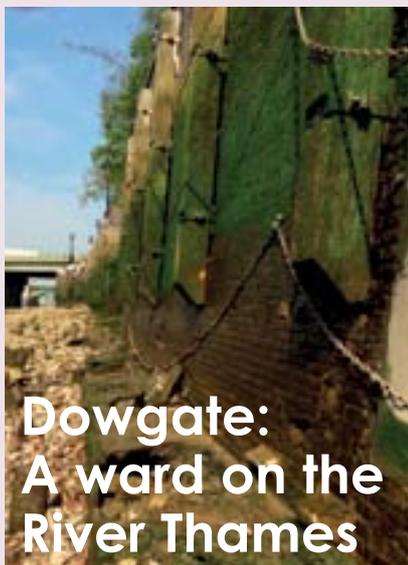




# Dowgate



## Dowgate: A ward on the River Thames

Dowgate has the benefit of a wonderful River frontage onto the Thames. Indeed, the extent of Dowgate Ward including the whole area south of Upper Thames Street was created by infill starting from the Roman era and continuing with more energy and impact during the medieval period thus extending the land and wharves of this busy trading harbour area. This process that created more usable land also channeled the fast flowing Thames into a narrower width that

meant it was more rapid and dangerous to navigate. Such river walls and revetments need occasional repair and treatment and this is now happening.

During July 2018 a major piece of engineering was undertaken just off Dowgate Ward by Cannon Street Rail Bridge to remediate the erosion to the river wall that had deteriorated and also damage to the campshed retaining wall. (A campshed is a facing of piles and planking usually along the bank of a river used to protect or keep up the side of a bank.) Work was needed to construct a new section of steel sheet pile wall along the line of the historic campshed retaining wall. This would then be filled in order the raise the level of the campshed to match the existing level of the intact campshed.

Such work is not undertaken lightly as the impact of a collapsing damaged wall could be immense but the impact on the river – the archaeology and flora and fauna as well as the River flow all need to be considered. An archaeological survey was undertaken to establish if there might have been any prehistoric settlements here or any later important remains; an ecology survey was needed of the River, the bank and the river wall and

samples taken to establish what was present. The ecology survey revealed 26 invertebrate taxa and two algal taxa with unidentified moss species and angiosperm seedlings. Interesting as they sound, these were not of great moment and so the permission was granted and work carried out successfully and at low tide over a couple of busy July weeks.

However this is not the end of the story as more work is planned to be carried out around the now defunct Swan Lane Pier. Work to the wall for river defence and the removal of the dangerous structure of the pier will be commencing in the very near future. This should tidy up the unsightly structure that currently sits on the River Walk at the boundary of Dowgate with Bridge and Bridge Without Ward.

Finally Seal House that stands on the River at this point of the River Walk is the subject of a new planning application. It has previously had consent for demolition and rebuilding but a new architect, Eric Parry, is submitting a scheme and now is the time to consider and comment on the plans. These will be available online at <http://www.planning2.cityoflondon.gov.uk/online-applications>. Your elected members will be pleased to help with any queries.

## Cannon Street Gas works

In terms of the works by Cadent to repair the gas mains in Cannon St, they have now excavated down over 3m to reach two large mains, both of which were found to be leaking. They have repaired around ten individual leaks but local gas readings suggest more need to be found and fixed. In an attempt to find these leaks, Cadent's excavation is now over 25m long and 10m wide. However, the proximity of the London Underground tunnels into Cannon St station has meant that they are somewhat limited in the size of plant they can use, limiting the speed of the operation.

In addition, Cadent have had to temporarily divert a water main and move other utilities out of the way in order to reach these mains. Given the scale of the current repair, the City Corporation has asked Cadent to scope whether these two mains could instead be replaced to reduce the risk of future leaks in the same location, much in the same way that they did at Gracechurch Street earlier this year. The current repair work is expected to last several weeks, so part of this assessment will be how much longer a replacement programme would take.

In terms of the network, with Cheapside and Fenchurch Street now reopened, Cannon Street is the only major closure currently in place. From the City Corporation's monitoring of the network, traffic and congestion levels do not appear to be significantly different to normal, but we will continue to work with colleagues at TfL and with Cadent to address any significant issues of access, signage or congestion that arise. Cadent are also keeping local stakeholders informed.

## PH Pollard with H Pollard!



The City of London Mounted Police division was established in 1873 and used resident horses in the City before formalising the unit in 1946 with its own stables. I was recently honoured to have a new recruit to the Mounted Branch be named after me. I believe in recognition of the several years as Chairman and service on the Police Committee (acting

as the Police Authority for the City of London force). Needless to say I am extremely chuffed, and believe there is some likeness (!), but please look out for my namesake when in the City and introduce yourself! He can be followed via Twitter @CityHorses with hashtag #PHPollard.



*Happy Christmas to our Readers from your Ward, Members*

Dowgate

# Meet your representatives



Annual ward meetings known as Wardmotes will be taking place in each of the City's 25 Wards early next year. Electors are invited to attend the meeting in their ward, which provides an opportunity for them to meet their elected representatives (Alderman and Common Councilmen) and raise any issues they have with them. Details of the meetings are shown below and are also on the City of London website. The wardmotes below were confirmed at the time of writing but as arrangements for others are confirmed these will be added to the web link below. If the arrangements for any of the meetings change, updated information will appear on the website.

Invitations to the meetings will also be sent to all electors.

If you have any queries regarding the meeting in your Ward please contact the Electoral Services Office on 0800 587 5537, [electoralservices@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:electoralservices@cityoflondon.gov.uk) or [cityoflondon.gov.uk/voting](http://cityoflondon.gov.uk/voting).

**Aldgate 18 March, Noon**

Church Hall, St Katharine Cree,  
86 Leadenhall Street EC3A 3DH

**Castle Baynard 20 March, 6pm**

Shoe Lane Library, Hill House, 1 New Little  
Street EC4A 3JR

**Cripplegate 20 March, 7 for 7.30pm start**

Barber-Surgeons Hall, Monkwell Square  
EC2Y 5BL

**Bread Street 27 March, Noon**

Fidelity International, 25 Cannon Street  
EC4M 5TA

**Cheap 21 March, Noon**

Drawing Room, Goldsmiths' Hall, Foster  
Lane EC2V 6BN

**Farringdon Within 20 March, 12.30pm**

Court Room, Cutlers' Hall, Warwick Lane  
EC4M 7BR

**Broad Street 20 March, Noon**

David Burbidge Room, Furniture Makers'  
Hall, 12 Austin Friars EC2N 2HE

**Coleman Street 26 March, 5.30pm for  
5.45pm start**

Drawing Room, Armourers' Hall, 81  
Coleman Street EC2R 5BJ

**Lime Street 11 March, Noon**

Old Library, Lloyd's Building, 1 Lime Street  
EC3M 7HA

**Candlewick 20 March, Noon**

Church of St Clement Eastcheap,  
Clement's Lane EC4N 7HB

**Cordwainer 20 March, Noon**

St Mary Aldermary, Watling Street EC4M  
9BW

**Portsoken 20 March, 6pm**

Learning Centre, Artizan Street Library and  
Community Centre, 1 Artizan Street E1 7AF

## Wage boost for workers

A major increase in the number of workers entitled to the London Living Wage was agreed by the City Corporation in October. It will also encourage other firms to follow suit.

The move was unanimously endorsed by the Policy & Resources Committee. The City Corporation decided to strengthen its own Living Wage policy by paying its own staff and its suppliers' staff the new rate, with immediate effect, when the updated London Living Wage is announced in November each year. This is opposed to paying staff the new rate from April the following year, which is the most common approach taken by employers.

The organisation already ensures its own staff, apprentices and suppliers' staff are paid in line with the Living Wage Foundation's (LWF) accreditation terms and conditions.

And the City Corporation has now agreed that all contract

workers delivering two or more hours work for the organisation will be paid at least the Living Wage – which in London is currently £10.20 per hour.

The City Corporation will also look into sponsoring the LWF to help promote the Living Wage across the Square Mile and wider UK, encouraging more firms to adopt the Living Wage policy.

The move means that the City Corporation has committed to going above and beyond its obligations of being an accredited Living Wage employer to ensure all its workers get fair pay.

The City of London Corporation's charitable funder, City Bridge Trust, was awarded the London Living Wage accreditation by the Living Wage Foundation in recognition of its implementation of the London Living Wage policy across its funding relationships with voluntary organisations.



# Have your say on the new Transport Strategy...

*For the first time in its almost 1000-year history, the City of London Corporation has developed a long-term Transport Strategy that will set the framework for future investment in the Square Mile's streets.*

Under these proposals, the next 25-years of transport investment in the City would see:

#### **Pedestrians as priority:**

Planning, infrastructure and safety changes will be developed by first prioritising the needs of people walking, while seeking to minimise any impact on essential traffic.

#### **A congestion charge that's fit for purpose:**

We aim to support and champion the next generation in road user charging for Central London as part of a range of measures to proactively seek to reduce motor traffic by 25% by 2030 and 50% by 2044.

#### **Fewer vehicles on City streets:**

A street hierarchy is proposed to encourage drivers to use the right street for the right journey. Vehicles that do not have a final destination in the City will be directed away from pedestrian priority areas.

#### **The City as UK pioneers for a zero emission future:**

The City of London Corporation would champion Britain's first large scale Zero Emission Zone to cover central London and, in the interim, introduce local zero emission zones covering the Eastern City Cluster and Barbican and Golden Lane.



#### **Vision Zero achieved at 15mph:**

The introduction of a City-wide 15mph speed limit, subject to approval by the Department for Transport, aims to reduce the likelihood and severity of collisions as we strive to eliminate death and serious injury from our streets.

#### **Consolidation is key:**

Deliveries make up a quarter of vehicles on City streets. The aim is to reduce this by 15% by 2030 with off-site consolidation, timed access and loading restrictions.

*The Strategy includes further proposals which address accessibility issues for those with mobility needs, on street security, improving the cycling experience, transformative public realm principles, electric vehicle charging infrastructure and emerging technology.*

**For background on the Strategy and find out about drop-in sessions, visit [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/transportstrategy](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/transportstrategy) To view the proposals and provide your comments, visit [www.citystreets.london](http://www.citystreets.london) before 13 January.**

## ...and on the new Local Plan for the City

The City Corporation is consulting on its draft Local Plan which sets out the future development of the Square Mile.

It looks forward to 2036 and provides guidance on what types of development

and activities are likely to take place and where.

The draft City Plan 2036 can be viewed in City libraries and the Planning Reception Area at Guildhall.

There will also be several events and drop-in sessions with display material and officers in attendance to answer questions.

**More information:**  
[www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/cityplan2036](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/cityplan2036)  
or call 020 7332 1846

## Get on the register – final call!

Whether you're a resident or a worker, there's still time to get on our electoral register.

If you're receiving this ward newsletter you're already on the register but you have to re-register each year to stay on. 16 December is the absolute deadline and if you have received registration forms but have not yet registered, they need completing and returning to vote in any elections that might take place in your ward.

More information is available from the Electoral Registration Office (see details opposite).

**HAVE  
YOUR  
SAY!**

## Bank experiment made permanent

The 16-month experimental safety scheme at the Bank junction is now permanent.

The Court of Common Council, the City Corporation's most senior decision-making body, made the final decision in September on the Bank on Safety scheme after months of rigorous scrutiny and consideration by a range of City Corporation committees.

With over 4,200 responses to the consultation, the wide-ranging needs of local road users and other stakeholders were considered along with the operational needs of the Square Mile.

The scheme, first implemented in May 2017 on an experimental basis, restricts vehicle access to Bank junction to buses and cyclists only, Monday to Friday, 7am to 7pm.

The Bank on Safety experimental scheme is part of All Change at Bank, an improvements programme which describes the City Corporation's broader aspirations and long-term proposals for Bank junction.



# Dowgate

## Who We Are



Alderman Alison Gowman, Deputy Henry Pollard (on left) and Mark Wheatley CC

**Alison Gowman, Alderman**

alison.gowman@cityoflondon.gov.uk

**Committee appointments:** Police; City Bridge Trust (Chairman); Streets & Walkways; Investment; Property and Social Investment Boards; Museum of London; Health and Social Care Scrutiny Committee, Capital Buildings Committee, Active City Network (Chairman)

**Henry Pollard, Deputy**

henry.pollard@cityoflondon.gov.uk

**Committee appointments:** Police; Economic Crime Board; Investment; Financial Investment Board; Social Investment Board; Planning & Transportation; Finance; Christ's Hospital Committee, Deputy Chairman and Donation Governor; the Hon the Irish Society, Deputy Governor.

**Mark Wheatley, CC**

mark.wheatley@cityoflondon.gov.uk

**Committee appointments:** Culture, Heritage and Libraries; Port Health & Environmental Services; Community and Children's Services; Policy & Resources

**Hon. Ward Clerk**

Michael Stewart

**Ward Beadle**

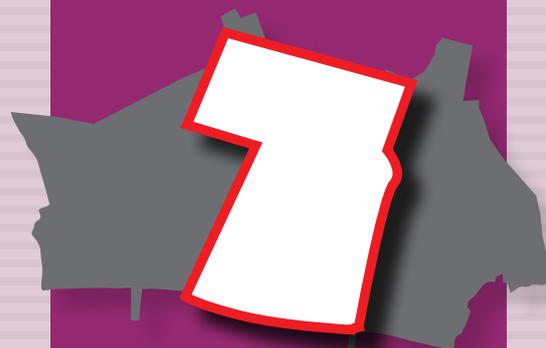
John Cash

## CONTACT US

To write to any of your Members, to let us know if you wish to receive this newsletter by email in future, or to inform us if you wish to be taken off the distribution list write c/o

Member Services  
City of London  
Guildhall  
London EC2P 2EJ

or email  
col-eb-fc@cityoflondon.gov.uk



We are always happy to talk to workers and residents within the Ward about any issues you may wish to raise. Please contact us if you would like to arrange a meeting.

## COMMUNICATING WITH THOSE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN THE CITY OF LONDON

### Homelessness in the City

We take deserved pride in the prosperity of our great City. So, the juxtaposition of wealth beside stark poverty is particularly shocking here. In particular, seeing people living on our streets – sometimes falling into a spiral of self-neglect - is distressing, as we have seen locally since the Spring. Sometimes, we engage lightly - small change or a sandwich perhaps - but often we sense that their problems are beyond our resolution.

This is why the City of London has recently established a Sub-Committee to investigate options to help ameliorate the issues around homelessness in our City. We have only had a couple of meetings so far but taken expert advice on the drivers to homelessness, models of service elsewhere and started considering our own options.

It seems that many of London's homeless are dealing with complex and often highly personal issues but there is a theme of broken relationships and isolation. Some are dealing with addiction issues. Most are from the UK.

Their issues are individual and specific but often they require the engagement of many agencies. Sometimes they move between local authority areas. Unless they are non-UK nationals there are few powers of compulsion and authorities are reluctant to use those they have. Police can act if someone is visibly breaking the law or behaving antisocially (but, if the latter, they will simply be excluding someone from an area). Temporary housing providers are wary of some

homeless people whilst some others find living anywhere except the street threatening.

Mark Wheatley CC wrote an article for CityAM in mid October in an attempt to push this debate up our political agenda and to lobby for wider change. That has yet to bear much fruit but ideas are emerging about how the City Corporation can act as a convener, drawing various London Authorities together, a lobbyist in trying to address concerns about the Vagrancy Act (nearly two hundred years old) and the Care Act and so improve our local provision.

There is, for example, a debate about whether, or not, the City Corporation should create a permanent daytime hub for homeless people to have somewhere to get clean, wash their clothes and socialise – to help break a desperate cycle of loneliness. All of these ideas need deeper deliberation but seem positive.

Also, we can draw together individual efforts and ideas. One prominent local elector recently suggested we can gather clothing abandoned at work by bank employees when they move abroad – particularly business clothes – and pass them to relevant charities. These are just a few ideas and welcome all that you might have. Please let us know.

Fifty years have passed since Ralph McTell sang about the 'Streets of London' and the plight of homeless people sleeping upon them. It is a tragedy that in the decades since, we have made such little progress. It is our pledge that, in those to come, we will do more.