

Parking zone plan splits community

Mixture of outrage and relief over fast-tracked Broadway CPZ

Rhiannon Evans

A CHANGE to parking rules in Crouch End has divided the community.

Haringey Council has "fast-tracked" plans to extend the Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) either side of the Broadway because they claim there has been an overwhelming public desire for it, meaning residents have only had 21 days to have their say.

Under the plans, between 10am and 12pm only permit holders will be able to use the additional roads to the east of the Broadway, and to the west only homeowners can park between 2pm and 4pm.

Many residents have long petitioned for the extension after being flooded with displaced cars from the original CPZ and the tight restrictions in Islington.

They say commuters and business owners leave their cars in their roads for days and weeks, meaning

they are unable to park near their homes and hope the daily restriction will prevent this.

But while those residents rejoiced when Haringey said they would fast-track the usual lengthy consultation process, others have slammed the move including traders and those both living inside and just outside the new CPZ areas.

Danny Freedman's Ivy Gardens home is set to fall within CPZ extension A and claims more than 400 people living on roads inside the planned extension do not want the permits and have signed a petition making their point to the council.

He said: "I don't think we should pay for what we get for free now. I think it favours some people against others, it particularly helps people who pop in and out during the day as opposed to people who go to work all day and I don't think the council has given good reasons for it."

"It also encourages people to pave over their front gardens and I think it's an underhand way of collecting more money. I think the fact it has been fast-tracked is outrageous."

Residents living on the fringes of the newly-planned extension fear they will now be placed in the same situation of taking displaced non-permit holders.

And traders say their businesses are set to be hugely affected.

Helene Allen, owner of Little Paris, said: "We will have less customers for sure because it's already really difficult to park."

"I'm really sure this will affect our business. Customers always say they can't park or stay longer than two hours."

However, Tec Fawcett, who campaigned with a petition of more than 250 people vigorously for 18 months for the CPZ B to be extended, said: "This is important because we are suffering. We have

got quite a lot of people here with young families and older infirm people who have difficulties walking to their cars."

"We are not against the traders and we don't think they will be affected because with the commuters removed there will be spaces during the day for shoppers. We support them and we would expect them to support us when we can't park."

Lorraine Griffiths, who also campaigned for CPZ A to be extended said one van had been parked opposite her house for four months as roads on all sides of her Gladwell Road home are in a CPZ.

"We have been squeezed," she said. "I have neighbours with two or three children who have to park two or three roads away."

People have until tomorrow (October 8) to have their say. Send an email to frontline.consultation@haringey.gov.uk or go to www.haringey.gov.uk.

20/20 VISIONARIES



MORE than 500 people have joined a campaign to introduce 20mph zones in residential roads across the borough.

Local Liberal Democrats this weekend took their petition to the Crouch End Broadway, where they gathered an additional 100 signatures from shoppers.

Councillor Lyn Weber, Lib Dem spokeswoman for transport, said since 2007 the annual number of accidents on Haringey's roads has increased by 17 per cent, incidents involving cyclists have doubled and those involving children are up 50 per cent.

"It's great to see so many local residents share our concern about road safety, and are backing the bid for 20mph," she said.

"It's been really encourag-

ing to chat with shoppers on the Broadway today. This is clearly an issue that's close to people's hearts."

She was joined by Lynne Featherstone, MP for Hornsey and Wood Green, who added: "I'm delighted to see such impressive support for our road safety campaign here today."

"But to be in with a real fighting chance of making the streets of Haringey safer, we need more public support – so if you haven't done so already, please sign the petition and spread the word to friends and neighbours."

The petition can be found online at <http://campaigns.libdems.org.uk/20mph>.

□ Cllr Weber is pictured with fellow councillor David Winskill gathering support at the weekend.

50 years of advice

A LOCAL charity has celebrated 50 years of helping to counsel the local community.

The Highgate Counselling Centre, based in Tetherdown, Muswell Hill, is believed to be the oldest centre of its kind, providing help with personal and relationship problems according to what people can pay.

It is staffed by volunteers and offers individual counselling, group, family and couples work as well as bereavement help.

The celebration was attended by Benita Kyle, who started the centre with her husband 50 years ago, and the current president Denis Duncan, who has been involved for 47 years.

He said: "Highgate Counselling Centre has made an enormous contribution to the health and welfare

of north London in its 50 years.

"Those seeking help will always find themselves in a pleasant but safe environment where they are assured of confidentiality."

Local MP Lynne Featherstone also attended and praised the charity. "It's great that this, the oldest counselling service in the country, can be found on our doorstep. Fingers crossed it will continue its wonderful service for many years to come," she said. "It's wonderful to meet such dedicated people helping all local residents in need of a listening ear, regardless of their ability to pay."

WISE COUNSEL: Pictured (above right) at the centre are director Lois Elliott with Liz and David Gamble and Janet Sergeant.



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