

John L Marshall MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON
SW1A 0AA

I very much hope that this proposal, which will be of benefit to parents of young children, the disabled and the elderly, will be adopted. It would be much appreciated by many and would not cause offence to anyone as most of the eruv would follow natural boundaries.

Yours sincerely
John Marshall
MP for Hendon South

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF RABBI
ADLER HOUSE
TAVISTOCK SQUARE
LONDON, WC1H 9HN

I have been following the work of the United Synagogue Eruv Committee closely over the past months, and I give my full and unequivocal support for the proposed Eruv.

As Chief Rabbi, I have had the opportunity to visit most of the congregations within the designated Eruv area, and have noticed that large numbers of Jews are excluded from becoming full participants within community life, simply because they are unable to cover the distances to synagogue without some form of assistance. To that end the Eruv will be a significant social contribution, enhancing the lives of the elderly and the infirm, mothers with young children, and the handicapped within our community - allowing them to become full and active members of our synagogues.

I am quite sure that the proposed Eruv will enhance still further the close relations between the Jewish community and Barnet, and I look forward to hearing of the results of the proposed Eruv scheme.

Jonathan Jacks

The
Hendon &
Golders Green
Eruv

A Briefing for members of
Public Works
and
Town Planning & Research
Committees

Barnet Council

THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE ERUV COMMITTEE
9, West Heath Road London NW3 7UX

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What is an Eruv?

Jewish Law prohibits carrying any item, no matter what its weight or purpose, on the Sabbath in a public domain.

An Eruv is an enclosure that, for an orthodox Jew, nominally transforms a public domain into a private one, within which carrying is allowed.

Why is it needed?

The Jewish Sabbath is, by law and tradition, a day which brings the family together in prayer, study and social contact. The prohibition of carrying extends to prams, pushchairs and wheelchairs. In practice it means that people cannot carry a prayer-book, medicines or other personal effects. It restricts the movement and amenity of the very young and their mothers, of the sick and handicapped and the frail. Our Rabbis, throughout the generations and all over the world, have encouraged the implementation of an Eruv so that people can enjoy the Sabbath to the full.

Where will the Eruv be?

The proposed Eruv is designed to include all of NW4 and NW11, together with small areas of Hampstead Garden Suburb and Cricklewood (please see map). It is approximately 6.5 square miles, with a total perimeter of 11 miles (17.5 kilometres).

How is the Eruv to be constructed?

The majority of the Eruv perimeter is defined by natural or existing boundaries such as railway embankments, motorway barriers and even the frontages of houses. However, in order to complete the boundary, existing gaps in it must be symbolically indicated as 'gateways'. This is achieved by erecting two poles with a lintel wire spanning the opening.

It is for the erection of these that the application to Barnet has been made. The small amount of work entails no general inconvenience or loss of amenity to the public.

How will it effect the streetscape?

The mono-filament fishing-wire used is virtually invisible at the proposed standard height of 21ft. The poles themselves are set at the back of pavement and are less intrusive than all the existing street furniture.

What about safety?

This wire will snap on impact.

Has Insurance been dealt with?

The Eruv Committee will provide suitable indemnity as a precondition of consent.

What are the implications on Barnet Resources?

The staff and resources costs committed by the Council have been paid for in full by the Eruv Committee.

What about the costs of implementation?

All works and fees will be met by the Jewish community.

Are there any policy precedents, here or elsewhere?

The general principle of permitting a localised Eruv was accepted in February 1990 when the Barnet Public Works Committee agreed to the Woodlands Close Eruv. This has now been successfully in place for about two years.

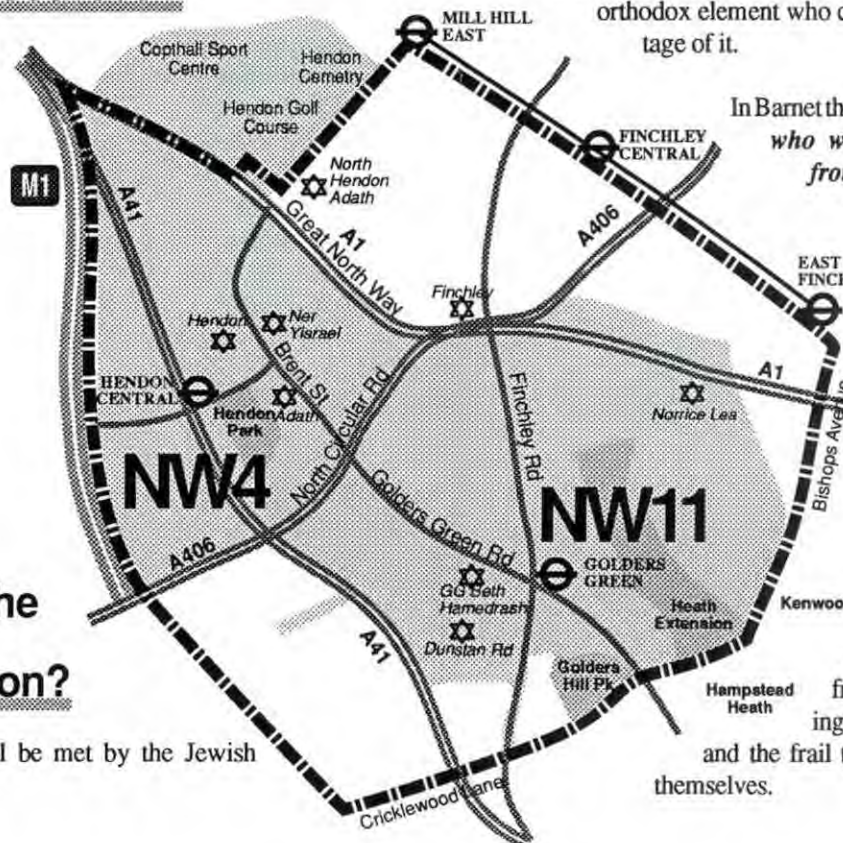
In most cities with a substantial Jewish population, in the USA (where there are over 30), Europe, South Africa, Israel and Australia, an Eruv has been in existence for decades.

We need your support for the Eruv!

In London, as in all these other cities, there will be a minority group within the Jewish community that does not feel the need for this remedy and, on the other extreme, an ultra-orthodox element who choose not to take advantage of it.

In Barnet there are *over 10,000 people who will benefit significantly from the Eruv* and none who will be inconvenienced. There is no cost or risk to the Borough.

Your support for the Eruv will now make it possible for parents to take their small children to the park, to family or to friends. You will be helping invalids, the handicapped and the frail to be helped and to help themselves.



Thanks for opportunity

Giving your time

Conscious of difficulty understanding concept and details

Aim to explain fully, answer any qu. and gain your support.

Introduce

United Synagogue

Oldest and Largest Organisation of Communities throughout the UK with the Chief Rabbi as the spiritual head

4 major Synagogues in the Eruv area with local membership 10,000+

Rabbi Alan Kimche, a local independent community Rabbi

Alan Perrin - Engineer, Technical Consultant to Committee

Laurence Begner - a lay leader and legal advisor to Com.

Mrs. Julia Nussbaum

Mrs. Viv Kossowski

me

Agenda/Timetable

What is an Eruv all about

Why is there a need for one

Technical issues

Environmental impact

Questions

Closing comments

Distribute leaflets

Openning remarks

Respectful of Councillor's opinions and views and role in protecting local environment and amenities

What is an Eruv all about

Not debating Jewish legal issues - applies to and accepted by majority

Where will it be - map

Mrs. Kosowski

Young married student of speech therapy with a 6 month baby - living in a flat in Mullbery Close, Hendon

Mrs. Nussbaum

Housewife, living in Hendon, who suffers from Multiple Sclerosis and has been confined to a wheel-chair for most of the last ten years.

Alan Perrin

Technical presentation

Environmental impact

Questions

Summary

Costs

Insurance

Opportunity to improve significantly quality of life for so many - not trivial or marginal

David Pomson letter

Need pro-active support of Barnet - Proud of facility