# ENFIELD DISPATCH

#### THE BOROUGH'S FREE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER



Enfield Council has allocated 3,000 homes to Vicarage Farm, one of two large areas of Green Belt in the north-west of the borough it has targeted for new homes in its draft Local Plan. The farm - now dubbed 'Chase Park' by the council - is bisected by a public footpath, Merryhills Way Credit The Enfield Society

# MP adds voice to opposition against Green Belt housing plans

BY JAMES CRACKNELL & SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL **DEMOCRACY REPORTER** 

lans to build thousands of homes on Enfield's Green Belt are being opposed by residents, opposition councillors and a local Labour MP -with Sadiq Khan also likely to try and block it.

Enfield Council is facing a struggle to implement controversial proposals published last month in its draft Local Plan, which outlines the parts of the borough the authority deems suitable for housing and other development over the next two decades.

The council has been set a new higher housing target by City Hall – 1,246 per year – but had already

ous, lower target of 798 per year. Now, in its attempts to accelerate home-building, the Labour administration has turned to the borough's sparse north-west, where 6,000 homes have been allocated for two large areas of Green Belt land; at Crews Hill and at Vicarage Farm, near Trent Park.

But building homes on the Green Belt is something expressly opposed by the mayor of London. whose newly published London Plan states: "Exceptional circumstances are required to justify either the extension or dedesignation of the Green Belt."

A spokesperson for Khan told the Dispatch: "The mayor is committed to protecting London's Green Belt and any plans to de-designate parts of it must be considered against his been failing to meet the previ- new London Plan. We will look at

the borough's draft Local Plan in closer detail."

As well as the capital's Labour mayor, recently re-elected in May, the council is also facing opposition from Labour MP Feryal Clark, within whose Enfield North constituency the two Green Belt sites sit.

Ferval told her constituents in a statement on her website: "I have heard and appreciate the reservations that residents have expressed regarding certain aspects of the plan, in particular the potential loss of Green Belt land.

"I share the concerns that many of you have raised with me and believe that all possible options for housing should be explored, including the innovative use of existing brownfield sites in the borough, before any development on Green Belt is considered.

"Residents can be assured that I will be expressing my thoughts on any potential loss of Green Belt land directly to the council, and I would recommend that everyone utilise the twelve-week consultation period to make their views heard."

Prior to a council meeting in June, at which the draft Local Plan was debated by councillors and approved for public consultation, dozens of protesters gathered to demand councillors ditch the plans and "save the Green Belt".

Opposition councillors from across the borough slammed the plans and claimed building on the Green Belt was unnecessary, while Labour councillors argued that the densely-populated east of Enfield

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### Pressure mounts on council over street litter

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

iles of putrid rubbish frequently found all over Enfield borough have prompted residents to launch two petitions calling on the council to act.

The introduction of fortnightly waste collections by Enfield Council in March 2020 has been blamed for increasing incidences of fly-tipping, street litter and overflowing bins, with both petitions calling for weekly collections to be reinstated, as well as other measures to help clean up the borough's streets.

In recent months the Dispatch has seen numerous examples of regular household waste being piled up in black bags next to street bins, suggesting residents have run out of room in their own household wheelie bins. Litter in parks has also become an increasing problem with bins frequently overflowing.

The pandemic - which coincidentally started the same month as fortnightly bin collections – has been highlighted as leading to more domestic waste being generated by people spending more time at home.

As well as the reintroduction of weekly domestic collections, the two new petitions call for more investment in street cleaning. enforcement of fly-tipping laws, and for cheaper – or free – bulky



waste collections to help those who cannot drive.

Opposition councillors also want to see Barrowell Green, the council's only public recycling centre, to end the current appointments system introduced at the start of the pandemic. Conservative group leader Joanne Laban told the Dispatch: "We need to cancel the appointments system. They [the council] talk about social distancing but other boroughs don't talk about it.

"If you have got a lot of stuff you need to get rid of you might need two trips, which means two appointments. Most people don't plan in advance when they will clear out their garage, they wait for a rainy day.

"It needs to be as easy as pos- | a request to comment.

sible for people to get rid of their waste.'

Cllr Laban pointed out that a free bulky waste collection service had previously been available in Enfield under a past Conservative administration, but was subsequently ended after Labour took control of the council in 2010. The council currently charges residents £42.20 to collect one bulky waste item.

Regarding fortnightly household waste collections, she said: "People are putting their rubbish bags next to litter bins in the street, probably because they have got to ten days since their last collection and filled up their own wheelie bins. That is a direct consequence of fortnightly collections."

The council did not respond to

#### ► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

should not be used to meet the entire housing target.

Council leader Nesil Caliskan told the meeting the borough was facing inequalities in housing, with more than 4,000 residents in temporary accommodation. "We have to build somewhere – if it is not out, it is up," she said. "We have heard over the last couple of years from residents and councillors that we do not want skyscrapers all over the borough."

The leader claimed the council was using all the brownfield sites that were available and could not build on areas of land designated for industrial use. But Tory group leader Joanne Laban warned the draft Local Plan would "deliver the irreversible destruction of our borough".

to the draft Local Plan is its | allocation of just 5,000 homes at Meridian Water, the council's flagship housing project that has long been touted as providing 10,000 homes. Criticising the slow progress at the £6billion regeneration scheme, Cllr Laban said she did not believe the council had properly considered proposals put forward by residents' groups that would deliver homes without building on the Green Belt.

Members of independent group Community First, made up of seven councillors who quit Labour, also slammed the plans. Ayfer Orhan, who represents Ponders End and quit the Labour Party in May, said: "The administration's failure to develop and build 10,000 new homes at Meridian Water is no reason to savage the Green Belt."

Another controversial aspect | Labour councillors defended the | visit | letstalk.enfield.gov.uk

plans. Hass Yusuf, who represents Chase ward – where 3,000 homes could be built near Crews Hill Station – said it would be "exciting" to see "a new little village around the station".

Mahtab Uddin said the council had a "care of responsibility to provide quality homes, reduce inequalities and provide more opportunities".

Newly-elected Jubilee councillor Chinelo Anyanwu said 70% of the proposed housing sites were on brownfield land.

Deputy leader Ian Barnes claimed the Conservative government was "ripping apart the planning system" and telling councils to build on the Green Belt, with housing secretary Robert Jenrick recently waving through a development near Bradford.

The Local Plan consultation runs until londay 13th September:

#### Green homes

£1million government grant has been won by Enfield Council to make council homes "more energy efficient and environmentally friendly".

The council has joined the 'National Net Zero Retrofit Accelerator' project to develop "deep, whole-house retrofits" of 36 homes in Edmonton Green, Upper Edmonton and Haselbury wards. It will also match-fund the grant from its own housing budget, which already includes money set aside for environmental improvements.

Meanwhile, a £49million expansion of the council's Energetik heating network has got the go ahead. It will be extended along the east and south of the borough, adding an extra 4,750 homes and businesses to the low-carbon heating system.

### Mayor meeting

BY VICTORIA MUNRO, LOCAL **DEMOCRACY REPORTER** 

he mayor of London has agreed to meet with campaigners opposing plans to expand Edmonton incinerator.

The current incinerator, which is set to be knocked down and replaced with a larger facility, is situated beside the River Lea in Edmonton. It is being opposed by environmental campaigners concerned about air pollution.

Asked last month if he would meet with local MPs calling for a "pause and review" of the project, Sadiq Khan said at Mayor's Question Time: "I have been clear London is facing a climate emergency and will continue to oppose new incineration in London.

#### "I have no power to pause the scheme"

"I have no power to pause the scheme but I am now focused on ensuring this facility minimises its local and social impact and only manages truly non-recyclable waste.

"It's important we are really clear on who is responsible for giving [this scheme] permission; it's the government. The reality is [the mayor's office] has explored all avenues open to us.

"I am more than happy to meet with campaigners but I will be honest with them about who is responsible."

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# **FEATURES**



# **Our plans for Covid-19** memorial in Enfield

Artist Joe Robinson introduces the 'living memorial' he's working on for pandemic victims and their families in Enfield

nspired by a project in Liverpool, community partners led by the Soroptimist Club of Enfield are planning a memorial for all those who died from or during the Covid-19 pandemic. Called the 'Enfield Living

Memorial', the project aims to create a space for the collective bereavement of the people of Enfield and will see 30 trees planted in the shape of a heart. Once completed, a fire sculpture in the form of a phoenix will mark a symbolic point of letting go – a permanent artwork will sit in the same location. The phoenix was chosen as it offers an open idea of loss and renewal.

To help develop the project locally, a small working group has been set up. Facilitated by the Soroptimists, it consists of local partners, Enfield Council, as well as myself as a local artist delivering the creative aspects of the project. Soroptimist International is an organisation focused on educating, enabling and empowering women worldwide.

explained more. She said: "The Soroptimists are marking their international centenary with tree-planting projects worldwide that remember the first project in 1921, which saved a forest of giant redwoods.

trees was suggested for Enfield we felt it was something that both honoured our history but also enabled us to do something important for Enfield. We hope others will support it as well."

The steering group has spent months considering the options on where it could site the memorial within the borough. Town Park was chosen after looking at practical and technical limitations, as the memorial will be well more than 30 meters across when finished. Parking, public transport, and nearby facilities also influenced the decision.

Town Park also felt right, as it symbolically sits in the heart of the borough. During lockdown,

Margaret Turnbull, from the the normal processes of bereave-Soroptimist Club of Enfield, ment were restricted and sometimes impossible. The hope is to now provide a place where individuals and families can acknowledge their loss - becoming a calm place to remember loved ones.

For the community as a whole, having seen hundreds of people "When a living memorial of lost during Covid-19 locally, it aims to provide a public site of remembrance.

> The project will be reliant on funding raised from the public and from organisations who wish to support it. The steering group is costing the different elements of the scheme but estimates the budget will be anywhere between £10,000 and £15,000, depending on what in-kind support it finds.

> If people wish to be a part of the project they can help to raise the funding needed. Every contribution, whether £1 or £100, will play a part in creating this public memorial.

Find out more about the Enfield Living Visit sigbi.org/enfield/tree-planting-project

# Go green for Glasgow

Francis Sealey from Enfield Climate Action Forum invites residents to get involved with the group's upcoming green festival

n November, world leaders will be meeting at COP26 in Glasgow to decide the next steps to tackle climate change. If we fail to agree on a climate strategy, the future for our children and grandchildren is bleak.

**Enfield Climate Action Forum** (EnCaf) is supporting the Climate Coalition's nationwide festival, during Great Big Green Week in September, to highlight the climate emergency and put pressure on world leaders to act. More than 70 groups in the borough have expressed an interest in being involved, and are keen to come together and make a difference.

EnCaf's 'Big Green Climate Festival' from 18th-26th September will include activities and events such as litter picking, organised walks in local parks and along the New River, tree planting, bike rides, live theatre and music, organic wine and food tasting, intergenerational discussions on climate change, coffee in a mosque, a youth show reel video, writer's workshops and poetry, online webinars, and much more!

The festival will also be a chance for local groups to showcase their activities and concerns for a sustainable Enfield. Our three

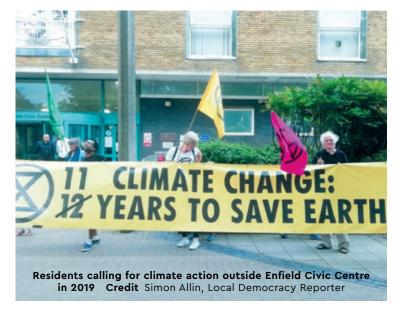
local MPs have agreed to support the festival and we hope they'll join a meeting to talk about the importance of COP26 and what it must achieve.

On Saturday 25th September, we will be joining the United Reformed Church (URC) to hold a special one-day event at Christ Church URC in Chase Side, with stalls, entertainment and many other activities.

We're also beginning to get schools involved, to showcase the work they've been doing to protect the environment and to express their concern about climate change. Young people from EnCaf Youth will join Enfield Over 50s Forum to discuss how climate change will have an impact across generations.

With just under three months to go until the start of the festival, many organisations are still joining and we hope to have almost 100 different events throughout the week of the festival. You can keep up to date with the events being arranged via our website, and if you or your organisation wants to take part, please let us know via email.

Find out more the Big Green Climate Festival and get in touch with EnCaf: Email emergency@encaf.org Visit encaf.org/climatefestiva



# **FEATURES**

# Help us shape the future of Trent Park House

**Anna Husband from Trent Park House** Trust invites local people to submit their views ahead of its reopening as a museum and education centre



t Trent Park House Trust we're now seeking the views of local people as we prepare to open to the public as a museum and reveal the building's extraordinary history.

One of London's grandest houses - described by Historic England as being "of national and international significance on a level with Bletchley Park" - Trent Park House played a pivotal role in the Second World War. Requisitioned by the government, it was transformed into a prisoner of war camp for high-ranking German and Italian officers, and wired for sound with a complex network of state-of-the-

Unbeknownst to the prisoners on the floors above, a team of 'Secret Listeners' - many of them German-Jewish migrants who

art bugging devices.

had escaped persecution in Nazi Germany – listened in to their conversations from the basement, making extraordinary discoveries that would change the course of the war.

In the lead up to the war, Trent Park was home to Sir Philip Sassoon, a member of the prominent Jewish Rothschild-Sassoon family, an MP, government minister, and one of history's great society hosts. He was at the centre of British inter-war politics, modelling Trent Park to be the perfect political and social venue. He created a sumptuous atmosphere, entertaining esteemed guests such as King George V, Edward VIII, Wallace Simpson, a young Princess Elizabeth, Sir Winston Churchill, Charlie Chaplin, Rex

Whistler and TE Lawrence.

This powerful and evocative house continues to captivate all who engage with its unique history. The vision is to bring its stories to life, engaging visitors in a vivid and creative way, combining original artefacts with innovative interpretation. Visitors will travel through the magnificently restored and furnished rooms of Sir Philip Sassoon's socialite and political world to reveal the later clandestine operation against top military commanders.

The stories hidden within the fabric of Trent Park House reveal a varied, dynamic

> and nationally important history. A dedicated learning and engagement programme for schools and community groups

will support the experiences created in the house, and enhance understanding of some of its more complex and sensitive stories.

In the project team we are now seeking the views of local people, through an online survey, to help shape what the building will offer and bring its extraordinary stories to life, for a diverse audience. Please help us by taking part in the survey before Wednesday 14th July – we would love to hear from you!

Take part in the survey for individuals: Visit surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CZ8QCVS

Take part in the survey for schools:

Find out more about Trent Park House: Visit trentparkhouse.org.uk



"This powerful and

evocative house continues

to captivate all who engage

with its unique history"

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### Opposition groups claim Meridian Water critique suppressed

BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

pposition groups have accused Enfield Council of suppressing a report that raised "serious questions" about the environmental impact of its Meridian Water project.

Community First claims the report highlights "serious short-comings" regarding the £6.5billion council-led scheme's impact on air and water quality, flooding, climate change and available green space.

Written by Southgate councillor Charith Gunawardena before he defected from Labour to the Green Party, Community First said the report had not been accepted by the former chair of the environment and climate action scrutiny panel, Labour's Hass Yusuf, despite having the backing of a majority of panel members.

A council spokesperson said the paper was not part of an official scrutiny work stream and there was no council officer input into it, adding that the chair of the panel had confirmed it had not been formally considered.

But Cllr Gunawardena said members of the panel had submitted questions to council officers in September and March and, when they did not receive any responses, decided to draw up the report without officer input.

The 34-page document includes a concern that Meridian Water would have a significant shortfall of around 50 hectares of parkland.

It also raises doubts over how achievable the ambitious waste and recycling targets are, along with significant concerns over the amount of play, allotment and growing space on the site.

Other concerns include whether the scheme can deliver enough workspace for the proposed 6,000 jobs, the number of tall buildings planned, and the disproportionately high impact they would have on energy consumption.

Cllr Gunawardena said: "This is immensely frustrating. Councillors put in a huge amount of work into this report, asking important questions about the environmental impact of Meridian Water and making helpful recommendations."



Aerial view of how the completed Meridian Water may look
Credit Karakusevic Carson Architects

He added: "It is very hard for a scrutiny panel to work effectively and do its job properly when key information is not provided."

Cllr Gunawardena claimed a previous scrutiny report on the Meridian Water scheme also had no input from officers yet was published and discussed at a meeting. He also pointed out that the council's constitution allows the overview and scrutiny committee to have minority reports – which do not have the backing of all mem-

bers – published.

A meeting of the environment and climate action scrutiny panel at which the report could have been discussed in April was cancelled because of purdah – the pre-election period during which political debate is limited. Cllr Gunawardena said officers scheduling the meeting should have known purdah would stop it from taking place.

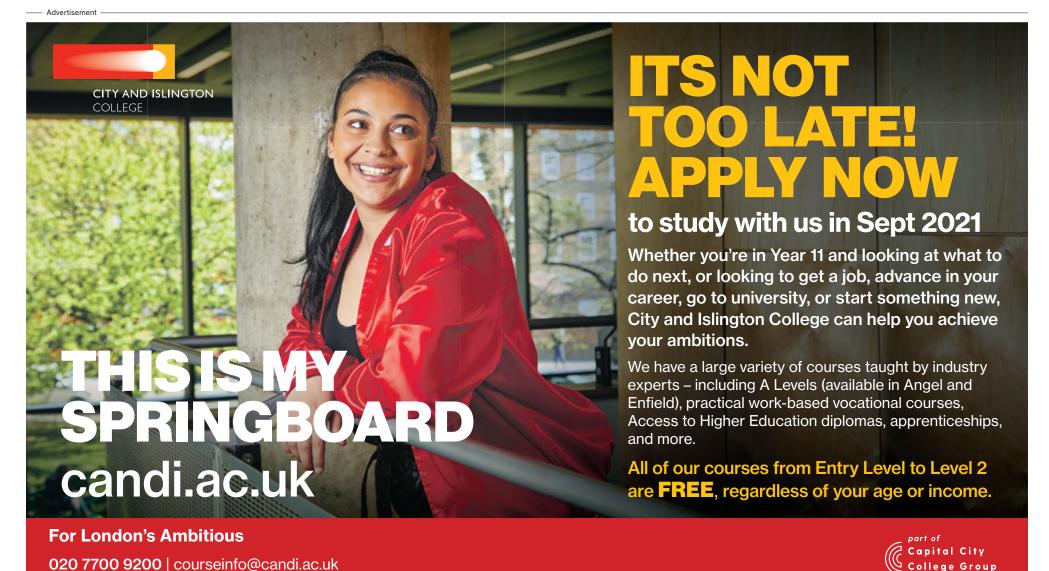
Community First raised doubts about whether the report would

ever be published, as the scrutiny panel now has a new chair and several new members. Cllr Gunawardena hopes it will be published and discussed at the next meeting of the panel, which is scheduled for Tuesday 13th July. The Conservative group has also called for the report to be published.

An Enfield Council spokesperson said: "This paper was not part of an official scrutiny work stream and there was no council officer input into it, therefore the accuracy and credibility of its content has not been verified. The chair of the panel has confirmed this is not a paper that has been formally considered.

"Individual members are free to draft any paper in their private political capacity – this is not the same as a council report, which would have independent professional officer input."

The council has long claimed that Meridian Water will provide 10,000 homes, but its newly-published draft Local Plan – setting out development proposals for the next 20 years – only allocated 5,000 homes to the area.





# EDMONTON ENFIELD COMMUNITY HEROES Sponsored by Edmonton Green Shopping Centre

### Dedicated to supporting local arts and culture

#### David Williamson helps budding young filmmakers bring their ideas to screen and also helps stage events in his local park

hat started as a living room film club in Palmers Green quickly became a popular touring cinema attended by up to 3,000 people a year across a range of local venues.

Building on this success, founder David Williamson decided to use the popularity of Talkies Community Cinema to support the next generation of filmmakers.

Talkies has now commissioned 30 short films over the years, supporting young directors and scriptwriters to bring their bright ideas to life. Many have since won awards and been screened at international film festivals.

"One of the conditions is that they have to make their film in Palmers Green," says David. "It is a small amount of money but we provide them with support, and some of our volunteers act as extras.



ners Green resident David Williamson runs Talkies Immunity Cinema and also helps run Broomfield Summer Festival

"The filmmakers love it."

The original idea for Talkies was "sparked" by a film club attended by friends in their own homes. "Lots of

people wanted to come but there wasn't enough space for everyone. So we tried doing 'Talkies' a couple of times and it was a success."

Before the pandemic, Talkies was hosting a regular programme of fortnightly film screenings. These are now set to resume in autumn. David, a retired schools inspector, missed organising Talkies during lockdown, but turned his attention to something else.

"I was bereft over not having Talkies. I had been doing some events for Broomfield Festival and I turned my attention to that.

"There is this old bowling green and a couple of years ago I suggested holding events there. The aim is to develop this space – 'Broomfield Bowl' – for events that reflect the community."

While a limited number of events at

Broomfield Park were held last year, festival organisers this year are aiming bigger – David has written more about the programme on Page 12.

Adrian Day, who nominated David as an 'Enfield Community Hero', said: "As well as planning and organising the festival, he is very much 'hands on' – when there were problems with park toilets, David was spotted with a plunger!

"The borough is a better place because of the time, dedication and thoughtfulness of people like David."

#### Nominate your heroes

Dispatch readers are welcome to nominate their own 'Enfield Community Hero' – someone who you think has gone above community. Simply email your nomination to EnfieldDispatch@socialspider.com

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# COMMENT

## Why this Local Plan won't deliver the housing Enfield needs

Matt Burn from campaign group Better Homes Enfield gives his reaction to the council's draft Local Plan

nfield's new draft Local Plan aims to build 25,000 homes across the borough over the next 20 years.

The council says it wants to build these homes "to help ensure that people who grew up in the borough will have the opportunity to remain" and "to provide a variety of housing options to meet the needs of everyone, regardless of income, age and ability".

Around 19,000 homes would be built in urban areas, including homes in tower blocks, and 6,000 on the Green Belt. Many residents are concerned about the impact this will have. However, concerns need to be balanced against the acute shortage of affordable housing in Enfield, particularly affordable family housing.

Given what is at stake, it is important to ask whether the new

Local Plan will achieve the council's objectives and deliver the housing Enfield needs. Unfortunately, it won't. Over 20 years, the new Local Plan will build 25,000 homes but only around 6,500 are likely to be 'affordable' for local people. Enfield currently needs at least 10,000 affordable homes, so the new Local Plan will not meet the current need in Enfield, let alone the need over the next 20 years.

A lack of affordable housing will mean that many families will have to move away from Enfield to access cheaper housing, even if this means longer commutes or moving away from family and support networks.

Families that stay in Enfield may have little choice but to live precariously in housing they struggle to afford or in housing that is too small for them; overcrowding is already a problem in Enfield and



is linked to poor health.

A key problem is the way most affordable housing is funded. Currently, a large number of fully priced – and therefore expensive – homes need to be built in order to generate the funds to build a relatively small number of affordable homes. Current planning policy says 40% of homes built on new developments should be classed as 'affordable', although many developments are approved

by the council where the level of affordable homes falls well below this target. The government needs to increase funding so that far more affordable homes can be built, without having to build so many unaffordable ones.

Another problem is that the council has missed opportunities to build the affordable family housing Enfield needs, especially at Meridian Water, its flagship development. The draft Local

Plan includes an acceptance that Meridian Water will not deliver 10,000 homes in the next 20 years, with only 5,000 being allocated to it. The implication is that this project may never achieve its stated aim of 10,000 homes.

The public statements from the council about helping to stop "skyscrapers" do not seem to reflect what's in the Local Plan and could give the public a false impression that building on the Green Belt will mean tall towers are not needed.

Politically, I am left wondering why a Labour-run council is not making more noise about the challenges the government has created – why is it not taking this opportunity to shout about a lack of funding for affordable housing and what this means for Enfield?

If there was more government funding, and if the council could make better use of its opportunities, there's a good chance Enfield could build the affordable housing it needs without large-scale development of the Green Belt and without tall tower blocks.

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# My priorities for Chase ward

#### Newly-elected Tory councillor Andrew Thorp is determined to protect local green spaces

t was an honour to be elected to represent Chase ward at the by-election on

Residents feel that they are not being listened to by Enfield Council. From the future of Whitewebbs, to fly-tipping and protecting our precious Green Belt, people feel that their voices are not being heard. I promise to listen and work for all residents in Chase ward.

I was born at Chase Farm Hospital and have lived locally my whole life. My wife and I are raising three children here, and we

work and volunteer across the borough. My children are unrivalled at reminding me of what's important and the power of keeping promises! Enfield is in my heart and it's this that motivated me to stand for election.

Since the election I have made sure that my time has been focused on action that directly improves the lives of residents. Enfield's Labour-run council has lost control of our street scene. Fly-tipping is out of control, some days it feels like there's a fridge or sofa on every corner – this must change.

I am passionate about protecting our green spaces. From Whitewebbs Park to the Green Belt, Enfield's green spaces are under threat like never before. I have campaigned for 100% public access to be retained at Whitewebbs and have voted against the draft Local Plan.

#### "The Local Plan is a savage attack on our precious Green Belt"

The Local Plan is a savage attack on our precious Green Belt. It proposes turning Crews Hill into a transport hub and building thousands of properties; ripping up trees and fields and sending in diggers and bulldozers. It will cause irreversible damage to our community and an end to the borough as we know it. Simply put, once the Green Belt is gone, it's gone forever.

I have spoken to elderly residents who were fighting back tears; they are frightened about what the plan will mean for their children and grandchildren. Employers who fear that the plan will put them out of business, costing dozens of jobs, and children who worry about the air they breathe. This plan is an attack on the environment, an attack on leisure facilities, and an attack on businesses.

The Green Belt is not just an

asset for our borough, it's the lungs of London. Whether you live in Edmonton, Southgate, Enfield Town or Brimsdown, the Green Belt plays a vital role in

supporting your physical and mental health.

Councillors are elected to listen to residents and represent their views - for too long this hasn't happened. I urge all residents to speak up against these plans and respond vigorously to the consultation.

It's time for change.

Andrew Thorp is a Conservative councillor representing Chase ward, alongside Hass Yusuf (Labour) and Dino Lemonides (Community First):

Call 020 8132 0035 Email cllr.andrew.thorp@enfield.gov.uk

# **LETTERS**

#### Send us vour 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 before the next deadline on Monday 19th July.

#### We need LTNs | Damage done

#### Dear Enfield Dispatch

ohn Machin opposes the Bowes LTN (Why I don't welcome low-traffic neighbourhoods, Page 9, Issue 32), saying that Londoners already "get" the need to reduce car use. Yet, as The Times reports, pandemic pressures have reignited car dependency, and traffic volumes now exceed pre-Covid levels. This is why we need LTNs for neighbourhood streets, and other measures such as road-user charging for primary roads.

As for the 'democracy' question, I detect two calculations; prioritising feelings over some of the emerging data about actual impacts, and assuming most people in less vulnerable streets will insist on restoring their driving convenience through other roads.

One problem with rejecting LTNs is that we can't wish away the issues that brought them in the first place; issues which, in Bowes, saw years of extensive engagement between councillors and residents.

Mercifully, even sceptics recognise that constructive engagement in refining the Bowes scheme, in conjunction with Haringey Council's evolving plans, is the mature way forward.

Mark Hawkins-Dady Warwick Road Action Group

#### No response

#### Dear Enfield Dispatch

iscussing with another esident the lack of responses from different Enfield Council departments, he asked: "Does anyone work there any more?" It's a blunt comment on how all Enfield residents and businesses have to cope with a council that has gone down dead-ends so far it can't turn around to redeem itself. And that's a metaphor deliberately chosen for all the resources, council officers' and councillors' time that has been spent on two low-traffic neighbourhood schemes. Such focus on schemes that have so far been rejected by most has meant the rest of Enfield's services - and its inhabitants - have had to pay

My experience is of unanswered emails to simple and polite requests.

> **Gus Stevens** Selborne Road, Southgate

#### Dear Enfield Dispatch

am puzzled by the almost invisible presence of Conservative councillors in Enfield Council. They should be out demonstrating in the streets against the present Labour incumbents. With the threat of monstrously high tower blocks, building on the Green Belt, and their determined assault on culture in the borough, there is plenty of ammunition.

High tower blocks don't provide suitable accommodation for people with children - I know because I have lived in one. The council owns plenty of property, with some creative thinking instead of taking the laziest and cheapest options they could accommodate all requirements.

One would have thought the gains by Conservatives in recent by-elections would have sent a warning. But by the time of the next election in 2022, I suppose the damage will have been done.

> Valerie Darville Bush Hill Park

#### **Predetermined**

#### Dear Enfield Dispatch

There has been a lot of discussion about Enfield Council's Bowes and Fox Lane LTN schemes, but not much about how it is consulting the public about them. Judging by the council's past performance on the Green Lanes cycle scheme, even if the consultations show most people want these schemes removed, they still would not do this.

The council tries to justify this by trotting out the mantra "a consultation is not a referendum". Once such schemes have been put in 'experimentally', the council has effectively decided that, however many objections it receives, they will remain. What the council cunningly does is make a handful of small changes. It can then disingenuously claim it has responded to people's objections - while ensuring the main features remain unchanged.

We must ensure the council does not get away with doing this in relation to these two LTN schemes.

#### **Robert Taylor**

Secretary, Federation of Enfield Residents and Allied Associations

# Tottenham Hotspur in line to take over former golf course

#### New women's football academy proposed for Whitewebbs

#### BY JAMES CRACKNELL

ottenham Hotspur have emerged as the top contender to win a lease for the now-closed Whitewebbs Park Golf Course.

Spurs want to build a football academy for women and girls on the Green Belt site, which is adjacent to the Premier League club's training ground.

Enfield Council announced the permanent closure of the pay-as-you-play golf course earlier this year, having previously invited commercial bids from "sports and leisure providers" to lease the site and its surrounding ancient woodland in 2019.

Of the five final offers, the Tottenham Hotspur bid is now the only one being considered, after it ranked highest overall against the council's scoring criteria. This examination was based on each bidder's "ability to meet the council's key objectives", which include "both local community aspirations and the need to find a sustainable and viable future for the site".

As well as the women's academy, the football club wants to open a "sports turf academy" to provide "employment and training opportunities for a new generation of sports turf, green-keeping, horticultural and mechanical staff". It would also provide investment to "reinstate 19th Century parkland with a new café, toilets and other facilities".

The plan would see the former golf course leased by Spurs for at least 25 years, while the council would retain the woodland and area to the south of the wood, which would be excluded from the lease. The northern half of the golf course would be used for football, while the



The former northern clubhouse of Whitewebbs Park Golf Course is set to become the 'hub' of a new women's and girls' academy for Tottenham Hotspur

southern half would be turned into "parkland and wild meadows". The woodland would also see "improving biodiversity and improved paths for walking, cycling and horse riding".

Using the new rental income from Spurs, the council would invest £100,000 a year into grassroots sport for young people across the borough.

The council had claimed that Whitewebbs Park Golf Course was too costly to continue running itself, although the figures it published to justify its closure this year have been disputed by councillors.

Reacting to the news that Tottenham Hotspur were the only bidders now being considered, Sean Wilkinson, chair of the Friends of Whitewebbs Park users' group, told the *Dispatch*: "It only confirms long-circulated rumours that the council has done a deal with Spurs without consulting people.

"We had in writing a commitment [from the council] that there would be engagement with full details of the five final bids – they have not fulfilled that promise to users and stakeholders. I am appalled.

"Frankly I don't think I can believe anything the council says."

A decision on whether to proceed with the Tottenham Hotspur proposal will be made in mid-July and is subject to approval from councillors. A planning application would then follow and would be subject to statutory consultation, with the lease not being signed until permission is granted.

Council leader Nesil Caliskan said: "Whitewebbs [Park] Golf Course has made a significant financial loss over the last five years and it would be irresponsible of the council to subsidise this venture.

"If these proposals are approved we will use the rental income to reinvest an extra £100,000 a year into grassroots sport for young people across the borough.

"Residents have consistently told us that any proposal for the future of Whitewebbs needs to ensure the public continue to have access to this beautiful area.

"We were clear from the start that any partner we select for this scheme must put the community at the heart of their vision and I am pleased to see that the bid from Tottenham Hotspur does precisely that.

"I am also pleased that other bids that included soil importation have not scored highly and have therefore been ruled out."

Spurs chairman Daniel Levy said: "As with our existing training centre, close attention to detail will be paid to ensuring the site's natural environmental habitat is maintained and enhanced and that all design is to the very highest standards.

"Our proposals will enhance public access, improve opportunities for recreational and community use and build on the fantastic work that has been delivered by our foundation in Enfield over the past decade.



"The new Women and Girls' Football Academy will enable us to continue developing the game at grassroots level and to improve participation in the sport.

"It would be the first of its kind in the UK and it would be in Enfield – an inspirational setting."

Bids to take over the golf course that were rejected by the council included plans to create a petting farm, dog agility course and mountain bike trail; a large-scale driving range and adventure golf course; and a "significant" new building for hosting large-scale events.

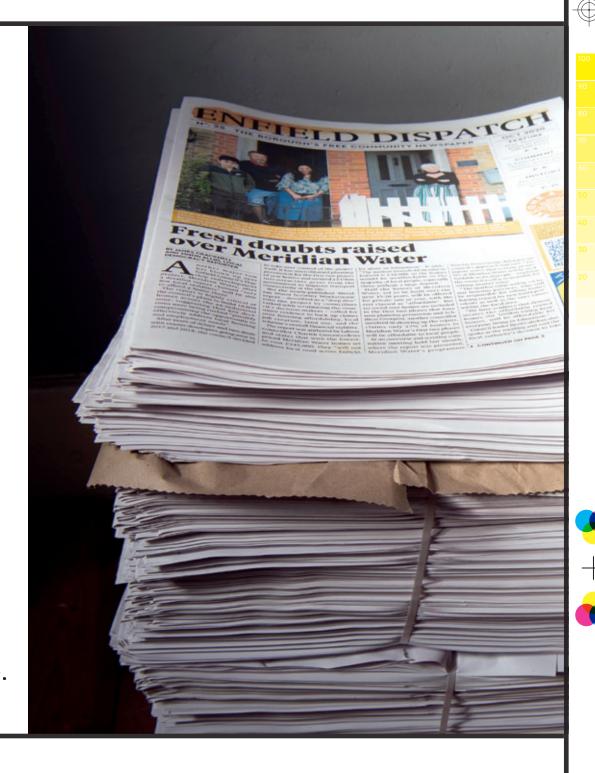
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Our publications Waltham Forest Echo, Enfield Dispatch, Tottenham Community Press, Barnet Post and EC1 Echo cover a wide area of North London and part of The City.

We distribute 52,500 free copies to readers via local newsstands, community venues, and door-to-door, with a total estimated readership of 157,500 people.



#### Example full page advert



"I feel now, more than ever, it is essential local, ethically-minded businesses advertise and support social enterprises such as Enfield Dispatch. The communities of Edmonton and Enfield need a platform for its voice to be heard. The Dispatch champions great community works and most importantly does not shy away from challenging social and economic injustices."

Andrew Ryde, Chamberlains Estates

Call Klaudia 07732 000 430 Email klaudia@socialspider.com

# **ARTS & CULTURE**

# Fun for all the family

#### David Williamson from the Friends of Broomfield Park previews more of the live events taking place in Palmers Green this summer

f you're planning your 'staycation' this year, you won't be short of things to do with the kids at Broomfield Summer Festival. And there is plenty happening for grown ups too!

Robin Hood, Dr Doolittle, Mr Stink, Hexwood School of Sorcery, Chickenshed and a summer panto are among the delights being organised by Friends of Broomfield Park, from now until the end of the festival in September.

Chickenshed Theatre is staging four shows from its *Tales from the Shed* series of vibrant, interactive theatre performances, which are perfect for under-fives with plenty of colourful puppets and live songs.

One of the highlights of the festival is the 'So What Stories', created and performed by an accomplished cast of local school parent panto actors and musicians, performing daft songs and telling well-worn jokes. Aimed at the six-to-ten age range, the

stories will be an unforgettable experience for adults and children alike.

Several nationally renowned travelling theatre groups bring magic, talking animals, a stinky friend, and further bags of family entertainment, breathing life into the school holidays. The festival also features the annual Talkies Cinema family 'picnic in the park in the dark' outdoor cinema, this year starring Shaun the Sheep in Farmageddon.

Breda Patterson, the organiser behind a Palmers Green parents' group, says: "We are knocked out by the things on offer for families. There is something for children of all ages and as parents we are thrilled to have this available on our doorstep."

Ian Barnes, deputy leader of Enfield Council, adds: "With a long, hot summer ahead of us it's wonderful to see such a line up of family entertainment in Broomfield Summer Festival.



Hazelwood Players are performing a summer pantomime at Broomfield Park called 'So What Stories'

"Many years ago I remember desperately searching for events to keep my daughter occupied during the summer holidays, and it's wonderful that we have such an eclectic mix in our park." Friends of Broomfield Park is volunteer-led and all proceeds from the festival go toward supporting activities in the park.

For a full list of events at Broomfield Summer Festival: Visit fobplevents

# Educating the next generation of performers

Susan Jamson from Chickenshed invites local young people to join one of the theatre's education courses

or the past 47 years Chickenshed, a theatre and charity based in Southgate, has been a leading light in inclusive performance.

Chickenshed is also a highly regarded and successful educational establishment, delivering further and higher education courses to more than 200 full-time students. Unlike other performing arts courses, Chickenshed students have the unique opportunity to learn and perform in a professional working theatre. They are at the heart of everything, working alongside Chickenshed's team of actors, musicians, choreographers, dancers, writers and directors, acquiring performing arts skills both on stage and behind the scenes.

Chickenshed runs three education courses, a BTEC level three national extended diploma in performing arts practice, a foundation degree in inclusive performance, and a Bachelor of Arts (BA) honours degree in inclusive performance. All three courses are nationally recognised and accredited to both Edexcel

and Middlesex University.

Our courses are hugely successful. The BTEC course was rated 'outstanding' by education watchdog Ofsted and has a 98% pass rate, while 70% of the foundation degree and BA graduates achieve at least a 2:1 grade pass.

The BTEC is a two-year full-time course which is recognised as being equivalent to three A-Levels. Students are expected to attend approximately 16 hours of lessons per week, over three to four days. Most BTEC courses require four GCSEs at grade four in order to qualify for a place, however, Chickenshed evaluates applicants on their experience, enthusiasm, potential,

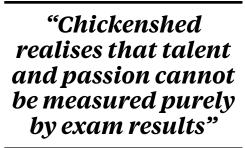
and their ability to commit to attend all

The foundation degree in inclusive performance is also a two-year, full-time course. It is an accredited qualification that provides a pathway to a full BA honours qualification.

The BA is a top-up year programme called 'Inclusive Theatre – From Performance to Project'. It builds on the achievements and learning outcomes from previous study at degree level, allowing students to achieve a full BA honours in inclusive performance.

Chickenshed realises that talent and passion cannot be measured purely by exam results or 'traditional' academic bench-

marks. We are determined that student groups are fully inclusive; identifying and developing the potential of every person to produce outstanding results. As long as participants meet the age requirements and can demonstrate previous experience, either within or outside formal education, then Chickenshed is an ideal place for young people to study.



At present Chickenshed is recruiting students to join all three of our courses for the September term. Students will be invited to perform in this year's Christmas production – and will have the opportunity to explore music, dance, drama and musical theatre and gain practical experience of inclusive theatre practice. All three courses are highly commended for their quality, inclusivity and imaginative provision – and offer students a sound grounding in all of the disciplines that make up the performing arts.

Chickenshed has a long track record of introducing young people from all backgrounds to live performance

For more information about Chickenshed education programmes: Visit chickenshed.org.uk/why-study-at-chickenshed



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# LISTINGS

#### **Submit your listing**

We can include low-cost community events taking place in Enfield. For next month's listings, email the details of your event to enfielddispatch@socialspider.com by Monday 19th July

#### WEBINAR

#### Start-up Essentials from **Enterprise Enfield**

Tuesday 6th July, 11am-12.30pm

This free introductory webinar is for anyone thinking of starting a business. It will give you an overview of what's involved in starting a business; including developing your business idea; sources of finance; and promoting your business online.

Free entry

Visit enterpriseenfield.org

#### **MARKET**

#### **Forty Hall Farmers Market** Sunday 11th July, 10am-3pm

Our successful farmers market is back. It will bring together a range of local food producers, with a focus on local organic produce. Including a feast of tasty morsels and the farm's own organic meat, veg and wine.

Free entry

#### Visit fortyhallfarm.org.uk

### MUSIC

#### **Southgate Symphony Orchestra**

Saturday 10th July, 7pm St Andrew's Church, Chase Side, Southgate N14 5PP

Conducted by Adrian Brown, this concert celebrates the return of live music and features Rebecca Whitehouse joining us to perform Mozart, Delius and Beethoven. The concert is dedicated to the late Terry Hawes, the orchestra's founder.

Tickets start from £11 Visit wegottickets. com/event/518018

#### **PICNIC**

#### **Summer Picnic in Broomfield Park**

Saturday 24th July, 12pm-5pm Community Orchard, Broomfield Park, Palmers Green N13 4PZ

Enjoy a picnic among the apple trees in the orchard, with live music, refreshments and a tug of war. This year the picnic is part of Broomfield Summer Festival. Come together with family, friends and neighbours to champion what our local park means to us.

#### Free entry

Visit friendsofbroomfieldpark. org/orchard-picnic-day

#### **CRAFTS**

#### Sew and Make with Stitch!

Saturday 24th July, 3-5pm Stitch! 364 Green Lanes, Palmers Green N13 5XL (inside Post Office)

Come along with a simple item or garment that you need help with. This is a continuously running class which you can book week to week. Not suitable for beginners. We provide sewing machines, cutting boards, scissors and rotary cutters.

**COMEDY** 

Tickets £30 Visit stitch.org.uk

#### **Resistance Comedy**

Friday 30th July, 8pm Millfield Theatre, Silver Street, Edmonton N18 1PJ

A new regular comedy club at Millfield Theatre. Expect some of the best UK and international acts to make you laugh your socks off. Line up TBC.

Tickets start from £10 Visit millfieldtheatre.co.uk

#### **THEATRE**

#### Jane Eyre at Myddelton **House Gardens**

Saturday 31st July, 6pm Myddelton House Gardens, Bulls Cross, Enfield EN2 9HG

DOT Productions return with another adaptation of a well-loved English classic. Charlotte Bronte's bold and enduring novel is full of gothic drama and heart-wrenching choices that translate on to the stage in a powerful production played out by five actors.

#### Tickets from £14

Visit ticketsource.co.uk/ dot-productions/t-jnmoon

#### **FESTIVAL**

#### Chickenshed's Festival of Fun From Saturday 31st July until

Saturday 7th August Chickenshed, Chase Side, Southgate N14 4PE

Chickenshed's 'Tales' team is back this summer with a brand new 'Festival of Fun'. Join us for nine days packed full of events for all children aged up to

Various ticket prices

Visit chickenshed.org.uk

# HEALTH

# **Enfield out-jabs North London**



#### **LICENSING ACT 2003** Notice Of Application for a **New Premises Licence/Club Premises Certificate\***

Notice is hereby given that Bonvila Foods Ltd has applied to the Licensing Authority of London Borough of Enfield for a Premises Licence/Club Premises Certificate\* to permit:

- Storage and distribution of groceries and alcohol. Deliveries will be made between 1pm-9pm
- For the premises: Bonvila Foods Limited Wareh situated at Unit 10, Watermill Business Centre, Edison Road EN3 7XF

The public register where applications are available to be viewed by members of the public can be accessed online by visiting <a href="https://new.enfield.gov.uk/services/business-andlicensing/">https://new.enfield.gov.uk/services/business-andlicensing/</a> and following the link to the Licensing Register. Email 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, giving in detail the grounds of the representation no later than: 20/07/2021.

Representations received by post will not be accepted 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 state ent in connection w n application for a premises licence. A person guilty of n offence is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level five on the standard scale.

Dated: Tuesday 22th June 2021

nfield is leading North London in the race to vaccinate against Covid-19, government data show.

As the Dispatch went to press at the end of June, the borough was closing in on the milestone of 200,000 first doses administered. With second doses. Enfield has almost reached 150,000 doses, around half of all adults.

It puts Enfield eighth out of the capital's 32 boroughs for first doses, and fifth in London for second doses. No other North London borough has vaccinated a larger proportion of its population.

However, London as a whole is lagging behind the rest of the country in vaccinations, as the worst-performing region, and Enfield's vaccine uptake remains below the UK average. Wales is the highest-vaccinated part of the UK.

Enfield doctor Ujjal Sarkar works for Medicus Health Partners, which runs several local GP surgeries and has helped organise the vaccine roll-out in the borough. He credits the speedy vaccine delivery in Enfield to a well-organised operation between GP practices and says the focus is now on efforts to persuade people in vulnerable categories who have not yet been vaccinated that the jabs are safe – and that the far greater risk to their health is in remaining unvaccinated.

Dr Sarkar told the Dispatch: "We have worked closely with the local authority's public health team, with the local CCG [clinical commissioning group] and Enfield GP Federation to ensure that we continue to improve vaccine cohort penetration and help support patients, where there is hesitancy, to come forward."

Covid-19 cases recorded in Enfield have been rising since May and have now reached similar levels to those seen in late February. However, the number of Covid-19 patients being treated at North Middlesex Hospital remained low at the end of June.

Last month, Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced the next 'unlocking' date for pandemic restrictions would be postponed by four weeks, to Monday 19th July, because of the rapid spread of the Delta variant of Covid-19. Enfield is on track to have vaccinated more than 70% of the borough's adult population with a first dose by this date.

If you are 18 or over, have a health condition that puts you at greater risk, or are a registered unpaid carer, you can book a Covid-19 vaccine appointment without needing an invitation letter:

Visit nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19

#### A year when health providers stepped up

Michelle Malwah from Healthwatch Enfield introduces the organisation's annual report

ealthwatch Enfield is about you, your voice, your opinions, your challenges and your compliments. This year, more than ever, your feedback has really mattered. It has made a big difference because, during this pandemic, Enfield health services, GPs, the council and local hospitals have worked together in a powerful way and have been keen to hear your feedback and respond to it. We worked with them knowing that when we offer challenge, it is taken seriously, and that your views can help influence change.

We were also able to feed back your thanks and compliments to frontline staff and managers. We have been active in reaching out to you in new ways, because face-to-face meetings were not possible. Our now well-established 'webinars' have received positive feedback and covered a variety of key topics you asked us for more information about.

We were particularly concerned about the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus pandemic on black and minority ethnic people. Our report One size does not fit all has been helpful in reinforcing feedback from local diverse communities. We are really pleased with the work now being undertaken to engage with specific communities in a way that works for them.

Healthwatch Enfield is very dependent on - and grateful to - our fantastic volunteers who help us find out what's important to local people and what they think about health and social care services. Because of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic, our volunteers have been very flexible and have continued to support our new ways of working. Their positive enthusiasm for supporting local work and initiatives is inspiring. This included offering telephone befriending support, a service for vulnerable people during the height of the pandemic.

Our annual report can now be read on our website. You may also be aware that Healthwatch Enfield is now being run by a different provider, Healthwatch Central West London. Healthwatch Enfield will continue to be there for you on a local level, and will be working hard to make sure your voice is always heard. Our contact details remain the same.

Get in touch with Healthwatch Enfield: Call 020 8373 6283 Email admin@healthwatchenfield.co.uk
Visit healthwatchenfield.co.uk



# By-election taking place after independent kicked off council

#### **BY JAMES CRACKNELL**

oters in Bush Hill Park are heading to the polls this month after a by-election was called to replace an independent kicked off the council for failing to attend meetings.

Will Coleshill was forced to stand down from Enfield Council after he did not attend a single council meeting for six months, a minimum requirement for elected councillors. This means a fourth Enfield by-election of the year will now be held on Thursday 1st July in Bush Hill Park.

Three by-elections were previously held in Chase, Jubilee and Southbury wards on 6th May, when Labour successfully defended two seats but also lost one – Chase – to the Conservatives. There was a significant swing away from Labour in every ward contested.

Coleshill had originally been elected in 2018 as a Conservative, but was suspended from the party just a few months later after being accused of making racist remarks in a council meeting, when he

had asked whether the Turkish family of a Labour councillor had "brought a classroom with them".

Last November, while still a councillor, Coleshill was charged with breaching lock-down restrictions after attending a public gathering in Hyde Park. He entered a 'not guilty' plea in court but the case was later dismissed and a fixed penalty notice issued.

Bush Hill Park is a Tory-leaning ward won in a clean-sweep by the Conservatives in 2018, when Labour came within 65 votes of winning one of the ward's three seats. In a separate by-election held later that year, Tory candidate James Hockney won 52.4% of the vote, with Labour's Bevin Betton a long way behind on 28.2%.

July's by-election will see six candidates vie to win the vacant Bush Hill Park seat on the council.

Liberal Democrat Ade Adetula says he is standing because "Conservatives and Labour find it impossible to work together and aren't working for the good of the people who elected them" He says he will fight to tackle fly-tipping and car crime.



Former Bush Hill Park councillor Will Coleshill failed to attend a single council meeting for

Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition candidate John Dolan is standing to oppose austerity and said that "workers in understaffed services are highly stressed, and struggling to provide the quality services our communities need and deserve".

Conservative Peter Fallart wants to restore weekly bin collections and reduce council debt. He said: "The amount of fly-tipping in Bush Hill Park, being ignored by Enfield's Labour council, is unacceptable, and becoming a real health hazard."

Green candidate Benjamin Maydon opposes the new Edmonton incinerator and is standing for "action on climate change, social justice and public services".

Clive Morrison, a former Labour councillor in Enfield, is now standing for a new political party, Taking The Initiative. He said: "My main focus will be to combat gun and knife crime. This scourge of knife crime will not happen on my watch!"

Nia Stevens, the Labour Party candidate, said: "Touched and humbled that people have put their trust in me and super proud to support Labour in Enfield."

Will Coleshill could not be reached for comment.

For the latest from the Bush Hill Park by-election: Visit enfielddispatch.co.uk



# OUND THE BOROUGH

**ANGEL EDMONTON** 

### Residents join protest over cladding



#### BY JAMES CRACKNELL

cladding deemed "unsafe" on a modern estate, after joining a day of nationwide protests.

Leaseholders living at Prowse Court in Fore Street, caught up in a growing scandal over cladding and fire safety, were joined by the Labour MP outside a sales office for developer Countryside.

Residents of the building, situated above Silverpoint Medical Centre, fire safety regulations introduced like Grenfell. after the Grenfell Tower disaster.

The residents face bills of up to

but have been rejected by a government cladding fund. Kate Osamor EDMONTON MP KATE OSAMOR said: "Countryside refuse to fix has called on a developer to fix the problem they caused, meaning hundreds of my constituents have been left in unsafe properties, unable to afford the huge cost of fixing them.

"This is the same problem faced by leaseholders across the country. As a result of property developer greed and the governregulations, they go to sleep every night knowing they are not safe discovered last year the cladding on and that nothing has been done to their balconies didn't meet stricter prevent another terrible tragedy

> "That's why I joined my constituents to protest outside Countryside

sage; if you broke it, fix it."

The government's Building Safety Fund previously rejected an application from Prowse Court residents, apparently because cladding on balconies falls outside its remit, but they're now appealing.

Edel Smullen is one of the leaseholders affected. She said: "The government is dragging its feet looking at our Building Safety Fund appeal. We can't start any work until we know if they are paying or not. If they don't, we don't know how we can afford to pay. And we just continue to live in flammable homes.

"Countryside constructed our building at Silverpoint and then sold the freehold to an offshore company. We wanted to protest outside Countryside to express our horror at the situation we find ourselves in, through no fault of our own."

Countryside maintains that Prowse Court complied with the building regulations in place at the time of its construction. A spokesperson said: "We consider ment's obsession with cutting fire safety and the quality of the construction of our buildings to be an absolute priority. We're sympathetic to the challenges faced by some leaseholders.

"We're working with freeholders and managing agents across historical developments to comply with £15,000 to replace the cladding, Properties. We had a clear mes- all government requirements."

#### **PALMERS GREEN**

#### Supermarket homes plan

BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

A DEVELOPER WANTS TO BUILD blocks of flats up to twelve storevs high on the site of a supermarket and former pub in Palmers Green.

The plans, if approved by Enfield Council, would see 52 homes built at the TFC Supermarket site on the buildings of between three and north-east corner of the North Circular Road and Green Lanes junction.

The current building, which dates back to 1885, was originally known as the Cock Inn and later served as a disco, theme pub and sports bar. Identified as a heritage asset by Enfield Council, two of its main facades would be incorporated into the new development.

The plans involve building blocks of three, eight and twelve storeys at the site, which is surrounded by

Designs for the twelve-storey sche

five storeys. A supermarket and restaurant are also included in the proposals, along with 29 parking spaces for cars and up to 120 cycle spaces for residents.

The exact 'affordable' housing provision for the site has not been confirmed but planning documents submitted by the developer suggest it will be at least 30%.

Residents can view the plans on the council's planning portal by searching planning reference 21/01230/FUL.

#### **EDMONTON GREEN**

#### Teen stole cop's uniform

A TEENAGER HAS BEEN JAILED mer. They then stole the officer's for robbing a police officer's uniform. suitcase, which had his uniform Bartlomiej Zielnski, aged 18 from Enfield, was sentenced at Wood Green Crown Court last month to discovered in a search of Zielnski's three years' imprisonment.

ton Green Bus Station in January robber hasn't been traced. 2020 when he was approached by other assailant pulled out a ham-

inside, before running off.

The officer's helmet was later address, after he'd been arrested The victim was waiting at Edmon- for another matter. The other

Detective Constable Daniel Trod-Zielnski and another youth, who den said: "Thankfully the officer offered him drugs. The police suffered no injuries, and in fact officer identified himself, but the continued on his way to work after the incident."

#### **ENFIELD LOCK**

### Anger over car parks closure

#### BY JAMES CRACKNELL

residents fuming at Enfield Council. crowded cul de sac.

Residents say they had little warning the council was planning to close the car parks, which have space for 30 vehicles, and that conproblems for bin lorries and emergency vehicles. They later discovcar parks to a housing developer. homes for sale at below market needed affordable housing."

the Dispatch: "The car parks are THE CLOSURE OF TWO RESIDENTIAL now padlocked, causing major lems with refuse collection in the car parks in Raynton Road has left parking issues as this is a very

"It is going to be absolute mayhem for residents, not just in Raynton Road, but in the surrounding streets, which will no doubt have to deal gestion in the street was creating with the overflow due to the loss of parking."

Developer Naked Homes is planered the council had sold the two ning to build 22 "custom build" council asset to provide much-

One resident, Sandra Bodell, told rate. An Enfield Council spokesperson said there were no probstreet and added: "The council's custom build homes scheme is an exciting approach to new housing [and] will open opportunities for home ownership to residents currently locked out of the market who want active involvement in the design of their home.

"We are making the best use of a

#### **ENFIELD WASH**

#### Wetlands project progress

Brook and create a new wetlands in it to become a haven for wildlife. Albany Park is nearing completion.

Volunteers were joined by deputy mayor Christine Hamilton for a planting day which saw waterloosestrife and flag iris bedded in.

now been diverted via a more natural also attract wildlife."

WORK TO REDIRECT TURKEY meander through the park, allowing

The £1.25million Enfield Council project - funded by the Greater London Authority and Thames Water - is also designed to create a large loving species such as purple flood storage area, reducing flood risk to 200 homes. Guney Dogan, Turkey Brook previously flowed in cabinet member for environment, a concrete channel on the northern said: "It will make the park aesthetedge of Albany Park, but the river has ically more pleasant for visitors and

# Third major film studios set to open in Enfield

Locations firm is opening its second Enfield Lock site, said to be largest in London

nother big film studios complex is opening in Enfield – the third to arrive in the borough in the last year.

Film locations agency Location Collective is launching its second site in Enfield Lock later this summer. At 20,800 square metres in size, it will be 50% bigger than its first site in Mollison Avenue, which the company had already claimed to be the biggest film studio in London.

OMA:X Film Studios will be created inside an existing warehouse site and will feature six sound stages, catering for what Location Collective describe as a "post-Covid filming boom" caused by major studios and streaming companies looking to catch up on content production after the pandemic.

They add that shooting in the UK allows production companies to benefit from "significant film and TV industry tax-breaks, breadth of architecture and landscape, and world-class talent and filming infrastructure". Total spend on UK film and TV production reached £3.6billion in 2019.

Enfield now has a fast-growing reputation as a major filming location, helped by deputy council leader Ian Barnes' industry connections as an Oscar-nominated director. Another film studios site opened

at Meridian Water earlier this year.

Antony Iredale, managing director of Location Collective, said: "We are extremely excited about the role OMA:X Film Studios has the potential to play in bringing the biggest, highest-profile productions to London and the UK.

"The message we're receiving from studio executives we've spoken to over the last couple of months has been the same: 'London is where we want to make this project, we just need to find enough space to do it'.

"The site has perfect 'bone structure' for film studio use. The building's 46-foot [14-metre] working height clearance and vast pillar-less spans have provided us with a rare opportunity to create sound stages of significant size and scale.

"It's a site I've driven past for many years and thought about how fantastic it would be to make it available for film studio use. Now, we are very fortunate to be in the position of making it a reality.

"Enfield Council has been hugely supportive of our plans, demonstrating once again the borough's commitment to placing Enfield on the map as a film production hub."

Council leader Nesil Caliskan said: "Location Collective's decision to expand



in Enfield with the opening of OMA:X is hugely exciting and beneficial for the borough, and will attract a continuous flow of high calibre film and television productions for many years to come.

"We have worked closely with London Collective to make this vision a reality and we are delighted that London's largest film studio is opening in our borough. "The creative industries make a large contribution to London's economy and OMA:X together with OMA Film Studios will complement the growing film and entertainment industry at Meridian Water and support Enfield Council's plans to support good quality, long-term jobs for local people, as well as further enhancing cultural aspects across our community."



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**Sign up:** eepurl.com/dIDKNH

# **HISTORY**



# Enfield's rite of pannage

#### Dave Cockle, chair of The Enfield Society, looks at the incredible history of Enfield Chase

ourt records indicate that in 1557, Queen Elizabeth I was escorted from Hatfield to Enfield Chase by a retinue of twelve ladies in white satin on ambling palfreys, and 120 yeomen in green on horseback, so that she might hunt deer. On entering the Chase she was met by 50 archers in scarlet boots and yellow caps, armed with gilded bows, each of whom presented her with a silver headed arrow, winged with peacock feathers. When the buck was taken, the princess was pleased to be allowed the privilege of cutting his throat. Enfield Royal Chase originated in Enfield Wood, part of the great Forest of Middlesex, which extended as far south as the River Thames. William I gave the manors of Edmonton and Enfield to Geoffrey de Mandeville after the Norman Conquest. The Chase was created around 1140-4, and the name 'Enfield Chase' first appears in public records in 1326.

The Chase was stocked with young deer raised at Enfield Old Park, which was the area now occupied by Enfield and Bush Hill Park golf courses, plus Town Park. John Norden's map of 1593 shows the relationship between the fenced park and the Chase. The Postern Gate, located in the

approximate location of the modern Postern Green, provided access into the Chase.

Medieval fish ponds shown on Norden's map can still be seen at Boxer's Lake and at Pond Wood near Potters Bar. The remains of a medieval moated manor can still be seen at Camlet Moat, and also a keeper's fortified house at Enfield Golf Course.

The medieval peasant economy of Enfield relied on common rights within the Chase, including pannage (fattening of pigs on acorns and beech-mast), gathering of firewood, and hunting small game. *Domesday Book* estimated that the Manor of Enfield supported 2,000 swine, and it seems likely that the name Hog Hill at Enfield Chase (north of Slades Hill) is a reference to pannage within what would have then been woodland.

The people of Enfield parish had a history of violent resistance to encroachment on their rights. In the 1650s parliamentary commissioners, anxious for revenue, sold off a large part of the Chase, mainly to army officers. The commoners complained that they had lost most of their timber and half of their grazing rights, and that the allocation of land had been unfair. In 1659 the commoners gathered with pitchforks and scythes, and tore down fences erected by 'intruders' trying to enclose the Chase.

Soldiers retaliated by shooting their sheep and cattle, and in the affray two or three commoners were killed, but the soldiers were overpowered, violently beaten, and carried off to Newgate Prison. Around this time radical local clergyman William Covell wrote pamphlets brimming with enlightened ideas, including collective farming on the Chase and taxation to pay for elderly care.

Enfield hosted a number of communities with radical ideas, including the Levellers, Diggers and Quakers.

In 1723, the Whig government passed the so-called 'Black Act' to criminalise the use of camouflage by suspected poachers at Enfield Chase and elsewhere. This legislation was in part at the petition of the rangers of Enfield Chase, including men such as Sir Basil Firebrace and General John Pepper, who lived at Rangers House, now part of Bush Hill Park Golf Club.

Wealthy and powerful people came to view the Chase as unproductive wasteland. The extraction of profit from the Chase ultimately led to the Act for the Division of Enfield Chase in 1777. The act included provision for the creation of a miniature deer park, now Trent Park, which was gifted by George III to his physician, Dr Jebb, who had travelled to Trento in Italy where he successfully treated the Duke of Gloucester (the king's younger brother) for mental illness.

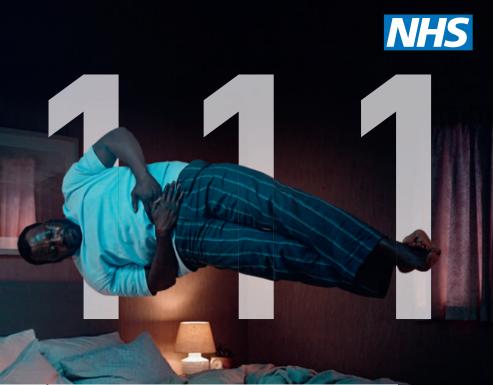
Poet John Keats was educated at Clarke's Academy (where Enfield Town Station now stands), a progressive institution which fomented a culture of dissent and formed an important backdrop to Keats' poetry, including classics such as *To Autumn*, which was also influenced by the Enfield countryside of his childhood.

Further enclosure of the Chase in 1803 (at which time Chase Green was created) inflamed Keats and other Romantic poets. Charles and Mary Lamb, authors of the popular *Tales from Shakespeare*, lived in nearby Gentleman's Row and received distinguished visitors including their friend William Wordsworth.

#### "The medieval peasant economy of Enfield relied on common rights within the Chase, including pannage"

The last major developments on the Chase took place at South Lodge (now the Lowther/Merryhills Drive area) in 1935, but thankfully much of the countryside of the Chase can still be enjoyed today, at places such as Trent Park, Fir and Pond Wood, and along the rights of way beside Salmons Brook, Merryhills Way across Vicarage Farm, and a number of permissive paths in the area.

--- Advertisement



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When you think you need A&E, contact NHS 111 by phone or online.



# **SPORT**



# Charity race returns

# Triffic Trail race director Matt Burn encourages local runners to take part in this year's race

riffic Trail, the annual running event organised by Trent Park Running Club, will return to Trent Park in September.

The event has a long history going back to 1985 and prides itself on being a race for all abilities and all ages. There will be two runs taking place again this year; a 10km for seniors and 4.5km for juniors. The junior run starts at 09.30am and the senior run at 10.30am.

Both runs will take place within the picturesque fields and undulating trails of Trent Park, which is a really lovely place to run, especially in the autumn. We get a lot of runners

returning each year, as well as new entrants.

Each finisher will receive a T-shirt, goody bag and water. There are prizes in different age categories, spot prizes, chip timing, and a fully marshalled course with water stations.

Peter Goldfinch, chair of Trent Park Running Club, said: "Trent Park Running Club is a running club for all, and the Triffic Trail is a run for all abilities. This is a real community event, with around 100 people volunteering each year to make sure everything runs smoothly.

"We have some brilliant sponsors who we are very grateful to and are proud to support

some amazing local charities."

Local estate agents Chamberlains Estates have been the main event sponsors for the past ten years and are donating 30 places to three local charities; Chickenshed, Nightingale Cancer Support Centre and Noah's Ark; enabling them to raise further funds for these great organisations.

Last year's race had to be cancelled because of the pandemic.

Triffic Trail will take place on Sunday 26th September and entries for can be made online:

Visit triffictrail.com

# Golf club wins top national award

ush Hill Park Golf Club has been named 'club of the year' for its community-focused response to the pandemic.

National sports body England Golf praised the club in Bush Hill for "developing its facilities, growing its membership and connecting with the local area like never before" in the past year.

During the pandemic, perishable food and drinks were donated by the club to a homeless charity, while 100 food parcels were delivered to members who were forced to self-isolate. A takeaway food service was also successful, with 2,500 portions of fish and chips or curry being sold to hungry golfers denied their usual visit to the clubhouse restaurant because of restrictions.

More than 160 new members have joined Bush Hill Park since March 2020, with the club's "positive and engaging presence on social media" credited with raising the club's profile online and attracting new audiences.

The club has also become a signatory to the Women in Golf Charter and developed a new women's affiliate programme which has attracted more than 40 beginners and



Bush Hill Park Golf Club has been named 'club of the year' by England Golf

put 26 women on track for full membership, saying it is "fully committed to encouraging more women and girls to find enjoyment and healthy exercise through golf".

Improvements to Bush Hill Park Golf Club's course over the last year include new bunkers, toilet facilities and a 'halfway hut'. Using money received via an England Golf Covid-19 grant, the club was also able to build five undercover practice bays and install a new chipping area.

Stewart Judd, the club's general manager, said: "This is a fantastic achievement for the club and a testament to the efforts of the entire Bush Hill Park Golf Club community, who pulled together to support members and the wider community and to take the club forwards in the most trying of times."

# 20 years of Town

BY ANDREW WARSHAW

t isn't every day that a grassroots non-league football club discovers a whole new fan base – especially hundreds of miles away overseas.

But as they celebrate their 20th anniversary this year, Enfield Town FC are suddenly being avidly followed by a Spanish website whose readers have taken the club to their collective hearts as a result of its fan ownership ethos.

Every month, Aficion Deportiva, founded two years by a group of student journalists and read by over 40,000 fans across Spain, features articles on the Towners. Pablo Triguero, who co-ordinates the website's amateur football coverage, explained: "When I was a child, I was a big fan of the Premier League and its star players, but in recent years a lot of things have changed, not least the clubs' relationship with the fans.

"That's when I started to look into the whole concept of fan ownership and discovered Enfield Town."

Pablo has now conducted a series of interviews with players and staff. "I love the way the club is focused on the community," he says. "My goal is to make Enfield Town everyone's second favourite team in Spain!"

Meanwhile, the club's 20th anniversary celebrations this month include a prestige home fixture on Tuesday 20th July – against Tottenham Hotspur under-23s. It's a hugely anticipated occasion and will include the auction of a signed shirt and ball donated by the club's illustrious neighbours. The plan is for a prominent Spurs figure to award the auctioned items.

Chair Paul Reed summed up what the anniversary means for the country's first-ever supporter-owned club. He said: "The fact that we are here today as a strong and progressive club is tribute to the many hundreds of people who have volunteered their time, resources and money to support us through our growth, both on and off the pitch. There are far too many to thank, but they all know who they are.

"Being the first fan-owned club in the UK is something we're immensely proud of. It's great that fan ownership is firmly on the football agenda in 2021 and hopefully we'll see a big increase in supporter-led clubs." N°.34 JULY 2021 | ENFIELD DISPATCH

# Support independent local journalism

#### 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.

These are challenging times for print media with many newspapers closing and advertising revenue in decline, but our not-for-profit model offers a new approach to creating local journalism which is inclusive and accountable.

### How you can help

As a not-for-profit publication we rely on the generous support of our community. We look to our readers, who recognise the value of independent journalism, to help support us.

You can do this by becoming a member either as an individual or as an organisation. See the rewards opposite and once you've decided what package you would like, visit our website:

enfielddispatch.co.uk/join

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Name in print and online, pin badge

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Name in print and online, pin badge.

Name in print and online, pin badge, tote bag, paper posted to you every month

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