

Camden Residents' Association

Newsletter October 2011



Margot and some of her piglets



The pigs soon after birth

Wild Camden Update:

Pigs & Piglets! Over the summer Margot and her nine piglets did a great job clearing out the thick undergrowth of brambles and weeds (plus they ate all of Jaime & Nathans rocket, leeks & other veggies!). But apparently they don't like nettles or fences – the 'teenage' piglets escaped and ran amok along Upper Hedgemead Road. They have now been moved to a lovely, secure field! we all loved having them there- they definitely created a stir.

The Council and The Wild Camden Group are moving on with their plans to improve the area. The nettles have been sprayed (twice), some of the laurels have been cut down, and a lot of the undergrowth has been removed. The actual plan in terms of what will be planted hasn't yet been finalised. Our aims are to improve the sight lines from Upper Hedgemead to Camden and vice versa; enhance the area for wildlife (there are two types of rare bats visiting the area); improve the aesthetics (and make it easier to manage); and help ensure Upper Hedgemead Road is safe for all.

A major part of the improvements will be to replace the old chainlink fence (Upper Hedgemoor Road) with metal railings to match the other side of the road. This will improve the appearance of the area and help to make it feel more secure. We will be keeping the space by the railings low cut and more open which will help improve the safety of the area.

Please help us raise the money for the railings. Instead of asking for subs this year we are asking for voluntary contributions towards the cost of the railings. We have already received £5,000 from Cllr Tony Clarke from his budget aimed at supporting local initiatives. The total cost of the railings will be around £15,000.

To donate you can:

- make a cheque out to 'Camden Residents Association' (reference RAILINGS on the back)
- or drop some cash in an envelope, include your name, address and reference 'RAILINGS' through my letter box – 8 Berkeley Place (bright turquoise blue door), Camden Rd

Nancy Coppock

Notes from the Chairman

Residents' Parking Scheme (Controlled Parking Zone – CPZ15): At our annual general meeting last November it was agreed that the committee would seek the views on the operation of the scheme after 12 months of its introduction. The data taken from the returned questionnaires has been entered into a spreadsheet which is available in colour on the CRA website (www.camdenresidents.org.uk) as is the questionnaire. The following may help bring out some salient points:

- Questionnaires were delivered to all residential properties in the Camden area
- Approximately 375 questionnaires were delivered and 128 returned completed. A return of 34% which for such a survey would generally be regarded as a very good response.
- Of the forms returned the following points are of particular interest:
 1. Do you agree with the CPZ operation, if yes rate 1-5 with 5 being the highest satisfaction? 75% marked either 4 or 5
 2. Do you have enough parking spaces? 21% plenty, 46% sufficient, 33% struggle.
 3. 75% were happy with the hours of operation 8am to 7pm.
 4. The scheme operates 7 days a week, should Sunday be included? 75% were in agreement with Sunday being included.
 5. The responses indicate highest satisfaction with the scheme at the western end of the zone and lower but still positive at the eastern end. Camden Crescent had the highest percentage not in agreement (though questionnaire returns here were low).

Some general comments noted:

- Some Belgrave Crescent residents raised the matter of requiring removal of the two chicanes to be replaced with speed cushions
- Some Upper Hedgemoor residents raised concerns over cars cutting through their road driving faster as a result of removal of some on street parking
- Confusion over the back to back signs indicating both CPZ zone 15 and 16.

Resurfacing of Camden Road: The eastern end of Camden Road between Tynning Lane and Bennett's Lane has recently been dug up and a new surface and base laid. This was very necessary as this section has been deteriorating badly and after the last year's cold winter approximately 26 patch repairs had to be carried out. We now have a smooth unbroken bitumen macadam surface and the speed tables have been renewed in the same material which will help reduce noise when vehicles pass over them. The remaining sections of Camden Road were re-laid a few years ago. There is still concern re surface of some pavements in the area so will press for repairs as necessary.

Ice and Snow: The last two winters have been hard with plenty of ice and snow. Many residents found the pavements especially at the end of Camden Crescent very slippery and St Stephens Road unusable. Local resident and committee member Chris Smith has been pressing the Council for a grit bin for the bottom of Stephens' Road/Camden Crescent junction. We only have two in the whole of our area but there is a long waiting list of requests for these bins. Chris is still pressing for one but has found that the Council are piloting an idea of Community Snow Wardens to co-ordinate local volunteers. The council will provide a salt spreader, salt supply and training for volunteers. We have decided to put our Association forward for this trial so if successful able bodied and willing volunteers will be welcome.

Nigel Sherwen - Chairman

FOBRA

Wider Issues For Bath: Not all of you may know about FoBRA (The Federation of Bath Residents Associations). They meet several times a year and Nigel Sherwen and I go along to represent Camden. There are various issues discussed there on which you as residents of Camden may well want to express your opinions.

At the moment the main topics are:

- Transport policy in Bath (following changes by the new Council)
- Bath Rugby Club and their plans for development on the Recreation Ground
- The Localism Bill, currently going through Parliament, many people have expressed concerns relating to building on green field sites.
- Planning applications that have been made for new hotels and supermarkets in Bath

Do have a look at the FoBRA website (www.bathresidents.org.uk)

Janet Anderson CRA Secretary

Camden Clean in Teams:

Well I haven't been out cleaning much over the summer- Achilles Tendonitis is not fun! However we will be starting the Cleaning programme again in November. Dates have been changed from every month to every second month.

Dates for your diary: 3rd Sunday every 2nd month.

- Nov 20th 2011
- Jan 15th 2012
- Mar 18th 2012
- May 20th 2012
- Jul 15th 2012
- Sept 16th 2012

Just to remind you of the Groups:

- ***Camden Crescent Group***: Your coordinator is: **Nancy Coppock** – nancy@itchyfeet.com.
- **City View to Gays Hill Group** (including the stairs up St. Stephens Rd): The Council has re-paved the steps making them feel a lot safer (less slippery). Your coordinator is: **Stephen George**: stevegeorge150@gmail.com
- ***Gay's Hill to Bennett's Lane***: Your coordinator is: **Janet Anderson** janetandtonyanderson@talktalk.net
- **Bennett's Lane to Shops at Claremont**: Your coordinator is: **Nigel Sherwen**: nigelsherwen@tiscali.co.uk
- ***Belgrave Crescent***: Your Coordinator is: **Gloria Goodsell**: 42goodsell@dsl.pipex.com

We'd love to see more residents out helping us clean in the starred areas as a lot of rubbish gets trapped in between the cars on the street.

The Council have employed a new street cleaner who is doing a good job. Our feedback and help with keeping Camden Clean have brought about this change in personnel. We are still trying to get the recycling people to be a bit more careful.

Please still get in touch with the Council directly to report any problems or issues.

- Phone: (01225) 394041
- Text: 07797 806545
- Email: councilconnect@bathnes.gov.uk

Contact Details

If you have any issues you feel the Camden Residents' Association should discuss or follow up you can contact any of the committee members:

- Chairman – Nigel Sherwen – 3 Stanley Villas 442961 (office hours)
- Secretary – Janet Anderson 31 Prospect Place 429574
- Treasurer – Nancy Coppock – 8 Berkeley Place 421696

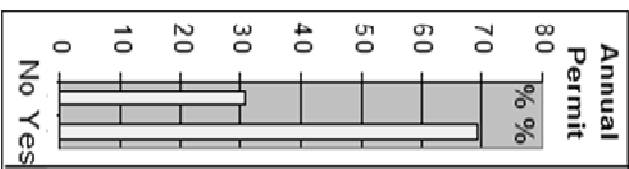
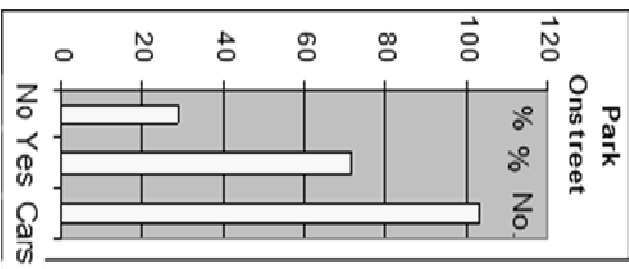
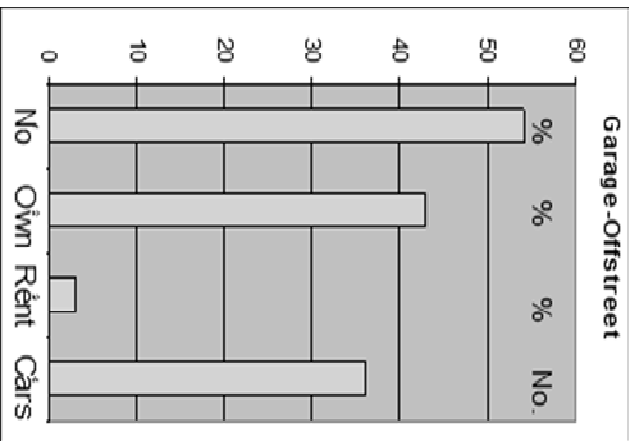
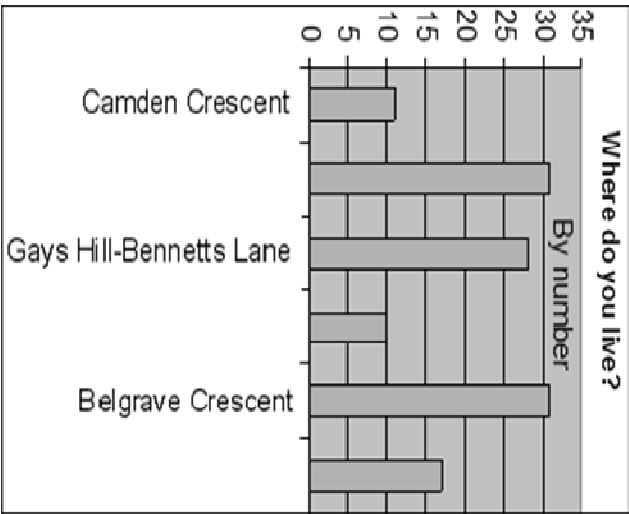
There is also further information on our website at www.camdenresidents.org.uk.

CPZ Survey Graphs

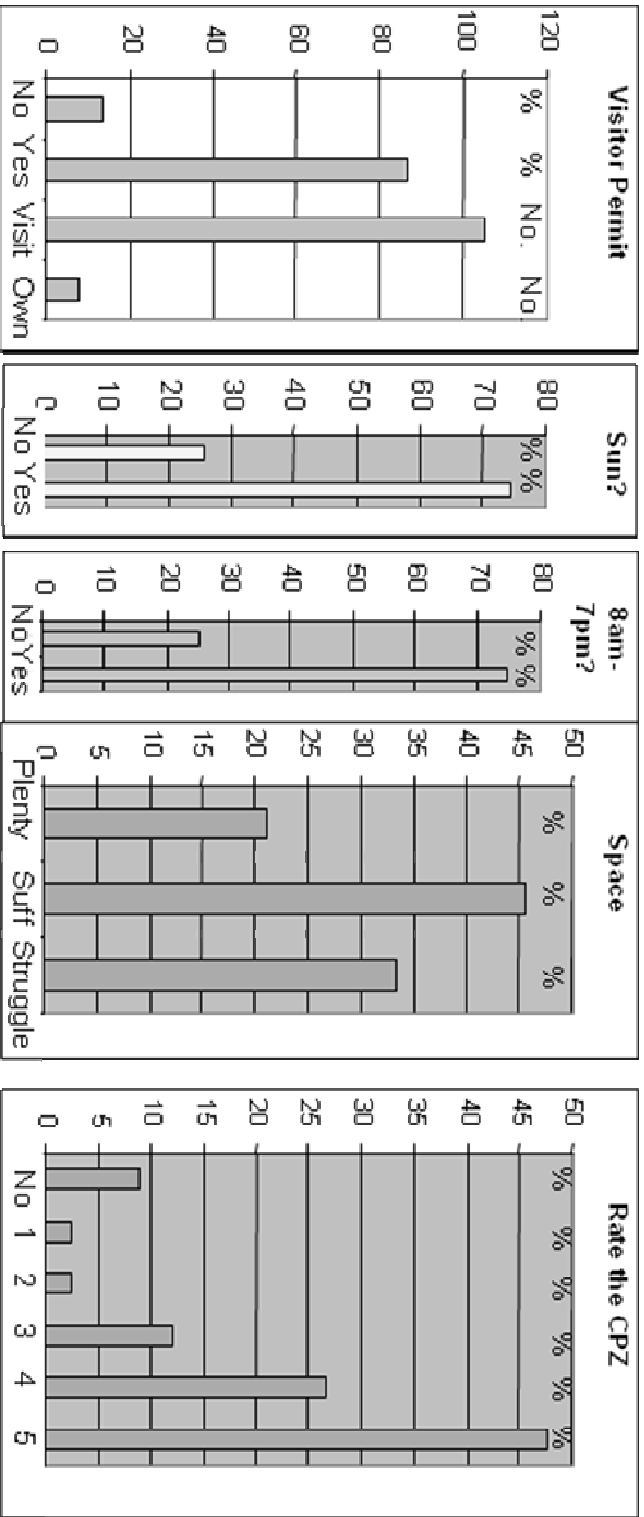
These graphs are available in colour on the website.

Survey Questions →

	1) In which area do you live?	2) Do you have a garage or off-street parking?	3) Before the scheme, did you park on the street?	4) Have you purchased annual parking permits?
Camden Crescent	11	No 89 Yes. Garage/ offstreet owned 11	No 10 Yes. How many cars? 90	No 10 Yes 90
St Stephens-Gays Hill	31	No 74 Yes. Garage/ offstreet rented 26	No 23 Yes. How many cars? 77	No 25 Yes 72
Gays Hill-Bennetts Lane	28	No 43 Yes. Garage/ offstreet rented 57	No 42 Yes. How many cars? 58	No 50 Yes 50
Bennetts Lane-Fairfield Rd	10	No 50 Yes. Garage/ offstreet rented 0	No 11 Yes. How many cars? 89	No 10 Yes 90
Belgrave Crescent	31	No 48 Yes. Garage/ offstreet rented 42	No 21 Yes. How many cars? 79	No 23 Yes 77
Hedgemoad	17	No 29 Yes. Garage/ offstreet rented 65	No 53 Yes. How many cars? 47	No 50 Yes 50
TOTAL	128	54 No 43 Yes. Garage/ offstreet owned 3 Yes. Garage/ offstreet rented	29 No 71 Yes. How many cars?	31 No 69 Yes



5) Do you use Visitors Parking permits?				6) The scheme operates 7 days/week. Should Sunday be included?		7) Are you happy with hours of 8am-7pm?		8) Do you have enough parking space?			8) Do you agree with the CPZ operations? If yes, rate the CPZ on a scale of 1-5 where 5 is highest.					
No	Yes	Yes. For visitors	Yes. For own car	No	Yes	No	Yes	Plenty	Sufficient	Struggle	No	Yes 1	Yes 2	Yes 3	Yes 4	Yes 5
0	100	9	2	10	90	40	60	0	33	67	20	10	0	10	30	30
6	94	27	2	13	87	13	87	10	50	40	10	0	0	3	32	55
15	92	24	3	35	65	38	62	32	36	32	11	4	0	22	26	37
0	100	10	0	30	70	10	90	55	45	0	0	0	0	11	44	44
10	90	26	0	34	66	31	69	11	53	36	7	3	10	13	17	50
47	53	9	1	24	76	18	82	33	47	20	6	0	0	12	24	59
14	86	105	8	25	75	25	75	21	48	33	9	2	2	12	27	48



Our thanks to Andrews Estate Agents for printing this newsletter.