



Suburb Rejects Institute's Plans

By Alison Stein

There was heated debate at the meeting of the Council of the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents' Association on 2 September at which members were to discuss their response to Barnet Council on proposals to develop the Neurological Hospital site in East Finchley. Members were outnumbered by residents, mainly from the East Finchley side of the Suburb. On the table was the RA's draft response to Barnet Council, – and on the table in the entrance hall stood a large scale model of the proposed development (which includes a building for the Institute and two large blocks of flats) commissioned by the objectors from Huntingdon Associates of East Finchley.

The RA's report supported "the principle of an Institute on this site" but urged Barnet to reject the current proposals because "the spirit of the HGS Conservation Area would be harmed by the over-development of this backland" and because the proposals did not conform to Government guidelines.

Mr Malcolm Davis, Chairman of the Institute, urged Council members to reject the report and accept their historic duty to support the Institute, which would soon have to vacate its site on Central Square. He warned that there would be a great loss of Suburb amenities if the Institute could not settle on the East Finchley site, and announced that the developers were producing a third version

of their plans.

Many Council members (and some residents) spoke for and against the report. Supporters of the Institute stressed its importance, and objectors to the plans explained the damaging consequences in terms of traffic, parking and impact on neighbouring residents of all three proposed buildings, pointing out that the Institute had considered other sites outside the Suburb, and could do so again.

Finally, the Council voted 9–2 to accept the report, and to urge Barnet to reject the current proposals. After the meeting, Mrs Naylor, Principal of the Institute, confirmed that even if the Institute left Hampstead Garden Suburb, they would do their utmost to retain some classes at Central Square.



Scale model shows a NOGO area. Photo by Erini Rodis.

Neurological Hospital Plans

By Erini Rodis

A special 3D 'guest' greeted the Hampstead Garden Suburb residents' meeting in Willifield Way last month. Kindly supplied by Huntingdon Associates (master planning and civic design, based in Huntingdon Rd)

This scale model illustrates what the block of buildings behind East Finchley Station would look like should the proposed plans for the Neurological Hospital site go ahead.

A five-storey building for the Institute, plus two six-storey blocks of flats are planned.

Local residents have been voicing objections to what they describe as an over-develop-

ment. Particular concerns include the lack of parking spaces and the subsequent increase in traffic density and thus extra traffic delays and more local pollution, which the Institute's new plans are expected to cause. What is illustrated most clearly by the scale model, however, is the change in local residents' private rear views.

Going, Going... Gone



By Frank Tymkow

These photographs show the demise of one of the oldest public houses in East Finchley.

The Duke of Cambridge, formerly in Market Place, is now nothing more than a hole in the ground, the remnants of its cellar.

Like the other pubs before it (The Manor Cottage, The George...), it is to be replaced with residential flats.

The Red Lion is already

Above: The end is nigh for the Duke of Cambridge. Below right: Razed to the ground.

Photos by Frank Tymkow

boarded up, and one is left wondering which of the more traditional public houses will next succumb to modern market forces.



Launderette Raid

By Erini Rodis

Thieves destroyed the front of a washing machine in the High Road launderette recently, rendering it useless.

Owner Hector, who found the damage, confirms that the thieves got away with just £2.40 for their trouble. The consequences have meant shorter opening hours, more supervision and one less machine for members of the public to use. All for less money than it takes to buy a couple of bus tickets.

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