

LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET

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Agenda
Item

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COMMITTEE : PUBLIC WORKS

DATE : 28 April 1992

SUBJECT : ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ERUV IN THE HENDON
AND GOLDERS GREEN AREAS OF THE BOROUGH

CONTRIBUTORS : DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES
(Lead officer
underlined)

STATUS : PUBLIC
(if exempt state
classification)

WARD : HENDON, GOLDERS GREEN, GARDEN SUBURB

ENCLOSURES : PLAN NO. 15761

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks the approval of the Committee to the granting of a licence to the United Synagogue ERUV Committee for the establishment of an ERUV subject to all the conditions detailed in the Recommendations.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS (for decision by Committee)

- 2.1 THAT THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE ERUV COMMITTEE BE GRANTED CONSENT UNDER SECTIONS 178 AND 181 AT THE HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 TO ERECT WIRES ~~ONE~~ THE PUBLIC HIGHWAY AT PRESCRIBED CROSSING POINTS FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR FROM THE INITIAL GRANTING OF THE LICENCE, SUBJECT TO:-
- (A) DETAILED DESIGN CALCULATION BEING APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES;
- (B) ALL NECESSARY APPROVALS AND CONSENTS BEING OBTAINED INCLUDING PLANNING PERMISSION;

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minutes
- (C) APPROPRIATE FROM THE CITY OF LONDON, THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND THE PUBLIC UTILITIES WHERE APPROPRIATE;
 - (D) THE APPLICANTS PROVIDING AN INDEMNITY IN A FROM ACCEPTABLE TO THE CONTROLLER OF LEGAL SERVICES AND;
 - (E) THE APPLICANTS AGREEING TO PAY THE FULL COSTS INCURRED BY THE COUNCIL IN CONSIDERING THE APPLICATIONS AND CONSIDERING THE LICENCE.

2.2 THAT THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES BE INSTRUCTED TO INFORM THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE ERUV COMMITTEE OF THE ABOVE DECISION AND TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTION.

3. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

3.1 Public Works Committee 6/2/90 - 13.

4. POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 The general principle of permitting a localised Eruv was accepted in February 1990 when the Committee agreed to the Woodlands Close Eruv.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 All works and fees will be funded by The United Synagogue Eruv Committee. The staff and resources costs committed to considering the Eruv have been dealt with by a gift from the United Synagogue Eruv Committee.

6. MONITORING OFFICERS' OBSERVATIONS

6.1 None.

7. HEAD OF PAID SERVICES' OBSERVATIONS

7.1 None.

8. BACKGROUND INFORMATION/OFFICER'S COMMENTS

8.1 The United Synagogue has formed an Eruv Committee to establish an Eruv within Barnet. The proposed Eruv, which is shown on the attached plan, encompasses all of Hendon and Golders Green, together with small areas of Hampstead.

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Garden Suburb and Cricklewood. It is approximately 17 square kilometres with a total perimeter of 18 kilometres.

8.2 An Eruv is a zone which makes public areas 'private' in nature to the followers of the Orthodox Jewish faith. Without an Eruv they are prohibited from carrying anything in public i.e., outside their homes on the Sabbath, the requirement extending to keys, handkerchiefs, money, medicine and the pushing of babies in pram.

8.3 The perimeters enclosing an Eruv are common in the United States of America and some European Countries. To be effective, an Eruv requires an enclosed boundary perimeter the demarcation of which can be by way of normal physical boundaries such as fences, walls of houses, railways, etc. To complete the Eruv, it is necessary to create an artificial boundary, where the perimeter is breached, and this is normally achieved by means of a high level wire across such breaks e.g. over a highway.

The wire may be nylon or steel and will be suspended between posts which may be of steel or timber construction. This arrangement forms what is known as a 'gateway' and completes the ERUV boundary where the perimeter is breached by highways or other features.

8.4 This is the second application to be presented to the Public Works Committee for an Eruv boundary wire, the first was at Woodlands Close (6/2/90). The Committee granted consent under Section 178 of the Highways Act, 1980 for the erection of a wire over the public highway at the entrance to Woodlands Close, subject to the Council's reasonable terms and conditions.

8.5 The wire at Woodlands Close is suspended approximately 6.1m above the highway and is hardly noticeable to the passer by. It is inspected by an Eruv Committee member weekly, on the eve of the Jewish Sabbath to ensure that it, and hence the Eruv boundary, is intact. The wire at Woodlands Close has been in place for two years without any reported problems.

8.6 The vast majority of the perimeter of the proposed ERUV requires no attention whatsoever. Existing structures, perimeter fences and topography are satisfactory boundaries for Eruv purposes. The designations of a particular feature as the limit of the Eruv is of relevance only to those who wish to know "up to here I may carry", but in every other respect remains unchanged and effectively invisible.

8.7 The following areas require action to provide continuity to the boundary:-

1. The boundary fence to Golders Hill Park

2. Hampstead Heath extension

3. Where the boundary crosses public highways

In these areas "gateways", either a series of posts, or posts with a wire running between them need to be constructed.

- 8.8 The existing southern perimeter fence of Golders Hill Park as indicated on the attached plan No. 15761 is not substantial enough to be used as part of the perimeter and would need to be supplemented with either a series of short posts (1.2m high) at 10m centres, along the tops of which a wire would run. Or an upgrading of the existing boundary

fence. This would be funded by the Eruv Committee and would cover approximately 480 m in length. I have written to the Corporation of the City of London about this and their reply will be reported orally at the meeting.

- 8.9 A short section of the Heath Extension will also require a series of discrete gateways, consisting of a series of 6 poles (5m high) with a wire running along their tops. This would be funded by the Eruv Committee and would cover about 95m in length. The proposals within this section will require the approval of the Corporation of the City of London as managers of Hampstead Heath, and their observations will be reported orally at the meeting.

- 8.10 The perimeter of the proposed fence is breached by 31 roads all of which will require a "gateway", consisting of posts and a suspended wire at a height of 6.1m above the carriageway.

- 8.11 Section 178 and 181 of the Highways Act cover the provision of apparatus on and over the public highway and the necessary consents required from the highway authority.

- 8.12 Of the 31 road crossings, 9 are crossing trunk roads and will require permission from the Department of Transport. The spans will range from 13m to 54m. The other 22 are Borough roads and will require Council approval. The spans will range from 8m to 30m.

In both cases, formal agreements will be required, and in respect of those requiring Department of Transport's approval, the Eruv Committee will receive an Approval In Principle but the full acceptance from the Department of Transport will only come after the posts and wires have been considered and approved as a 'highway structure'. Copies of correspondence with the Department of Transport will be available at the meeting.

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? HAMPSHIRE RESPONSIBILITY
CPR ACCIDENTS FALLING CODE
APPEAL TO WORKING etc
SEE OTHERS FROM IN LONDON
OTHER RESIDENTS IMPACT ON OTHERS
- HEALTH - PLAN - BOUNDARY -

ASSENT
US WILL INDICATE
IMMEDIATE ACTION OF TALK

8.13 The Eruv proposals submitted appear feasible in engineering terms. The general principles of the planning process have been discussed between officers of the Planning and Engineering Groups. The representatives of the Eruv Committee have been advised that a planning application will have to be made for each crossing. This will probably take the form of a single application which deals with all 31 crossings. The United Synagogue Eruv Committee will be asked to begin formulating their detailed design proposals and calculations for submission to the Director of Technical Services should the Committee decide to accept the recommendation. The Committee is requested therefore to approve the granting of a licence under Sections 178 and 181 of the Highways Act for an initial period of one year, subject to the necessary design checks, all associated approvals and consents being obtain, including planning provision and the completion of an indemnity to the satisfaction of the Controller of Legal Services.

9. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 Correspondence between the United Synagogue Eruv Committee and the Director of Technical Services.

Any person wishing to inspect any background papers listed above or on file should telephone 081-446 8511 ext. 4470.

10. AUTHOR

10.1 Director of Technical Services - Mr John Koster - Ext. 4370

10.2 DF - PA

10.3 MO - JDJ

HYUACH 10 MARCH 1992

JOHN KOSTER V. NEG.

E/JK/CAS/10 April 1992

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