

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT
COUNCIL MEETING – 30th JUNE 2008

Items Selected by Non-Executive Members under Standing Order 39

- (a) From Councillor Arnold

Road Closure for Street Parties by London Boroughs

Residents in Brent Eleven streets (BEST) off Willesden Lane requested street closure for their third annual street party recently to consult further on their Brent-supported Streets for People initiative. The popular bike workshop needed single street closure but procedures were prohibitive.

Following advice on special event orders stating that procedures should be '*proportionate to the scale and nature of event for which restrictions would be introduced*', several London boroughs have applied limited procedures resulting in no charge to residents for holding planned street parties. We propose Brent Council introduces this flexibility to support our 'sustainable and prosperous communities'.

- (b) From Councillor Baker

Grass verges and tree maintenance in Northwick Park

The cutting of grass verges and tree maintenance in Northwick Park continues to provide cause for complaint. Since this service was removed from the control of the Council's Parks Department and given to outside contractors there has been a marked deterioration in the service. Grass is not cut until it reaches unacceptable levels and is then not cleared away. Trees are not maintained properly proving hazardous for pedestrians and weed problems are not addressed. Could the Executive please make a concerted check on the activities of these contractors and provide assurances this work will be carried out more frequently.

- (c) From Councillor Thomas

New Mayor of London's housing policy

The new Mayor of London has indicated a shift of emphasis in housing policy. This may adversely impact on Brent in terms of the supply of affordable housing. The administration will need to lobby the Mayor and Assembly members to ensure that this is not the case.