield Council and North Middlesex University Hospital teamed up to turn it into a Covid-19 vaccination hub, opened last month. Photographer Katrina Campbell was invited to photograph some of the people working and volunteering at the Dugdale to help end the pandemic – you can see images and stories from her visit on Page 15.

## Council debt levels under fire

BY JAMES CRACKNELL & SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

Senior councillors have defended spending £18million on borrowing costs as an “investment in the borough”.

Members of the Labour administration said borrowing large sums would enable Enfield Council to invest in homes, infrastructure and the local economy.

The council's total debt has now surpassed £1billion. Out of the £2.75bn in future capital investment now being planned for the next ten years, £1.3bn is forecast to come from council borrowing – pushing total debt beyond £2bn.

Much of the existing and forecast borrowing relates to Meridian Water, where 10,000 homes are due to be built. On top of the £170m

spent by the council on land acquisition to date, another £815m is forecast for the project over the next decade. Elsewhere, £646m is due to be invested by the council on the redevelopment of the Joyce and Snells estates in Angel Edmonton.

At a scrutiny meeting last month Conservative councillors Joanne Laban and Edward Smith raised concerns over the council's debt. In response Mary Maguire, cabinet member for finance, said: “We are borrowing money to invest in the borough to build homes, improve our homes, and invest in other infrastructure – which we will get a return on – and there is a huge social value to our borough.”

Council leader Nesil Caliskan compared the council's debt to a mortgage, saying borrowers would pay interest on a loan like an investment in a home. “The debt pays for

new care homes, affordable homes for people in the borough, roads, infrastructure, public realm, and in some instances supporting the local economy,” she said.

“It is money well spent and a reflection of an administration that wants to do something to improve the borough.”

Cllr Smith pointed out the money spent on debt repayment was “about a quarter of the cost of the adult social care department” and added: “Choices have to be made about what is desirable and where money can be spent.

“If there is a huge debt mountain of £1bn – which is planned to go to £2bn in the next five years – that is money that would otherwise be spent on frontline services.”

Cllr Caliskan responded: “The choices we talk about are directed by political values – and for us,

those values are about making sure people have a decent place to live, providing homes for them, and making our town centres economically vibrant places where people can find a decent job.”

Earlier in the meeting, in response to a question by committee chair Susan Erbil, Cllr Maguire assured councillors Enfield was not in a similar position to Croydon Council, which effectively declared itself bankrupt last year.

Cllr Maguire said Enfield had not “engaged in any commercial activities outside the borough” and had instead decided to borrow to invest in Enfield.

Councillors are due to debate the 2021/22 budget at a full council meeting on Tuesday 2nd March, which can be watched by residents

▶ CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



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**MAR 2021**

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# Mystery surrounding dead foxes in park

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

**M**ystery surrounds the deaths of a number of foxes in an Enfield park.

The bodies of several dead foxes were found in Whitewebbs Park last autumn but concern from park users began to escalate at the start of the year when one fox was found shot dead on the park's golf course. The sounds of gunfire have been heard on several different occasions.

While some of the dead foxes have been found with bullet wounds, many others have no discernable injuries, suggesting they could have been poisoned instead.

One park user reported seeing a man in "gamekeeper" attire roaming through Archers Wood, which is between Whitewebbs Park Golf Course and Tottenham Hotspur Training Centre. Another said that it "sounds like someone is hunting in there".

It is illegal to kill foxes inhumanely and the matter has been reported to the Metropolitan Police's wildlife crime division.

The park, golf course and woodland is all owned and managed by Enfield Council.

A spokesperson confirmed the local authority was aware of concerns around the welfare of foxes in Whitewebbs and that officers had helped to clear one dead fox from the park, but declined to comment on what might be causing the problem.

Local resident Sean Wilkinson wrote a letter to councillors highlighting his concerns and said: "I and others are very concerned about the possibility that



A dead fox found in Whitewebbs Park without any obvious sign of injury

foxes are being killed in the area of the green belt that includes Whitewebbs Park. There is one known case of a fox being shot and injured and subsequently being found dead on the golf course. I saw the animal myself. "Other foxes have been found dead without sign of injury. Many

Enfield as any other animal."

Chase ward councillor Hass Yusuf has been assisting park users in looking into the issue but told the *Dispatch* he was no closer to finding out what had caused so many foxes to die in the area. "There is no wilful killing of foxes in the park [by the council]," said Cllr Yusuf.

"The use of firearms has not been permitted in the area, but someone in a gamekeeper outfit has been spotted. Obviously it is against council policy to be killing wildlife and there is no reason they would be doing it.

"It could be anyone going around shooting these foxes. It's not good."

A spokesperson for Tottenham Hotspur FC said the club was not involved in controlling foxes in or around its training centre.

***"Many of us have heard the sound of shotguns being fired"***

of us have heard the sound of shotguns being fired, mostly to the north-east of Beggars Hollow.

"The council is a proud proponent of biodiversity in Enfield and while foxes are not universally popular with farmers they, as native mammals, have as much a part to play in the biodiversity of the green belt of

## ▶ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

online. It includes an increase to council tax of nearly 5%, with 3% of that being used solely to fund adult social care. Taken together with a proposed Greater London Authority tax rise of 9.5%, it would push the average band D council tax bill in Enfield to £1,795.47, up by £99.63 on last year.

It would be the sixth year in a

row that council tax has risen. While the increases have been made to mitigate the loss of central government funding to the borough since 2010, the last cut to the core grant by the Treasury was in 2019, with small increases made in the last two years.

The main financial pressure now being faced by the council is from the pandemic, with a £10.3m "gap" in Covid-19 relief

funding prompting the council to use £3.2m from its reserves. Cllr Maguire claimed the government's decision to allow council tax to increase amounted to a "Covid tax" on the residents of Enfield.

She also warned of uncertainty over the amount of council tax that would be collected following a 163% rise in unemployment in the borough during the first half of 2020.

## By-elections

**T**wo local by-elections delayed because of the pandemic can now go ahead, the government has announced.

Last month it was confirmed local elections could finally recommence, after a break of a full year because of concerns over voter health and safety. In Enfield, two by-elections are now expected to be held on Thursday 6th May, the same day as elections for City Hall.

One will elect a new councillor for Southbury ward, after the death of Labour's Chris Bond last summer, and another will take place in Chase ward after the resignation of Vicki Pite, also a Labour councillor, last autumn.

## Fewer trains

**T**he frequency of rail services running on the Hertford Loop line – serving six Enfield stations – has been reduced by operator Great Northern "to better match demand".

The timetable changes introduced from Monday 22nd February focuses services on early morning, late evening and other peak times. School travel is also accommodated "in anticipation of the potential reopening".

Govia Thameslink Railway (GTR), which owns rail franchise Great Northern, states the changes have been brought in "at a time when far fewer people are travelling and when railway employees, like everyone, are affected by coronavirus". Weekend timetables haven't changed. GTR boss Steve White said: "Our priority is to maintain a safe and reliable service for those making essential journeys."

## Excess deaths

**T**he percentage of people who have died in Enfield above the average death rate since the pandemic began a year ago is the joint fifth highest in the UK.

Research conducted by SkyNews and collated by website *OnLondon*, using data from the Office for National Statistics, ranked local authority areas based on their excess death rate between mid-March 2020 and mid-January 2021.

It suggests that north-east London has been hardest hit. Ranking highest was Newham, where deaths have been 54% above the five-year average. Next was Redbridge (46%), Haringey (41%), Brent (41%), Hackney (40%) and Enfield (40%). All of the top ten areas were in London.

In total, there were 681 excess deaths recorded in Enfield over the period.



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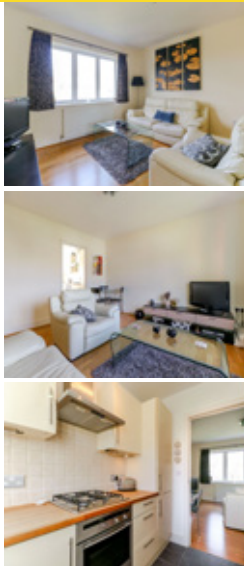
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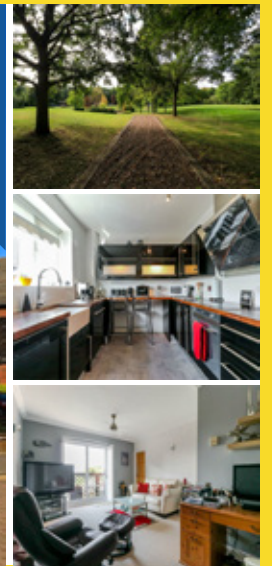
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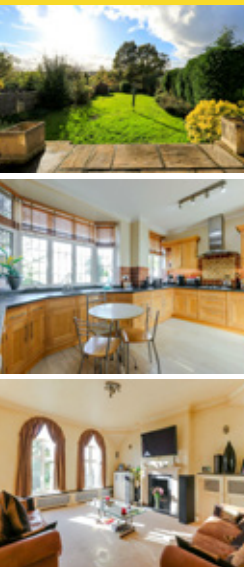
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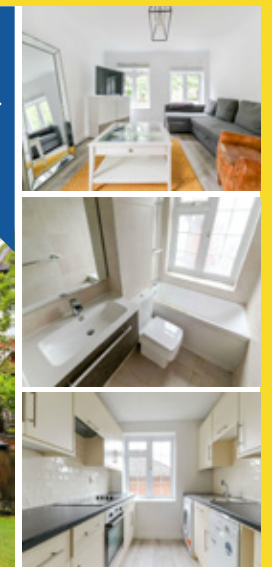
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## Advocates for learning disability

*Olivia Devereux-Evans talks to the founder of a local disability project*

**A**n Enfield learning disability charity is appealing for donations of furniture and electrical equipment as it prepares to reopen its shops.

Klasp, which operates two charity shops in Enfield Town, provides activities, support and information for families of people with a learning disability. But, like many charities, it has seen its finances hit by the pandemic as its shops have been closed for several months.

The name Klasp is an acronym for Kith and Kids Lifetime Advocacy Support Project and is part of the larger Tottenham-based charity, Kith and Kids ('kith and kin' being an old reference to family). Klasp founder Peter Godfrey joined Kith and Kids as a member when his daughter Chrissie was seven – she is now aged 36. Explaining how Klasp was launched a decade ago, Peter said: "We came up with the concept of an advocacy project where we would recruit people to get to know us as families, get to know our children as individuals, how they communicate. They are all different.

"The people we recruited got to know our children, got to know us, and also began to get to know the staff for the various care homes and supported living places that they live in. The idea was they would form these relationships and ensure a quality of life so that they are not locked in front of the telly with nothing happening."

When Klasp started, each parent was visited by the people who are now their advocates. Every parent uses the service differently. In families where the children

still live at home, the advocate is often more of a friend to the child, doing activities with them such as going for a coffee.

"The long-term view is when the parents go then there is still a friend that knows them," said Peter. Parents also use advocates to help them speak to their children's care providers and attend social service meetings.

Advocates make contact with the children or their parents at least once every six weeks. Over the last year this has mostly been done via Zoom or phone calls. Some homes have been allowing parent and advocate visits, but not all. Peter and his family were concerned how Chrissie would cope in the pandemic. They cannot

see her in person but have regular video calls with her. He said: "As far as my daughter was concerned, with her autism, she was really concerned with routine.

"We got a lady to visit her just before lockdown and do some craft activities with her. She taught the staff how to support her doing these crafts activities.

"Our daughter is not missing us the way we expected. We now know that when we go she will be okay. She is in a new routine."

Klasp raises money through its charity shops in Enfield Town, selling second-hand furniture and electrical items. They also have local fundraising groups and contributions from parents. The two shops will reopen as soon as they are allowed and will be in need of donations.

**For more information:**

**Call** 07973 345 363

**Visit** [klasponline.co.uk](http://klasponline.co.uk)

**Visit** [kithandkids.org.uk](http://kithandkids.org.uk)



Klasp runs two charity shops in Enfield Town

Trevor Blackman is the partnership manager for local charity Edmonton Community Partnership



## Uniting communities

### How an Edmonton charity is helping local EU citizens navigate Brexit

BY OLIVIA DEVEREUX-EVANS

**A**n Edmonton charity is working to tackle community division by helping eastern Europeans apply for 'settled status'.

Under the agreed terms of Brexit, EU citizens currently living in the UK have until 30th June to apply for 'settled' or 'pre-settled' status which allows them to remain living here.

Edmonton Community Partnership (ECP) is a charity supporting families from schools across the area. It has so far engaged with more than 2,000 eastern European families to offer free advice and support on applying for settled status.

This work is aided by the charity Settled and by a grant from the Home Office. Trevor Blackman is the partnership manager for ECP and told the *Dispatch*: "We are helping anyone. We do not want anyone left behind.

"One of the biggest problems are these fraudulent lawyers who were charging people to do their settled status [application] and then not giving them the right login details so they can check it.

"They were taking between five and 20 thousand pounds to do a service which is absolutely free."

Just before Christmas, team members were doing in-school information meetings for families. But during lockdown, they have been doing phone calls and online events. Settled is also running Facebook online events giving out information.

The project initially began last summer when the partnership was working with Bulgarian families. Trevor said the charity was helping them as they had often lost their jobs or were struggling with food insecurity. The team work together to ensure the documents and information they need are simplified and translated.

Enfield Council has also been

in conversation with Trevor and his team about hosting some sessions. Trevor said: "Our key worker Nishan has been translating things. He is also part of a European community network and they have been making sure that everything is translated.

"We are all working together in our own ways to make sure this works, not just for Bulgaria and Romania but for the whole European community."

The team has worked to build partnerships with numerous charities and organisations. This includes Bovie, a London-based Bulgarian news agency. They have also been helping to translate documents for the group.

Trevor added: "No-one should be left behind. If we work together then we can start to make a difference."

**Find out more about Edmonton Community Partnership and how to apply for settled status:**

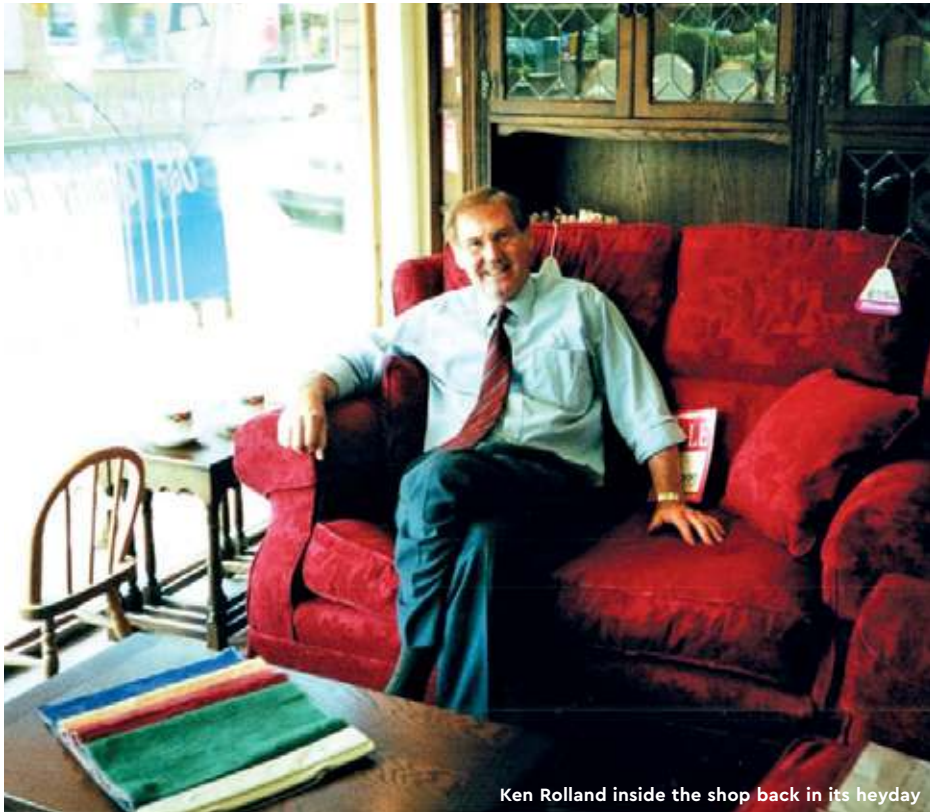
**Visit** [edmontoncommunitypartnership.org](http://edmontoncommunitypartnership.org)

**Visit** [settled.org.uk/en/](http://settled.org.uk/en/)



## Part of the furniture

### Sheila Bennett looks back over the 88-year history of her family's furniture shop in Enfield Town



Ken Rolland inside the shop back in its heyday

At the end of January my brother Ken Rolland closed Furncrafts, his furniture shop in London Road, Enfield Town, for the final time.

It had been a family business for 88 years. But Ken will be 78 this year and thought it was time to take 'early' retirement. I want to share some memories of the shop and of Enfield Town on his behalf.

Our dad, Fred Rolland, a French polisher, opened Furncrafts in 1933 with a loan from a friend, Jim Drye. He rented the shop directly after the depression from Mr Gibbons, who owned many properties around Enfield.

The photo (above, right), taken by a passing photographer, shows Fred outside the shop shortly after it opened.

As you can see, he didn't sell much furniture in those early days, mostly making a living from repolishing furniture and repairs. He ran the shop in the 1950s and early 1960s at the same time as bringing up his three young children, alone, as very sadly his wife suffered from mental illness and was hospitalised.

Ken started working with Fred in 1966, although he had been helping with deliveries in the evenings since his early teens. Mr Gibbons offered to sell the shop to Ken in the early 1970s, which he did with a mortgage. He set about extending it out the back and on all floors. Enfield Town was a bustling place from the late 1950s until the 1980s; on Saturdays it was difficult to walk along the pavement because of the press of people.

Next door to Furncrafts early on was Lillian's Wool Shop. Other shops along London Road in earlier times included Poynter's, a stationers; a greengrocer's owned by Graham Eustance, later a mayor of Enfield; Scroggies, a shoe shop; Williams, a butchers; Triggs Jewellers; plus Hammonds Opticians, which is still there today. On the opposite side in the 1960s was a police station, Windsors, a TV and radio shop; and, of course, Woolworths.

Furncrafts survived despite a drunk-driver crashing his Rolls Royce right through the window in the 1960s. There was also two fires, one of which began next door at Norman Barrie, a hairdressers on the site of where Lillian's had once been. The other fire started in Ken's office. Both were extinguished by local firefighters.

A new road scheme by Enfield Council in the 1980s sought to extend Cecil Road through the shop, to join with Southbury Road. Thanks to the enormous help of The Enfield Society, a local petition, and much letter writing, this plan was abandoned.

Throughout the late 1970s and until the late 1980s, business was brisk. After that, Enfield Town was radically altered, with the building of the Palace Gardens shopping precinct and the new one-way system, cutting London Road off from the main shopping area and passing

trade. These changes, together with parking charges, the rise of large shopping centres, and the gradual increase in online shopping, combined to bring about a decline in trade.

Ken's long-time assistant Philippa joined in the late 1990s. Fred himself never stopped working at the shop, coming in every working day until his death in 2001, aged 96.

Over all those years, Furncrafts has served an enormous number of customers – from Enfield and beyond – with furniture, pictures, mirrors and seating. In the final closing weeks, many people popped in to share memories of the shop and wish Ken and Philippa well. He would like to take this opportunity to thank all his customers over the years and to say it was a pleasure to serve them.



Fred Rolland standing outside Furncrafts shortly after it opened in 1933

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# Cladding woes continue despite government pledge

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Edmonton residents caught up in the nationwide cladding scandal affecting thousands living in unsafe buildings have described the government's new support package as "a slap in the face".

Housing secretary Robert Jenrick announced a series of measures in the House of Commons last month, aimed at helping people living in flats who have been told their building is a potential fire risk.

In most cases leaseholders have been asked to pay some, or even all, of the bill for fixing faults found in their building in the years since the Grenfell Tower disaster of 2017, despite not being made aware of these faults at the time they moved in. It means they have been left in limbo, unable to pay the cost of remediation but also unable to move out.

Several hundred Enfield borough residents are still believed to be living in buildings with unsafe cladding. Last year the *Dispatch* reported on the problems affecting residents of Prowse Court in Fore Street, Angel Edmonton. The building, just six years old, has timber-clad balconies, and leaseholders have been quoted bills for thousands of pounds to pay for replacement cladding.

The government's new £3.5billion fund is intended to cover the cost of removing flammable materials from buildings taller than 18 metres, while those in smaller buildings will be offered loans costing up to £50 per month. There is also a new levy on developers of future high rises.

But Edel Smullen said Prowse Court residents were still liable to pay around £12,500 per flat because the remediation work needed on their building falls outside the limited scope of the government's new fund. She said: "It doesn't help our building at all. We're stuck with the bills for balcony remediation. We can't do the work until everyone pays up and most



people don't have that kind of money."

Edel also questioned why leaseholders in smaller buildings were being asked to take loans, instead of developers. "If government deems it okay to structure a loan to leaseholders in this manner, then why not developers and those who have been pushing flammable products in the market?"

"Campaign groups have put forward that solution but government won't engage with it."

Addressing the House of Commons last month, Robert Jenrick said: "While the problem is not one of leaseholders' making, it cannot be right that the costs of addressing these issues fall solely on taxpayers, many of whom are not themselves homeowners and can only dream of getting on the housing ladder."

Edel said: "Jenrick's comments were massively insulting and upsetting – to all those who have lost family and friends in fires, who have lost their homes in fires,

scraped for years to buy [homes] – always encouraged by the Conservatives – and to all leaseholders who are taxpayers. It's a slap in the face."

The government was asked by the *Dispatch* to confirm whether balconies were covered by its fund. A spokesperson said: "We announced a multi-billion investment to protect leaseholders from the unaffordable costs of replacing unsafe cladding. We will publish more details on how the different elements of the package will work in due course."

Enfield North MP Feryal Clark is among many politicians critical of the government's response. She said: "The announcement left more questions than answers. What we needed was a comprehensive package of financial support for people in dangerously clad homes. We needed to see those responsible for this mess held to account and made liable for paying. Instead we got a half-baked deal that puts more financial strain on families."

## Warning as housing target missed

BY SIMON ALLIN,  
LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

Developers could find it easier to have housing schemes approved in Enfield after the council failed to meet its annual construction target.

The average number of new homes built per year in the borough over the past three years was 438 – just 55% of the 798 annual target set out in Enfield Council's existing Local Plan. A new, higher homes target for the borough published in the London Plan, finalised this month, requires Enfield to build 1,246 homes per year, but this will still need to be agreed by councillors as

part of its own Local Plan.

Under the government's housing delivery test, councils that fail to meet 75% of their housing targets in the previous three years fall into a category of "presumption in favour of sustainable development". According to a new council report, it means applications for new homes "should be considered with more weight by planning committees and the planning service".

It also means developers are more likely to be successful at planning appeals and "to submit speculative applications which are not policy compliant and are less likely to meet our design quality aspirations".

Joanne Drew, the council's director of regeneration and housing, presented the report to a scrutiny panel last month and told councillors: "The supply target is increasing, and as that increases, we need to step up the delivery to achieve the targets or move towards the targets into the future."

Joanne said the council was aiming to bring 60 empty homes per year back into use, to help get back on track. But Conservative councillor Edward Smith also flagged up a "disturbing" line in the report stating that failing to increase housing delivery "is likely to bring the council to the attention of the government".

## Affordable homes vote by committee

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Councillors will be asked to consider a reduced level of 'affordable' housing at the second phase of Meridian Water – but Enfield Council insists there's no change to what's planned.

Members of the planning committee are set to debate whether or not to allow an affordable homes level of 28% at the proposed redevelopment of Orbital Business Park in Edmonton, where 2,300 homes are planned as part of the flagship Meridian Water housing project.

However, the council claims the decision will not affect the number of discounted homes that will be built there. A spokesperson explained that the scheme was only being sent back to the planning committee in order to comply with new regulations. It was originally approved in March 2020.

They said: "The amount of affordable housing that will be provided at phase two of Meridian Water will be 40%. The planning application for Meridian Water was submitted on the basis that the amount of affordable housing that can be delivered within phase two, without grant funding, is 28%. The intention was to increase this to 40% through the use of S106 agreement grants."

"Because the government has changed the rules so that grant funding will only be made available where it will increase the proportion of affordable housing over what is already considered viable without grant funding, the planning consent needs to be amended to reflect this change in the law. There is no change to the proposed amount or type of affordable housing."

"This process is a necessary administrative process which will have the effect of guaranteeing 40% affordable housing on phase two of Meridian Water."

"The GLA [Greater London Authority] remains committed to the grant needed on this site to achieve 40% affordable housing. Neither the changes to the grant regime nor returning to planning committee will alter their position."

Asked how much money was needed to provide the 40% affordable homes level, the spokesperson said: "The government negotiates regular settlements with the GLA to provide grant funding, known as S106 grant funding. The level of grant required to achieve 40% affordable housing has yet to be finalised."





# ENFIELD COMMUNITY HEROES

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## A friend of 'all animals and people'

### Christine Seddon runs weekly dog training sessions and a yearly dog show

**W**hen illegal dog fighting began to escalate at an Edmonton park twelve years ago, threatening both the park and its users, a local resident stepped in.

Christine Seddon is a retired dog groomer from Hertford Road who was greatly disheartened by what she had seen taking place in Jubilee Park. Using the experience she had gained at a dog training club elsewhere in Enfield, she decided to set up a similar scheme in the park to try to tackle the anti-social behaviour there.

"There was talk of banning dogs from the park," said Christine. "They were damaging trees by hanging dogs off them to build up their muscles. We had to get a tree surgeon in to assess the damage."

But banning dogs from the park would have punished all dog owners for the bad behaviour of a small number, so Christine's approach instead was "education before legislation". By co-ordinating between local police and Enfield Council,



Christine with her beloved pooch, Teddy

Christine set up a dog training group, having already seen how beneficial they could be in her work with Enfield Chase Dog Training Club.

For over a decade since then, Christine has organised Saturday morning dog training sessions at Jubilee Park, only asking participants for donations to cover insurance costs. Sadly the Covid-19

lockdown has halted these sessions for now, but she says they will resume as soon as they are allowed.

For the last few years Christine has also been leading fundraising efforts, hoping to raise £10,000 to pay for a dog agility course in Jubilee Park. To help raise the money she organised a yearly dog show in the park, and through these and other

efforts has got halfway to her target.

All of this work is done in Christine's spare time. Although retired, she works as a full-time carer for her partner Victor, who has Alzheimer's disease. "I know dogs really help people, they have helped me to deal with life," she says. "During the pandemic there's been huge demand for puppies."

"Parks are also really important right now."

Christine has also helped campaign – successfully – for a defibrillator to be installed at Jubilee Park, and does other fundraising activities for Alzheimer's Society. Her friend Tracey Walton, who nominated her as an 'Enfield Community Hero', said: "She's a good friend, to all animals and people."

**Support the crowdfunder for a dog trail at Jubilee Park:**

Visit [justgiving.com/crowdfunding/christine-seddon-1](https://justgiving.com/crowdfunding/christine-seddon-1)

### Nominate your heroes

Dispatch readers are welcome to nominate their own 'Enfield Community Hero' – someone who you think has gone above and beyond to help support the local community. Simply email your nomination to [EnfieldDispatch@socialspider.com](mailto:EnfieldDispatch@socialspider.com)

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# Why a new incinerator will worsen race inequality

*Delia Mattis from Black Lives Matter Enfield on her concerns over the new incinerator being built in Edmonton*

**B**lack Lives Matter Enfield is calling to pause the plans to build a new, larger Edmonton incinerator, and for North London Waste Authority to properly consult the people of Enfield borough about it.

We believe the planning policies that determine where these incinerators are allowed to exist are racist. Incinerators are three times more likely to be built in deprived areas, which themselves are more likely to have a racially diverse population. Edmonton's ethnic make-up is around 60% black, brown, or other racial or ethnic group.

The worst thing about the current plans is that most people in Edmonton seem to have no idea what is going on. This is no surprise since the public 'consultation' on the incinerator ended in

2015, nearly six years ago.

Evidence shows that small particulate matter – air pollution – can travel many miles. A recent study by air quality consultants for the Greater London Authority calculated that 15 deaths a year in London were at least partly caused by emissions of nitrogen oxides and particulate matter from five London incinerators (or "energy from waste plants" as they are dubbed by their proponents).

Although such crucial information can be found on the Mayor of London's website, go to Edmonton Green and ask people if they know about the incinerator plans and try to find someone who knows about it; you will struggle to find anyone.

The worst thing about the current plans is that the vast majority of people in Edmonton have no idea what is going on. The so-called consultation was a sham, the news-

letter was only delivered to those living within a one-mile radius of the incinerator. Only 72 residents responded to phase one and 123 people to phase two – out of two million residents in North London.

In recent years people have become more informed about the issues caused by air pollution and climate change. Look at what happened last year in Jamaica,

for example. We saw footage of whole buildings being swept away by rivers of flood water that left behind complete devastation in a country already suffering from the economic devastation from the pandemic.

Black communities are certainly becoming more aware and are starting to campaign around this issue. A nine-year-old girl called Ella Kissi Debrah died in 2013. She lived near the South Circular Road in Lewisham, South London, and a coroner ruled last year that air pollution "made a material contribution to her death".

This ruling sent shockwaves through the black community, including those in Enfield. Edmon-

ton is already polluted from the North Circular Road, so a larger incinerator on top of this screams that black lives don't matter to the politicians who endorse this toxic, air-polluting choker.

Covid-19 has disproportionately affected black and brown communities and experts are now linking air pollution to Covid-19 deaths. The Office for National Statistics has published a report on the link between long-term exposure to dirty air, severe symptoms of Covid-19, and a greater risk of death. This gives even more reason for black communities to oppose the plans.

Edmonton Labour Party has now passed a motion against this incinerator, which shows that the Enfield Council executive is out of touch with Edmonton residents. We hope that more local people will join BLM Enfield, as well as the local branch of Extinction Rebellion, in our new doorstep leafleting campaign to raise awareness.



The new incinerator at Edmonton Eco Park has already been approved and preparation for its construction has begun

**Enfield BLM is fundraising for its campaign against the incinerator and has also launched a new petition:**  
**Visit** [gofundme.com/f/rthym-help-prevent-the-disastrous-edmonton-incinerator](https://gofundme.com/f/rthym-help-prevent-the-disastrous-edmonton-incinerator)

  
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# Main road residents forgotten amid low traffic scheme roll-out

*In our latest councillor's column, Winchmore Hill ward member Dinah Barry gives her views on the council's low-traffic neighbourhood trial*

I am an unrepentant nerd; some of my all-time heroes are Tim Harford, Simon Singh and Ben Goldacre, because they delight in using evidence and facts to debunk nonsense and understand the world better.

One of my favourite Ben Goldacre comments is "I think you'll find it's a bit more complicated than that", which is a statement that could be applied to many of the arguments being aired over low-traffic neighbourhoods (LTN).

LTNs are areas where roads are closed to through-traffic, forcing drivers to use 'main' roads around the periphery. The arguments for building these are laudable; cars cause pollution which harms health and causes climate change, many car journeys are so short that they are not necessary, and walking and cycling are healthier means of transport because they combat obesity and heart disease.

***"It is a bit more complicated than blocking off a few roads"***

Therefore, the theory goes, if you can deter people from making short journeys by car, you will improve health and reduce damage to the climate.

Two LTNs were installed in Enfield borough last autumn and are nearing the end of their six-month trials. One of them, the Fox Lane LTN, is partly in Winchmore Hill ward. More are planned

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The public register where applications are available to be viewed by members of the public can be accessed online by visiting <https://new.enfield.gov.uk/services/business-andlicensing/> and following the link to the Licensing Register. Email [licensing@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@enfield.gov.uk) to request a copy of the application within 28 days from the date of this notice.

Any person wishing to submit relevant representations concerning this application must give notice by emailing [licensing@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@enfield.gov.uk), giving in detail the grounds of the representation no later than: **19/03/2021.**

Representations received by post will not be accepted during the Covid-19 emergency period. The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Authorities Sub Committee and will therefore pass into the public domain.

Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application for a premises licence. A person guilty of an offence is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level five on the standard scale.

Dated: 19/02/2021



Cllr Barry was first elected to represent Winchmore Hill in 2014

– indeed council deputy leader Ian Barnes, who is in charge of the project, has said he is keen to install them all over the borough.

I want to concentrate on the facts and there are some that are unarguable; not all short car journeys are unnecessary, especially for people who have mobility difficulties; so-called 'main' roads are also residential roads where people live in homes; car journeys may have reduced since the autumn but we aren't living in normal times, so we cannot know for certain what has caused this reduction.

What is certain is that some journeys are being made longer by the LTNs, causing more pollution than they would otherwise.

Cllr Barnes concedes that to collect data at the moment would be meaningless because we are not living in normal times. But that begs the question; why start LTN trials at a time when no meaningful measurements can be collected?

I think that the money spent on LTNs would have been better used widening narrow footways so that we could all exercise more safely. LTNs are a simple response to a complex problem; they are unfair and divide communities. Encouraging people to walk and cycle more and to use cars less, unfortunately, is a bit more complicated than blocking off a few roads.

**Cllr Barry (Community First) is a ward member for Winchmore Hill, alongside Maria Alexandrou (Conservative) and Ian Barnes (Labour). Ward surgeries are being held online at the current time. For more information:**

Call 07812 673 023

Email [Cllr.Dinah.Barry@Enfield.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Dinah.Barry@Enfield.gov.uk)

# LETTERS

## Send us your letters

Got an opinion on something in Enfield? We accept letters of up to 150 words from people and organisations in the borough. Email [EnfieldDispatch@socialspider.com](mailto:EnfieldDispatch@socialspider.com) before the next deadline on Tuesday 16th March

## Nothing secretive

*Dear Enfield Dispatch*

One Community is a group, initially set up by a local resident, to raise concerns about the manner in which the current low-traffic neighbourhood in the Lakes Estate [Fox Lane], Palmers Green, was imposed on the community by the council.

Karl Brown's letter (*Strategic approach*, Page 9, Issue 28) suggesting that this group was "secretive" is yet another misguided example of the limited understanding of those determined to close reasonable access within local neighbourhoods, to all but a select few able to walk or cycle.

His statistics do not relate specifically to the area in question and therefore have little relevance to the issues experienced by the community. This is not a small band of brothers and sisters looking for a cause. These are thousands of ordinary citizens trying to go about their "day-to-day business" within a road system that appears to have been designed to create maximum disruption and chaos.

There is nothing secretive about One Community. It's an aspiration that we should all have.

Helen Mitchell  
Lakes Estate

## Cladding limbo

*Dear Enfield Dispatch*

Last month, the government unveiled a new £3.5billion fund to tackle the cladding scandal, but it will still leave a significant number of our capital's beleaguered leaseholders in the lurch.

Any new funding aimed at protecting Londoners living in unsafe homes should be welcomed. But ministers are all too aware of the scale of this crisis. They also know that while the £3.5bn figure might grab headlines, it simply won't be enough to replace dangerous cladding in buildings in London – let alone across the rest of the country.

It is also bitterly unfair that only loans will be offered to leaseholders living

in low- to medium-rise buildings, rather than direct grants to cover remediation costs.

Leaseholders impacted by the cladding crisis are already facing financial hardship. They should not be saddled with yet more debt after paying for exorbitant waking watch fire patrols on top of their insurance bills, service charges and their mortgages.

Ministers need to go back to the drawing board on this, and the right way forward is for the government to commit to foot the bill for remediation works in smaller buildings.

Joanne McCartney  
London Assembly Member for  
Enfield and Haringey

## Trade deal risks

*Dear Enfield Dispatch*

Parliament has just voted to tie its own hands on future trade deals. In a vote on the Trade Bill, MPs voted to drop an amendment that would have guaranteed them a vote on trade deals. I am very glad that our local MP, Bambos Charalambous, was one of those who supported the need for democratic oversight of trade.

The dangers of high-risk trade deals, such as one with the US or the Trans-Pacific Partnership, are real. They could undermine food standards, raise medicine prices for the NHS, affect the way public services are run, and impact workers' rights.

Usually in domestic law, parliament would get a vote on issues like this. But trade deals, as international treaties, can effectively override this, which is why it was so important that parliament also got a vote on the trade deals themselves.

This vote was a dereliction of duty by most Conservative and DUP MPs and a power-grab by the government.

Regine Lemberger  
Bush Hill Park

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# Councillors reject bid to remove low-traffic neighbourhoods

*Labour members defend Enfield's LTNs in wake of Conservative opposition*



The low-traffic neighbourhood in the Fox Lane area of Palmers Green

BY SIMON ALLIN,  
LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

Two low-traffic neighbourhood (LTN) schemes will remain in place despite claims they are causing major problems for residents.

Labour councillors rejected a call from the opposition Conservatives to remove the Bowes Park and Fox Lane LTNs until it can be shown that they are both supported by a majority of residents.

The two LTNs, rolled out in September in a bid to stop rat-running and improve air quality, involve closing several road entrances to motor vehicles using a combination of bollards, camera traps and box planters.

During a full council meeting last month, both Conservative and Community First councillors called for their removal, claiming they had failed to improve air quality and caused additional congestion and pollution on surrounding main roads. But Labour insisted the schemes would benefit public health and the environment, while pledging to improve the LTNs in response to feedback from residents. Both schemes are currently being consulted on as part of their initial six-month trial stages.

Speaking during the meeting Tory councillor and shadow cabinet member for climate change, Maria Alexandrou, listed a range of problems she claimed were caused by the LTNs. She said: "Congestion has overwhelmed Enfield, with

traffic forced on to the main arteries of the Enfield road network.

"Roads are now too dangerous to cross, and people are less inclined to walk. The increased pollution and travel times – and consequently delays to bus journeys and the emergency services – are maximising the very matters LTNs were supposed to prevent."

Cllr Alexandrou also claimed the LTNs had been introduced "without proper consultation or engagement". While the Fox Lane scheme had gone through a previous consultation stage in 2019 and was amended as a result, the council introduced the Bowes Park LTN without prior consultation because of a tight eight-week implementation deadline imposed by the government, which had granted the council £100,000 as part of its Active Travel Fund set up in response to the pandemic.

Cllr Alexandrou added that the council had failed to provide readily available paper copies of consultation documents, which stopped those without digital access from taking part.

The council's deputy leader Ian Barnes, who is also chair of the authority's climate change task force, defended the schemes. "The main beneficiaries of LTNs are all residents of the borough, but in particular our children and young people," said Cllr Barnes.

"We have to change our thinking and see that our future must lie in cleaner air and a stable climate. It is a challenge for all of

us – but one we must meet head-on for the sake of future generations."

Cllr Barnes said the schemes would help tackle obesity and make streets safer for children going to and from school, pointing out that the Bowes Park LTN had followed "years of campaigning for an LTN" and a "perception survey".

Community First – an opposition group formed last year by four councillors who quit the Labour Party – backed the Tories' call to remove the LTNs. Daniel Anderson, a former deputy council leader and cabinet member for environment who helped introduce the council's Cycle Enfield scheme, said LTNs "tackle the symptom and not the underlying cause of traffic".

Cllr Anderson blamed "intensifying, unaffordable housing developments" for increased traffic on London's roads and said the car would "remain a necessity for many people – particularly in the absence of adequate alternatives".

Tory councillor Stephanos Ioannou criticised the council for having an enforcement vehicle with its engine idling issuing

finest to drivers who travel through LTN barriers and criticised the council for issuing more than £1.2million in driver penalties since the LTNs were installed.

But Labour councillors continued to defend the schemes. Council leader Nesil Caliskan said she had listened to "passionate views" from residents on both sides

of the LTN debate and would "see if we can amend the schemes to work for local areas". She added that

she was proud to be part of a council taking action on climate change.

Katherine Chibah, chair of the council's environment forum, said climate change posed an "existential threat" and that with 39% of Enfield's carbon emissions coming from roads, the "best option is to try to encourage alternative modes of travel".

At the end of a debate lasting well over an hour, councillors voted to reject the Conservative-led motion to remove the two LTNs.

**Have your say on Bowes Park Quieter Neighbourhood:**  
Visit [new.enfield.gov.uk/consultations/2020-10-05-bowes-primary-and-surrounding-streets-quieter-neig/](https://new.enfield.gov.uk/consultations/2020-10-05-bowes-primary-and-surrounding-streets-quieter-neig/)

**Have your say on Fox Lane Quieter Neighbourhood:**  
Visit [new.enfield.gov.uk/consultations/2020-10-19-fox-lane-quieter-neighbourhood-area/](https://new.enfield.gov.uk/consultations/2020-10-19-fox-lane-quieter-neighbourhood-area/)

**"Traffic is forced on to the main arteries of the Enfield road network"**

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## Taking responsibility

*Local PR expert and author Sangeeta Waldron on the idea behind her new book*

**W**hile we have all been navigating these strange and challenging times, I decided to write my second book.

The world is at a tipping point – climate change, plastic pollution, bush fires, disappearing forests and explosive conversations about diversity and inclusion. I wanted to write a book that helped all types of businesses to understand how to put authentic corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives at the heart of their business, enabling them to build stronger brands that are not based on publicity spin and gain greater business benefits.

*Corporate Social Responsibility is Not Public Relations* was published on Thursday 18th February. The book has 15 interviews within every chapter, with global thought leaders and entrepreneurs, including David Katz, chief executive of Plastic Bank; Lois Acton, mentored by Anita Roddick, founder of the Bodyshop; Fred Huguez, who escaped the Los Angeles gang culture; and many more. Each interview aims to inspire the reader and proves that there is public support for businesses to do better.

You might wonder how is this book relevant in Enfield? Well, the global pandemic has shown us how connected we all are, and

as businesses in Enfield prepare for their future under the context of the 'new normal', it will mean figuring out not just how to replace what was there before, but how to build a better future that respects the future of the planet.

For too long many companies have ignored the environmental impact of their actions and dismissed sustainability as optional. But this is no longer possible. In fact, Enfield Council has made sustainable procurement one of its core aims, to show its own commitment to having a positive impact on the environment, local economy and socially through the money it spends.

Therefore, those businesses in the borough that have CSR at the heart of their business will be in a stronger position to win business from the council. But it will not just be about winning business from the local authority, but from local residents.

Numerous studies show that consumers want businesses with a positive purpose that they can trust; and the local community in Enfield will be no different. CSR is now considered a critical part of a company's performance and reputation. Enfield's businesses have the opportunity to lead the way.

**For more information and to buy a copy of Sangeeta's new book:**  
Visit [serendipitypr.co.uk/corporate-social-responsibility-is-not-public-relations](http://serendipitypr.co.uk/corporate-social-responsibility-is-not-public-relations)



Sangeeta lives in Enfield Town and is the founder of Serendipity PR and Media



Trent Park House trustees Lord Sassoon and Jason Charalambous with professor Simon Thurley

## The secret is out

Sarah Roller from Trent Park Museum Trust provides an update on the project

**T**he transformation of the historic Trent Park House into a museum, café and exhibition space has just taken a major step forward.

A lease agreement was signed with the site's owners, Berkeley Homes, in December. The house and surrounding grounds had been bought by developer Berkeley in 2015 but the Save Trent Park campaign fought to secure part of the estate for public benefit – and succeeded.

Berkeley has agreed to lease the ground floor and basement of the mansion to Trent Park Museum Trust. Over the last few years the trust has been working tirelessly to get the project through various key milestones – including securing a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Why a museum? Trent Park House is of national and international importance for its role during the Second World War, when it was requisitioned by the government and used as a highly-specialised intelligence gathering prisoner-of-war (POW) camp for captured German and Italian soldiers, including 50 German generals.

The house and surrounding grounds were bugged with tiny microphones – advanced technology at the time – which

ensured that conversations prisoners had among themselves were never private. Every comment they made or story they told was overheard by a team of intelligence agents known as the 'secret listeners' and the intelligence gained played a major role in Britain's war effort.

The secret listeners built a clearer picture of German and Italian military activities, plans, morale, tactics, war crimes and atrocities across occupied Europe. Their work was said to

Mother, as well as their young daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret.

Once opened, Trent Park Museum will take visitors on a journey through the 'roaring' 1920s and Sassoon's socialite playground, followed by the war and the story of the secret listeners. It will include educational facilities for schoolchildren and an immersive learning experience for visitors. A new café will also be created.

I am one of two new outreach co-ordinators for the trust who will be working with the Enfield community, including schools, faith groups and social clubs, as well as nearby residents, to understand how the new exhibition space and learning programme that accompanies it can best

help and support local people. Look out for surveys and consultations in the coming months!

Further fundraising remains vital in order to achieve the plan of opening this museum to the public by Easter 2022. Donations of any value are most welcome and can be made via the website, where you can also join the mailing list to receive regular historical blog posts and updates on the project.

**For more information:**  
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**Tweet** @trentparkhouse  
**Visit** [trentparkhouse.org.uk](http://trentparkhouse.org.uk)

***“Further fundraising remains vital in order to achieve the plan of opening this museum to the public”***

have had a direct impact on the subsequent Allied war victory in 1945, and the importance of Trent Park House as an intelligence site has been recognised by Historic England – comparing its significance to Bletchley Park.

Before the war, the house had a fascinating social history as the home of socialite Sir Philip Sassoon. In the early 20th Century, Sassoon welcomed high society guests such as Charlie Chaplin and Lawrence of Arabia; political elite like Sir Winston Churchill and David Lloyd George; plus royalty including George VI and the Queen



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# Making information more accessible

## Claire Fisher from Healthwatch Enfield on how new tools are helping residents understand how different health services work

**I**n exciting news, at Healthwatch Enfield we have just launched a new series of accessible online information about how to give feedback for health or care services in Enfield.

We have co-designed a range of videos and easy-read documents in collaboration with One-to-One Enfield, a learning disabilities charity. They will be accessible for people with learning disabilities and autism, but we hope that other groups will find them useful too.

It could also help those who do not use English as a first language and people with sensory and/or cognitive impairments, benefiting from the clear spoken words, facial expressions and subtitles included in the videos.

Each video and easy-read document talks you through how the complaints process works for individual services and outlines what to expect at each stage of the process. Included are local hospitals, adult social care, mental health services, GP surgeries, pharmacies, dentists, opticians, London Ambulance Service, and NHS 111.

There is even a video with 'top tips' for making a complaint and a video about



Forest Primary Care Centre in Hertford Road, Edmonton

advocacy, explaining how to get help or support to do this if you need it.

Usha Sisodiya, the head of culture, health and inclusion at One-to-One Enfield, said: "Raising awareness of the issues people with a learning difficulty, or people on the autistic spectrum face, is incredibly important to us.

"We have enjoyed working in

collaboration with Healthwatch Enfield. They have allowed us to share our experiences to improve access to health services and our voices heard."

You can access the videos and easy-read documents via our website, under the advice and information tab, selecting the option 'help making a complaint'.

Keeping on the subject of accessible

information, NHS England recently produced some videos about the coronavirus vaccine in a range of community languages. Doctors, nurses and other frontline staff have come forward to help reassure communities that Covid-19 vaccines are safe, effective, and have been independently tested to the highest standards.

Clinicians have recorded messages in some of the most commonly spoken second languages in the capital to help ensure messages about the importance of getting a coronavirus vaccine reach all Londoners.

The languages covered are Arabic, Bengali, Gujarati, Polish, Punjabi, Romanian, Spanish, Swahili, Turkish, Urdu and Yoruba. Please visit our website to see these videos and download the links to share them with friends and family.

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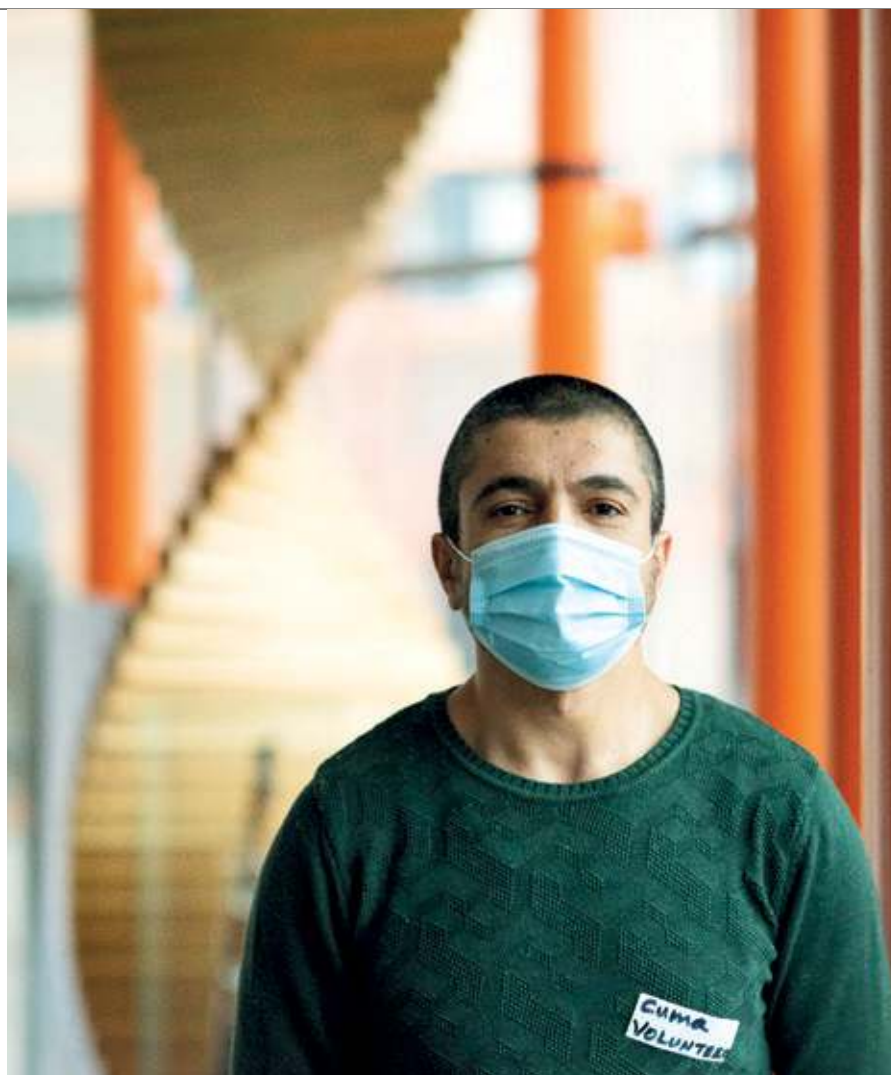


Hilary Moore-Hurley is a retired council worker who decided to train to become a vaccinator. She said: "The highlight for me, so far, was the honour of vaccinating one of our wonderful NHS ambulance staff. A wonderful feeling of doing something really worthwhile to contribute to getting us out of this horrible situation."

## by Katrina Campbell

Last month I was lucky enough to be invited to visit the Dugdale Centre in Enfield Town, a community hub and theatre that has been transformed this year into a Covid-19 vaccination centre, in partnership with North Middlesex Hospital. Enfield Council's culture team has transformed the place, removing lighting, and clearing the foyer and theatre, to make room for the NHS. Now the theatre is filled with vaccination cubicles where NHS staff and volunteers are hard at work helping to vaccinate Enfield residents. After taking their photos I spoke to them about their experiences at the vaccine centre.

**To see more of Katrina's photography:**  
Visit [katrinacampbell.co.uk](http://katrinacampbell.co.uk)



Cuma Bilgili is a Turkish national from Enfield who signed up as a volunteer to help out at the vaccine centre. He said: "I found it hard to just sit at home and do nothing. I believe we all have to take responsibility to get through this crisis so I decided to volunteer at the Dugdale. It's been a wonderful experience, working as a team with the NHS staff."



Emma Ryder usually works for London Ambulance Service. She said: "Here at the Dugdale, we are a little family of vaccinators, we're all different ages, but we get on and have a laugh while we work."



## Green group slams Meridian Water parks provision

### Row over how much green space will be created at Enfield Council's flagship development project

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Enfield Council has defended its plans for new public green space at Meridian Water after a leading environmental campaign group called for the authority to be more ambitious in its plans.

The London branch of Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) published a list of eight locations within the capital where it believes new parks could be created. CPRE London's Alice Roberts said that London "has just half the green space it needs for a population its size" but that there were many green spaces "just sitting idle – at best ignored, at worst deliberately run down".

The area highlighted by CPRE at Meridian Water is a patch of disused land adjacent to the River Lea, near Banbury Reservoir. It is a mix of low quality, enclosed green space, and ex-industrial brownfield land that has become notorious for fly-tipping.

Alice argues that the council's plans for Meridian Water do not currently contain enough green space for the number of new people expected to live there. She said: "Local residents are very concerned that, with a much higher population, there will not be enough provision of green space and playing fields for this area, which already lacks enough green space facilities for the existing population."



A vision of Enfield Council's plan for a new green space at Meridian Water called 'Brooks Park' Credit: Squint Opera Architects

CPRE point out that the local standard for public park provision is 2.37 hectares per 1,000 residents but that the Upper Edmonton ward has just 0.28ha per 1,000 – a deficit equivalent to 60 football pitches, or around half of the development space available within Meridian Water. To make up this gap

while also providing sufficient green space for tens of thousands of new residents, CPRE claims 110 football pitches would be needed.

Asked to respond to this criticism, a council spokesperson said that two new green spaces – called 'Brooks Park' and 'Edmonton Marshes' – formed part of its

plans for Meridian Water. But these two new green areas would still only provide an equivalent of 12 football pitches.

The council spokesperson said: "Providing park and green spaces is a central plank of the Meridian Water plan. One of the development's three place-making pillars is "park life on your doorstep" and Enfield Council is very conscious of the deficit of parks and open space in the Edmonton area and sees the provision of parkland at Meridian Water as a key element in addressing that shortfall.

"The Meridian Water development already has planning permission and funding in place to provide parks and open spaces for the first phases and more will be provided throughout the life of the programme. This specifically includes space around Banbury Reservoir.

"Through the strategic infrastructure works consented in summer 2020 and included in our Phase 2 outline planning application, we provide for 8.4ha of parkland with 2ha at Brooks Park, and a further 6.4ha at Edmonton Marshes. These are programmed to be delivered by 2024 and are funded through our housing infrastructure award from government.

"Phase 1, which has outline planning permission, will provide a further 1.7ha of public open space."

## New bus route launching this month

### Replacement for W10 will serve more areas, more often

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

A new bus service linking opposite ends of the borough is due to launch this month.

The 456 route will connect Crews Hill and North Middlesex University Hospital, via Enfield Town, World's End, Grange Park and Winchmore Hill. It will replace the W10 linking Crews Hill and Enfield Town which runs partly as a hail-and-ride service.

Transport for London (TfL) argues the more frequent 456 service will provide more local residents with easy access to public transport. Buses will run every 30 minutes between 7am and 8pm on weekdays and Saturdays, and every 60 minutes on Sundays between 7am and 8pm.

Geoff Hobbs, director of pub-

lic transport service planning at TfL, said: "As part of our work to continuously review and improve the bus network, we will introduce the new 456 bus in Enfield mid-March.

"It will replace route W10 and provide new transport links, a higher-frequency of service, longer hours of operation and a Sunday service."

Work to launch the new bus route has included installing new bus stops and upgrading junctions. One of the areas set to benefit is Winchmore Hill, with the new bus serving Winchmore Hill Station and reducing the journey time to North Middlesex Hospital

by up to 30 minutes. Firs Lane, not currently served by any buses, will form part of the route.

However, residents in nearby Farm Road, where the bus will also run, organised a petition trying to take their street off the planned route after complain-

ing it would worsen already bad traffic on the approach to the single-lane bridge joining Ford's Grove. Some residents also complained about bus stops being sited outside their homes,

as well as reducing residential parking spaces.

A TfL spokesperson stated: "No changes have been made

**"The new route will significantly improve access to bus services"**



A TfL map of the 456 bus route

to the routing since the consultation. We know some concerns were raised around Farm Road, and can assure residents we have fully assessed the route, including after specific feedback raised in the petition, and found it suitable.

"We will closely monitor the route 456 when it is introduced and make any necessary changes to ensure that it serves Londoners as best as it can.

"Route 456 will see 600 jobs and 3,700 people newly within 400 metres of the bus network. Many households, including on Farm Road, are currently a considerable distance from a bus stop, and the new route will significantly improve access to buses."

**Find out more about the 456 bus route launching on Saturday 13th March:**

Visit [tfl.gov.uk/modes/buses](https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/buses)



# AROUND THE BOROUGH

## NEW SOUTHGATE

### High-rise plans for gasholder site

BY SIMON ALLIN,  
LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

BLOCKS OF FLATS UP TO 19 storeys tall could be built at the site of a former gas holder near the North Circular.

Developer City and Suburban Homes wants to build 182 flats in blocks of 14 and 19 storeys at the site in Station Road, New Southgate. The plans state that the developer aims to provide the “maximum reasonable quantum of affordable housing” but do not indicate how many units this would be.

More than three-quarters would be one and two-bedroom flats, with three-bedroom units making up the remaining 23% of the homes. The development would also provide 371 square metres of flexible commercial floorspace.

A spokesperson on behalf of City and Suburban Homes said: “We are delighted to have submitted a planning application to Enfield Council for 182 homes at the former gas-



A view of how the proposed development would look from the North Circular

holder site on Pinkham Way.

“We have worked closely with council officers and the local community to develop proposals that will deliver a mix of affordable homes and properties for people to buy.

“It is important to us that we reflect the history of the site and are talking with community groups about how best to inte-

grate the site’s former industrial heritage into the landscaping and amenity space.

“We look forward to continuing these conversations over upcoming months and ultimately delivering the homes that Enfield needs.”

The plans have been submitted to Enfield Council but have yet to be considered by a planning committee.

## BOWES PARK

### Driver jailed over Green Lanes road death

THE WIDOW OF A MAN KILLED while crossing a road has said he had “so much more to give”.

Palmerston Road resident David Marshall, 57, was on his way to his job as a security officer when he was hit by a car in Green Lanes, Bowes Park, on the morning of 14th March 2019. David had been trying to catch a bus. Paramedics couldn’t save him and he was pronounced dead at the scene.

The driver was 24-year-old Mohammed Jamil Ali, from Islington. A police investigation found he had been driving at 45-48mph, breaching the 30mph limit, and had been under the influence of drugs. Ali admitted causing death by dangerous driving and was given a three-year prison term at a hearing in January. He was also

disqualified from driving for five-and-a-half years.

David and wife Sin-Ling Lo were due to go on holiday to Cyprus at the time of the tragedy. The couple had been married for 17 years. In his spare time, David enjoyed playing the clarinet and gardening.



David Marshall was killed on his way to work by a speeding driver

Sin-Ling said: “I have not yet come to terms with the fact that David is no longer here. He enjoyed living and had so much more to give. It makes me so sad to think of the years we will miss together. He was taken from me far too soon.”

Sin-Ling Lo instructed legal firm Irwin Mitchell to support her during the investigation into David’s death. Lawyer Natasha Fairs said: “While nothing will change what happened to David, Sin-Ling hopes that this case and the sentencing acts as a warning of the need for drivers to take care on the roads at all times.”

Sin-Ling added: “I wouldn’t want anyone else to go through the unbearable pain I have been through and continue to face because of what happened.”

## ENFIELD TOWN

### Car park fire

ENFIELD CIVIC CENTRE HAD TO be closed after a fire broke out in its ground floor car park.

Smoke billowed over Silver Street on the afternoon of Sunday 7th February and could be seen for miles. Fortunately, no-one was injured, and firefighters brought the blaze under control within an hour.

As well as the car park itself, there was damage to six vehicles. Station commander Richard Arnold, who was at the scene, said: “We believe the fire started in a recycling bin

and the flames spread and caught a vehicle alight.

“Due to the fact the car park is undercover, it caused a lot of thick smoke to billow out into the surrounding area which made it look like a really serious incident.

“Fortunately, there were no people involved and no-one was injured.”

An Enfield Council spokesperson said: “Nobody was hurt and the fire was successfully contained and extinguished with the sprinkler system working effectively.”

## ENFIELD HIGHWAY

### Cycle lanes

THE LATEST SECTION OF ENFIELD Council’s new segregated cycle lanes is now “largely complete”.

Cycle Enfield’s ‘A1010 North’ scheme has seen 1.5 miles of new cycle infrastructure created along most of the length of Hertford Road, between the junctions with Southbury Road and Mollison Avenue, over the last 18 months.

As well as cycle lanes, the

scheme also involved installing additional traffic signals; bus stop ‘boarders’ and bypasses for cyclists; new zebra crossings; and remodelled junctions.

It is the latest major project to be completed as part of the council’s £42m ‘Mini Holland’ cycling programme.

For more information:  
Visit [cycleenfield.co.uk/construction-3/](http://cycleenfield.co.uk/construction-3/)

## EDMONTON

### Recycling hub



How the new recycling hub is expected to look when complete

CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGUN on a major new recycling centre.

Once built, North London Waste Authority’s new resource recovery facility (RRF) at Edmonton EcoPark in Advent Way will be one of the largest publicly-owned facilities of its kind in London.

It will have capacity to manage 135,000 tonnes of household recyclable material every year,

as well as provide a public recycling centre where Enfield residents and businesses can bring their recyclable waste direct to the EcoPark.

During construction, a new community facility is being built, called EcoPark House. It will provide a new home for Edmonton Sea Cadets, as well as a community space for local residents to use.





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The gates continue to be locked at Enfield Town's Queen Elizabeth Stadium

# Powering through the pandemic

Andrew Warshaw on how a long-term sponsorship deal is helping to keep Enfield Town afloat amid the financial crisis in football

Enfield Town FC may have endured months of frustration during the latest pandemic lockdown, but it's not been all doom and gloom.

The club's main sponsor, Brimsdown-based waste management and recycling company Powerday, recently won the Editor's Choice Award at the National Recycling Awards 2020 for its initiative #PoweringTheNHS.

The prize was created by trade magazine *Materials Recycling World* to recognise some of the exceptional ways the recycling and waste industry has responded to the coronavirus pandemic. The #PoweringTheNHS project involved Powerday helping frontline workers who were struggling to purchase food from supermarkets. In just eleven weeks the company, in collaboration London Irish Rugby Club,

award was yet another illustration of the success of the club's sponsorship strategy.

"As a community club it is important that we try to partner with organisations that provide social value and contribute to our local economy," Paul told the *Dispatch*. "Powerday has rightly been recognised for the great work they do in providing a better environment and it's fantastic that they both have a base in Enfield and that they have chosen to be our sponsor."

"Powerday is growing their brand both through the growth of their core business but equally in the support of sport across London and beyond through their investment in football, rugby and boxing clubs and facilities."

Paul says Powerday's commitment to the club should not be under-estimated.

an even more important role.

Paul adds: "Sponsors are hard to come by in the current climate – tough times with no other income streams – and we are extremely grateful to those who continue to support us. If any local businesses wants to get involved, please do get in touch."

As the *Dispatch* went to press, with the Isthmian League season all but officially declared null and void, the Towners were on the verge of receiving a crucial grant from Enfield Council as part of the government's support scheme for the hospitality and leisure sector. It is money that could help keep the club afloat.

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***"Powerday's long-standing commitment has allowed the club to work towards a more stable financial base"***

prepared, cooked and delivered more than 50,000 meals to 19 different hospitals and organisations within London.

Powerday's vice-chairman Edward Crossan said: "When the pandemic emerged, we were desperate to help the true heroes, those working on the frontline."

"Providing them with nutritious hot meals at such a challenging time was the least we could do. Our work in the community is hugely important to us and to have this recognised with an award is a fantastic honour, everyone involved worked so hard and we are so proud."

Enfield Town chair Paul Reed said the

"Powerday's long-standing commitment has allowed the club to work towards a more stable financial base and has allowed us to budget more into the future, when we signed a three-year agreement with them."

"It also shows that we have the trust of a big business which I hope demonstrates to other sponsors and partners that we are a well-run club, where there is a mutual benefit to both parties in supporting us."

With no football taking place at Enfield Town's level of the non-league game for the foreseeable future, and therefore no money coming in from ticket sales or other matchday income, sponsors play






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## What we do

Here at *Enfield Dispatch* we do things differently. We combine professional journalism with voluntary contributions from people who live and work in the borough and create content which is responsive to and reflective of the community.

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