

# Traders join police in parking objection

Concern as extended CPZ plans could cost businesses money

Rhiannon Evans

OPPOSITION to extending the controlled parking zone in Crouch End has mounted this week as police and traders stepped in to lodge their objections.

Police were forced to meet Haringey Council over plans to extend CPZs on either side of the Broadway with concerns staff would be unable to park near the Safer Neighbourhoods base in Crouch Hall Road, affecting around 30 officers.

And a tradesman this week warned small businesses are being charged "double bubble" as a result of the proposals and could have to charge local customers more for their services.

After extended campaigns by those living on the edge of the current CPZs, Haringey Council agreed to a 21-day "fast-track" consultation on whether to extend the CPZs on either side of the Broadway, bringing much of Crouch End under parking permit controls for at least a few hours a day.

But local shop owners, residents and now police have objected to both the scheme and its hasty consultation.

The consultation ended on Friday, with local police visiting the council asking for allowances for staff parking.



Miles Newby of Dashwood Road is a local builder – if the CPZ extends he will have to pay for permits for his personal vehicle, van and then for guest permits if the area he works in has a CPZ.

Currently he is paying £33 a day to work in a nearby road in the Islington CPZ and says further charges end up being paid by the customer.

"We are all going to have to knuckle down and accept it but it's another running cost I have to pay," he said.

"I get double bubble because when I work I have to pay for permits and when I get home I have to pay as well.

"It's just something that is totally unnecessary and is yet

another tax on the motorist."

On Friday, Haringey Park resident Lee Levitt submitted a petition of more than 500 people against the CPZ extension – more than the original petition in favour of it.

"There's still a lot of opposition to extending the CPZ from within the zones," he said.

"People are going to have to pay to park, they think it will be bad for local traders and they feel it's being imposed on them – it's not necessarily going to mean you can find a parking space near your house."

Local shop owners have also rallied against the proposals. Owner of Foto Plus, Mohamed Hussein, said: "We are of the

**COSTLY:** Builder Miles Newby will have to pay for his personal vehicle, van and then for guest permits if the controlled parking zone is extended. Picture by Polly Hancock

firm belief that the combination of parking restrictions and lack of public transport access will result in us losing most of our regular customers.

"The shoppers who currently use Crouch End Broadway as their local high street will be deterred either by the inconvenience of actually getting there or by the inconvenience and expense of parking there.

"This will force businesses like ours to shut or relocate, which cannot be in the interests of those parties that the proposals are aimed at protecting."

A council spokesman said: "We can confirm that the police have made representations regarding staff parking, should the Crouch End CPZ be extended as proposed. We will consider these along with all representations received as part of the statutory process.

"Our priority is to address residents' parking issues, although consideration will also be given to support for essential services where possible."

The council is now considering the consultation response before making its decision.

## FASHION SHOW FINALE



**AN event showcasing the best independent fashion and beauty Crouch End has to offer has come to an end.**

**The first ever Crouch End Fashion Week closed on Friday with a Girls' Night Out event in Hornsey Library in aid of Breast Cancer Haven, including a catwalk show hosted by local celeb Sarah Cawood (inset), a charity auction and a whole host of beauty and fashion shops showcasing their products and services.**

**Throughout the week shops offered discounts, held parties and styling events and generally aimed to remind local fashionistas of what they have on their own doorstep.**

**The funds raised for the charity are yet to be calculated, but Crouch End**

**Project organiser, Clare Richmond, said the week had been a success for local independent shops.**

**"It was a fantastic night and raised the profile of all the wonderful shops we have here – it was rammed and the atmosphere was lovely," she said.**

**The Project aims to encourage people to use local shops and a new batch of their popular "Crouch End Rocks" t-shirts is soon to be released.**

**You can follow the group on twitter @Crouchendproj or on facebook.**

Pictures by Polly Hancock

## Meeting to discuss history of North Bank Centre

THE 150-year-old history of the North Bank Centre will be the focus of the next Muswell Hill and Fortis Green Association meeting.

Church Community Worker for the Muswell Hill Methodist Church and North Bank, Gill Simpson, will lead the talk inside

the centre's church about the history of the special Muswell Hill building.

Chairman of the association John Hajdu said: "Come and hear about the stables and the vineries of the mid-Victorian villa lived in by the same family for 50 years, and how it became

the multi-use centre we know today.

"A sweep through North Bank's archives gives us a sweep through life in Muswell Hill, from the stables and vineries of a mid-Victorian villa through to the multi-use centre for church and community today."

A special history book based on the story and achievements of the association – which has hundreds of members within the community – will also be on sale at the meeting.

The meeting takes place on October 20 from 8pm at the centre on Pages Lane.

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