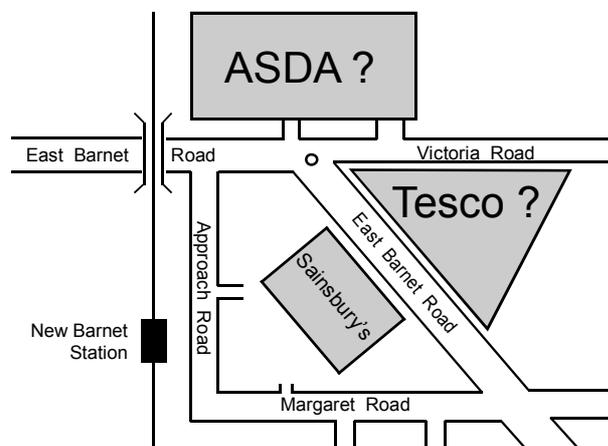


Save New Barnet

Newsletter

1st October 2008



Dear Friends,

You may have read recently in the local newspapers that ASDA submitted a planning application for the gas works site at the end of August. However, one month later, Barnet Council have still not registered the application and so it is not yet 'live'. We have no idea when it might be registered as the planning department are apparently waiting for missing documents from ASDA. Until a planning application is registered, and has a reference number, the crucial process of submitting objections cannot start.

Nothing has been heard from Tesco since their public exhibition in June.

As soon as we know for certain that either of the planning applications has been registered by Barnet Council we will let you know. The single most important thing you can then do at that point is to write your formal letter of objection to the council planning department. We will ensure that you have all the details you need to make your voice heard.

While we await planning applications we need you to help us maintain the momentum of our campaign to save our community. Please see the 'Action' section below for full details.

Press Coverage

Regular visitors to the press clippings section of our website will know that our campaign against the proposed Tesco and ASDA supermarkets in New Barnet is getting a really good amount of press coverage. A big thank you to all of you who have written letters to the papers. The letters page is the most-read section of any newspaper so your efforts are incredibly valuable. Please keep writing!
www.newbarnet.org.uk/documents/press

The upshot of such clear and vocal opposition to these huge, unwanted superstores is that a number of local politicians are currently arguing against the developments. It is crucial that they continue to do so as it is Barnet's politicians who will decide the fate of our area in the end. The thing that politicians are most interested in, of course, is the number of votes they think they may be able to get if they pursue a particular course. Therefore if you can continue to help demonstrate overwhelming local opposition to the supermarket proposals we will give ourselves the best possible chance of success.

Surveys

We have been carrying out a good deal of detailed research locally, both online and door to door. Many thanks to everyone who has taken part. We hope to release some detailed results soon, in the meantime you may be interested in a few headline statistics:

90% of local people do not want another superstore larger than our local Sainsbury's.

74% oppose the Asda scheme and only 11% claim to support it.

86% oppose the Tesco plan and only 7% claim to support it.

continues overleaf...

Action

While we await planning applications we need you to help us maintain the momentum of our campaign to save our community in one or more of the following ways.

1. Please come and help us on our stall outside Sainsburys. We're planning to have a regular pitch in East Barnet Road each Saturday to promote the campaign and to get vital signatures on our petition. You don't need to be an expert on the campaign - we'll provide one of those - we just need some willing pairs of hands. If you can help, even with just an hour or two each month, then do please let us know. Contact: info@newbarnet.org.uk
2. Please download the petition form. Get your friends, family, neighbours and work colleagues to sign it – then send it back to us. Helping in this way will provide clear, unequivocal numbers to keep the politicians interested.
3. Please complete the online survey. It's important for us to be able to demonstrate that we represent the views of the community. It's great that over 350 local people have already completed the survey, but the more of us who do, the greater the authority our campaign will have.
4. Show your support for the campaign by downloading and printing a poster to display in your window.



A Vision For New Barnet

Our campaign is not purely about saying a loud NO to Tesco and ASDA. We are continuing to work positively on what we, the local residents, want to see happen to improve the area through our 'Vision For New Barnet' document. We continue to welcome your feedback through the website discussion forum.

And finally...

At the end of August, ASDA put out a press release about their plans for New Barnet complete with a new web address which was reprinted in the local press. However we realised that ASDA had misprinted the web address by adding in an extra hyphen and so the address they had given did not actually exist. So we decided to acquire www.asda-newbarnet.co.uk for ourselves. Hello to all those who found our campaign through ASDA's error!

You have been brilliant so far. Let's keep up the momentum.

Regards,

Save New Barnet Campaign Team

Note: email is our primary method of communication - let us know if you have an email address we can use.

Save New Barnet Campaign

website: www.newbarnet.org.uk

email: info@newbarnet.org.uk

post: % The Community Centre, 48/50 Victoria Road, New Barnet, EN4 9PF