

# The Woodsider

MARCH 2011

## Letter from the Chairman – a personal view

To all our friends and neighbours in Japan and New Zealand, we offer our heartfelt sympathy over the recent tragedies which have occurred in these far off lands. Our thoughts are with you during this difficult time. Perhaps, such events bring about a certain reality and put our local issues into perspective.

At this time, a year ago, we were about to vote in a coalition government and a conservative local council. A year later we need to ask ourselves whether the correct decisions were made.

For example, I hold Barnet Council directly responsible for the extremely cold winter this year! Got to blame someone! It snowed belligerently before Christmas and especially on the morning of Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2010 when we were due to hold our carol singing. However, the weather suddenly cleared up later afternoon and an impromptu carol singing was held with about thirty people. Thanks to everyone who turned up. It was a memorable occasion. If only we could have remembered the words!

Perhaps, though, we should thank the Council for dealing with our numerous potholes which, this year, were curiously missing in our local roads, although present elsewhere in Barnet and particularly Partingdale Lane.

As the new Council Tax notices loom, the Council has been forced by the Government into making large monetary cuts in its future budget. I am not convinced that the cuts are being made in the right places. For example, the Council have just advertised for a new planning officer at a salary of £140,000 per annum. With National Insurance and everything else, this probably equates to £200,000 per annum, more than enough to fund the local museums, libraries and the Arts Depot, all of which have had their funding stopped. Maybe, I am missing something here, but, to my mind the local museums, libraries and the Arts Depot are very much more important than having yet another overpaid

bureaucrat in the planning department.

In the last twelve months more than 110,000 people have attended the Arts Depot functions. You can support them by signing the petition on <http://www.petitiononline.co.uk/petition/save-artsdepot/545>

Actually, I am truly surprised that there has not been much more of an uproar from the general public regarding issues such as cut-backs in the NHS, fire service, police, front line services coupled with the immense rises in petrol, food, increase in VAT, cut in pensions, jobs, etc. The cashless parking meter seems to have generated more response than anything else. We are moving towards the cashless society but perhaps the cashless parking meter is just a bit too soon!!

With the advent of hard times, comes the inevitable rise in crime. Crime has risen dramatically in Woodside Park and Totteridge over the past three months or so, particularly burglaries and theft from cars. Of course, the government in their wisdom have decided to cut the number of police which, given the rise in crime, is exactly the sort of nonsense we have come to expect. More about crime overleaf.

I have been making enquiries about the £400,000 that was allocated for cleaning up Riverside Walk. This was loudly trumpeted by our politicians at the time but has still not materialised - although I am promised that it has not gone away. You may yet see something done this decade.

In the meantime, moves are afoot within the community to raise money to refurbish the children's playground in Riverside Walk – more about this overleaf.

As the Council Tax bill and the inflated electric, gas and water invoices start arriving on the doorstep, enjoy spring and perhaps we should thank the powers-that-be (not the government!!) that we are not presently subject to major earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes, civil war and such like.

Robert Shutler

This edition of *The Woodsider* is being delivered to all residents in the Woodside Park Garden Suburb. *The Woodsider* is produced by the Residents Association. Around 90% of the residents in the area belong to the Residents Association.

If you are one of the 10% who have recently arrived in the area or for some reason did not join last year, subscriptions are due to be renewed shortly. The cost is £2.00 per annum and if you would like to join this year, please contact the editor, details overleaf. We look forward to welcoming you.

WPGSRA  
Join up!  
Only £2

## Inglis Barracks

The saga of the Inglis Barracks development continues. Since the last newsletter there has been a very well attended public consultation. Many pertinent points were made at the consultation especially regarding traffic generation but it seems that the traffic consultants know best. Most of the arguments we put forward in this respect were listened to in a patronising way and then ignored. The traffic consultants told us that traffic flow had improved in Woodside Park in the past three years!! The Council's consultation by letter also came and went. Surprisingly, only 66 people objected in writing to the application - out of more than 5,000. This is interpreted by the Council that people are not concerned about the proposals. The application was to be heard by Barnet's planning committee at the beginning of March 2011 but this has been delayed due to the changes now made to the traffic proposals and the decision has therefore been delayed by a couple of months at least. We have been fighting this development proposal on your behalf for the best part of ten years. If we are to continue fighting the proposal it is vital that we have your full support and this means that you need to write the occasional letter to the Council objecting to the applications. If you do not do this, we shall have another 10,000 people in the area, another 3,000 cars, more congestion and a lower quality of life. We can mitigate this situation but only with your help. A new consultation letter has been issued and it would be helpful if you could write a letter to the Council in response.

## Planning Applications over the last couple of months

19 Wolstonbury	Single storey rear extension
125 Walmington Fold	Single storey side and rear extension, demolish existing garage
129 Chanctonbury Way	Single storey side extension, demolish existing garage
170 Chanctonbury Way	Part single, part two-storey side and rear extensions

## Children's Playground – Riverside Walk

The playground was installed by the Council ten years ago. It is now worn, not really safe and unsuitable for young children. Residents are setting up a working group to raise money in order to refurbish the playground and if you would like to help in any way or you have any suggestions how this might be financed or you would like to be part of this working group, please do contact the Association. At present, we are approaching the Lottery Fund and Robinsons. We probably need to raise somewhere between £25,000 and £50,000.

## Police Report

The number of crimes in this area has risen quite steeply over the past two or three months - to such an extent that there is not sufficient space to outline all the events that have occurred. Most of the burglaries are taking place between 11am and 9pm which is when many people are out of their houses. The police are advising that windows and doors should be kept locked shut, that jewellery, laptops and suchlike are kept out of view and that access to the rear of your property should be made as difficult as possible. Keep a look-out for a large rusting white van with a "V" registration which drives apparently aimlessly around the streets and contains two hooded youths.

There have also been a number of thefts from motor vehicles, mainly SatNavs – so try not to keep them on display. A woman was mugged by a man with a knife near Woodside Park Station and her iphone was taken.

If you need help, you can call Totteridge Safer Neighbourhoods on 07920 233 746. You can also call the police on this number if you require assistance with crime prevention in your house.

## Keep safe out there

## Other News

Maintenance work is about to start on the northern line viaduct between Mill Hill East and Finchley Central. It will be finished by October 2012 - that's after the Olympics!! The line is not being closed for this period. The new Finchley Memorial Hospital will have just 216 car park spaces – that is one for each employee and none for the visitors. Who votes in these mindless idiots? Why not visit the Barnet "Bees" FC at Underhill before they get relegated? The Council is increasing car parking tariffs by some 400%. If you object to this, then email [barnetcpz@gmail.com](mailto:barnetcpz@gmail.com) and you will be contacted by some like-minded people. If you are feeling a bit green and want to "energise Barnet" go to [www.energisebarnet.org.uk](http://www.energisebarnet.org.uk) where they are trying to put together a greener Barnet. Cophall is being earmarked for use by Saracens Rugby Football Club. Whether the government will allow this development in green belt is questionable. We hope they do.



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# The Woodsider

JUNE 2011

## Letter from the Chairman – a personal view

Barnet Council is rapidly gaining a reputation for being non-democratic and boorish by ignoring and riding roughshod over the general populous, ie you and me. The Council has abandoned forums, cut back planning meetings, cut back consultations, cut back funding to museums, libraries, etc. all in the name of cutting back costs. The powers-that-be are streamlining their services, cutting back the front line and social services. In particular, old people are to be cut back – whatever that means. But if you are an old person, you'd better watch out.

I ask myself why are they not cutting back on the twenty-four employees in the Council who earn £100,000 per annum or more (and one who earns £200,000)? With all of these cuts, how is it that the Council Tax has not come down?

And the answer (please bear with me). How many of you have bothered to trawl through the dreary and ridiculously long-winded 257 pages that form the new Barnet Core Strategy and Local Development Framework? Very few, I bet (and I don't blame you). Yet this document outlines how Barnet will progress (if that's the right word) over the next twenty years. The Council went out to consultation and less than 500 people (out of a population of 350,000) bothered to respond. That is 0.14% of the population. Is it any wonder therefore that the Council officers and officials ignore us and do what they think is best? As most of them could not profitably run a big business if it slapped them around the head with gold bars, you do not need to be a rocket scientist to understand why we are in this mess. We allow them to carry on in their own sweet way. We do not have the time or the nous to challenge them. We are swamped by verbosity and paperwork. The Council officers and officials meet the same old people, time and time again who are the only vociferous people in the society churning out the same old stuff. Half of them are mad!

We give up – and that's why the Council does its own thing.

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So, please join the Residents Association this year. A committee member may knock on your door and request £2 for the subscription (or they may leave an envelope). We try to maintain a decent environment in the Suburb. We have the lowest density of people per hectare in Barnet (17.66 people). If you are that 0.66 person – beware, you are only two-thirds here. We have space and greenery to protect for the benefit of all – so please stop parking on the grass verges.

In the meantime, we have been inundated with additional rush hour traffic caused by the roadworks at Henlys Corner which is due to last until December 2011. This gives a flavour of the likely traffic generated when the Inglis Barracks development is completed. Maybe all of the cars will be electric by then – so at least we won't hear them.

The Royal Wedding initiated an impromptu park party attended by thirty people or so and Linkside also held a street party which was well attended. The Jubilee is likely to occur next year and perhaps we should think about having one massive Woodside Park street party – for those people who appreciate the monarchy at any rate!!

I would like to welcome new members Gabriella Ricketts and Steven Kingsley on to the committee. New committee members are always welcome.

On Sussex Ring, the new larger "Vera" café with its external seating gives an impression français of the Rue de Sussex Ring and appears to be very popular. It provides a hub for the community which we have never previously enjoyed. The Suburb was originated by a strongly catholic gentleman who insisted that there should be no pubs or suchlike. There has never, therefore, been an adequate focal point to the community.

Please put the date of Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2011 in your diary for the annual Woodsider Party and AGM to be held at Old Finchleians Club in Southover.

Robert Shutler

WPGSRA  
Join up!  
Only £2

## Inglis Barracks Mis-Development

In accordance with the Mill Hill East Area Action Plan, Barnet Council inevitably granted planning permission for the outline application relating to roads, traffic, access arrangements, building size, etc. in connection with the overdevelopment of Inglis Barracks. Given that the concept for the overall development had already received permission, the Council did not have a great deal of choice but I think we extended judgement day for as long as possible and gained a few little victories on the way. We will, of course, never prevent the development but we can at least try and make it less detrimental to our overall environment. We made no further comments on the traffic proposals. We did not want to antagonise the situation to the extent that traffic lights or something like that would be proposed at Sussex Ring.

The shambles with the application at Pinkham Way for the Waste Disposal site may actually affect what happens to Inglis Barracks. The whole matter is being thrown over to an Independent Inspector but Haringey Council have indicated that they may not give permission and this has thrown a bit of a spanner in the works. The knock-on effect is that the waste disposal site presently located on Inglis Barracks cannot be moved (at least, not in the short term). Quite what the effect on the Inglis Barracks development proposals will be is undetermined but there may need to be a re-think. Presumably, though, the so-called Independent Inspector will find in favour and grant permission. We have the added unpredictability of the possible return of Mr Livingstone to the GLA next year and he is perfectly capable of unilaterally deciding that the Inglis Barracks site should have double the amount of homes presently promulgated.

There is a balance to be made and we do not want to shoot ourselves in the foot.

## Planning Applications over the last couple of months

3 Sussex Ring	Shop extension and outbuilding at rear
90 Walmington Fold	Single storey side extension and porch
5 Cissbury Ring North	Single storey extension
72 Chanctonbury Way	First Floor side extension
19 Wolstonbury	Single storey rear extension and part two storey extension

## Riverside Park – Children's Playground

We are very much involved with the renewal of the children's play area at Riverside Walk by Dollis Brook. Some £50,000 has been allocated by the Council for the rebuilding of the park and, whilst it sounds like a lot of money, we are somewhat astounded to find that it does not seem to go very far.

Additional money may be available through the Lottery Fund and from other sources and we will be making applications to these Funds. If anyone has any ideas or know people in the right places who would like to help, contribute or make suggestions, please let me know. We are seeking people to assist on a small sub-committee to raise funds and oversee the reconstruction of the children's playground and the Riverside Park as a whole. You can view some initial ideas on the website at <http://studiorconcept.co.uk/playground>.

The Council has ditched the idea of refurbishing the tennis courts and providing adult outside gym facilities but this may still be a possibility if we can raise sufficient funds.

## Number Crunching (quotes from the new Core Strategy)

- The population of Barnet in 2010 is 345,800 but, after the 2011 Census, they are still counting.
- Just 344 people responded to Barnet Council's consultation about the "Direction of Travel".
- "Direction of Travel" has nothing to do with transport but refers to *where Barnet might be going in the next fifteen years*.
- The Council has organised the "One Barnet Partnership Board" which *"sets out the strategic vision for Barnet and provides the vehicle for considering and deciding how to address difficult cross-cutting issues such as maintaining the quality of life"*. Wow!
- The aim of One Barnet is *"to become a citizen centred organisation"*. Haven't seen much of that!
- Forty sites of archaeological importance containing prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains are scattered across the borough.
- There are two Grade I listed buildings in the borough.
- Barnet is the fourth largest borough by area in London (86.7 sq km). It is the most populated borough in London and the tenth most populated borough in England and Wales.
- There are presently 140,000 households in Barnet which is expected to rise to 167,000 by 2026.
- There are 864 households here in Woodside Park which is expected to remain about the same by 2026.

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# The Woodsider

AUGUST 2011

## Letter from the Chairman – a personal view

We have been fortunate in Woodside Park not to have seen any of the disturbances recently experienced elsewhere in London. I am not sure whether this says something about us or whether it is just that the perpetrators of the riots have never heard of Woodside Park.

But does it really come as any great surprise that the society we are now living in is starting to fall apart? Aggression is just a symptom of the society we now enjoy - initially encouraged by our own Finchley MP some thirty years ago. Such thuggery (in its various forms) is performed, not just by the yobs on the street, but by politicians, media, industrialists and others. Is this not all brought about by the lack of a decent education, lack of a moral code, general frustration, overcrowding, lack of any purpose or future all coupled with lack of discipline, respect and self-control and total selfishness?

It will take decades to sort out this mess unless we suddenly end up with a dictator. You may scoff at the very idea but when a country falls into anarchy, this is the time when dictators or, initially, "strong leaders" rise like the obliging phoenix from the ashes, the saviour of the nation. There are many examples throughout history.

I am sure there are many more revelations to follow including police corruption, back-handers in the MoD, the dishonesty and deceitfulness in the civil service and local councils, the anger of the middle classes, televisual spying, espionage and so on. Yes, it all goes on in good old blighty!

Who will rise as the dictator? Will it be Jordan (sorry – Katie Price)? Will it be John Terry? Perhaps, our very own Brian Coleman? Now there's a thought – he can start with the cashless society. Rebekah Brooks? Hugh Grant? Nick Griffin? Enough.

I want to state quite clearly here and now that the committee of Woodside Park Residents' Association has never hacked into anyone's phones and neither do we have any intention in this respect (even if we knew how). And, what's more, it is highly unlikely that Rebekah Brooks will be writing this column in the future.

If we think about the global market problems as well, it is all a bit doom and gloom at the moment. So - why not **CHEER YOURSELF UP** by joining us at the Woodsider Party. Details are shown below. I hope to see everyone there. Johnny is providing the music again this year and there will be lots of food and drinks and good folk to chat to – all for a fiver – must be the bargain of the year.

The new website is taking shape. We are looking for old photographs of Woodside Park. If you have any, we would love to borrow and scan, please let me know. We are particularly seeking pictures from the 1940s, 50s, 60s era but any will assist.

After an initial hiccup, we seem to be moving forward in some positive way with the children's playground. Initially, the Council had its own agenda and we had ours but I think that in the end we may meet somewhere in the middle. More about the children's playground over leaf.

If you have not contributed your £2 subscription to the Association this year, it would be much appreciated if you could do so.....thanks.

Finally, if you are thinking of building your extension or your skyscraper in the rear garden, please consider your neighbours. There have been several recent examples of builders starting at 7 o'clock in the morning together with lorry deliveries at this ungodly time. Please respect your neighbours' right to peacefully enjoy the environment. It is not much to ask - and if the boot was on the other foot, I am sure you would appreciate the peace, at least until 8am. In addition, please do not park on pavements across your neighbour's gate or drive or on the grass verges. These are examples of the selfishness and thoughtlessness which seems to be prevalent in society today - as mentioned earlier in my letter. Have a good rest of the summer. See you at the Woodsider Party !!!!

Robert Shutler



## WOODSIDER PARTY/AGM WEDNESDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2010

at OLD FINCHLEIANS CLUBHOUSE, SOUTHOVER  
Starting 8.00pm Entry £5.00 to include food and wine  
Entertainment from Johnny Lawrence  
*Please do come along and meet your neighbours, the  
Councillors and your Committee*

## Riverside Park – Children's Playground

We held a picnic in the park and invited everyone along for consultation proposes to see what people would like. Fortunately the weather held off and we were pleasantly surprised by the numbers attending. The Council has also held its own consultations. There were one or two objections but in the main everyone supported the refurbishment of the children's playground which, frankly, is long overdue. The consultations have been passed to the Council and there is a further consultation in the park towards the end of August which will be held with the contractor carrying to the works in order to ascertain the nature of the equipment required. The aim is to complete the building works by February 2012. We have a special sub-committee of people who are assisting with the project and we are aiming to raise money to enhance the playground from the rather basic equipment presently [prosed by the Council. There was a grant of £50,000 from the "Boris fund" but it seems that children's playground equipment does not come cheap especially when health and safety, insurance, vandalism and suchlike are all taken into account. If anyone would like to contribute either time or money towards the playground this will be much appreciated. You can check it all out on <http://www.studioconcept/playground/>

## Planning Applications over the last couple of months

20 Saddlescombe Way	Single storey side and rear extension
31 Linkside	Outbuilding in garden
12 Offham Slope	Roof, side and rear extensions, hardstanding at front
58 Chanctonbury Way	Single storey rear extension

## Stop Pollution

**Dear Friends.** When I walk home from school to home, I see empty sweet wrappers, empty crisps packets and many more such things on the ground. All this rubbish makes dirt and creates pollution. So please can you throw all the rubbish in the bin and not on the ground. This will save the environment. So that we can have a pollution free future. So friends, please use the bins.

from Khushi Shah (age 6, pupil of Frith Manor and resident of Woodside Park)

## Why are we accepting Cashless Parking for everyone?

From Estelle Phillips

Cashless parking requires motorists to call a telephone number or send a text message giving details of their car registration number, proposed length of stay and location number, along with debit or credit card number instead of having to use cash to pay to park. It is true that for many people this is proving popular. But what of those who are against it? Here are some arguments for and against this method together with the question as to whether it should be rolled out as a blanket scheme.

### In favour

It brings in more money to the Council and saves on cash collections and vandalism. The authority hopes to save money through the scheme and says it cannot afford to maintain the ageing and underperforming pay and display infrastructure on the streets and in car parks. You can register from the comfort and security of your own home and don't need to use your cards again. Once registered, it is more convenient and quicker. While registering is a pain, it is still easier to work out the new system and pay by phone than to go out, get wet and fiddle with cash. It is claimed to be safer, easier and much more flexible! It obviates the need to have the correct change on you. A few shops around the borough will have systems in place to let motorists pay by cash and credit cards face to face.

### Against

This method discriminates against elderly residents who may have difficulty inputting numbers due to deteriorating eyesight or arthritic finger joints. It also discriminates against all people without mobile phones and those without credit cards. For those who do not register from home for a variety of reasons there are further problems; people are unwilling to disclose sensitive bank card details so openly and are afraid of having their phones and credit cards on display especially during the evening. In the dark and when it is raining or snowing it is neither easy nor comfortable to work out which numbers are where or even which location has to be entered. Even if you have registered from home you still need the bay reference number. Stolen cards must be stopped therefore a driver who has been mugged or burgled is unable to use the system for a short period. It is easier to avoid local shops and go instead to a supermarket with free parking provided. Not a good prospect for our few remaining small shopkeepers and certainly not good news for the High Streets of Barnet. People from outside the borough will be deterred from coming here to shop or savour our restaurants.

### Query

Legal tender refers to notes and coins in this country. If we are forbidden to pay using legal tender surely there is a question concerning whether the required method of payment, denying the payer a choice, is in fact legal.

### Further information

Some neighbouring boroughs allow free parking for an hour which certainly helps the shopkeepers, the high street and the public. In Barnet the basic payment is £1 which is a huge increase on previous pay and display fees. As this new regime was put into place without going before a committee meeting, residents and opposition councillors had no opportunity to challenge it in a public open debate, opposition councillors have now forced it to go before a scrutiny committee, on September 5th 2011.

### Conclusion

Pay-and-display machines should remain in car parks and streets to give residents and shoppers the choice of paying by cash or using the cashless option. I would urge the council to reconsider maintaining its meters and to remember that its function is to manage parking schemes on behalf of the residents.

For further information go to:- <http://www.barnet.gov.uk/verrus-cashless-parking>

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# The Woodsider

DECEMBER 2011

## Letter from the Chairman – a personal view

I am not quite sure where this year has gone. It seems like only yesterday it was January and now, here we are with the Olympic Games almost on top of us, and Christmas has not yet arrived! It's not been a good year for many people so perhaps it is fortunate that the year has passed by so quickly. Still, there was the royal wedding and the Murdochs got their comeuppance (well ... sort of) and England won the cricket.

The Woodsider Party in September was fun. Lots of food, lots of bonhomie and quite a lot of drink. I hope that all of you who attended enjoyed the event. My particular thanks go to the WPGS Committee (and my wife, Trish), who helped with the organisation and produced the food and also to Johnny who provided the music for the evening. Thanks should also go to Geoff at the Old Finchleians who ran the bar and generally looked after those who needed looking after. Our thanks to Councillors Brian Coleman and Richard Cornelius who also appeared at the party to answer searching questions about what in the name of creation the Council is up to these days.

After a summer of rain, we are apparently now likely to have a winter drought, followed by a spring drought and a summer drought. This should make the Olympics interesting, especially the swimming, sailing and water polo events. The synchronised swimming should be interesting and diving could be a death defying experience.

The government hypothesizes about spending a few bob to try and kick-start the country out of recession including the provision of major infrastructure projects. But nowhere have I seen the suggestion that they might like to build a rather large water pipe to run from the north (where water is plentiful) down to the south. This would seem to be rather more beneficial than the proposed even faster train to Manchester. I was in Manchester the other day and it was not an inspirational experience. The water pipe could run under the A1 which would give them a good excuse to dig up the road all the way and cause yet more traffic chaos.

The roads just seem to be dug up everywhere. Is this some sort of new Olympic sport? They'll need some new sports for the Olympic Games if there is no water. There could be the sport of "road mayhem" where you dig a hole, install as many traffic cones as possible coupled with sets of temporary lights that don't work properly, grabber lorries, diversions, signs and other sundry paraphernalia and especially ensure that no-one is working. The winner is the hole which costs the most money, causes the longest traffic jams and gives the motorist the most significant road rage. The authorities are practising hard at the moment.

We have a new shop in Sussex Ring called Woodside with an "o" the wrong way round which is rather nice. The shop has lots of gifts for birthdays, Christmas, etc. and is well worth a visit if you want something unusual. I mention the shop because they generously donated a raffle prize to the Woodsider Party and so did most of the shops in Sussex Ring. It is important that we support the shops and the café in order to keep a sense of community within Woodside Park (and there are no parking meters!!)

We have received complaints from Finchley Golf Club that some people have been allowing their dogs to run free over the course. This is a private golf course and the public should stick to the public footpath. Dogs should be kept on a lead. One dog killed a pet cat the other day and this is not acceptable behaviour. I am advised that the culprits are often Woodsiders - so please keep your dogs under control.

We have the Annual Carol Singing this year detailed below. Last year it snowed heavily and then the sun came out just at the right time. We improvised. This is always a fun occasion for all denominations and a grand occasion for children and adults alike. Coffee, a touch of scotch, sweets for the kids, our resident guitarist and opera singer leading the singing. How can it be better to enter the festive spirit?

To everybody, season's greeting and wishing you the best year ever in 2012, (despite the Olympic Games!!)

Robert Shutler

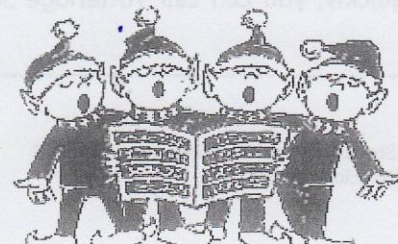
## CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING

SATURDAY 17<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER at 4.30pm

at Sussex Ring

CHILDREN ESPECIALLY WELCOME

Free Refreshments



## OTHER NEWS

Four women have been assaulted recently just the other side of Nether Street - so please take care out there.

If you decide to pave over your driveway, please consider the environment and ensure that the paving is porous or that soakaway is provided.

House burglaries are on the increase so make sure you are locked up, especially the rear elevation windows.

If you decide to implement permitted development of your house, it is a good idea to tell your neighbours what you are proposing. This really can save difficulties and misunderstandings later.

A planning application for an eruv has been made for Woodside Park. The proposal can be viewed on Barnet Council's website, reference B/03356/11. At the time of writing this Newsletter no decision had been made.

Did you spot Woodside Park on TV the other day? In ITV's "The Jury". One of the jurors lived in Woodside Park!

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF MONTHS

2 Folkington Corner	Single storey rear extensions, roof alterations, rear dormer
81 Lullington Garth	Single storey side and rear extension, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor rear extension
12 Wolstonbury	Single storey side and rear extension, workshop in back garden
63 Chanctonbury Way	Single storey side and rear extensions

## MILLBROOK PARK

A new planning application relating to the site-wide design code of the Inglis Barracks redevelopment scheme (now known as Millbrook Park) has been made to the Council. The proposal can be viewed on Barnet Council's website, reference H/04565/11. This will dictate the general design of the site and hopefully pull the different aspects of the site together. The submission is 238 pages long and by the time you have read through it, you will have lost the will to live! It covers such matters as vision and strategic design principals, the movement hierarchy within the site (making the roads into complex obstacles courses for motorists and cyclists alike), urban blocks, building typography (modern boxes), character, materials and delivery of the project. It says a lot and says nothing, all at the same time and does not really give us very much more information than we already knew.

All of this is devised to satisfy Condition 4 of the recently approved application and it will be the basic decision code for the various developers when the individual packets of land are sold off to the highest bidder.

## RIVERSIDE WALK

The plans for the renovation of the existing Children's Playground have now even finalised with the Council and will shortly be posted on their website <http://www.barnet.gov.uk/index/environment-planning/parks-and-open-spaces/dollis-valley-green-walk.htm>. The works will start before the end of this year and are expected to be completed by February 2012. The main fund was derived from the Greater London Authority but we have also received a top-up from the Council. Our thanks should go to Councillor Brian Coleman who has helped organize all of this.

We are also raising additional funds to improve the Riverside Walk area and there is a sub-committee working on this. The sub-committee is currently developing plans for a second phase to improve facilities for older children. Our thanks go to everyone who participated in consultation and fundraising activities. We would welcome anyone who can donate time or money to get involved. For further information you can e-mail: [riversideplayground@gmail.com](mailto:riversideplayground@gmail.com).

Various other works are proposed along the Walk including cutting back and removing some trees next to Dollis Brook and providing new signage, gates and fencing. We are told that cycling will still be banned along Riverside Walk.

## TOTTERIDGE SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS TEAM

Police crime reports have recently been rather patchy. However, the amount of crime within Woodside Park itself seems small compared with other areas and let us hope it stays this way. Nevertheless, in Barnet up until October this year there have been 428 arrests for burglary, 1570 arrests for assaults (what are we doing out there?) and 476 arrests for driving offences. How much of this ends up in court we are not told.

Woodside Park falls into the Totteridge Safer Neighbourhood Scheme and this is headed up by Sergeant Paul Flashman and his assistant PC Andy Caswell along with five or six police community support officers. The general phone number for the Totteridge SNT is 020 8721 2975. If you need help quickly, you can call Totteridge Safer Neighbourhoods on 07920 233 746.



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