

2.6.4

THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE
ERUV COMMITTEE



Eva Greenspan
Stoneways, Tenterden Grove
Hendon NW4 1SX

29th June 1993

Dear Eva,

Firstly congratulations on becoming vice-chair!

Over the last few months we have been listening to views from within the community and outside it and have taken professional advice. The overwhelming consensus is that we should appeal Barnet's rejection and, particularly in view of the Officer's positive recommendation, we are given a high probability of success.

During this time we have reviewed the original proposal and modified it in response to specific planning points made by a number of councillors. Several said that they would support the Eruv were it not for the need to construct new posts along the meadow land on Wildwood Road. The modified scheme uses existing lamp-posts along that sensitive stretch of road and proposes nylon line throughout. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds have confirmed that they have no objection.

In addressing these objections, we have been advised to give Barnet another opportunity to consider the Eruv and this application has now been made. We understand that it will be referred to Public Works in July and to TP&R in August or September. The changes are significant and should allow a number of councillors to now support the modified proposal. It would only require two councillors to change their vote for an appeal to be avoided (in the absence of the mayor's vote). Our feeling is that everyone, other than opponents on non-planning grounds, would then find satisfaction. Those councillors now voting in favour can show that they have achieved a more 'environmentally friendly' scheme, the council and we would save the cost of an appeal and the eruv would be built.

If no-one changes their mind and the modified scheme is also rejected, the underlying motive for rejection would be exposed and in so doing force the matter to be resolved at appeal. We have now filed the Appeal with the Secretary of State and we will be in a position to appeal both applications at the one hearing. Needless to say if our chances are good for the first scheme they are even better for the second.

We are adopting a very low key approach, seeking to minimise the media circus that was generated by opposition hysteria last time and we are using professional planning people to deal with the revised application and the appeal procedure.

We have always appreciated your support and now hope that with encouragement from you and others and in light of the above, the Council as a whole will support the modified scheme and thereby demonstrate an understanding for the needs of our Community.

Let's speak over the next few days & get up to date!
Issun Rogers
David

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Committee

Laurence Begner, Brian Berenblut, Edward Black, Joe Bloomberg, David Cohen, Daniel Drukarz, Alfie Frei, Jeremy Hershtorn, Michael Goldblatt, David Marriott, Graham S Morris, Mark Moss, Michael Posen, David Schreiber, Syma Weinberg

Rabbinic Panel

Rabbi Isaac Bernstein (Finchley), Dayan Ivan Binstock (Golders Green), Rabbi Edward Jackson (Hampstead Garden Suburb), Rabbi Alan Kimche (Ner Yisrael), Rabbi Sidney Silber (Hendon)

Supervisory Authority

Chief Rabbi Dr. Jonathan Sacks, Dayan Chanoch Ehrenetreu, Head of the London Beth Din

United Synagogue Liaison

Elkan Levy (Honorary Officer)

Technical Officer Alan Perrin B.Sc.