

## Cazenove Ward Forum

*Notes from meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2013*

**Residents:** Amy Erickson, David Cohen, Diana Whitworth, Nick Perry, Ann Long, Tom Album, Virginia Ewart-James, Phil Tapper, Sharon Langrish, Ellen O'Connor, Jack Eldon, Iain Bruce, Mrs Herman, Mrs Gluck, Mrs Long (+ 2 others not recorded)

**Councillors and officers:** Cllr Dawood Akhoun, Cllr Abraham Jacobson, Cllr Ian Sharer, Gareth Wall

### **Bins and street cleaning**

People were frustrated with some residents who leave their wheelie bins, etc in the street. It was pointed out that not everyone knew what they were meant to do or what was allowed. The Council's earlier door knocking campaign had been helpful but only for those who were at home during the day to answer the door. There had also been a detailed letter that had been sent to each household. In general the attendees congratulate the Council's recycling service.

Part of the issue here was with the more transient residents, such as students, who might not know what to do. It was suggested that their landlords should be responsible for making sure that they know what to do with bins.

Cllr Jacobson reflected his previous experience in Gateshead where enforcement and prosecutions had been effective in dealing with a similar issue.

Some suggestions were made regarding informing/educating residents about behaviour, enforcement, and actions that could be taken:

- send offending households photos of the mess they have created asking them to tidy it up or not do it again
- problems spotted can be reported to the Council- details on the website [www.hackney.gov.uk/streetlitter](http://www.hackney.gov.uk/streetlitter), via [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com), or residents could email Cllr Sharer who would raise it with the Council directly
- create notices that can be stuck on offending bins, asking people not to do it again
- Street cleaning would benefit from focused activity in certain areas – particularly Margaret Road, Forburg Road at Clapton Rd

Residents were very pleased with Hackney's free bulky waste collection service.

## Planning and enforcement



There was discussion about the unapproved development taking place at 64-66 Filey Avenue. Attendees asked if it was permissible to start works on a property before planning permission had been received.

Cllr Sharer explained the issues relating to this development, noting that the Council was not helped by bad national law here. The owner of the plot was building 12 flats that appeared to be of poor quality. An application had been made subsequently for planning permission. The application would have little or no chance of being approved but experience from other boroughs showed that it was possible for an applicant to drag-out the process by continuing to submit amendments. A result of this could be that by the time planning enforcement activities could start the flats would have been occupied for a number of years. Cllr Sharer made it clear that the example from another borough had eventually resulted in a successful fraud charge against the developer.

## School transport

It was noted that there were no white zig-zag lines on Filey Avenue to prevent chaotic parking at the rear of Jubilee Primary School. There were only lamppost signs about “no-stopping” restrictions, as per below.



Cllr Akhoun reminded everyone that Jubilee Primary school had run a very successful “WoW” (walk once a week) campaign to encourage less use of cars for school transport and increased walking. Information about “WoW” is online: <http://www.hackney.gov.uk/stp-walking.htm>

Two suggestions were made:

- that white zig zag lines be added to Filey Road behind Jubilee School
- that the School Transport Plan suggest a drop-off point for minibuses, 1 minute away and that staff are then on hand to collect the children and walk with them to school.

Some residents at the meeting expressed concern at the speed of some drivers in the morning near schools. When discussing the need for stronger enforcement it was mentioned that a car had been towed away that morning for a parking violation outside a school, which attendees praised.

## Car horns



A major talking point was the noise created by misuse of car horns. One attendee had surveyed her neighbours about it and knew she wasn't alone in having these concerns. The main issues was minicabs hooting for passengers rather than knocking on the door or calling from the car. Local minicab firms had been identified and they said it was their policy not to hoot from the kerb.

Some school minibus drivers have said that they don't have time to get out and knock, and that hooting is quicker. This was identified as an a problem that needed a solution. Cllr Jacobson said that he had raised it 9 months ago and received an apology from the minibus firm and similar reassurance that it was not their policy to use the horn.

The following suggestions were made:

- a few fines would soon sort it out
- children should be ready and waiting on the step for their minibus (if they have to use one)
- Cllr Sharer offered to talk to some of the cab firms who provide school minibus services who he knows as an insurer

## Conservation area



Some attendees noted that although Cazenove was a conservation area not everyone knew what that meant nor what you could or couldn't do if you lived in it. In response it was explained that a very detailed leaflet had been circulated about it and that there was comprehensive information online:

General information about Conservation Areas:

<http://www.hackney.gov.uk/ep-conservation-areas-511.htm>

Specific information about Northwold and Cazenove

[http://www.hackney.gov.uk/northwold\\_caa.htm](http://www.hackney.gov.uk/northwold_caa.htm)

## Other actions:

- Use the Cazenove Ward Blog to share information and issues discussed at the Ward Forum - <http://thecazenoveblog.blogspot.co.uk>
- Request for a community calendar of events – particularly to highlight the different religious festivals