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Local News Is Our Aim

THE ARCHER



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July 2003 No. 122 20p
ISSN 1361-3952 where sold

A community newspaper for East Finchley run entirely by volunteers.



Crowds follow the procession into Cherry Tree Wood for the East Finchley Festival.
Photo by David Glick

All the Fun of the Fair

Once again the East Finchley Festival was a roaring success.
See the centre pages for our photo spread.

Library Consultation Booked

By Daphne Chamberlain

At the Barnet Council cabinet meeting on 16 June it was decided that public consultation about the siting of the library would now begin in September. Councillor Mike Freer, Member for Value and Effectiveness, stated that it was right to consult both library users and non-users. The object would be to find out what people want from their library service.

Refurbishment estimate revealed

One option would be refurbishment of the present library, the estimated cost of which is in the region of £650,000. This would include overhauling the pitched roof, renewing and

painting some of the flat roof, damp penetration treatment to exposed walls, modernisation of the heating system, rewiring, redecoration, provision of a lift, removal of some interior walls and partitions, new shelving and furniture. It does not include professional fees or ICT re-cabling.

If Park House were to be put up for open sale, the best price would obviously allow expenditure in education, etc. Meanwhile, it will be offered to HGS Institute on a temporary basis.

Consultation question

Several Councillors mentioned the volume of e-mails and messages received from members of the public, and it was asked whether the form of the consultation would allow people to make their own comments. This question was taken back for discussion.

It was said again that using the first floor of the proposed Waitrose development as a library is only one of the possible options, although no other option was specified. No detailed planning application can be considered until after the consultation.

The Controlled Parking Zone was agreed to be a success, but could be reconsidered in future – if necessary.

The specific question of the Waitrose development was not pursued.

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Warning on Windows

A warning from Barnet Borough Watch

Recently there were six burglaries, all on one night in the Borough of Barnet, where thieves stole valuable vehicles by gaining entry to homes through open windows and unlocked doors.

Once inside the home, thieves were able to find the car keys and then steal the vehicle from outside.

Early hours

The majority of these offences were committed

during the early hours of the morning. As always, it is imperative that residents ensure that windows and doors are securely locked, even if they don't own a valuable car.

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