

Save New Barnet

Newsletter



28th August 2019

Hello again, friends of the Save New Barnet Campaign. It may have been some time since our last newsletter, but we are still around!

New Barnet Leisure Centre - Victoria Recreation Ground

Way back in 2008 when we were in the heat of fighting Tesco & Asda's proposals for two huge superstore & residential developments in the heart of New Barnet, we asked what you *WOULD* want to see in the area. Your responses were compiled into our 'Vision For New Barnet' document, and one particularly popular request on that list was for a swimming pool.

We are excited to see that the sign posts are up, the pool has been filled, the hoardings are coming down, and the project is nearing completion. All the hard work and dedication from members of our community over the past few years is coming to fruition. All those cold nights attending meetings, delivering flyers, gathering signatures on petitions, encouraging supporters to pass on newsletters and speak to neighbours has finally paid off. Well done to each and every one of you who played their part. We worked hard and showed what can be achieved when a community bands together and believes in what they are fighting for. Of course, issues like this require a spearhead. Sadly, earlier this year the Save New Barnet campaign lost one of our biggest champions in David Howard. His leadership and guidance is sorely missed, and we offer our deepest condolences to his family. But the work goes on. The SNB team continue to quietly watch, monitor and question carefully as before. David Howard's legacy is that he taught us well, and he gave the community a strong belief that you can achieve results if you work together constructively.

New Barnet Leisure Centre officially opens at 11am on Friday 30th August 2019. It is going to offer a variety of facilities and activities that are very much needed, and long overdue to the community. It will be run for Barnet Council by 'Better' (the trading name of GLL). There will be an open weekend on Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th September from 9am - 3pm where the facilities will be available for free on a first come first served basis.

Link: www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/london/barnet/new-barnet-leisure-centre

'Fit and Active in Barnet' is promoted by the council and includes the FAB Card, a FREE annual membership available to Barnet residents, giving access to a range of benefits across all of the Barnet's leisure centres.

Link: www.better.org.uk/fab-card

The replacement of the children's playground in the Rec with all new equipment has also just reached completion. New Barnet Community Association is currently researching possible funding for other items that did not manage to make it for inclusion. NBCA understands that the Golden Kilometre is still to go in, and that the refurbishment of the rose garden and a new woodland walk area should come later.

East Barnet Library

The Library in Brookhill Road, East Barnet, will close for the final time at noon on Saturday 31 August 2019. It will be replaced by a new library space in the New Barnet Leisure Centre, Lawton Road, EN4 9BS, opening on Tuesday 24 September 2019. This library facility will continue to be run by Inclusion Barnet. We understand that the old library building is currently intended be used as offices by Barnet Council.

Victoria Quarter

We have recently heard from One Housing and they have informed us that they are in the final stages of the remedial works on the old gas works site. The clean up process has taken far longer than originally scheduled. Hopefully this does mean it has been thorough and future residents should not be concerned with contamination. One Housing are hoping to get back to us with a view to meeting in September. This major development continues to be a "watch this space".

New Bevan Church

There is currently a crowdfunding campaign to buy the church building in Grove Road so that it can be reopened as a community hub.

Link: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/r-howarth-1

Further details in this Barnet Society article.

Link: www.barnetsociety.org.uk/component/k2/new-barnet-campaign-to-save-community-hub

Other Issues Just Outside Our Area

The SNB team are closely watching two campaigns running on either side of New Barnet.

Transport for London (TfL) are developing plans to build flats on many of their station car parks. Only a limited number of parking spaces may be retained at each site and it is likely that the residential developments would contain no parking spaces. Stations being considered locally include High Barnet, Cockfosters, Arnos Grove, and Finchley Central.

Exhibitions were held by TfL in the relevant station car parks in June to announce their outline proposals and gather initial feedback.

Link: www.highbarnetconsultation.com

Link: www.cockfostersconsultation.com

More detailed plans are expected in the autumn, to be followed by planning applications.

High Barnet Station Car Park Campaign

A group of local residents have got together and formed "Hands Off High Barnet". They have expressed their concerns over:

- The loss of station car parking spaces.
- Impact of no parking facilities for the 450 dwellings proposed, thus impacting on already congested local roads.
- Density and height of the development.
- Not in keeping with the surrounding neighbourhood.
- Strain on already exhausted infrastructure.
- Loss of mature trees.
- Spoiling the skyline.

You can contact this group using the following:

email: HandsOffHighBarnet@gmail.com

petition: chng.it/VQb8CpM8

Facebook: [handsoffhighbarnet](https://www.facebook.com/handsoffhighbarnet)

Cockfosters Station Car Park Campaign

Cockfosters Local Area Residents Association (CLARA), are running a campaign against the TfL plans as the Cockfosters area is already undergoing significant development. The proposal of a 12 storey block, with no parking facilities for tenants has caused concern. The association feel that:

- The station car parks are an essential means of accessing the Underground for the aged and infirm as well as commuters from local and outlying areas.
- Displaced commuter vehicles will be forced onto already congested residential roads and is a fundamental cause for concern.
- No parking facilities for the 400 proposed units will potentially paralyse the overloaded road network.

You can contact this group using the following:

email: clara.cockfosters@gmail.com

Petition: chng.it/TFRk6Wcy9r

Trent Park Festivals

Trent Park would not normally come up on our radar, but two large festivals took place on Saturdays in August and may have impacted on residents living near Cockfosters.

- 51st State, a one day music festival for 17,500 adults, took place on 3rd August.
- Elrow Town London, a one day music festival for 25,000 adults, took place on 17 August.

CLARA (Cockfosters Local Area Residents Association), are monitoring issues around noise, unsocial behaviour, litter and other concerns very closely. If you reported any issues please ensure that a copy of everything is also sent to CLARA.

email: clara.cockfosters@gmail.com

Tell A Friend

Please pass this newsletter on to friends and neighbours who may not be on our email list. Copies in printable form can be found on our website.

Finally, the Save New Barnet Campaign is always interested to hear your views. Contact details below.

That's all for now.

Regards,

Save New Barnet Campaign Team

Save New Barnet Campaign

website: www.newbarnet.org.uk
facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/18590613740
twitter: www.twitter.com/NewBarnet
email: info@newbarnet.org.uk
post: % The Community Centre, 48/50 Victoria Road, New Barnet, EN4 9PF

Save New Barnet Campaign is a non-political group of local residents fighting for a better New Barnet. The group seeks to inform the local community about potential changes to the area, and oppose inappropriate developments. The group aims to promote a clear vision for how New Barnet could be developed for the benefit of the community based on the views of local people.

The campaign is funded entirely by donations from individuals. It is not bankrolled by any company or commercial organisation.