

APPENDIX 1

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Public Consultation

Three public exhibitions have been held by the JCoSS over the past eight months, one as part of a wider consultation on the redevelopment of East Barnet School. These exhibitions have been as follows:

1. *Joint exhibition with Barnet Council*

Where: East Barnet Upper School, Westbrook Crescent
When: 5-8pm, 16th October 2006
What: Opportunity to talk with JCoSS Trustees, professional advisers and representatives of the Barnet Council
Attendees: 78 local residents, council officers and members
Content: Principles behind the creation of JCoSS and the redevelopment of East Barnet School; explanation of schools inclusive nature; initial consultation of access and transport options; leaflets distributed (see appendix)

2. *Small presentation as part of an exhibition by Barnet Council of plans for East Barnet School*

Where: East Barnet School, Chestnut Grove
When: 5-8pm, 28th March 2007
What: Opportunity to view initial thinking on access and travel plans, and layout of the site
Attendees: Approx 360 local residents, East Barnet school parents, council officers and members
Content: One panel showing the layout of the site and principles behind the school; discussion with JCoSS Chair, Michael Phillips and community relations adviser, Ben Rich, of initial thinking on access and travel plans

3. *Exhibition of JCoSS plans*

Where: East Barnet Upper School, Westbrook Crescent
When: 5-8pm, 19th April 2007
What: Opportunity to view full designs for JCoSS and to talk with JCoSS Trustees and JCoSS professional advisers
Attendees: 82 (signed in) local residents, council officer, member
Content: 8 panels, displaying designs for school, access options, travel plans, environmental impact and timeline (see appendix) Trustees took care to show the four access options which had been

considered for the site; considerably time was spent explaining the considerations which had led to the adoption of the Northern access road as the preferred option; also transport consultants, ARUP were available to explain and answer questions on travel plans; attendees were given the opportunity to fill in feedback forms with their comments – 13 were received on the night and 3 subsequently by post – all have been acknowledged and where specific questions have been raised further answers and information provided.

The aim of each of these exhibitions has been to enable local residents and other interested parties to view the proposals and to ask questions of the Trustees and, where possible, project team. The feedback received has been used to inform the planning application and, where specific concerns have been expressed, where possible these have been addressed as the detailed plans have been developed. Alternatively, care has been taken to explain the issues and options, so residents have been able to see that their concerns have received consideration.

Publicity and Attendance

To encourage attendance at each of these exhibitions approximately 2000 invitation letters were hand delivered by volunteers or the Council to local residents around the Westbrook Cres and Chestnut Grove sites.

In addition, for the second and third exhibitions around 70 letters were sent by post to local councillors, media, and representative groups such as the New Barnet Residents Associations.

Prior to each exhibition a news release was sent to 4 local newspapers, resulting in two articles in the Barnet Press including details of the time, date and location of the latter two exhibitions.

Attendees

A quick analysis of the 82 registered attendees who attended the third exhibition suggests that, in contrast to the first exhibition in October 2006, more were from the Northfields/Linthorpe Rd/Castlewood Rd area than previously. This is a most likely a result of the protest leaflet.

Specifically, they breakdown as follows:

Northfields Rd (opposite the proposed new access):	13
Linthorpe Rd/Castlewood Rd/Grove Rd (near new access):	9
Westbrook and Hertford Rd (near existing access):	21
Fordham Rd/Baring Rd/Victoria Rd (between the two):	10
Elsewhere on the estate:	24

This was clearly significant in determining the nature of the feedback. In 2006, residents told JCoSS they favoured an access solution which kept traffic out of Westbrook Cres; this time more residents favoured the continued use of the existing entrance and opposed the creation of the new proposed Northern access.

Among the attendees were Cllr Jean Tambourides, the new councillor for East Barnet ward, David Howard, the Chair of the New Barnet Residents Association and Hannah Elliott, Barnet Education Department.

Written Feedback

Attendees at the third exhibition were encouraged to complete a feedback form. 13 such forms were received on the night with 3 more received subsequently by post:

"A very well thought out plan. Increased volume of traffic is my only concern but I am aware that any use of the site would probably increase traffic. I wish you luck" - Hertford Close resident

"The most important issue is increased traffic – please look into all the options and canvass local views" – Lakeside Cres

I oppose the new access road as "the volume of traffic will increase substantially ... if the current access can accommodate coachess why do you need another road ... where is the new idea of getting people out of cars and using public transport?" – Northfields

"I support your plans and excited this could be our local school." - Westbrook Sq

"I am very worried about the level of traffic with the proposed new road. My main concern is the impact the road will have on the woods and access to the woods." – Grove Rd

"The roads currently leading to the school are more than ample for the public and school staff to easily use without congestion." - East Barnet School student

"I think the school is a really great innovative design but I completely disagree with the present preferred option for access" - Baring Road

"I would like to know the locations of CCTV and the areas covered by wardens" – Westbrook Cres

"Cross on the existing bridge beside Livingstone School and run your access along the property line." – Northfield Rd

"If this does go ahead you will need a high solid fence to run along the length of the road to stop local youths breaking into the woods." - Grove Rd

"The most important issue is increased traffic in the area. Please look into all options and canvass local views" - Lakeside Cres

"I am totally against this proposal in any way shape or form." - Armstrong Cres

Follow Up Letters

Residents who attended the meeting and raised specific concerns receive detailed responses from JCoSS's Chair. Further thank you letters were sent to all attendees who left addresses, thanking them for their time and input.

In due course, letters will be sent out to all local residents who were invited to the exhibition explaining how the exhibition went and changes that have been made to the original plan for the school as a result of feedback received.

Meetings with Councillors

Every effort has been made to keep the local community representatives informed and to answer any questions they have on behalf of the constituents. Meetings have been held with the following councillors:

- Cllr Lynne Hillan (October 2005) then cabinet member responsible for education
- Cllr David Mercer (October 2005) to provide information for the Labour group)
- Cllr Munroe Palmer (February 2006) to provide information for the Lib Dem group (Greenhill Ward)
- Cllr John Marshall (various occasions from January 2006 to present) both in his capacity as cabinet member responsible for education and to provide information for the Conservative group
- Cllr Brian Coleman (February 2007) in his capacity as GLA member for Barnet, at his request
- Cllr Robert Rams (July 2006, October 2006, March 2007) as the local councillor for East Barnet
- Cllr Joanna Tambourides (March 2007 and April 2007) at the public exhibitions as local councillor for East Barnet

In addition, in July 2006 an informal presentation of the educational aspects of the plans was made to a meeting of the Schools Organising Committee, chaired by John Marshall and attended by seven other councillors.

Following the public exhibition, a further meeting was held with Cllrs Rams and Tambourides to discuss the feedback from the exhibition. At this meeting an invitation was made to host a repeat of the April 19th exhibition specifically for councillors unable to make the originally date, at the Council offices in Hendon. At the time of writing we are still awaiting a response to this offer.

5.3 Meetings with Officers

Throughout the process there has been ongoing dialogue between Barnet Council officers and representatives of the JCoSS Trust and the professional team behind the project. In particular we have met regularly with:

- Planning Officers
- Highways Department
- Head of Education, Gillian Palmer
- Education Manager, Sarah Harty
- Capital Project Team Manager, Hannah Elliott

5.4 Third Party Meetings

JCoSS has also been active in consulting the wider community, including local resident groups, local schools and the wider Jewish community across locally across the Borough of Barnet and beyond. Key meetings have been held with:

- East Barnet School (every six weeks)
- Livingstone Primary School Headteacher and Chair of Governors (Summer 2006, and March 2007)
- New Barnet Residents Association (February 2007)
- Cllr Brian Coleman (GLA)
- Mayor's Office
- Nick Griffin (Barnet Press)
- Theresa Villiers MP

In addition conversations have been held with:

- East Barnet Residents Association
- Barnet Times (Marcus Dysch)

Among the very many Jewish community organisations with whom one or more meetings have been held are:

- Akiva School
- Board of Deputies

- Jewish Chronicle
- Jewish Leadership Council
- Jewish News
- Leo Baeck College
- Liberal Judaism
- Office of the Chief Rabbi
- Assembly of Masorti Synagogues
- Norwood
- Reform Judaism
- United Synagogues

In addition, we have written to 91 senior figures within the Jewish community updating them on the plans for the school.