

Save New Barnet

Newsletter

28th June 2009

Dear Friends,

Welcome to another update from the Save New Barnet Campaign.

Planning Officers' Report

On Friday 19th June, Barnet Council's Planning Officers finally published their report on the proposed ASDA development in New Barnet.

The good news is that the planners have recommended that the Councillors vote to REFUSE the planning application at the next Planning & Environment Committee (see below).

The bad news is that the report contains a number of serious inaccuracies and contradictions which could provide grounds for ASDA to appeal any refusal. Even more worryingly, the report seems to encourage Tesco to develop its rival scheme on the Optex site.

(If you only have time to read a small part, start with the final paragraph on page 38. The report is supposed to be a balanced analysis of the ASDA planning application, yet this appears to actively encourage development of a neighbouring site by 'another operator'.)

The Save New Barnet Campaign Team have been working around the clock going through the report and supporting documents with a fine-tooth comb. We have submitted a detailed list of comments and corrections to the Planning Officers and Councillors.

Such were our concerns, we asked for the report to be withdrawn for review, and reissued to another Planning Committee Meeting later in July. This was refused. Instead we have been advised that an addendum report will be tabled at the Planning & Environment Committee meeting which may address some of our concerns. Tabling an addendum at the last minute means that Councillors will not have a chance to properly read and consider its contents before being expected to make a decision.

Planning Committee Meeting - Wed 1st July

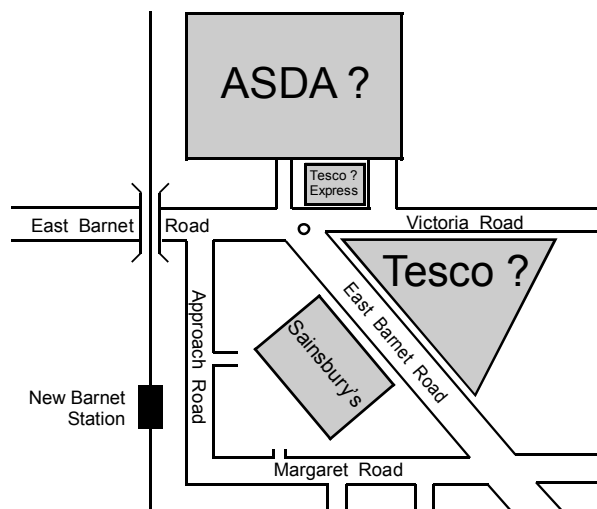
The proposed ASDA development in New Barnet will go before Barnet Council's Planning & Environment Committee on Wednesday 1st July 2009.

The meeting is open to the public, so please come along and encourage your elected representatives to speak up for your views by opposing ASDA's proposals. Remember, the decision the Councillors make could affect New Barnet and the surrounding area for many years to come, so please don't leave it to someone else. As well as hopefully voting to reject the application, the grounds for the refusal must be made strong.

Proceedings start at 7.00 pm, so if you'd like to lobby your councillors as they arrive (and get a good seat), we would recommend arriving around 6.15 pm.

Venue: Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone, N20 0EJ
(Barnet House is the big tower block on Whetstone High Road between Totteridge Lane and B&Q)
Bus services 326 and 383 run from New Barnet to Whetstone.

The meeting Agenda (and the Planning Officers' Report) can be found on Barnet Council's website:
<http://tinyurl.com/meeting1july>



Planning & Environment Committee Members

For your information, the Councillors who are members of the Planning & Environment Committee are listed below.

Eva Greenspan - Chairman (Finchley Church End Ward - Con)	cllr.e.greenspan@barnet.gov.uk
Maureen Braun - Vice-Chairman (Hendon Ward - Con)	cllr.m.braun@barnet.gov.uk
Anita Campbell (Underhill Ward - Lab)	cllr.a.campbell@barnet.gov.uk
Jack Cohen (Childs Hill Ward - LibDem)	cllr.j.cohen@barnet.gov.uk
Wendy Prentice (High Barnet Ward - Con)	cllr.w.prentice@barnet.gov.uk
Hugh Rayner (Hale Ward - Con)	cllr.h.rayner@barnet.gov.uk
Agnes Slocombe (West Hendon Ward - Lab)	cllr.a.slocombe@barnet.gov.uk
Andreas Tambourides (Brunswick Park Ward - Con)	cllr.a.tambourides@barnet.gov.uk
Jim Tierney (West Finchley Ward - Lab)	cllr.j.tierney@barnet.gov.uk

The following 9 Councillors are 'Substitute Members' who may take the place of one of the main members if they are unable to attend the meeting.

Jeremy Davies (Mill Hill Ward - LibDem)	cllr.j.davies@barnet.gov.uk
Claire Farrier (Burnt Oak Ward - Lab)	cllr.c.farrier@barnet.gov.uk
Anthony Finn (Hendon Ward - Con)	cllr.a.finn@barnet.gov.uk
Andrew McNeil (East Finchley Ward - Lab)	cllr.a.mcneil@barnet.gov.uk
Jazmin Naghar (Garden Suburb Ward - Con)	cllr.j.naghar@barnet.gov.uk
Sachin Rajput (Oakleigh Ward - Con)	cllr.s.rajput@barnet.gov.uk
Barry Rawlings (Coppetts Ward - Lab)	cllr.b.rawlings@barnet.gov.uk
Joanna Tambourides (East Barnet Ward - Con)	cllr.j.tambourides@barnet.gov.uk
Daniel Thomas (Finchley Church End - Con)	cllr.d.thomas@barnet.gov.uk

Please note that local government rules mean that Councillors (and substitutes) on the planning committee are not permitted to express an opinion on proposals before the meeting. You can lobby them to let them know what you think, but they are unable to comment in response.

Newsletter

This newsletter (and the previous ones) can be downloaded from the website as a printable PDF.
www.newbarnet.org.uk/documents/publicity

Why not print off some copies for your neighbours to let them know the latest news? If they have internet access, *please* encourage them to sign up on the website to get their own copy direct by email.

Thank you for your continued support.

Regards,
Save New Barnet Campaign Team

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

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.