



Portsoken

SO GOOD THEY OPENED IT TWICE

After years of hard work the Aldgate Square with the Portsoken Pavillion Cafe is finished. There were two openings. The first, in June, was a Community Fair for the people of the Ward, The City of London and the Church over a weekend. Friday night showed entertainment on the stage that had been set up specially. On the Saturday was even more entertainment along with stalls selling food and nick nacks.

The Sunday was given over to St Botolph's church to celebrate their part in this great endeavour.

Three weeks later there was an official opening with the Lord Mayor, dignitaries and officers from the City Corporation and Transport for London. The Devonshire Hotel next door then hosted a reception for the VIPs in its terrace lounge.

Over the magnificent summer we have enjoyed the square which has proved to be a huge success with residents, city workers and tourists. It has also already become a magnet for film crews from over the world making a variety of documentaries and pictures about London.

A second centurion for Middlesex Street Estate

In September Alie Touw celebrated her 100th birthday in the Dutch Church with family, friends and neighbours. She joins Mannie Blankett as the second Middlesex St. resident to reach this amazing milestone. Guests at the party heard about her lifetime of service to her community and the narrow escapes from the Nazis during WWII in Holland, such an amazing story.

Congratulations Alie it was a wonderful celebration of your life and many thanks to the community of the Dutch Church, Austin Friars.

Manny Blanket Reaches 101 years

Manny reached the great age of 101 in October. His family organized a birthday supper for him at Happy Days Fish & Chip shop, which was a great evening.

The following week Manny was made Honorary Freeman of the City of London, with a gathering of family, friends, representatives of local organizations and all Portsoken Ward Members. **Well Done Manny.**



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 or 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 To view the proposals and provide your comments, visit 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
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.



Portsocken

Who We Are



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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

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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

Portsocken Ward Club

The Master this year is Deputy Henry Jones.

This is his second term in the position.

For information regarding our Ward Club and events please contact :-

The President, Mr. Ivan Kingsley,
17D Petticoat Tower,
Middlesex Street Estate
London
E1 7EF

Telephone : 0207 247 9209

MIDDLESEX STREET/ MANSELL STREET GARDENS

Congratulations to the gardeners on Middlesex St. for gaining the prestigious Thriving Community Garden Award from City in Bloom. The podium does the estate proud and it must have taken some effort to water all the plants over the hot, dry summer to create such a lovely oasis.

Mansell St held its own competition between residents for gardens and planters on balconies and walkways. Congratulations to the winners and a pat on the back to all residents on both estates who beautify our Ward. Thank you.

