

ENFIELD DISPATCH

Nº.35 THE BOROUGH'S FREE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

AUG 2021

FEATURES

Meet the people behind London's only commercial vineyard

P.5

LOCAL PLAN

Residents and businesses in Crews Hill share their views on Green Belt plans

P.10

SPORT

Blind football wonderkid meets Gareth Southgate

P.19



Two murals were unveiled at Enfield Chase Station to mark 150 years of the Hertford Loop line. One depicts the original station building, demolished in 1984, while another shows the old windmill that stood on Windmill Hill until 1904. Michael Robinson-Taylor and sister Pauline unveiled the second mural (pictured) as descendants of the Robinson family who last owned the windmill. Both mosaics were made by artist Debbie Dean and commissioned by The Enfield Society, with funding from Great Northern. Credit The Enfield Society

Council pledges fly-tipping crackdown

Reports of illegal dumping rise seven-fold since 2016

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Reports of fly-tipping in the borough have risen seven-fold in just four years, new data show, as Enfield Council pledges to do more to tackle the problem.

The council has come under increasing pressure to clamp down on illegal fly-tipping incidents that have become a common sight in Enfield. But while the pandemic has been blamed for exacerbating the problem nationwide, figures obtained by the *Dispatch* via the Freedom of Information Act reveal the problem locally has been worsening for several years.

Reports of fly-tipping in Enfield have risen every year for the last four years. In 2016/17, there

were 1,226 reports made, while in 2020/21, there were 8,719 – a rise of more than 600%. On average last year it means fly-tipping reports were being made almost every single hour.

The cost of dealing with fly-tipping incidents has also risen significantly. In 2016/17 the council spent £694,000 clearing up dumped waste, but in 2020/21 this rose to £1.25million.

Last month Conservative group leader Joanne Laban called for the council to reinstate free bulky waste collections for residents. The new cabinet member for environment, Rick Jewell, has since pledged to do exactly that, while also ordering a review of street cleaning in Enfield “having listened to residents’ views on the increase in levels of dumping and fly-tipping”.

Another demand from opposition groups is for the council to reinstate weekly bin collections, but this is not thought to be under consideration. Cllr Jewell said: “I am passionate about keeping our streets clean and I cannot accept the levels of fly-tipping and dumping currently being experienced – there is work to be done.”

“Residents continually tell us that their main concern is the condition of our streets and they want us to do more about it.”

“We’ve listened to what they’ve said and we’re going to find ways to improve the street cleaning service and make it more responsive.”

“Despite the challenges of the pandemic we have remained prudent in our spending over the last 18 months, enabling us to invest in tackling this resident priority, which is a blight on Enfield.”

“We are committed to making Enfield the cleanest borough in London. We want residents to play their part by reporting all fly-tips and giving us any information they have on the criminals who dump rubbish on our streets.”

“If we work together to dispose of our own rubbish responsibly, we can continue to build an Enfield that everyone is proud to call home. That is why we’re looking at scrapping fees for bulky waste collections to help everyone do the right thing.”

The council maintains that although fly-tipping rates have risen in Enfield, they still remain comparable to other parts of London. In 2019/20 – before both the pandemic and the start of fortnightly bin collections – Enfield ranked below the London average for fly-tipping incidents.



enfielddispatch.co.uk



enfielddispatch@socialspider.com



[@EnfieldDispatch](https://twitter.com/EnfieldDispatch)



[@EnfieldDispatch](https://www.instagram.com/EnfieldDispatch)



[/EnfieldDispatch](https://www.facebook.com/EnfieldDispatch)



The Dispatch is supported by Chamberlains Estates – turn to page 3

ED.

Nº.35
AUG 2021

Enfield Dispatch is the borough's free community newspaper. We publish monthly and distribute 10,000 free copies of each issue

Publisher
David Floyd

Editor
James Cracknell

Designer
Jonathan Duncan

Local Democracy Reporter
Simon Allin

Head of Advertising
Klaudia Kiss

Engagement Manager
Penny Dampier

Sales Representative
Xavier Duchon

Contributors
Liz Sorton, Nicole Brown,
Mary Tsenti, Ayten
Guzel, Suzanne Kelly,
Andrew Warshaw

CONTACT

Call 020 8367 2975

Email EnfieldDispatch@socialspider.com

Post Nicholas House, River Front, Enfield EN1 3TF

ADVERTISING

Call 07732 000 430

Email klaudia@socialspider.com

For licensing enquiries:

Email xavier@socialspider.com

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
BUSINESS WHERE SOCIETY PROFITS



Enfield Dispatch is a member of IMPRESS: The Independent Monitor of The Press. For more information on the Dispatch's complaints policy and how to make a complaint visit: enfielddispatch.co.uk/complaints

Low-traffic trial extended

BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

A low-traffic neighbourhood (LTN) trial in the south of the borough will continue after a bid to force a rethink of the scheme failed.

Conservative councillors called on Enfield Council to reconsider the Bowes Area Quieter Neighbourhood scheme, claiming it had pushed traffic on to surrounding roads and increased air pollution since it was installed a year ago.

But council officers and members of the Labour administration defended the trial and claimed more data was needed to judge whether it was a success. It came after the council cabinet's decision to extend the LTN trial was called in for debate at an overview and scrutiny committee by Tory councillors, forcing a debate on the issue.

Maria Alexandrou, shadow cabinet member for climate change, told the meeting LTNs had "forced traffic into other areas and divided the community in order to create a few quiet roads".

She said there had been a lack of community engagement on the scheme and also raised concerns over the impact on people

with disabilities, claiming their rights had not been considered and engagement with blue badge holders had been a "tick-box exercise". A survey revealed more than three quarters of those with a disability thought the trial had had a negative impact on them.

Cllr Barnes, who also chairs the council's climate change task force, told the meeting he had asked cabinet for the trial to be extended to allow the authority to collect more data about typical traffic patterns. He said the trial had been accompanied by a six-month consultation period, and the council had followed government guidelines on the scheme's roll-out.

The deputy leader added that the council had carried out a special survey for people with disabilities and held focus groups with them to find out what issues they were experiencing and what could be done to help them.

Under questioning from Tory committee member James Hockney, healthy streets programme director Richard Eason confirmed the council was not using air quality monitors to gauge the trial's impact on pollution levels. Instead, it is collecting traffic data and inputting it into a model to get an indication of the LTN's impact on air quality.

Two ward councillors for Bowes, Labour's Yasemin Brett and Achilleas Georgiou, voiced concerns about elements of the scheme, with Cllr Brett criticising the government's short timeline for rolling out the trial and Cllr Georgiou saying he thought there had been insufficient engagement with people living on the North Circular, which is on the boundary of the scheme.

Richard Eason said the council would consider carrying out more engagement with those disproportionately impacted.

Meanwhile, an anti-LTN campaign group has threatened legal action against the council because it claimed the consultation on the borough's other LTN trial, in the Fox Lane area of Palmers Green, was flawed. One Community accused the council of trying to mislead the public by not publishing a key document until two months after the trial had begun.

The council confirmed it had received an objection letter from the group and that a full report on the consultation, which closed in July, would "provide a response to any objections raised". A decision is now due to be made on whether to make the Fox Lane Quieter Neighbourhood scheme permanent.

Whitewebbs decision due

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Enfield Council is due to make a decision in August on whether to award Tottenham Hotspur a 25-year lease to manage part of Whitewebbs Park and its former golf course.

The Premier League football club, whose training centre lies adjacent to the park, was revealed in June as the top commercial bidder for an area amounting to roughly half the council's Whitewebbs estate.

Spurs want to open a new football academy for women and girls, constructing pitches on the northern half of the old golf course, which was permanently closed by the council in March. However, the football club would also manage the rest of the course and parts of the adjoining park, pledging to recreate the "historic

landscape and wildflower meadows, informed by the layout of the original 19th Century parkland landscape, reinstating lost parkland trees and historic vistas".

Local people have questioned why a football club wants to manage a park. In a protest last month, scores of Enfield residents gathered to wave placards and make speeches. Lindsey Lane said: "I have lived here in Enfield all my life and absolutely love and cherish Whitewebbs. My family always

thought it would be here for future generations – how wrong we were!

"This park was sold to the council in 1931 by Sir Duncan Orr-Lewis specifically for the people of Enfield to enjoy – not just those chosen few who kick a football round in a closeted academy."

Council leader Nesil Caliskan has said the rental income from the lease, if agreed, would allow the council to invest "an extra £100,000 a year into grassroots sport for young people".



Local people staged a protest at Whitewebbs in July over the proposed leasing of the former golf course to Tottenham Hotspur Credit Luke Lane

Killer jailed

A drunk man who murdered a neighbour in a random knife attack has been sentenced to more than 23 years in jail.

Abdi Osman, 43, fatally stabbed 26-year-old Nahid Ahmed outside a Forty Hill tower block. Osman pleaded guilty at the Old Bailey to murder and possession of a knife and was sentenced in July to 23.5 years in jail.

The attack happened in the early hours of Sunday, 13th September outside Purcell House in Holbrook Close. Nahid was in his car talking to his girlfriend when a neighbour saw Osman kick Nahid's BMW, with a confrontation ensuing. Later, Nahid's girlfriend heard his car door opening and her boyfriend wheezing. Nahid had been stabbed in the chest and was pronounced dead by paramedics at 1.25am.

Rushanara Ahmed, his mother, said: "Nahid was a good person, very well-liked and respected, hard-working, devoted to family, caring and kind. I couldn't have been prouder of the child he was, or the adult he became."

Charity grant

A n Enfield charity that provides support for people with learning difficulties has been awarded a £38,000 grant.

One-to-One Enfield encourages people to integrate and live independent lives through peer support and social activities. It was awarded £38,024 by People's Health Trust, using money raised by The Health Lottery.

Gang trial

Two gang members who shot an Enfield man with a shotgun in a "mindless attack" at the victim's own home have been found guilty of attempted murder.

Asharn Williams, aged 22 from Harrow, and Mickell Barnett, aged 21 of no fixed address, were convicted in July after a six-week trial at Snaresbrook Crown Court. They will be sentenced on Friday, 24th September.

The 26-year-old victim in the attack was unconnected to gangs. He was shot through a door and suffered life-threatening injuries. He continues to receive treatment more than two years after the attack in February 2019.

CHAMBERLAINS

E S T A T E S

Free professional video tours for all new Sales & Lettings instructions



VIDEO
TOUR

SOLE AGENTS

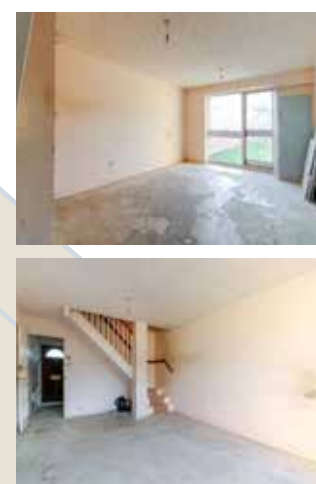
THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE – EPC TBC
Monastery Gardens, Enfield EN2 £550,000 Freehold



VIDEO
TOUR

SOLE AGENTS

A CHAIN FREE TWO BEDROOM HOUSE – EPC D59
Firbank Close, Enfield EN2 £390,000 Freehold



VIDEO
TOUR

SOLE AGENTS

TWO BEDROOM TOP FLOOR APARTMENT – EPC B
Windmill Hill, Enfield EN2 £325,000 Leasehold



VIDEO
TOUR

SOLE AGENTS

ONE BEDROOM GROUND FLOOR RETIREMENT APARTMENT – EPC C
Bycullah Road, Enfield EN2 £185,000 Leasehold



VIDEO
TOUR

SOLE AGENTS

MAGNIFICENT TWO BEDROOM LUXURY APARTMENT – EPC B
Claremont Heights, Crescent Road, Enfield EN2 Offers in the region of £550,000



VIDEO
TOUR

FOR RENT

A THREE BEDROOM UNFURNISHED FAMILY HOUSE – EPC D
Crest Drive, Enfield EN3 £1,650 per month



Training adults to support young people's mental health

BY LIZ SORTON

Three years ago I was interested to find out more about what was happening in the local area with regards to community safety and positive activities for young people, so I started attending Enfield Council community safety meetings.

Through these I discovered UnLtd, an organisation that offers cash awards, networking and mentorship opportunities for social entrepreneurs in the UK. In Edmonton, UnLtd is partnering with Bountagu Big Local to find social entrepreneurs in the area who have ideas to make a positive, lasting difference to their community.

Young people are still being affected by serious youth violence, as well as the impact of the pandemic on their education. Having already been working locally as a consultant and trainer with Edmonton Community Partnership, I realised an impactful way to support young people with their mental health would be through training the trusted adults they already had in their lives to be youth mental health first aiders; for example by training their school teachers, staff in their youth groups, elders within their religious community, and staff from their sports clubs.

This is where the idea for my UnLtd



Liz Sorton is working with UnLtd and Bountagu Big Local on delivering mental health training to adults who work with young people in Edmonton Credit: Natalie Gee

project started to form. Supported by my mentor Zoe White, I was successful in winning an UnLtd award to deliver my training project and I will now be delivering courses to train twelve new youth

mental health first aiders, who can then join organisations that work with young people in and around the Bountagu area of Edmonton (Montagu and Bounces roads).

The two-day courses are for everyone who works with, lives with, or supports young people aged between eight and 18 years. I will teach the skills and confidence to spot the signs of mental health issues in young people, offer first aid, and guide them towards the support they need. In doing so, these adults can speed up a young person's recovery and stop a mental health issue from getting worse.

"I will teach the skills and confidence to spot the signs of mental health issues in young people"

I'd like to thank UnLtd for believing in my project and I am looking forward to delivering it. My discounted September online course is now available for bookings, on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline for registering is Monday, 16th August.

To get in touch with Liz about her mental health training project:

Email: hello@youthcoachliz.com

For more information about the support offered by UnLtd: Visit unltd.org.uk

Childcare in the community

Mary Tsenti on how Walker Children's Club has bounced back

Walker Children's Club is a charitable childcare organisation that provides quality and affordable after-school and holiday clubs.

We opened our doors in March 2003 after the club was set up by a group of parents of pupils at Walker School, which had no after-school provision at the time. We understand the importance of providing high-quality childcare, not just so that parents are able to work, but also to improve the lives of our children.

Our club offers a range of activities and children are free to choose from sports, arts and crafts, performing arts, cooking and much more. We also run a dance club and tennis club weekly. All activities and clubs are covered under the initial cost of a session.

We serve children and families with a wide range of needs and have never turned a child away. We endeavour to adapt our environment to suit the needs of each child; we're currently developing our sensory provision, which studies have

shown is beneficial to all children.

During lockdown, when we were unable to open, our staff produced online activities to send to our children to help keep them entertained. When we were eventually able to reopen, we had to do so with limited numbers to ensure social distancing. Because of this, we took part in our first-ever fundraising campaign with The Big Give and The Childhood Trust and were amazed that we were able to raise over £16,000 for our club!

Enfield Dispatch helped immensely by sharing our posts and spreading the word. We would like to thank everyone who supported us in the campaign. Your generosity was incredible.

The funding received will be crucial to developing a sensory room for children to access, as well as opening a new out-of-school club in Enfield. We are working closely with our partners to engage with children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), as we understand there is a shortage of



Children from Walker Children's Club help paint a bench in the garden

sensory provision in Enfield.

Please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions.

For more information on Walker Children's Club:

Email: admin@walkerchildrensclub.com

Visit: walkerchildrensclub.com

Learning to live again

Nicole Brown from Southgate-based Visionaries Learning Centre on how they're helping young people back into work and education

The pandemic has brought with it a host of debilitating effects for families, businesses, the education sector, and economy.

In this time the number of young people not in education, employment, or training (Neet) has risen by 34,000 to nearly 800,000, according to the Office of National Statistics. This is partly because young people tend to work in the sectors that have been hit hardest by the pandemic and are more likely to lose their jobs compared to older people.

Graduate schemes and sectors which would have created first job opportunities are no longer visible and young people now have the additional challenge of competing with older and more experienced unemployed individuals for jobs that are available.

The challenge and urgency for the government to address this crisis must remain a priority if it is going to realise its aim to "build back better". It is going to take a collaborative effort to help these people, with businesses, further education and training providers all playing a part.

At Visionaries Learning Centre (VLC), a local community interest company, we have recognised that we have a responsibility as effectors of change within communities. We have put into action the support these young people need to recover from the negative impact of the pandemic.

VLC has developed a programme called 'The Cornerstone Project' for young people who fit the Neet criteria. Funded by the Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and European Social Fund (ESF), this project consists of a free employability skills course, tuition and training between September 2021 and February 2022. It will equip and support these young people with getting on to the pathway of further education or employment.

The project will be delivered in Enfield and Haringey and we encourage every young person and organisation that supports Neets in any other capacity to contact us soon as possible, as places are limited. Our mission is continue to create opportunities for young people and, in so doing, make a meaningful impact in their lives and by extension the communities in which they live.

For more information about The Cornerstone Project and Visionaries Learning Centre:

Call 020 3488 8523

Email: info@visionarieslearningcentre.co.uk

Visit: visionarieslearningcentre.co.uk

On the grapevine

Meeting the people behind the delightful Forty Hall Vineyard

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Over the years Enfield has gained a reputation for producing armaments, televisions and light bulbs. Is it time to add wine to that list?

Forty Hall Vineyard, located within Forty Hall Estate, is the only commercial-scale vineyard in London. It's run as a social enterprise, growing 14,000 grapevines across its four hectares of fields but also offering 'ecotherapy' as part of its volunteer programme – boosting both physical and mental health at the same time.

As for the wine itself, produced off-site by East Sussex winemaker Will Davenport, Forty Hall's Bacchus 2019 vintage, a dry white wine, won a gold medal at the Independent English Wine Awards. Others include London Sparkling Brut, made using the traditional Champagne method, and Ortega, another dry white.

On a damp July morning I met Emma Lundie, head of operations, and Chus Bartolomé, the vineyard manager, to hear more about the challenges of growing grapevines organically in North London.

"We have to contend with changing weathers and disappointments," said Emma. "There's a lot of ups and downs – 2017 was a horrific year and we barely had a crop.

"The volunteers were devastated but we



Emma Lundie, head of operations, and Chus Bartolomé, vineyard manager, at Forty Hall Vineyard

worked through it and everyone kept on going and the next year was our best-ever harvest. That's a metaphor for life really."

Chus, originally from Spain, admitted the unpredictable English climate makes growing grapevines a challenge. A hard frost in late spring can do vast damage, while too much rain at the wrong time can make disease control difficult.

"I've never seen a typical English summer

– it's always different," Chus said. "This year the vines were tricked into thinking spring was coming early but then they were killed by the cold weather in April.

"The vines were five weeks late, but thankfully they have caught up."

Bad weather can dramatically reduce the quantity of grapes harvested in autumn. In 2018, the vineyard's best year, 20 tonnes

were picked, but in 2020 – a year affected by the pandemic as well as poor weather – there were just four tonnes.

Explaining the impact of the pandemic last year, Chus said: "We lost our volunteers and we thought we we'd have to let all our vines go. We had four people managing ten acres."

Emma said: "So many people rely on us for their wellbeing and suddenly the volunteers were cut off from us."

Vineyards in England often rely on eco-tourism to stay profitable in bad years. As a social enterprise, Forty Hall Vineyard is able to access grant funding, but most income still comes from wine sales.

Since launching in 2009, the vineyard has built a reputation for high quality. "The pickers have instructions not to pick bad grapes," said Chus. "You can make bad wine with good grapes but you cannot make good wine with bad grapes.

"Here we are in a good position because we get an extra 3°C of heat from being in London as opposed to rural areas."

Emma added: "I think there's more people now wanting to buy locally-made products, which helps us, but then they taste it and they realise it's actually a very good wine.

"It is organic and people appreciate that. We are very serious about the vineyard and making the best wine we can."

For more information about Forty Hall Vineyard: Visit fortyhallvineyard.com

Advertisement



Supporting independence at home for people with dementia

Would you be interested in helping us?

We would like to invite family or friends who support someone living with dementia to try out a new intervention (NIDUS-family) to help people living with dementia stay independent and remain at home.

What will happen if I take part?

- You will have the opportunity to discuss the study and ask questions.
- You will be asked to complete questionnaires with a researcher at the start of the study and then 6 & 12 months after the initial call.
- If you are offered NIDUS-family, a researcher will explore what is important to you and the person you support, help develop strategies with you and signpost you to services. This might include support with getting out and about, staying healthy and safe, improving sleep, help at home and making future plans.
- We will offer you £60 in vouchers to thank you for taking part.

If you are interested in hearing more please contact...

Jessica Budgett, UCL (University College London)

Email: dop.nidus@ucl.ac.uk

Tel no: 07899 858 684

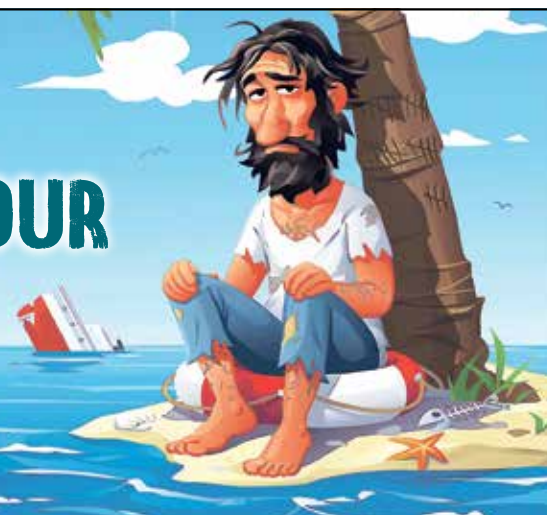


Funded by Alzheimer's Society

Research partners:



There is a smarter way to EMBRACE YOUR RETIREMENT



Are you close to retirement? Then you have one more big decision to make - how to draw down your pension and get it working best for the lifestyle you want.

There are a few options to consider, do I take out a lump sum? Invest some of it? Or get an income for life?

At Archers, we have over 25 years of expertise to help you find a plan that best suits your needs.

So, no matter who your pension is with, contact us about your retirement planning with Archers - it's a smart way to make the most of what you have and fully embrace your retirement.

For more information on any other matter contact Archers on:

020 8364 5445 / 020 8364 6099
or email: info@archersonline.co.uk

Archers
Financial Services Ltd

Archers Financial Services Ltd, 1 Windmill Hill, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 6SE
Tel: 020 8364 5445 / 020 8364 6099 • Email: info@archersonline.co.uk • www.archersonline.co.uk

Archers Financial Services Ltd is directly authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA: 650075). Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on a mortgage or any other debt secured on it. Investments can be made into a selection of funds which invest in different asset classes such as cash, gilts, property and stocks & shares. These funds carry differing levels of risk. The value of the funds can fluctuate and may fall as well as rise. The Financial Conduct Authority does not regulate taxation and tax advice.

Council claims 'progress' on reducing inequality



Council leader Nesil Caliskan with the Enfield Poverty and Inequality Commission report outside parliament in January 2020
Credit: Enfield Council

BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

Enfield Council claims to have made “significant progress” on its drive to reduce poverty and inequality in the borough, amid scepticism from opposition councillors.

The council has set out how it has responded to the recommendations made in a report by the independent Enfield Poverty and Inequality Commission, a panel made up of local and national stakeholders and experts.

Published in January last year, the report revealed Enfield had risen to become the ninth-most deprived London borough, with 27% of households in poverty after housing costs, and one-in-three children living in poverty.

The update on the council’s progress reveals it launched a £1.1million scheme to ensure the borough’s lowest-paid residents have access to good-quality food. It helped to establish the Enfield Food Alliance, which has more than 30 member organisations that are working together to tackle food poverty.

Funded by £1.3m from the Mayor of London, the Inspiring Young Enfield programme, run by 20 community organisations alongside the council, helped nearly 5,800 young people to take part in sports, arts, drama and other activities.

The council says it has increased support for people who are at risk of homelessness through its housing advisory service and is driving up standards through council-owned company Housing Gateway. It has supported more than 400 households at risk of homelessness to secure accommodation since January 2020.

A welfare advice and debt support team set up by the council in March last year has

so far supported more than 3,100 vulnerable residents to access income and benefits.

Council leader Nesil Caliskan said the Covid-19 pandemic had further exposed the borough’s social, economic and health inequalities and made the commission’s recommendations more relevant than ever.

She added: “We have made good progress since the commission published its report, but we know there is a huge amount still to do, working with local people, local organisations and our partners across London and nationally to tackle the causes of inequality and poverty.”

But opposition groups expressed reservations about the council’s claims. Community First – a group of seven councillors who quit Enfield’s Labour group over the last year – issued a statement saying they were pleased to see the council believed it was making good progress on the report’s recommendations, but raised concerns over the commission’s terms of reference.

Community First stated: “[The commission’s] findings did not seem to add much to what we already knew, and some recommendations were to do what we were already doing.

“There were no clear actions, timelines or costings, and some important issues were either absent or not adequately covered.

“For example, there is no evidence-based economic modelling and no consideration of transport connectivity and its economic impact, other than for Meridian Water.”

Community First also highlighted the report failed to mention that as an outer London borough, Enfield receives less support from the Greater London Authority than inner boroughs do, which, the group claimed, results in higher charges for council services.

The commission’s report cited the austerity policies introduced by the government since 2010 as a major challenge for the council. In the foreword, Cllr Caliskan said the core funding the local authority receives from government to provide services for its residents had been cut by an average of £800 per household.

But Tory leader Joanne Laban claimed some of the measures in the council’s update had been paid for by the government. She said: “I do not believe that the Labour council has made significant progress, and where it has done well it has mainly been paid for by the Conservative government, which the report omits to mention.

“The programme to deliver food and fuel support last Christmas was a project paid for by the government as part of the Covid Winter Fund. Enfield Council also received the largest award for funding in the entire country from the government to tackle rough sleeping and help them into settled accommodation.”

Culture boss to leave council amid row

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

The head of arts and culture at Enfield Council is being made redundant following a row over the future of several arts venues in the borough.

The *Dispatch* understands that Paul Everitt, who has been in post for 13 years and is a familiar face among the borough’s arts scene, is now on ‘gardening leave’ after his job role was made obsolete.

It follows a recent shake-up of the council’s cultural services and the way they are managed, with two Edmonton arts venues – Salisbury House and Green Tow-

ers – moved into a new ‘community assets’ team. The uncertain future of a third venue, Millfield Arts Centre, is also understood to be a key part of the disagreements preceding Paul’s upcoming redundancy.

The council declined to comment on “individual contractual matters” but did

not deny that Paul is being made redundant.

Emma Rigby, founder of community organisation Love Your Doorstep, launched a petition earlier this year in support of Paul. She told the *Dispatch*: “This is a huge loss to our borough. The passion and the commitment that Paul showed to culture and heritage will be extremely difficult to replace.”

A key part of Paul’s work has been the development of the Dugdale Centre in

“He is the heart and soul of art and culture in Enfield”

Enfield Town. Over the last decade the Dugdale has hosted regular pantomime, puppetry and children’s theatre plus jazz, comedy and poetry nights. An exhibition space has featured work produced by artists from across the borough, including many from under-represented groups.

Patrick Samuel is an artist and musician from Palmers Green whose work has been displayed at the Dugdale several times. Patrick, who calls himself the ‘Asperger Artist’, told the *Dispatch*: “Paul is basically responsible for everything – he was my gateway to the entire community.

“If it was not for Paul coming to an autism event I was at, where he offered me my first exhibition, I would have nothing.

“His enthusiasm for inclusivity – disabilities, multiculturalism, LGBT – he is a champion, helping people like me who touches on all these things. I don’t know what will happen without him.

He is the heart and soul of art and culture in Enfield.”

After its recent use as a Covid-19 vaccination centre, the Dugdale is now set to be reconfigured to accommodate new offices for council staff, reducing the amount of space available for arts and culture. It is understood Paul objected to this move.

Advertisement



ROLL-UP COACHING SESSIONS

- Just **£10 per session** with no need to pre-book
- **All equipment provided**
- Led by our **PGA Qualified Coach Nicola Bennett**
- Ideal for complete beginners – covers all of the fundamentals of golf
- Friendly, welcoming groups of up to 16
- No special clothing required
- Access to the bar and brasserie before and after lessons
- The option to purchase an annual practice facilities pass for £50 to use before or after a session
- The option to move onto our unique **Women Driving Forward Programme** at any time

8 GREAT REASONS TO TAKE UP GOLF

LOW INTENSITY EXERCISE – 10,000+ STEPS PER ROUND

IMPROVE MENTAL WELLBEING

PLAY A CHALLENGING AND REWARDING GAME

AID FITNESS, WEIGHT LOSS AND FLEXIBILITY

MAKE NEW FRIENDS

SPEND MORE TIME OUTDOORS

LEARN NEW SKILLS

REDUCE STRESS AND ANXIETY



Call the office on 020 3146 9890 today or visit bhpgc.com

**EDMONTON
GREEN**

ENFIELD COMMUNITY HEROES

Sponsored by Edmonton Green Shopping Centre

Giving injured animals a fighting chance

Barry and June Smitherman have been running a wildlife rescue centre in Enfield since 1985

When Barry and June Smitherman found a pair of orphaned goldfinch chicks in Carterhatch Lane in the 1980s, they couldn't have imagined it would lead to the establishment of a wildlife rescue charity still going four decades later.

Wildlife Rescue and Ambulance Service (WRAS) is based at Trent Park in Cockfosters. Visitors to the charity's animal sanctuary can find sick and injured animals ranging from herons and owls to foxes, hedgehogs and deer. Some are recovering but some need long-term care and would not survive if released.

The demand for the charity's animal rescue service has soared in recent years, placing huge strain on Barry and June, who run the centre with help from daughter Diane and a number of volunteers. While Barry is still involved, he said the last year since the pandemic began had been one of the toughest to



Barry and June Smitherman (pictured centre and right) at the animal sanctuary in Trent Park

date and had led to him taking some time off to cope with the stress.

Barry told the *Dispatch*: "We get calls from all over the place; St Albans, Harlow, Barking, Crystal Palace. We are always running at full capacity.

"Like any hospital there comes a time

when you get full and there is only a certain number of animals you can take in. We are never going to say 'yes' to every animal if we don't have space for it, so instead we try to advise people how to look after them and take them to a vet.

"The pandemic has really had an effect

on us. There was one day when I took 67 phone calls and a lot of them were out of our area, so I was turning them down, but sometimes you get a bit of abuse when you tell them you can't help. After that day I said I couldn't do it any more."

Barry took a short break but has since returned, limiting himself to three days per week, with Diane now managing the animal sanctuary. He added: "We enjoy the work we do, we like to get the birds and the hedgehogs back into the wild and that is always pleasurable."

Donations to WRAS can be made online at wras-enfieldwildlife.org.uk.

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

Advertisement

Bennetts

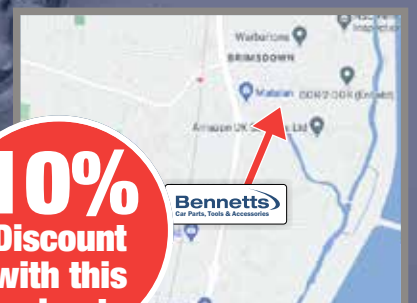
CAR PARTS, TOOLS & ACCESSORIES

FRIENDLY SERVICE | RETAIL SHOP | ESTABLISHED SINCE 1954 | QUALITY PRODUCTS | COMPETITIVE PRICES

WE SUPPLY ALL YOUR:

- BRAKE DISCS, PADS AND CALIPERS
- HAND TOOLS & CAR CARE PRODUCTS
- ALTERNATORS & STARTER MOTORS
- EXHAUSTS & CATALYSTS
- MOT PARTS • SUSPENSION
- SERVICE KITS • POWER TOOLS

**10%
Discount
with this
advert**



UNIT 6, SOVEREIGN BUSINESS CENTRE,
STOCKINGSWATER LANE, ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX EN3 7JX



Get active in your community

Newly-elected Southbury ward councillor Ayten Guzel wants to see more residents get active in their community and help make Enfield a better place to live

When I was asked to write this column, I thought of this as an opportunity to share all the exciting work I have been doing in Southbury ward since the by-election in May.

While ward surgeries with residents have not been held since the start of the pandemic, I have been highly active in my ward to make up for this. Following reports from residents, I met with council officers to see first-hand the issues they are facing. I want residents to know that I genuinely care and will actively work to resolve their concerns.

As one of my main priorities is keeping our streets clean, I joined our waste enforcement team on their usual patrol and witnessed how hard they work to identify evidence so they can issue Fixed Penalty Notices to

waste criminals. The team aims to clear reports of fly-tipping within 24 hours, and we all need to do our bit by reporting incidents that we find to the council. I am also happy for Southbury residents to report this directly to me.

Our parks have seen a rise in footfall during the pandemic and they are very important to us. I am lucky to have Bush Hill Park in my ward. The Friends of Bush Hill Park (FOBHP) group dedicate much time and effort to ensure the park is well looked after and I am proud to work alongside them. The group arrange monthly litter-picking sessions, which I have been very pleased to join.

As Enfield Council is encouraging more recycling, I am calling for recycling facilities to be installed in Bush Hill Park. To push for this, I am meeting



Ayten Guzel won the Southbury ward by-election in May

with officials and FOBHP to agree on a plan moving forward.

I regularly discuss residents' unfortunate experiences of crime and anti-social behaviour with neighbourhood police, including 'car meets' at South-

bury Corner Leisure Park, on the A10. I recently met with the police, the council and relevant stakeholders to discuss how we can prevent these car meets and address the noise and anti-social behaviour

issues reported by residents living nearby.

I want Southbury residents to actively engage with the police. We need more people for our quarterly Community Action Partnership in Enfield (Cape) meetings, where local police offices meet with residents and community representatives. Please join by emailing your name, address and telephone number to Southbury.SNT@met.police.uk

Finally, I urge all Enfield residents to comment on the draft Local Plan by feeding into the consultation which runs until Monday 13th September. I look forward to hearing the views of Southbury ward residents.

Ayten Guzel is a Labour councillor representing Southbury ward, alongside Mahmut Aksanoglu and Nneka Keazor (all Labour):

Call 020 8132 0032

Email Cllr.Ayten.Guzel@enfield.gov.uk

Advertisement

Our homes in Edmonton are *happy* places to live



Four Seasons
HEALTH CARE

We pride ourselves on having happy homes, where residents and their families can enjoy spending quality time with each other and develop new friendships along the way.

We provide residential care for people who need help with daily tasks, and nursing care for those who have complex medical needs. We also provide both residential dementia care and 24-hour nursing dementia care for our residents who require it.

Our residents are supported to maintain their independence and individuality, encouraging social activity and building relationships.

Murrayfield Care Home 020 8108 9029

Sunbridge Care Home 020 8108 9039

Safely welcoming new residents www.fshc.co.uk



Face-to-face
visits
available!



Advertisement

GOING STIR CRAZY? WE KNOW HOW YOU FEEL. HERE'S SOMETHING TO REALLY CHEER YOU UP!

BRING OUT YOUR INNER ARTIST 😊**NEW AUTUMN****ART CLASS**

- Learn impressive new skills
- Fun, easy, step-by-step
- 3 hour sessions, morning or afternoon, for 3½ months
- Time to get Arty and enjoy a fun social life again!
- Make The Seasons your favourite day of the week

LEARN TO PAINT AND DRAW PEOPLE & PLACES

Explore 4 media: **Drawing**, Painting with **Watercolour**, **Acrylics**, and **Oil Pastels**. Discover how to paint faces, figures, beautiful landscapes, animals, birds, still life and much more! Learn artists' secrets needed to create beautiful pieces of original art.

ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS TO IMPROVERS... JUST LIKE YOU!

the Seasons Art Class

IN A SAFE AND SECURE ENVIRONMENT

EXTREMELY SAFE FOR YOU

0204 542 7606
SCHINDLER HALL**CASH FOR CLOTHES**MONDAY TO FRIDAY:
9:00 - 17:00Weekends
& Bank Holidays
CLOSED

For any enquiries please:

call **01708 685 076**text **07909 118 747**

collection@cash4clothesuk.org

www.cash4clothesuk.org

We pay £0.50 per Kilo
for your reusable clothing, paired shoes and accessories**Address:** Phoenix Rose Home & Garden Centre
Cattlegate Road, Crews Hill, Enfield EN2 9DP**Sign up to the
ED newsletter**Sign up: eepurl.com/dIDKNH

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 before the next deadline on **Monday 16th August**.

Green heaven

Dear Enfield Dispatch

Further to the story in July's edition that farmland at Vicarage Farm could be built on (MP adds voice to opposition against Green Belt housing plans, Page 1, Issue 34) I wanted to let your readers know that people all over London will be hoping the protests from local residents, coupled with opposition from the local MP and Sadiq Khan, prove successful in persuading Enfield Council against this scheme.

I live in Haringey, but frequently go up into this beautiful bit of countryside near Trent Park and always marvel at the great tranquility available to everyone walking thorough these lovely fields, with Salmons Brook running alongside. If these fields go, rest assured, more farmland will follow. Build on it and, yes, it benefits a few thousand people. Don't build on it and this natural slice of heaven benefits the whole of London.

Christina Davis
Haringey

Unclear targets

Dear Enfield Dispatch

One problem with mature discussion on the subject of low-traffic neighbourhoods (LTNs) is that Enfield Council has not made it clear what the actual measurable targets are. Among other problems, LTNs were instigated without a professionally unbiased and independent study of the then-current circumstances and their possible consequences.

When will the council accept that without reasonable accessibility for all and to every part of the borough, many more will suffer mobility, health, economic, wellbeing and environmental issues than will benefit from these poorly-designed and ill-motivated schemes?

What Enfield residents know, as a fact, is that traffic doesn't just evaporate when you divert it! The previously dubious traffic studies and current, belated traffic-counting measures, are too little too late.

Lynda Cook
Bush Hill

Unfair FERA

Dear Enfield Dispatch

It's intriguing the Federation of Enfield Residents and Allied Associations (FERAA) claims most people want the borough's expanding cycle lanes removed and have missed the extensive consultation long underway on both the Fox Lane and Bowes LTN schemes (Predetermined, Letters, Issue 34).

Its expectation that any post-consultation changes to the Fox Lane pilot will be small is surely less to do with the implied devious plotting by our council and a whole lot more to do with over two decades' worth of council listening to and co-working with local residents, including surveys, workshops, public meetings and data gathering; all meaning any pilot should already be broadly in the right place.

Perhaps a period of non-judgmental listening could be beneficial for FERA, to understand why two residents' associations representing both Fox Lane and Bowes are no longer its members. In short, the residents FERA write to represent actively chose not to be represented by FERA.

Karl Brown
Palmers Green

Bad to worse

Dear Enfield Dispatch

LTNs simply make a bad situation worse. Let's not kid ourselves; some streets do have too much traffic. But LTNs only serve to make a minority of streets more traffic-free, at the expense of the majority.

Since when is it okay to demand that your street is quiet, while reserving the right to drive along other even less suitable residential roads? In relation to the Bowes LTN, are the residents of Grenoble Gardens or Bounds Green Road which take displaced traffic less worthy than those residing in Warwick Avenue? Are we living in a strange version of *The Hunger Games* where only the fittest and the most well-connected get to determine how we move around our streets, while the rest of us are trapped in 'districts' from which it is perilous to venture?

Sue Sanders
Bowes Park

All change for Crews Hill

Residents and businesses react to council's plans for 3,000 homes



Farmland between Crews Hill and the M25 is earmarked for housing

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Crews Hill is known for its vast array of garden centres, nurseries, and a yearly Santa's Grotto claimed to be one of Europe's largest.

Just half-a-mile from the M25 and Hertfordshire, London's northernmost settlement is currently home to only 500 residents but boasts a railway station with trains into the City taking 40 minutes.

When the capital's Green Belt was drawn up in the 1940s, the area was a massive hub for horticulture, with numerous glasshouses supplying fresh-cut flowers to markets all over London. All of Crews Hill, save for a few residential streets, became part of the Green Belt which extended out from Enfield and into the countryside. It meant only previously developed sites could be built on in future.

As flower imports from the Netherlands became cheaper than those grown locally in the late 20th Century, the glasshouses of Crews Hill began to be replaced by the sorts of modern garden centres familiar today. But in an attempt to safeguard the area for horticulture, planning restrictions were placed on what types of businesses could trade there.

The rules now governing the 'Crews Hill Defined Area' can be found in a policy document adopted by Enfield Council in November 2014. As well as restricting businesses to those that provide "not less than 90% of the sales floorspace [...] for the sale of products required for the purposes of gardening", the document also states: "Proposals for residential development within the defined area, including the change of use of existing buildings, will be refused."

Just four years later, the council began a first public consultation on its early Local Plan proposals. It was then that the possibility of building homes at Crews Hill – by "de-designating" the area from the Green Belt – was first mooted. The railway station was used as an example of somewhere

that "has the greatest potential to act as a hub for sustainable growth".

Residents' groups were unsurprised to find Crews Hill designated for housing when the council's 413-page draft Local Plan was published at the start of June. But the scale of the proposed development did come as a shock to many. The council has earmarked 3,000 homes for the area over the 20-year period of the Local Plan, while suggesting even more could be built beyond this.

Included in the "place-making area" for Crews Hill is 82 hectares of land stretching from the edge of Strayfield Road Cemetery all the way to the M25. Areas earmarked for housing include numerous industrial sites and garden centres either side of Theobolds Park Road, an equestrian centre, scrap metal yard, as well as a large area of farmland to the north of Cattlegate Road.

While the council's other major Green Belt housing proposal, at Vicarage Farm, consists almost entirely of undeveloped green fields, the plans for Crews Hill are far more complex. As well as contrasting land uses, there are dozens of land owners within the earmarked area and, aside from the railway station, a severe lack of supporting infrastructure.

This is acknowledged by the council in the draft Local Plan's section on Crews Hill, which describes the area as having been developed in "piecemeal fashion" and states:



Enfield Garden Centre in Cattlegate Road was sold to a developer for £6m in 2018

"Delivery of supporting infrastructure will need to be carefully co-ordinated within early phases to ensure a successful new community."

Rod Thompson is the owner of Thompsons of Crews Hill, a former glasshouse business that switched to selling soil and other garden products in the 1980s. "I have had probably 30 developers trying to buy my site," Rod told the *Dispatch*. "It started four or five years ago. There are some business owners here who would relish it but there are some who don't want to sell."

"I would like to stay in Crews Hill but if it does happen I have got to look somewhere else. We have got a battle in front of us."

Next door to Thompsons is Enfield Garden Centre. Land Registry documents show it was sold for £6million to a subsidiary of Berkeley Homes in December 2018.

Rod said: "I've had no communication from Enfield Council to ask me about it [the Local Plan]. It's been planned for a long time – but they haven't spoken to us."

"They are saying the Green Belt has been sabotaged here but that is only because they have allowed it to be."

"I have had probably 30 developers trying to buy my site"

Addressing the future of existing businesses in Crews Hill, the draft Local Plan states: "Residential-led redevelopment of brownfield sites will integrate with the area's horticultural and food-producing industries, creating a unique identity and function."

"Retention of existing rural uses is considered important, including equestrian and horticulture uses, which should be re-provided in suitable alternative locations if existing sites prove unsuitable for retention."

Burntfarm Ride, which heads north from Crews Hill through farmland and into Hertfordshire, is a private road for much of its length and in places only a single-lane track. A few cottages are scattered along it; among the residents are Lorna and Jean-Baptiste Jouassain, who have mixed feelings.

The couple say they will object to any attempt to build on the green fields surrounding their cottage, but Lorna added: "I think there is potential on the land where it's already had something before. We are not against any development here but it needs to be the right type of homes – family-size houses with gardens."

Another resident is Rakia Kadiri, who

would welcome new housing because she feels Crews Hill "is too quiet" and because her children have nowhere to play.

Warren Mitchell, who lives in Golf Ride, warned: "At certain times of the year the roads are gridlocked because of people coming here for the Christmas emporium and stuff like that."

Peter Jeffery, chair of Crews Hill Residents' Association, confirmed the group would be objecting to the proposals. He said: "Building thousands of homes where there is no infrastructure, public transport is minimal, and roads too narrow, would mean residents using cars to get to work, shops, GPs, dentists, hospitals, schools."

"The council is looking for a quick fix after many years of not building enough houses. The council doesn't care where it builds, just as long as long as it is seen to be doing something."

"Concreting over large parts of the Green Belt is not the answer."

At the western end of the village is Crews Hill Golf Course. It was here in 1964 that Tottenham Hotspur midfielder John White was struck by lightning and killed. The course was designed by renowned architect



The owner of Thompsons of Crews Hill wants to stay put but has had numerous offers from developers

Harry Colt, who also designed a course at Wentworth. Today it is owned by Enfield Council. The club did not respond to requests for comment.

Earlier this year, another council-owned golf course, in nearby Whitewebbs Park, was closed down. As part of its justification for the closure the council cited the "six full-length golf courses" available elsewhere in the borough, including Crews Hill.

Asked to respond to the issues raised in this article, a council spokesperson said: "The draft Local Plan proposes to deliver 25,000 new homes over 20 years, with 18,500 homes delivered in Enfield's urban and brownfield locations and 6,500 in rural areas, such as near Crews Hill Station."

"The draft Local Plan suggests Crews Hill should be regenerated and reinvigorated with rewilded landscapes, support for sustainable eco-tourism, sport provision, and recreation."

"It is not unusual for developers to make speculative approaches to purchase previously developed land near stations. Any development in the Crews Hill area must adhere to strict place-making principles."

Environmental charity slams council over Green Belt plans

National Park City Foundation complains Enfield Council using it as ‘bargaining chip’ in Green Belt housing plans



National Park City Foundation founder Daniel Raven-Ellison

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Enfield Council has denied claims it used the name of a London environmental project to “mislead” people about its Green Belt homebuilding plans. National Park City Foundation last month wrote to council leader Nesil Caliskan in a letter, copied to all councillors, heavily criticising the way the council had used the charity’s London National Park City (LNPC) concept as “a bargaining chip to justify loss of Green Belt”.

The charity’s chair Paul de Zylva and founder Daniel Raven-Ellison claimed the council had “misread” LNPC as a project only focused on parks and green spaces rather than the whole of London. They wrote: “It is therefore misleading for Enfield [Council] to refer to London National Park City in writing or verbally as part of justifying its proposals for the loss of Green Belt.”

LNPC is mentioned several times in the council’s draft Local Plan, first published last month and now out for public consultation until mid-September. It includes a new policy called “Rural Enfield – a leading destination in the London National Park City” which sets

out plans for placing part of the borough under the LNPC banner “to bring many sustainable rural activities together to create a unique and exemplary destination” and adding that it “has the potential to achieve a net increase of 25% green cover in Enfield”.

LNPC is also mentioned in a section of the draft Local Plan outlining how 3,000 homes could be built on current Green Belt land at Crews Hill. It states: “In order to support its emergence as a gateway to the London National Park City and the green and rural north of Enfield for new and existing residents, develop-

ment at Crews Hill should incorporate high-quality public realm and green links to surrounding landscapes.”

In their letter, Paul and

Daniel wrote: “Serious application of London National Park City thinking can and should lead elected members, officers and others to make better decisions, but it cannot make up for political decisions which require the loss of green space.”

“Enfield and all local authorities in London should be examining the entire urban fabric and avoid using National Park City as a bargaining chip to justify loss of Green Belt and green space.”

In response, a council spokesperson said: “Enfield Council is a

keen supporter of the National Park City concept. Its principles underpin many of the policies in the draft Local Plan, helping us develop an exciting and ambitious vision for both rural and urban areas in the borough.

“This includes transforming many largely forgotten and neglected rural parts of the borough into accessible and vibrant destinations for Enfield’s residents, where they can enjoy nature, recreation, sporting excellence and eco-tourism.

“We reject any suggestion we have linked the National Park City concept with the draft

Enfield Local Plan preferred option to release a limited section of the Green Belt to provide needed employment space and deliver essential affordable housing.

“Over the next 20 years Enfield will need to increase its housing by 20% – 25,000 homes – and find 56 hectares of additional industrial/logistics space just to meet its statutory duties.

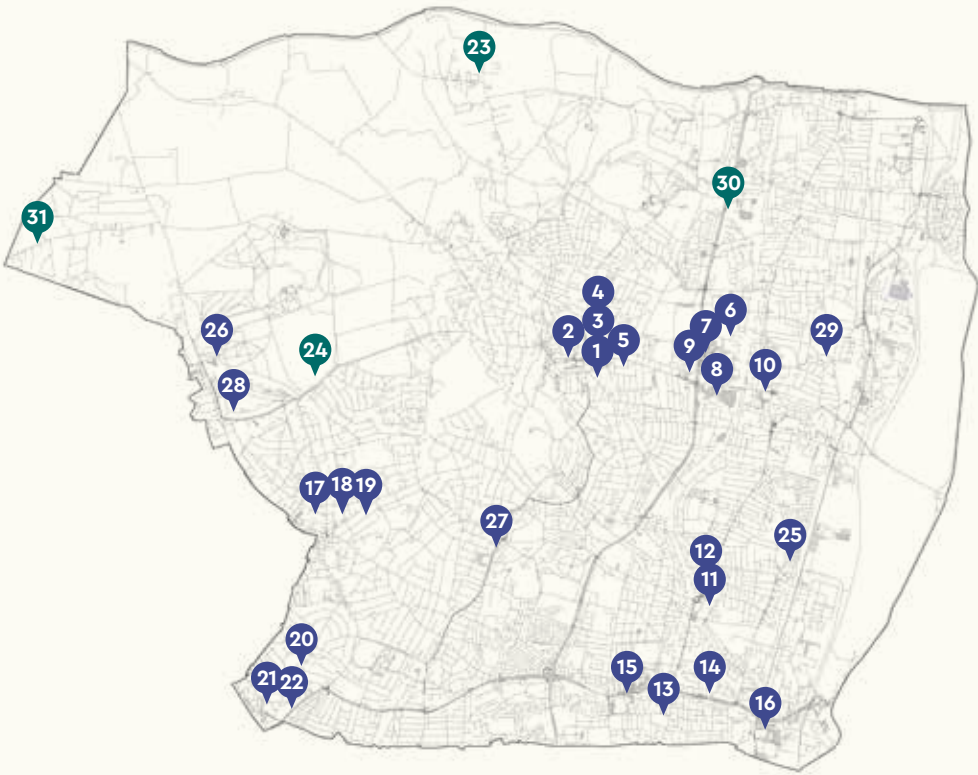
“The council has made every effort to look at brownfield first, but insufficient urban land means a stark choice between packing people into small units in dense towers with a lack of access to open

space and supporting infrastructure, or using a small amount of rural areas for high-quality affordable housing with access to gardens and extensive public space.”

Paul later told the *Dispatch*: “It’s there [the link to LNPC] in black and white – it’s interesting if they have rejected it [the letter] before speaking to us. I suspect they need to read their own policies.”

Carol Fisk, from the Enfield Road Watch group campaigning to protect the Green Belt, said the letter from National Park City Foundation was “symptomatic of the shoddy reasoning behind the plan”.

Sites allocated 100+ homes by Local Plan



1. St Anne's Catholic High School for Girls (236 homes)

2. Palace Gardens Shopping Centre (350 homes + retail)

3. Enfield Town Station (100 homes + new station)

4. Enfield Civic Centre (150 homes + offices)

5. Tesco Supermarket (350 homes + retail)

6. Sainsbury's Supermarket (1,041 homes + retail)

7. Colosseum Retail Park (1,587 homes + retail)

8. Morrisons Supermarket (892 homes + retail)

9. Southbury Leisure Park (450 homes + retail)

10. Tesco Supermarket (350 homes + retail)

11. Edmonton Green Shopping Centre (1,173 homes + retail)

12. Chiswick Road Estate (272 homes)

13. Joyce Avenue and Snells Park Estate (1,217 homes)

14. Upton Road and Raynham Road (198 homes)

15. North Middlesex University Hospital (400 homes)

16. Meridian Water (5,000 homes + retail + industrial)
17. ASDA Supermarket (165 homes + retail)

18. Southgate Office Village (125 homes + offices)

19. M&S Supermarket (150 homes + retail)

20. Arnos Grove Station (162 homes)

21. New Southgate Gasholder (230 homes)

22. Homebase (203 homes)

23. Crews Hill (3,000 homes + retail) *

24. Vicarage Farm (3,000 homes + retail) *

25. Claverings Industrial Estate (587 homes + offices + industrial)

26. Cockfosters Station (316 homes)

27. Sainsbury's Supermarket (299 homes + retail)

28. Blackhorse Tower (200 homes + offices)

29. Vacant land at Exeter Road (110 homes)

30. Vacant land at Great Cambridge Road (270 homes) *

31. Vacant land at Hadley Wood (160 homes) *
- * Green Belt sites marked in green

To take part in the consultation on the council's Local Plan: letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/localplan

All hands to the pumping station

James Cracknell pays a visit to The Whitwebbs Museum of Transport following its recent reopening



Outside the mock fire station at the museum are Alex Watt, chair of Enfield and District Veteran Vehicle Trust (left), plus trustees Chris Whippe (centre) and Robert Haydock (right)

After being closed for 16 months, one of Enfield's most popular visitor attractions reopened its doors to the public last month.

The Whitwebbs Museum of Transport is back and better than ever, featuring its famous range of vintage vehicles and wartime memorabilia. Even if transport is not your thing, the museum's setting inside a restored Victorian pumping station is enough to justify a visit in itself.

Then there's the custom-built fire station and its vintage fire engines, the model railway – housed inside a classic railway carriage – plus a chance to see the underground well that once supplied fresh water for the New River. The museum is staffed by an enthusiastic team of volunteers, on hand to provide guided tours and explain the history behind the various exhibits.

As with many venues, the pandemic forced a prolonged period of closure. Alex Watt, chair of Enfield and District Veteran Vehicle Trust, the charity which runs the museum, told the *Dispatch*: "Everyone was hit hard by the shutdown. Because of the age of the building,

it needs regular maintenance, so we had a small team coming in to look after the things that needed to be looked after.

"Over the last three or four months we have been slowly refurbishing parts of the museum, like the valve house, to get it ready again for visitors. There is something for everyone here."

As well as the museum, the charity runs an annual event, Enfield Pageant of Motoring, which attracts vintage car enthusiasts from across the country. But the pandemic forced

the cancellation of the event for two years running. Alex said: "It hit us hard financially. The pageant is a big money spinner for us so we have had to manage everything on donations.

"Now we hope people will come and visit the museum again and support us."

On busy days before the pandemic, the museum was attracting more than 100 visitors in a day. It even gets visitors from abroad, with Whitwebbs gaining an international reputation among vintage car enthusiasts. And it's easy to see why.



The Whitwebbs Museum of Transport is housed inside a disused Victorian pumping station purchased by Enfield and District Veteran Vehicle Trust in 1986

In the yard to the rear of the pumping station is a series of garages housing the museum's larger vehicles, including a 'Green Goddess', one of the former government-owned vehicles made famous for their role as back-up fire engines during various industrial disputes in the late 20th Century. Alongside this is a mock fire station which houses three vintage fire engines, including a 1912 Belsize fire engine christened 'Madeleine'. Further down the yard are workshops, a repairs garage, children's room, and the 1960s railway carriage which is home to Enfield Whitwebbs Railway Modellers, a group of miniature train enthusiasts who have built their own track layout inside.

The old valve house, newly refurbished, was previously home to the

trace its history back to the Royal Small Arms Factory at Enfield Lock; on the second floor is a range of pedal bikes, vintage toys and mock period shops; while the top floor, high up inside the roof of the pumping station, contains the museum's Second World War exhibits, including old typewriters, sewing machines, and an air-raid siren that visitors are encouraged to wind up.

For local history buffs, Whitwebbs also contains a number of displays highlighting various aspects of Enfield's own fascinating past. One tells the story of The Standard Fuse Company, a Ponders End factory that made fuses for aircraft and tanks during the war. There's even a row of old seats rescued from the Edmonton Empire theatre before its demolition in 1970.

The museum contains a cafe

"There is something for everyone here"



The museum boasts a display of vintage motorcycles, including Royal Enfield bikes

trust's offices, but now contains a display explaining the history of the pumping station, even including the original blueprints from when it was built by the New River Water Company in 1898.

Inside the pumping station itself, the museum's vast collection is split across four floors. On the ground floor there is a range of classic vehicles of all eras, from sports cars to minivans; on the first floor is the impressive motorbike collection, which includes some models made by Royal Enfield, a brand that can

and gift shop and is accessible to wheelchair users via a lift serving all floors. At present the museum is open every Tuesday, 10am–4pm, and on the last Sunday of each month. Special one-off events are also sometimes held. Car parking is free, while the museum can also be reached by public transport using the 456 bus or rail services at Crews Hill Station. Entry is £7 per person, with under-12s admitted for free.

For more information about The Whitwebbs Museum of Transport: Visit whitwebbsmuseum.co.uk

Stitch! Crafts & Classes has been running fashion workshops with year eight students at Broomfield Secondary School in Palmers Green



Not so fast, fashion!

Suzanne Kelly from Stitch! Crafts & Classes on how the Palmers Green social enterprise is helping children learn more about the clothes they wear

In a time when the global clothing industry is under increasing scrutiny and sustainable fashion is becoming a hot topic, Stitch! Crafts & Classes has been teaching the benefits of upcycling clothes and garments to local schoolchildren.

We have been running workshops with year eight students at Broomfield Secondary School in Palmers Green, something made possible by a grant from the #iwill Fund, a joint investment from The National Lottery Community Fund and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, supporting young people to access high-quality social action opportunities.

The #iwill Fund brings together a group of organisations, who all contribute funding, to embed meaningful social action into the lives of young people. The purpose of these workshops has been to help young people think about the clothing industry and its effects on people and our planet, raising awareness of issues related to fast and

disposable fashion with the aim of opening their minds to the option of a more sustainable approach.

Some alarming statistics include the fact that 2,700 litres of water are needed to grow cotton plants, dye and finish a cotton T-shirt, and that it will take 200 years for clothes to rot away in landfill. The tutors at Stitch! have been passing on practical sewing and mending skills to help children refashion their clothes and creatively

and equip the group to be champions of sustainable fashion and of clothes upcycling, so they can campaign on these issues within their peer group.

Aimee Morris, head of art, design and technology at Broomfield School, said: "Students have loved taking part in the Stitch! upcycling workshops. It has been a great opportunity to learn new skills, make new friends and learn about environmental issues, while making links with our local community."

Stitch! Crafts & Classes is a social enterprise based in Palmers Green (within the Post Office building in Green Lanes). As well as selling fabric, haberdashery, wool, craft kits and gifts from local makers, we run classes in sewing, crochet, knitting, darning, quilting and kids' crafts.

For more information about Stitch! Crafts & Classes
Call 07903 614 726
Email hello@stitch.org.uk
Facebook [/N13crafts](https://www.facebook.com/N13crafts)
Instagram [@Stitch_N13](https://www.instagram.com/Stitch_N13)
Visit stitch.org.uk

"The aim is to inspire and equip the group to be champions of sustainable fashion"

transform existing clothes into upcycled garments and accessories, while rethinking how they buy new ones.

They have also been encouraging and supporting the children to show others what they have learned, so that they can have fun refashioning clothes and understand ways they can reduce their impact on the environment. The aim is to inspire

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 16th August**.

THEATRE

Chickenshed's Festival of Fun

From Saturday 31st July until Sunday 8th August
Chickenshed Theatre, Chase Side, Southgate N14 4PE

Join us for nine days packed full of events for children aged up to eleven years. Events include performances of Kelly Swift's best-selling children's books 'The Tigon and the Liger' and 'How to Make a Better World'.

Various ticket prices

Visit chickenshed.org.uk/festival-of-fun-2021

FESTIVAL

A Month of Sundays

Every Sunday in August

Enfield Council's 'A Month of Sundays' event will see a series of street festivals held over August's five Sundays, bringing out the best in the borough's food businesses and celebrating local heritage and the arts. It starts on Sunday 1st August in Church Street, Enfield Town; on 8th August in Leeds Street, Edmonton and in Broomfield Park, Palmers Green; on 15th August in Ashfield Parade, Southgate; on 22nd August at Edmonton Green Shopping Centre; and 29th August in Ponders End High Street and Ponders End Park.

Free entry

Visit amonthofsundaysenfield.co.uk

WALKS

Forty Hall Ferme Ornee

Talk and Walk

Sunday 8th August, 10am
Forty Hall Estate, Enfield EN2 9HA

Join Andrew Newman from the Forty Hill and Bulls Cross Study Group for his illustrated talk about the ferme ornée (ornamental farm) of Forty Hall during the 18th Century.

Tickets £5

Visit fortyhallestate.co.uk/whats-on/ferme-ornee-talk-walk

Discover Chase Side

Sunday 15th August, 2pm
Meet at Enfield Chase Station

Join Joe Studman, a local history guide, to learn how plague pits, workhouses and murder rub shoulders with Charles Lamb and the gentry of Enfield.

Reserve a place for £5

Email joe@jaywalks.co.uk

MARKET

Vegan Market

Sunday 8th August, 10.30am-4pm
Enfield Charter Market, Market Place, Enfield Town EN2 6LN

Enfield Vegan Market takes over Enfield Charter Market, featuring up to 50 stalls including a huge variety of vegan fast food, healthy eats, artisan savouries, sweet bakes, cosmetics and ethical clothing and jewellery.

Free entry

Visit thetrustenfield.org.uk

THEATRE

Robin Hood at Myddelton House Gardens

Wednesday 25th August, 3pm
Myddelton House Gardens, Bulls Cross, Enfield EN2 9HG

DOT Productions brings you this fun adaptation of 'Robin Hood'. Come and see Robin and his gang battle against the evil Sheriff of Nottingham and steal from the rich to give to the poor.

Tickets from £8

Visit visitleevalley.org.uk/event-listings/robin-hood

MUSIC

Music on the Lawn

Sunday 22nd August, 11am-6pm
Forty Hall Estate, Enfield EN2 9HA

Friends of Forty Hall Park present another fantastic day of live music. You can bring a picnic to enjoy while listening to wonderful performances from a variety of bands and performers.

Tickets £10 for adults, kids free

Call 020 8292 8325

Email Jo-ann@friendsoffortyhallpark.org

CHILDREN

Planet Play

Sunday 1st & Sunday 8th August, 10am
Chickenshed Theatre, Chase Side, Southgate N14 4PE

Welcome to 'Planet Play', a magical world of sensory learning, wonder and exploration for babies and toddlers. These fun, immersive sessions will encourage young children to develop and explore the world around them.

Tickets £7.50 (children free)

Visit chickenshed.org.uk/event/planet-play-summer-season

Enfield's Green Belt is under attack! Tell the Council NO!



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The Council's draft Local Plan takes Green Belt land for housing, employment and industrial sites – but you can object.

Respond to the Council's Consultation by 11:59pm on Monday 13th September



HOW MUCH GREEN BELT COULD BE LOST?

A huge area is being targeted, across the whole borough. **Vicarage Farm**, a scenic part of historic Enfield Chase and a site of special character, vital for wildlife and local food production. **Crews Hill**, with its famous garden centres, nurseries, family businesses and golf course would disappear - right up to the M25. Sites at **Hadley Wood, Whitewebbs Park, M25 - Junction 24, Rammey Marsh** and more. They will be gone forever.



To find out what to do visit our website

www.Enfieldroadwatch.co.uk

No internet? No problem. Leave your name & address at 07865 845087 and we'll send you some information.

Anyone who lives, works, studies, owns a business or property or has a stake in Enfield can respond individually, so encourage your family, friends, and neighbours to take part. Children can respond too.

WHERE WILL THE HOUSES GO INSTEAD?

There is enough brownfield [used land] to meet realistic housing and infrastructure targets. The Council has ignored sites with good potential that would bring homes, jobs and investment in public services to urban areas and much-needed affordable homes for Enfield's residents.

JOIN THE 29,800+ PEOPLE WHO HAVE SIGNED OUR PETITION!

All want the Green Belt protected.

Enfield's future is in YOUR hands. YOU can stop this from happening by making your voice heard. Preserve our Green Spaces. Regenerate our Grey Spaces.



Invitation

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

10-11:30am, Thursday 2 September 2021

You are warmly invited to attend our AGM, to find out about our work over the last year.

Our AGM will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams. Please book a place by emailing Barry Ray, company secretary by email: northmid.companysecretary@nhs.net or calling 0208 887 3749.



There are over 350 children in care in Enfield*

Become a foster carer to a child in care in your area

Find out more about fostering:

Call: 0800 012 4004 or visit: www.capstonefostercare.co.uk

*Figure from Children looked after in England, including adoptions: 2019-2020





Thames21 volunteers clear litter from Salmons Brook

Volunteers helping to clean up Enfield’s streams

Thames21 and Enfield Council working together to improve Salmons, Turkey and Pymmes brooks

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Volunteers have been helping to clean up Salmons Brook as part of a new scheme to improve and restore three streams across Enfield borough. The project – called ‘Restoring Enfield’s Rivers and Connecting Communities’ – is being led by environmental charity Thames21, in partnership with Enfield Council. As well as Salmons Brook, it aims to improve water quality and reduce flood risk along the Turkey and Pymmes brooks; all three streams are tributaries of the River Lea. For the launch event last month Thames21 volunteers met at Bury Lodge Wetlands in Bush Hill Park, itself created in 2016 to help alleviate flood risk for the adjacent Salmons Brook and provide new wildlife habitats. However, the wetlands and stream are both in need of maintenance and cleaning, with accumulating litter, overgrown banks and pollution limiting their ecological value. Litter retrieved from Salmons Brook at the event included car parts, umbrellas, footballs and a VHS tape.

Sam Bentley-Toon, an engagement manager with Thames21 who is helping to lead the volunteer events, told the *Dispatch*: “We’re helping to facilitate local people to get involved, managing the wetland and monitoring water quality. “We’re going to do a monthly survey of invertebrates. If you see an increase in invertebrate numbers it shows the water quality is improving. And we’ll monitor outfalls – if we find misconnections [from domestic plumbing] we will flag that with Thames Water. “There is also a nature prescribing aspect to the project. We are working to create a pathway so people suffering from depression and social anxiety will be referred to us to help address those issues.” In Enfield’s urban areas, all three streams are affected by pollution from roads and misconnected plumbing, while upstream in rural areas they are affected by pollution from farmland. Thames21 is also working with the council on its Enfield Chase Restoration Project, which will

see 100,000 trees planted in the former royal hunting ground, including along the banks of Salmons Brook – which it hopes will help absorb pollution before it reaches the stream. Last year the council was awarded £678,000 by the government’s £80million Green Recovery Challenge Fund to help create new woodlands and wetlands, as well as to carry out work to restore existing waterways. Several of Enfield’s parks now contain wetlands, created to soak up and filter pollutants before they reach rivers, with many more in the pipeline. Further volunteer events will ensure these wetlands are working well. The council’s deputy leader, Ian Barnes, joined some of the Thames21 volunteers at Bury Lodge Wetlands and said: “The work we are doing here is fantastic. Looking after our rivers is a priority for the council, and the wetlands as well, which are so important in terms of ecosystems.” Debbie Leach, chief exec of Thames21, added: “We’re really excited to be delivering this ambitious project with Enfield Council.”

Find more volunteer events on Thames21’s website:
Visit thames21.org.uk/events

“If you see an increase in invertebrate numbers it shows the water quality is improving”

New public spaces revealed

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Plans to revamp Enfield Town by creating new public spaces have been welcomed by a body representing local businesses. Enfield Council revealed it wants to create a “plaza” outside Enfield Town Station, improve the entrance to Town Park by opening up a link through Library Green, and install a new public square by closing a side road to traffic. It comes two years after the council was awarded £6million by Transport for London’s (TfL) Liveable Neighbourhoods programme, which supports schemes that make town centres “cleaner, greener, and more pleasant places to live”. Mark Rudling, town centre manager for Enfield Town Business Association, welcomed the investment and told the *Dispatch*: “It will certainly help to make the town centre a more inviting place and that is the way forward for town centres in particular after Covid-19, when people have been buying more online. “We have got to do our very best to make our town centre a more inviting and pleasant place to be. Businesses are welcoming the investment.” The plans for the station plaza would see the existing taxi rank moved further along Southbury Road to make space for a new seating area with planting, which the council claims would create a “stronger visual connection” to the town centre. Enfield Town Station was built on the former site of Clarke’s Academy, once attended by poet John Keats, and the council wants to celebrate this heritage by engraving lines from his poems around the plaza. A section of the original facade of the school, currently in possession of the V&A Museum, could also be incorporated. A new public square could also be created at the junction of Church Street and Little Park

Gardens. Tentatively dubbed ‘Saddlers Mill Square’ in reference to a local stream that flows underground, the proposal has drawn some negative reactions from residents since it would mean closing the junction to drivers who currently use it to access Enfield Grammar School. Library Green will be opened up and made more accessible, while the area around the fountain – dubbed ‘Fountain Island’ – will be made greener through new planting and become “more welcoming”. Temporary measures to allow alfresco dining in Enfield Town for three local cafes were recently brought in by the council to boost trade for businesses struggling since the pandemic, although this is not part of the council’s long-term revamp. The council hosted a series of webinars to introduce its proposals for Enfield Town at the start of July. Final detailed plans, including changes to parking and roads in the town centre, will be published by the end of the year. Another consultation will then follow in 2022 before works begin in 2023. A council spokesperson said: “While it is only a proposal at this early stage, the council has been exploring plans to create a new public square just off the high street, using ideas developed in community co-design workshops last year. Motor vehicle access to the grammar school and Little Park Gardens car park would remain, but via a slightly different route. “Creating new public places and enhancing the look and feel of existing spaces will contribute towards a healthy town centre for residents and visitors. “The launch of the recent alfresco dining on Fountain Island is an example of the more immediate action the council is taking.”



For more information on the plans for Enfield Town:
Visit letstalk.enfield.gov.uk/enfieldtown

AROUND THE BOROUGH

SOUTHGATE GREEN

School celebrates rebuild



Pupils outside the new building for Walker Primary School

PUPILS AND STAFF AT WALKER Primary School have celebrated the opening of its new building.

The old buildings at the school in Waterfall Road were demolished to make way for a new, modern

building with more spacious classrooms, an IT suite, studio and large playground.

Pupils, parents, staff and governors gathered to cut the ribbon at a special ceremony

to mark the occasion, with performances by schoolchildren singing, dancing and playing musical instruments.

Frances Warhurst, headteacher at Walker Primary School, said: “I am extremely grateful to everyone who has supported us through the journey of rebuilding our wonderful new school, and I’m proud of all the children and staff who worked so hard to make our official opening such a success.”

Walker Primary School originally opened in 1954 and was named after the Walker family, who lived at nearby Arnos Grove House and were famous for their prowess in cricket. The site of the school was bequeathed by one of the seven Walker brothers, Russell, for the use by the people of Southgate.

WINCHMORE HILL

Care home scheme scaled down

BY SIMON ALLIN, LOCAL DEMOCRACY REPORTER

A COUNCIL-LED CARE HOME scheme has been scaled down in response to residents’ concerns – but some neighbours still have reservations about the project.

At a meeting last month cabinet members agreed to reduce the size of Reardon Court Extra Care Facility, a planned redevelopment of an existing care home in Cosgrove Close, from 91 to 70 units.

According to Enfield Council, a mound that acts as a barrier to sound from a nearby recycling centre will be retained, and the authority is considering adding other landscaping and structures to reduce noise.

But Lina Vetova, a spokesperson for local residents, told the Local Democracy Reporting Service many neighbours still had concerns about the development – and said there was “no clear

statement” setting out how these would be addressed.

Speaking before the meeting, Lina said the revised plans meant the building would be twice its current size in terms of the number of units, and the scheme could add to local traffic disruption caused by Barrowell Green Recycling Centre.

“The contractor is investigating the use of noise-abatement fencing, which should resolve the issue”

She claimed the council had already demolished part of the mound shielding homes from the noise produced by the centre and said many neighbours had not received letters notifying them of the redevelopment plan.

Reardon Court Extra Care Facility is designed to provide affordable housing for older people,

allowing them to live healthy and active lives while keeping their links to the local community. Care workers will be available on site around the clock to provide assistance for residents.

The budget for the project is £30.1million, with the Greater London Authority providing a £10.4m grant towards this cost. Following the cabinet meeting, a council spokesperson said: “We are aware of the concerns expressed by neighbouring residents to the facility and, as a result, we have reviewed the design proposals for Reardon Court, reducing the size of the scheme. Any outstanding matters will be addressed through further general engagement and the formal planning consultation process.

“In regard to Barrowell Green, the contractor is investigating the use of noise-abatement fencing, which should resolve the issue highlighted related to noise.”

PONDERS END

Warehouse blaze

A LARGE WAREHOUSE BLAZE in Morson Road saw two shipping containers and 14 vehicles destroyed.

The fire in the early hours of Monday 12th July was tackled by eight fire engines and firefighters from across North London. There were no reports of injuries.

Station commander Dave Bracewell said: “Firefighters were faced with a well-developed blaze on arrival. Crews worked hard to stop the fire spreading to surrounding buildings and a turntable ladder was used to tackle the blaze from height.”

The cause is under investigation.

SOUTHGATE

New homes on estate

THE FIRST PART OF A MAJOR estate regeneration programme has been completed.

Developers Countryside and HTA Design are working with Enfield Council on the regeneration of New Avenue Estate, with the first 127 homes now completed. It means residents still living in the old blocks on the estate can now move into their new homes.

In total, 505 new homes are planned as part of the redevelopment, replacing 171 flats from the

existing estate; 170 (34%) of the new homes will be designated for ‘affordable’ housing, below the council’s 40% target for large developments.

The original plans approved in 2018 included 60 new properties at social rent levels, but this has since been revised to 90.

Of the 127 new homes built in phase one, 78 are council-owned homes for existing residents. A further 22 are let at ‘affordable rent’ levels – up to 80% of market rent – to applicants from the council’s housing waiting list.

NEW SOUTHGATE

Finial resting place

PART OF NEW SOUTHGATE’S gasholder heritage will remain in the area following a donation by National Grid.

During the dismantling of the gasholder in Station Road last year, two finials – a decorative part of the structure – were preserved before being donated to Friern Barnet and District Local History Society. The finials have now been

placed in Millennium Green. An interpretation board will also be added to help showcase the history of gas production in the area.

Colin Barratt, from the society, said: “We were delighted when National Grid approached us to help preserve part of New Southgate’s heritage. We’re grateful to Millennium Green Trust for agreeing to the placement of the finials on Millennium Green.”



From left; Chris Taylor from National Grid, Aurthur Honour from New Southgate Millennium Green Trust, Friern Barnet and District Local History Society chair David Berguer, and society member Colin Barratt

Calls for head of waste authority to resign

Critics of new Edmonton incinerator make impassioned speeches at public meeting

BY JAMES CRACKNELL

Campaigners against the new Edmonton incinerator called for the chair of North London Waste Authority (NLWA) to resign during a series of passionate speeches.

Members of groups including Enfield Climate Action Forum (EnCaf), Enfield Extinction Rebellion (XR) and Enfield Black Lives Matter, as well as a doctor from North Middlesex Hospital, addressed the body's annual meeting to express concerns over the £1.2billion North London Heat and Power Project, the official name of the new incinerator.

But NLWA chair Clyde Loakes denied councillors on the authority a chance to debate the project at the meeting and told residents and campaigners who had spoken that he would address their points "in writing afterwards".

Although plans for the incinerator are well advanced and preparation work has begun at Edmonton Eco Park, campaigners argue the project should be "paused and reviewed" to consider its impact on carbon emissions.

Concerns have been rising over the

environmental impact of the scheme, which will be significantly larger than the current facility and burn up to 700,000 tonnes of waste collected from homes in seven boroughs. Many of the local councils that form part of NLWA have declared climate emergencies in the years since the new incinerator won planning permission in 2017.

But Cllr Loakes has refused to reconsider the plans for the new Edmonton incinerator, arguing it's the best way to dispose of North London's waste, given the worse environmental impact of landfill.

Olivia Eken, from EnCaf's youth group, addressed NLWA's annual meeting and said: "You may call it an environmental solution but to us our future is in flames thanks to this incinerator."

Delia Mattis, from Enfield Black Lives Matter, said: "Our petition gained over 1,700 signatures in support of pausing and reviewing the incinerator plans. Given that the NLWA consultation only garnered 72 responses in the first stage, 123 in the second, and ended in 2015, we argue our petition has more legitimacy."

She pointed to research by Greenpeace showing incinerators were three times



Impression of how the new Edmonton incinerator will look when built

more likely to be built in deprived areas.

Delia was one of several speakers who demanded Cllr Loakes stand down as NLWA chair, calling him "rude and disrespectful".

Helen Karamalakis, an Edmonton resident and school teacher, was another speaker. She said: "I can see the chimney from my bedroom window, but when the consultation was carried out I had no idea, I didn't know about it until 2020. I know it is difficult to let go of our old ways, but it [incineration] is old technology."

Aurora Yaacov, from Enfield XR, said: "We need a new, properly-run consultation with residents in North London, with full up-to-date information, such as on carbon emissions."

North Mid doctor Edward Tranah described the incinerator as a "slap in the face for local people".

After the speakers, Cllr Loakes read a prepared statement and said: "I would like to thank all the groups and individuals for making deputations. We recognise the sincerity with which all the speeches have been made. I promise that all members have considered these important matters over many years when planning for the North London Heat and Power Project.

"The project aligns with our efforts to protect the environment, public health, and tackle the climate emergency. North London's boroughs have proud records on these issues and the NLWA approach is entirely in keeping with this. Many of the points raised were addressed in previous meetings."

Cllr Loakes championed NLWA's plans to build a public recycling centre as well as a "resource recovery facility" at Edmonton Eco Park and, regarding the incinerator, said: "Our existing energy-from-waste plant is among the oldest in Europe. We need to build a modern replacement facility now or risk residents' waste being sent to landfill."

Advertisement

CITY AND ISLINGTON
COLLEGE

THIS IS MY SPRINGBOARD

candi.ac.uk

ITS NOT TOO LATE! APPLY NOW

to study with us in Sept 2021

Whether you're in Year 11 and looking at what to do next, or looking to get a job, advance in your career, go to university, or start something new, City and Islington College can help you achieve your ambitions.

We have a large variety of courses taught by industry experts – including A Levels (available in Angel and Enfield), practical work-based vocational courses, Access to Higher Education diplomas, apprenticeships, and more.

All of our courses from Entry Level to Level 2 are **FREE**, regardless of your age or income.

For London's Ambitious

020 7700 9200 | courseinfo@candi.ac.uk

part of
Capital City
College Group



Your College Your Future

Apply now

Apply to study at
Waltham Forest College
this September.

Spaces are still available for
young and adult learners.

Create Your Future and
apply online today!

Enrolment

Preparing for enrolment?

Students with an offer can enrol on GSCE results
day on **12th & 13th August**.

Open enrolment begins from **16th August** and will be
open between 10am - 5pm.

Visit our website for the full enrolment schedule,
what to bring along, and for more information on our
enrolment process.



Visit **waltham.ac.uk** or scan
the QR code with a smartphone.

020 8501 8501 myfuture@waltham.ac.uk

707 Forest Road, Walthamstow, E17 4JB

Create Your Future

Waltham Forest College



Blind football wonderkid meets England boss

An Enfield schoolboy is dreaming of playing for England's blind football team after meeting one of his heroes, Gareth Southgate.

Grange Park Primary School pupil Mikey Poulli is a lifelong football fan and talented player, but his sight began to deteriorate at the age of seven and he was diagnosed with a rare eye condition, rod cone dystrophy. With the support of his family, as well as his friends and teachers, Mikey has continued to develop his football skills and is determined not to let his disability hold him back.

Now aged eleven and registered as blind, Mikey is part of the Football Association's disability training programme, through which he was able to meet England boss Gareth Southgate.

“Playing football is my favourite thing to do in the world”

Grange Park Primary School has encouraged Mikey by allocating specific areas for him to play during breaks and lunchtimes and purchasing special balls with audible bells for all sports, so the physical education lessons are adapted to ensure Mikey can fully participate.

Mikey has even led a series of school assemblies on the theme ‘never give up on your dreams’, sharing his experience on losing his eyesight but still persevering with his goal of being a footballer.

Despite his disappointment that England did not take home the trophy at Euro 2020 this summer, Mikey was inspired by the outstanding performance of the team. He said: “Playing football is my favourite thing to do in the world, and I’m so proud of everything I’ve achieved so far. It’s great

Mikey Poulli meeting England boss Gareth Southgate



to have my own space to play at school with my friends, which means I’ve been able to teach them some of the tricks I’ve learnt through training.

“Euro 2020 was so exciting to watch, and I hope that one day I’ll be playing in a final for England.”

Grange Park headteacher Tijen Hassan said:

“Mikey is a true inspiration to everyone around him. He continues to show such determination and resilience wherever he goes, and he has helped both the children and adults in our school really appreciate the true meaning of perseverance.”

Towners set to begin fresh promotion push

Andrew Warshaw looks ahead to what fans hope will be Enfield Town’s first full season in three years

The wait is over. Enfield Town FC begin the new league season on Saturday, 14th August when they make a challenging trip to Carshalton Athletic – with a new captain in popular midfielder Scott Thomas and a keen sense of anticipation for the long campaign ahead.

At time of going to press, Andy Leese’s squad was still being finalised, with a number of signings in key positions, but once again expectations are high that the Towners can reach the play-offs come next April with, hopefully, a couple of decent cup runs thrown in.

The squad will be slightly smaller but the nucleus of last season’s squad is being retained, including Nathan McDonald, Jeremiah Gyebi, Josh Urquhart, Lee Chappell, Percy Kiangbeni, Junior Mubiayi, Lewis Taffe, Sam Youngs, Adam Cunnington and Neville Nzembela.

Off the pitch, considerable improvement work has been made during the close season, including a new and larger club shop, situated close

to the turnstiles, and impressive new outdoor refreshment facilities and increased overhead cover for supporters.

While the club would like to have celebrated its 20th birthday on the date of the actual anniversary in June, pandemic restrictions at the time rendered that impossible. Instead, a number of other events were organised, not least a hugely successful pre-season fixture in front of a bumper crowd of 866 against a Tottenham Hotspur under-23 squad, who won 4-0. To add to the sense of occasion, Spurs legend and club ambassador Gary Mabbutt presented a signed Spurs shirt and ball to the respective winners of an auction that raised over £600.

Four days later, the Towners visited FC United of Manchester for another special warm-up game between two fan-owned clubs.

The next celebratory landmark takes place on Saturday, 7th August against Grays Athletic for the FSA Supporters Shield. The match will be immediately followed by outdoor entertainment

and it is hoped as many supporters as possible will stay to enjoy the occasion.

Having acquired a number of crucial grants and a couple of extra sponsors, the future looks bright and a competitive playing budget has been put in place. But the more supporters as possible who get behind the club, the better.

On the coaching side, Ian Hart (previously with Southend) has been brought in as first-team coach and is regarded by Andy Leese as a crucial appointment, not just because of Ian’s experience but also his level of contacts. Ian is also involved in the academy setup so provides a key link between the first team and the youth section. Mario Noto, Graham Dodd and John Abbott all remain as part of the management team.

With Covid-19 restrictions now lifted, as a gesture to the NHS free season tickets are being offered to local health staff and care workers as a thank you for their work during the pandemic.

Revamped courts open in Broomfield Park

Tennis players in Enfield are benefiting from revamped courts and a new and improved booking system.

New dual-purpose tennis and netball courts have been opened in Broomfield Park, Palmers Green, while new nets have been installed at courts across the borough. Enfield Council has also teamed up with the Lawn Tennis Association to introduce an easy-to-use booking system.

The resurfaced and partially reconstructed courts at Broomfield Park benefit from flood-lighting to allow them to be used throughout the year. Funding for the work came from Sport England’s Community Asset Fund, London Marathon Charitable Trust, plus the council.

It is hoped the new booking system will lead to more people using the courts throughout the year. Courts that are currently free to use will remain so.

Rick Jewell, cabinet member for environment, said: “Tennis is a brilliant sport and can be enjoyed by the whole family and people of all abilities. Enfield uniquely has a high number of public courts available and this system of booking will make tennis more accessible for all.

“For many, tennis has been hugely important during the pandemic, as you can play easily while maintaining social distancing. I look forward to seeing more people using the courts through the summer and beyond.”

Amanda Robinson, from the LTA, said: “We hope the new systems will encourage more and more people in the borough to get active through tennis, regardless of their age, background, ability or disability.”

The upgrades have also enabled the return of North London Netball League to Palmers Green. A spokesperson said: “[We] are delighted to once again be back playing netball in Broomfield Park. We have started our summer league and the players have commented on how great the courts look and the excellent playing surface.

“It is the first time many have played since March 2020.”

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:

enfelddispatch.co.uk/join

Individual rewards

£3 per month upwards:

Name in print and online, pin badge

£5 per month upwards:

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

Organisational rewards

£10 per month:

Name in print and online, 10% discount on advertising

£20 per month:

Name and logo in print and online, 20% discount on advertising

£50 per month:

Name and logo in print and online, 40% discount, six free small adverts per year

Members

Derek Grant, Michael Dickinson, Michael Cole, Young Notes, Ed Balleny, Natasha Boydell, Elizabeth Crosthwait, Richard Stones, Philip Ridley, Suzanne Beard, Chris Kaufman, Martyn Stogden, Susan Cook, Rupert Price, Meryn Cutler, Andrew Irvine, Basil Clarke, John Naughton, Right at Home Enfield, MumSing Choir, Penelope Williams, Lloyd Tew-Cragg, Andrew Warshaw, Anna Crowley, Neil Churchill, Karl Brown, Anthony Fisher, Dan Wright, Kay Heather, Julia Mountain, Jerome O'Callaghan, Carole Stanley, Mervyn Maggs, Aditya Chakraborty, Norman Bennett, Vivien Giladi, Greg Andrews, The Old Enfield Charitable Trust, Matt Burn, Enfield URCs, Martin Russo, Marilyn Hamilton, Laura Davenport, Mick Wood, Helen Osman, Ranvir Mallick, Enfield Over 50s Forum, Francis Sealey, Caroline Banks, Bill Linton, Joe Hickey, Irene Richards, William Yates, Petr Mitterbach, Gianni Sarra, Tracy Hughes, Kristiana Heapy, Neil Bachelor, John Crowther, Hannah Salvidge, Adrian Day, Sean Wilkinson, Janice Nunn, Julia Daniel, Deborah Dalglish, Philip Foxe, Phil H, Matthew Eade, Dána Roberts, A Cleary, Stephen Evans, Julian Rhys-Williams, Steve King, Robert Pite, Lauri Clarke, Anne Cullen, Ross Cunningham, Diana Goforth, Brendan O'Brien, Kirsten Lowe, Seton During, Aurora Yaacov, Sylvia Collicott, Paula Lamont, Liz Wright, Elsie Rigden, Sangeeta Waldron, David Mickleburgh, John Machin, The Enfield Society, Joe Studman, Ryan Hebbs, Adam White, Sue Grayson Ford, Malcolm Stow, Matt McLaren, Bush Hill Park Residents Association, Zoe White, Carol Fisk, Harriet Ray, Hannah Dyson, Julie Nedza.

Member organisations



To become an organisational member email:
klaudia@socialspider.com