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3 February 2010 Eruv Progress Update

The Trustees would like to update the community with where we are in terms of the Borehamwood and Elstree Eruv.

Poles

We have a contractor with whom we are currently negotiating a contract. Unfortunately, this negotiation has not gone as quickly as we would have liked. However, we are close to finalising the contract and hope to be able to update very shortly that this has been successfully concluded and an order placed for the purchase and installation of the poles.

Fencing

There are 12 sites that require fencing. The sites are on a mixture of residential, business and council-owned land. To date, we are able to proceed with 10 of the sites and are still in negotiation with the remaining 2. Again, we would hope to be able to advise the community that we have dealt with all the sites in the very near future.

The contractor for the fencing has already been selected and we are finalising costs for the sites to which we can currently carry out remedial work to get those completed now.

Progress

We appreciate that many within the community will be frustrated by the seeming lack of substantive progress made. Ironically, any frustration felt is echoed and amplified by all the Trustees and committee. We have been fighting a battle to get to where we are now, and it is absolutely not due to a lack of will or effort.

As trustees, if it wasn't hard enough to agree precise pole locations with Hertsmere Borough Council and Hertfordshire Highways which would conform to the halachic requirements of the London Bet Din, we also need to deal with the vagaries of landowners whose land we need to fence or re-fence to a standard that the London Bet Din is comfortable with. This is something we cannot control; we can only hope to influence and appeal to landowners' charity and community spiritedness.

We wholeheartedly empathise that this project has taken longer than everyone had expected – after all, our families, like many of yours, have been, and continue to be, affected by the lack of an Eruv. However, please be reassured that we have committed and continue to commit considerable time and energy into this project and are absolutely determined to see it through to a successful completion in as short a time as possible.

Please contact us on info@eboreruv.org for more information.

Thank you for your continued support.

Ebor Eruv Charitable Trust, a company limited by Guarantee, Registered in England No. 5869108
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"Bringing Elstree & Borehamwood together"