

The Woodsider

MARCH 2012
www.woodside-park.com

Letter from the Chairman – a personal view

Hello fellow Woodsiders (and a happy New Year!!),

Spring seems to have sprung. The daffodils are out. There's cherry blossom in the trees. It's a good time of the year with the summer to look forward to - the Diamond Jubilee, the GLA election, the Olympic Games and the drought.

The Christmas Carol Singing was a huge success with around ninety people in attendance. In 2010 it snowed like crazy but this past December the weather held off. For the first time since being planted (some seven years ago) the Christmas tree in Sussex Ring has grown sufficiently for us to be able to drape the tree with fairy lights! It must be the slowest growing spruce in the neighbourhood. We were ably entertained by Hidé with his guitar accompaniment and Colette who led the singing. Many thanks to you both and many thanks to everyone who helped with coffee, juice, scotch, sweets and stuff all of which warmed the cockles of our hearts.

The brand new Riverside children's playground down by Dollis Brook is now open and there was a grand opening ceremony in early March attended by kids from the Frith Manor School. The Mayor, our Councillors and various representatives from the GLA and the Council also attended. Tea, coffee and cakes were served in a largish marquee (picture overleaf). This all seemed a little extravagant for a children's playground opening but it turns out that this was to represent the opening of the whole Dollis Green Walk which has cost some £500,000 to refurbish. The Walk would appear very fine indeed and well worth a stroll when you have nothing better to do. The playground is very exciting for the younger members of society. There are many new rides and slides, swings and things and a zip wire as well.

We are hoping to extend the play area to provide equipment for older children and also, eventually, to provide a new all-weather court area which will incorporate such sports as basketball, tennis, and football.

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.

We have formed a sub-committee to bring this to reality. Anyone who would like to help and any suggestions, donations etc. will always be welcome. You can contact me or fellow committee member Gabi Ricketts.

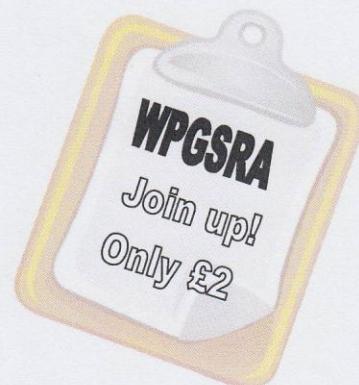
We have a new residents' association website up and running at www.woodside-park.com. This is still in its infancy and we are hoping to add many interesting items to the website. Please check it out. Any ideas, articles, new items, etc are always welcome.

Over the past few months, there has been a dramatic increase in the area in burglaries. Indeed, my house was burgled and it is not a very nice experience. I was stupid enough to leave the key in a glazed back door and it was a simple matter of breaking the glass, turning the key and in they came. It's a bit like shutting the stable door after the horse has bolted but I have now installed a burglar alarm and would recommend that everyone does this. For all information about crime and how to contact the police, etc., you can visit our website but also see overleaf. The police may not be incredibly successful in solving burglary crime but their public relations is first rate! Having been burgled, you feel abused. Someone has invaded your space and stolen your stuff. There's not much in my place to steal but they took the laptop and my yellow Primark tee-shirt! Can you believe that? I used to wear it sometimes when going to see Barnet FC lose! Hopefully, the loss of the tee-shirt will bring about a change in the fortunes of Barnet FC. My goodness, they need some help!

We intend to have a summer party in Riverside Park in July. Please see posters which will be put up prior to the event. There is also the GLA election in early May and it is important that you vote.

No doubt the Council Tax bill and the inflated electric, gas and water invoices will start arriving on the doorstep. Enjoy spring and all that it brings.

Robert Shutler



Other News

The new Finchley Memorial hospital will be open by autumn, so we are told. Brand new hospital/walk-in centre, same old computer system apparently.

The Council are reviewing parking charges and payments with a view to changing them? – erreally?

Parking on the grass verges is really not neighbourly – please desist and tell your builders to do the same.

Check out our new website – www.woodside-park.com

Proposals for the new Copthall Stadium are now with the government having been approved by the Council and the GLA.

Planning Applications over the last couple of months

11A Linkside	Single storey rear extension
6 Cissbury Ring North	Single storey rear extension
15 Poynings Way	Single storey rear extension
26 Wolstonbury	Single storey rear extension

Totteridge Safer Neighbourhoods Team

Burglaries are on the increase. These seem to mainly occur during the day. We should be looking out for each other and if we see people acting strangely in a neighbourhood we should report them to the police by calling the Totteridge Safer Neighbourhoods numbers below.

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.



Edited on behalf of the committee by Robert Shutler of 5 Saddlescombe Way N12 7LS
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The Woodsider

MAY 2012

www.woodside-park.com

Letter from the Chairman – a personal view

The weather seems to have been very wet so far this year but now, coupled with the recent sunshine, Woodside Park is looking very green and lush. Hopefully, the rain will leave us for June onwards and we can all properly enjoy the drought!

After the May elections, we have a change in representative on the GLA. Andrew Dismore is now the new representative for Barnet and Camden. The outgoing GLA representative, Brian Coleman, has served us well and we thank him for all his help and assistance over the past eight years. Whatever you may think of Brian Coleman, he has been a staunch supporter of Woodside Park and the people who live here. Brian retains his position as our local Councillor. We shall wait and see if Andrew Dismore has the same passion for this part of London.

One of the successes Brian Coleman achieved whilst on the GLA was to secure the funds to refurbish the Dollis Brook walk and the children's playground on Riverside. Activity in this area has increased dramatically. Cycling on the footpath in Riverside is not permitted and yet cyclists are continuing to pedal furiously along the footpath. It is only a matter of time before an accident occurs. There have already been some close calls. If you see cyclists using the footpath perhaps you can please gently remind them that cycling is not permitted. The community police have promised to patrol the footpath more regularly but they have very little power so we have to rely on the considerate behaviour of the cyclist (something often to be found lacking - especially if they are wearing lycra!).

We are going to be suffering from roadworks galore over the next year. The Government has decided that everyone should have water meters. This is typical of the present government – dealing with issues in a negative way. The positive way would have been to put forward plans so that we will all have more than enough water in the future. No chance! And the local gas supplier has decreed that everyone must have new gas mains. The

new mains, etc. are already being installed down Frith Lane and Chanctonbury Way.

Better news is that the new Finchley Memorial Hospital is close to completion and should open in September this year.

We are organising the Riverside Summer Festival on Sunday 1st July 2012 to raise funds for the playground extension and eventual all weather sports surface. Please see attached flyer. Do come along and support us – from 12 noon until 5pm.

I should like to thank the parents and children of Frith Manor Primary School who raised close to £1,000 towards the proposed playground extension. Well done to all involved. 100% of everything donated goes to the playground equipment. I had to give a little speech to the children at the school and have never been so nervous!! Hundreds and hundreds of little faces looking up at me in bewilderment! Our future, bless them!

Everyone is allowed to run a business from home these days as long as the business does not start to encroach on local neighbours. I have received a number of complaints from people and I am particularly referring to the larger commercial vans and vehicles which seem to have appeared over the past few months. These vehicles park in the narrow streets, usually on pavements which are supposed to be for pedestrian use. Whoever these vans belong to, do you think you could try parking them on the wider streets and not on pavements, grass verges and the like failing which we are going to have to start examining the planning issues involved here. All it needs is a little consideration for others.

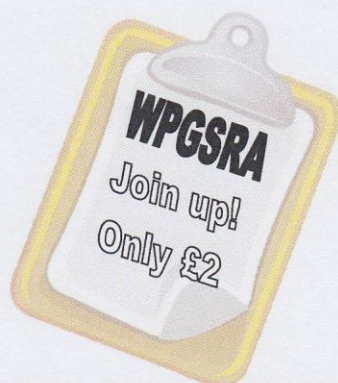
Please put in your diary the date of Wednesday 12th September for the Woodsider Party at Old Finchleians. In the meantime, we will be doing our best to collect annual subscriptions from residents which at £2 per household, I hope you can support.

Enjoy summer, the Jubilee, the Olympics, your holiday, etc.

Robert Shutler

This edition of *The Woodsider* is being delivered to all residents who are members of the Woodside Park Garden Suburb Residents' Association. Around 90% of 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.



Council News – some words from Councillor Richard Cornelius

As I sit here in the sun, I think how lucky we are that it has actually stopped raining! I am beginning to realise that the Diamond Jubilee celebration and the Olympic jamboree are so much more real. Reflecting on the immense feat of organisation that has got us this far and the massive disruption we will face, it is worth thinking that 2012 will really be a year to remember. Those of us who have been less than enthusiastic about the Games are facing up to the excitement as the 'torch' gets closer to Barnet. It will pass along the High Road from Finchley to Whetstone and then onwards to the Olympic Stadium through Friern Barnet. Special events will take place along the way and big crowds are expected. Details will be in the local papers. At the same time as the Jubilee celebrations and the Olympics, Barnet will continue to somehow be business as usual, if we can only get around.

We may all be very grateful for the local shops when the traffic is really snarled up, I only hope that we might revert back in to the habit of using these shops all of the time.

Planning Applications over the last couple of months

58 Cissbury Ring South	New front porch, conversion of garage into habitable room, alter roof
19 Cissbury Ring North	Single storey rear extension
46 Linkside	Single storey rear extension
30 Lullington Garth	Single storey rear extension, conversion of garage into habitable room

A night of Horror (written by Estelle M Phillips)

For the first time ever, I was forced to use the Emergency 'out of hours' phone line to call a doctor in the middle of the night. Of course I know that the days when one could expect to see one's own doctor in an emergency regardless of the hour are long gone. However, I did (naively perhaps) believe that if I used the Emergency out of hours phone number to call a doctor I would be treated as though I had a reason for calling for help in the early hours of the morning. Not so. Instead of the instant response I thought would reassure me, alone in the house, I was kept waiting online for 25 minutes and I was getting more and more scared that my condition was worsening. Because the automatic answer-voice kept repeating, very apologetically, that the team knew I was waiting, I didn't dare hang up to call an ambulance in case a human being - hopefully medically trained - would come to the phone at any moment. I waited, minute by slowly passing minute, for the full 25 minutes until a receptionist spoke to me and took details. I was told that I would be called back by a nurse in 10 minutes. I had no choice but to hang up. I was very tired, in addition to being frightened.

It must have been the case that when the nurse heard about me she decided to wait no longer, as I was called back almost immediately. We had a reasonable and professional discussion at the end of which she gave me the option of either calling for an ambulance right away or waiting about three hours for a doctor to visit me. From then on things improved. The doctor phoned every hour to check on me and eventually arrived, as promised, three hours from the time the nurse had spoken to me. When I told her of the useless inefficiency of the emergency contact number she was shocked. She insisted that this should not happen. But it did happen. What is the use of BarnDoc's emergency nightline if somebody can begin by being able to call and report a problem but not be answered until they have become almost totally incapacitated? The emergency doctor was excellent but the emergency out of hours telephone number is a disgrace and should certainly be investigated and scrutinized by those with the knowledge and authority to improve this very important (but currently useless) facility.

The Changing face of Woodside Park

Permitted development planning laws have radically changed the appearance of many houses in the suburb from that originally envisaged by Mr Fred Ingram, the Suburb's founder. Gable ends, rooflights, extensions in every direction and the loss of front gardens to car parking – all have decimated the original concept. The houses are now generally larger and more suitable for modern living. Pitched and hipped rooflines have been lost forever and many properties are comparatively ugly, although this is in the eye of the beholder. Most of the houses have been built with 225mm thick brickwork external walls which, in thermal loss terms, are very poor. You can insulate the roof and install double glazing but if you line the walls internally with 200mm thick insulation, the space lost is huge and people are understandably loathe to do this.

The latest government guidelines are suggesting that walls are insulated externally and there may be grants or other incentives available to do this in the due course of time. Insulation will take the form of 200mm (or more) thick board which can be rendered externally or covered with timber boarding, plastic sheeting or some other material. The linings will affect the depth of the eaves and the roofs and the whole look of the houses in the suburb. This appears to be inevitable given that the government is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 70% by the year 2050. It is hard to imagine the suburb full of rendered houses (rather than brick), with little or no overhang to the roofs, off-street parking throughout and very little planting. But this is what will happen in the future.

And so we have the wonders of greening the country. Rather ironic I think. Let us hope we can at least keep the trees and grass verges but the way some people treat them, this is unlikely to happen as well. Welcome to the concrete jungle. Is this what is called progress?



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The Woodsider

AUGUST 2012

www.woodside-park.com

Letter from the Chairman – a personal view

It is difficult to know which was the more successful - the Riverside Summer Festival or the Olympic Games? I reckon that the Summer Festival set the tone with fun and games and the Olympics just followed along behind. Certainly the food at the Summer Festival was a lot better than that dished up at the Olympic Games! It is just possible that the opening ceremony for the Olympic Games which cost £27 million was a smidgeon superior to ours but our thanks to Theresa Villiers for formally opening the Festival.

With both events, I think we were all a little nervous. So much work went into the Summer Festival and it was very rewarding for all involved to see the massive attendance (more than 3000 people – that is rather more than at an average Barnet FC football game!). Despite the fact that our sign on the Sussex Ring roundabout was half the size of the Woodridge school sign (who had a fete on the same day), we raised the best part of £5,000 towards Phase 2 of the playground. We have to particularly thank Real Estates and the pupils of Frith Manor School who both contributed large sums.

There are too many individual people to thank but all of the ladies should get a mention and especially Gabi and Andrea along with the folk from St Barnabus, those who ran the food and the games stalls, those who helped erect the marquees and take them down again and the rain (for staying away). Well done and thanks to everyone who assisted, took part, put their hands in their pockets and attended.

It was gratifying to meet the residents and the Association from West Finchley at the Summer Festival and we all agreed that we should try and maintain closer ties in this respect.

Onwards and upwards!! We have the Woodsider Party next – see below for details. I am afraid that we do not provide nude billiards or anything like that but wine, beers and soft drinks are available all within the price and Geoff, behind the bar, is always good for a knees-up!! Barbara B is providing the music this year and there will be lots of food and drink and good folk to chat to – all for a fiver – must be the bargain of the year, certainly a lot cheaper than the Olympic Games!

I would like to welcome a new committee member, Mr Alp Kakareulut who lives in Singleton Scarp. We are always seeking new committee members. If you have not contributed your £2 subscription to the Association this year (and would like to) please do. Thanks.

I don't know whether you noticed but the good thing about watching the Olympic Games on BBC television was that we were not bombarded with adverts every few minutes, although we did have to put up with inane comments from some of the commentators! I do find advertising on the TV and radio very invasive and I am sick to death about being told that I am owed thousands of £s due a mis-sold PPI. These same adverts come by email and text as well. I just get the feeling that whilst being conned by the banks in the first place we are now being conned again by the so-called legal people who advertise to profit from our gullibility.

Yet another planning application has been made for the Eruv (this is a continuous boundary for the Jewish faith mainly utilising existing local features) which is to surround Woodside Park and Friern Barnet. This must be about the fourth planning application for the same issue and I am not quite sure why Barnet Council keep prevaricating. The Equality Act 2010 requires the Council to eliminate discrimination and promote equality to which we should all say "hurrah". We shall not be objecting.

The rebuilt Finchley Memorial Hospital is shortly to re-open.. It looks state of the art and smashing but I gather they are still using the old antiquated computer system!! Mind boggling – who thought of that?! Anyway, it is well worth a visit (although for obvious reasons I hope that none of you have to go there!!)

Enjoy the reminder of the summer. See you at the Woodsider Party and ask the Councillors probing questions! Put the date in your diary.

Robert Shutler



WOODSIDER PARTY/AGM WEDNESDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2012

at OLD FINCHLEIANS CLUBHOUSE, SOUTHOVER
Starting 8.00pm Entry £5.00 to include food and wine

Entertainment with Barbara B

Please do come along and meet your neighbours, the
Councillors and your Committee

Council News

We did not ask the Councillors to write anything this month because the Council is embarking on its "One Barnet" policy whereby much of what is presently carried out in-house is going to apparently be sub-contracted to external services run by private companies. In doing this, the Councillors maintain that they will cut costs, cut bureaucracy and have greater efficiency, which will be to the benefit of the residents in the Borough of Barnet (unless you happen to be very young, old, infirm or incapacitated).

The problem for the Council, at present, is that it is tied to all sorts of labour limitations and restrictive practices which emanate from the good old days but have never moved forward with the times. Hence the union, UNISON, is kicking up one hell of a fuss about it and frightening the living daylight out of everyone with stories of despair and horror.

If the services are to be sub-contracted out, the contracts need to be properly and decisively written by professional people who know what they are doing. Remember the G4S fiasco with the security for the Olympic Games? Like the Government and LOCOG, and despite employing many people earning more than £100,000 per annum, the Council are apparently incapable of doing this – so what do they do? Of course - they sub-contract it out! Great! Forgive me if I lose the will to live.

Planning Applications over the last couple of months

74 Walmington Fold	First floor side and rear extension, single storey rear extension, conversion of garage to habitable room and alterations to front porch
46 Cissbury Ring North	Part single and part two-storey side and rear extensions. New detached garage
11A Linkside	Single storey rear extension
81 Lullington Garth	Part single and part two-storey side and rear extension (at appeal)
66 Cissbury Ring South	Single storey rear extension
94 Cissbury Ring South	Retention of boundary fencing

Inglis (Mill Hill) Barracks

The old warehouse building has been demolished and there is now a flat-tish site. The developer is starting to put the main infrastructure in place. In addition, they are digging up Frith Lane like there is no tomorrow for new gas mains to serve the site and the neighbourhood. No doubt, they will be digging up Frith Lane again for the electrics and then, later on, for the water.

In the meantime, the developers of Inglis Barracks are ploughing through the ninety-two conditions attached to their planning permission and they have applied to the Council to discharge the requirements for conditions 26 (pedestrian and vehicular access points), 48 (open space design), 52 (children's play space) and 65 (contamination remediation verification report). None of this looks very much different to that originally proposed and so we have made no comment in this respect.

Woodside Park Industrial Estate

We are glad to learn that some of those people who parked their large vans and lorries on the kerbs in Woodside Park have now left the area for pastures anew. Woodside Park is not meant to be an industrial estate and should not be treated as such.

The last newsletter contained a comment about the inconsiderate parking of commercial vehicles in our leafy suburb. Through our website, www.woodside-park.com, (check it out!) we received the following email from an angry gentleman residing in Lullington Garth:-

"I find this amazing, considering the number of inconsiderate drivers who park their cars badly and sometimes partly blocking my drive. There have been numerous times when I have had to leave a note on a car because of the way they have parked in front of my house, virtually making it impossible for me to come out of my drive. What is worse is when they park their box of a car smack bang in the middle of a parking area so that nobody can park in front or behind them."

So maybe these petty minded people who have all the time in the world to go around complaining about business vehicles should get a life and learn to park their own excessively large cars properly.

The worst offenders are the mothers who drop their children off to school. Then they are so tired that they have simply got to go and join the other mothers for a coffee. So they'll just stick their 4x4 anywhere because they are so important and of course nobody will mind for a few minutes. Well I DO mind! What is wrong with the walking bus??

Wow, we sense a little parking rage! It's not the size that matters, it's where you put it! (we refer to vehicles!)
Let's all park with a little consideration for others.



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charge by MDC

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The Woodsider

NOVEMBER 2012
www.woodside-park.com

Letter from the Chairman – a personal view

As summer turns to autumn and autumn to winter, the wretched burglars are out in force and this has been the worst three months or so for a long time. Everyone must keep an eye open. It's horrible being burgled. If you think something untoward is happening in your neighbour's property phone the police on 020 8721 2975. If you are sure - phone 999.

The Woodsider Party in September was fun although it poured with rain that night which may have prevented some people from joining us. There was delicious food, quite a lot of drink and much good humour. I hope that all of you who attended enjoyed the event. My particular thanks go to the WPRA Committee (and my wife, Trish), who helped with the organisation and produced the food and also to Barbara B who provided the music for the evening. Appreciation should also go to Geoff at the Old Finchleians who ran the bar and generally looked after those who needed looking after.

Our MP Theresa Villiers was going to join us at the party but she suddenly got promoted (I think that's the word) to the dizzy heights of Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. On the night in question she was across the Irish Sea. Best of luck to her!

But our Councillors Brian Coleman and Richard Cornelius were guests at the party and they answered sharp and sometimes incisive questions about Council activities.

Talking of Council activities, your committee is holding a Forum to discuss the Council's current money-saving wheeze known as "One Barnet". More about this overleaf but I do hope you will come along and say your piece. It will be held at Frith Manor School on Thursday 22nd November 2012 starting 8.00pm.

Since the final curtain to the Olympic Games, digging up our roads, placing obstacles in the way of motorists, mounting unwanted excursions around the borough and filling in the excavated holes seems to have taken a new

lease of life which I can only assume is associated with one of the Government's "Get Back to Work" schemes.

In particular, the Gas Utility Companies, have caused havoc and disruption. Walmington Fold has been cut off from the Sussex Ring roundabout. The work took five weeks which is the time that was agreed with the Council. I was told by the workmen that they could have done the work over one week and I do sometimes wonder. I questioned this with the Council who said that the workmen did not know what they were talking about – so there! The work at the roundabout has not only caused traffic accidents but vehicles have to take quite a long detour to get anywhere. And at the same time they decided to dig up Dollis Road, Wentworth Road and Long Lane causing more problems for diverted traffic. Someone at the Council must have organised this mayhem. No wonder the parking and traffic control is in such a dire state if these people run the thing. Maybe "One Barnet" will sort this out? It can't be worse.

I would just like to mention that one of our local residents gave life-saving resuscitation to a jogger who collapsed in the park the other day. It took an ambulance the best part of twenty minutes to get to the scene but the jogger survived. The hero wishes to remain anonymous (but I know who you are!!). There are two lessons to be learnt from this – do a first aid course and don't go jogging!

Some sad news. Jacqueline Weiner who served the residents of Woodside Park on our committee for many years has recently passed away. Our thoughts are with her family.

We have the Annual Carol Singing this year detailed below. Last year the weather was good and we had a fantastic turnout of ninety people or so. 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?

I hope to see you at the Forum and the Carol Singing.

Robert Shutler



CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING

SATURDAY 22nd DECEMBER at 4.30pm
at Sussex Ring
CHILDREN ESPECIALLY WELCOME
Free Refreshments

ONE BARNET

"One Barnet" Forum 22nd November 8.00pm
To be held at Frith Manor Primary School, Lullington Garth, N12 7BN

Your committee has arranged a special meeting/forum for all residents of Woodside Park to learn more about the proposed plans that the Council have for saving money and outsourcing certain responsibilities. We have two opposing speakers. Councillor Richard Cornelius, leader of the Council, will put the case FOR the plan and Bob Jacobson, a concerned resident, will put the case AGAINST the plan. We believe that this meeting will serve to give more information to those of us who will be affected by the new approach and also to stimulate discussion about it.

Entrance is **FREE** and we look forward to seeing you there.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS OVER THE LAST COUPLE OF MONTHS

15A Pyecombe Corner	Single storey building in rear garden
49 Cissbury Ring North	Single storey side and rear extension, new pitched roof over garage
81 Cissbury Ring South	Roof extension, rear dormer and three rooflights to front for loft conversion
6 Offham Slope	Single storey rear extension and boiler flue to side elevation
88 Walmington Fold	Single storey rear extension, new garage, roof extension, new front porch and block paving to front garden
15 Sussex Ring	Single storey rear extension

If you decide to pave over your driveway, please consider the environment and ensure that the paving is porous or that a soakaway is provided. Please also provide a bit of greenery.

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.

ONE BARNET

If you are concerned about the level of your Council Tax, you should attend the "One Barnet" meeting which we have organized at Frith Manor School. See above. The meeting will be in the form of a Forum with the two speakers stating their cases and then questions from the floor. It is important that you are acquainted with what is being proposed.

As is the way with all things concerned with the Council, a garrulous and longwinded amount of information can be found on their website under:-

http://www.barnet.gov.uk/info/920056/one_barnet_transformation_programme/904/one_barnet_transformation_programme

On hundred reasons for opposing the view can be found on:-

<http://www.coalitionofresistance.org.uk/2012/08/100-reasons-why-one-barnet-is-high-risk-and-bad-for-residents-and-services/>

TOTTERIDGE SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS TEAM

Crime is on the rise. There were eight burglaries in the area in July 2012 and nine in August. 90% of the burglaries were through the rear of the property. Car theft is also on the increase but there are no figures for these. Thieves also seem to be able to open cars with remote controls - so do not leave valuables in your car.

As if the thieves are not bad enough, motorists need to be further aware that the police are out and about with speed guns, especially on Longland Drive and Totteridge Lane. They are also now instructed to issue tickets to drivers who park inconsiderately (and about time too!)

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 four 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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