



# Bassishaw

## Introducing our two new members Madush Gupta

### The Elections

I was humbled to be elected as your City of London Common Councillor for the ancient ward of Bassishaw in March 2022 by 74% of the popular ward vote. I particularly enjoyed election day as it was a fantastic opportunity to meet voters and shape my own priorities in Council. Bassishaw is home to the headquarters of FTSE giants, Legal and General plc, Standard Chartered plc, Schroders plc and Lloyds Banking Group plc. Alderman Tim Hailes of Bassishaw has been a fantastic sounding board and guide as I find my feet. His experience and wise counsel has enabled me to hit the ground running and build the critical relationships I need to be positioned for success. I am also enjoying working with Ian to shape our ambitions for the Ward.

### Life since the Election

It has been an incredibly fast paced 2 months since elections on the 24th March, with meetings of the full Common Council known as CoCo and 2 of the most senior Committees, Finance and Culture & Heritage. There have been a large number of civic events such as the Queen's Remembrance Service at St Paul's Cathedral, the Lord Mayor's Children Party, Leader of the Council, Chris Hayward's welcome dinner and The Chief Commoner's welcome reception for new members. We have received more than a dozen 2 hour members briefings to enable us to hit the ground running as new councillors covering areas such as:

- ESG
- City of London Corporation Finances
- City of London Corporation structure
- The role of the mayoralty and shrievalty
- Major city projects (Markets relocation, Museum of London relocation and the Salisbury Square Development) with value in excess of £1bn
- Arts and Heritage • Digital Innovation • Conduct

With every briefing, I realise how little I knew of the City before I was elected and how much more I have to learn and how much I want to share with you. If you would like to learn more about strategy or policy, I would be delighted to discuss and share materials prepared by the Corporation.

As a councillor, I support the strategic ambitions of the City

## Ian Bishop-Laggett

I am delighted to have been elected along with Madush, to serve you within the ward of Bassishaw. I look forward to meeting or hearing from you in the near future. The Corporation is looking at new ways to engage with the electorate within the city, and I would welcome any suggestions on how we can help keep you more informed and connected with the Corporation.

Chris Hayward, our new chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, underlined our commitment to work closely with City of London residents during his recent speech at Common Council. There are exciting times ahead with the "Destination City" objectives and it is imperative that we all work together to

of London Corporation through Common Council (our legislative chamber) and the sub-committees providing scrutiny, policy, strategy and decision making to support this broad City of London portfolio of responsibilities. I am a member of the Pensions Committee, Finance Committee and Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committees. I have been sagely advised to manage my committee commitments whilst I learn to balance work, family life and a new mistress, the City of London Corporation.



### Post-Election Progress

The City elected a new political leader, Chris Hayward for a 5 year term and he revealed his agenda in his maiden speech to Common Council on the 19th May. I am really excited to work with Chris to deliver his vision over the coming term. The City is about the incredible people who live and work here, enabling us to innovate, be creative and continue to be the top international destination for the global Finance business and a great place to live. Destination City's ambition is to ensure the City remains the place to do business and live when there is a natural tension in the post-COVID world to work from home. The City needs to be vibrant to compete with the new lifestyle choice preferred by many and often supported by employers.

Chris and I are already in discussions on how the City may broadly consult the real estate industry on delivering these ambitions; their support is critical and transformational. I often cycle around the city with my 9-year-old son at the weekends and it is already vibrant, with strong foundations to build upon. The last 6 weeks has seen a significant crescendo in people coming to the City at the weekends.

The Corporation and I are also in discussions about how the City Corporation can improve voter participation and extend the franchise to ensure Guildhall is accountable and democratic. I look forward to reporting back to you on progress in my next newsletter. I welcome your suggestions, please drop me a line.

Per my electoral pledge, I have been engaging the City's Innovation team to understand their priorities and how I can

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make the City a better place to live and work today and for the future.

Our City is steeped in history with many incredibly interesting places to visit and many open green spaces to enjoy. If you are interested in the City and would like to see more of it, then join your local ward club at [www.bassishaw.club](http://www.bassishaw.club). The club has a programme of events including visits to Livery halls and special visits to other attractions. It is also a great opportunity to meet your local Councillors who attend many of the events.



**[Ian.Bishop-Laggett@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:Ian.Bishop-Laggett@cityoflondon.gov.uk)**

# Salisbury Square construction underway



Anyone walking down Fleet Street recently will have noticed the scaffolding in place that shows building work continuing on the site of the new courts building and headquarters for the City of London Police.

The Salisbury Square development will incorporate an 18-court facility including eight Crown Courts, five Magistrates Courts

and five Civil Courts. It will be the first building to incorporate HM Courts & Tribunal Service 'Court of the Future' design principles.

The new City Police facility will see departments from existing COLP sites relocating along with its fleet vehicles and will be built to tackle fraud and economic crime in particular.

In addition there will also be a commercial development to the south of the site and a larger and much more usable and accessible public space with new east-west links through the site.

The development is designed to last for at least 125 years and will help to re-establish and reinvigorate this part of the Square Mile, famous as the former home of the newspaper industry. Upon completion, it is expected that it will support 2,500 jobs, of which 400 will be newly created across a range of sectors.

The development will be net carbon neutral in operation with highly durable facades and will use ground source heating and cooling systems in an all-electric strategy. It will also include public realm landscaping and a rooftop garden.

## Key milestones

- Demolition Jan 2022
- Pre-Construction Service Agreement Feb 2022
- Main Contract Award Sep 2022
- Main Construction Oct 2022
- Practical Completion Mar 2026

[www.salisburysquaredevelopment.co.uk](http://www.salisburysquaredevelopment.co.uk)

## Don't lose your vote



City of London elections are your way to help shape the future of the Square Mile. Unlike elsewhere, both workers and residents can vote and you must re-confirm your registration each year. You are not kept on the register automatically. Businesses and other premises should have received the City Workplace Register, which they are legally required to complete – this can be done at [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/workplaceregister](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/workplaceregister).

Voter registration forms will then be sent out from late August onwards and must be received by 16th December. If you would like to receive this by email or have any questions, please contact [electoralservices@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:electoralservices@cityoflondon.gov.uk).

While the next election for all Common Councillors will not be held until 2025, elections for Aldermen and by-elections may be held at any time. If you are passionate about the City and are interested in standing for election in the future, please find out more at [www.speakfortheCity.com/stand](http://www.speakfortheCity.com/stand)

## City Advice – helping people manage everyday problems

With interest rates going up, inflation rising and utilities' costs soaring, it can be easy to fall into financial difficulties.

City Advice can provide you with free, impartial, confidential, debt advice on all kinds of debt problems. From advice on credit or store cards to council tax arrears, mortgage problems, court fines or bankruptcy.

We can assist you in sorting out your debts, go through the options for dealing with your debts and your creditors as well as helping you understand and cope with:

- Bankruptcy
- Debt relief orders
- Individual voluntary arrangements
- Administration orders

City Advice advisors also offer a confidential and impartial service and are qualified to advise on:

- Consumer and employment rights
- Welfare benefits
- Housing and legal issues
- Relationships
- Health and wellbeing

The level of help will depend on your enquiry and the type of advice and help you need. A detailed assessment of the problem will give City Advisors a better understanding of the situation and will be able to offer tailor made advice. You can then decide if you prefer to take action yourself or let City Advice act on your behalf.

City Advice is a free advice service



for people who live, work or study in the City of London.

**Get in touch (Monday – Friday 10am-1pm and 2-4pm) via telephone 020 7392 2919,**

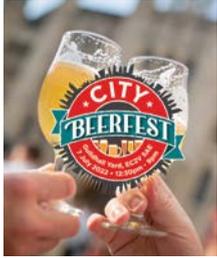
**text 07432 658 083 or email [city.advice@toynbeehall.org.uk](mailto:city.advice@toynbeehall.org.uk)**

[www.toynbeehall.org.uk/cityadvice](http://www.toynbeehall.org.uk/cityadvice)

# Summer of Fun

There's a packed programme of activities for all this summer in the City.

While the Platinum Jubilee may have ended you have until the end of September to enjoy Superbloom at the Tower of London. Its moat has been flooded with millions of flowers to create a vibrant 'sea' that will continuously evolve from June to September, changing colours and patterns over the summer.



Also available until the end of September (Fridays and Saturdays at 2pm) is a City Guides Walk "A Right Royal City". During this walk you will discover the trials and tribulations, pomp and celebrations of the kings, queens, princes and princesses who have left their mark on the City of London over the centuries.

Running until December is a Jubilee exhibition at St Paul's Cathedral "St Paul's, the Monarch and the Changing World" which explores the grand ceremonial occasions held at the Cathedral to commemorate the Royal Jubilees of four British monarchs: George III, Victoria, George V and Elizabeth II.

By the time you receive this newsletter Sculpture in the City will have returned – the 11th annual outdoors exhibition that uses the urban realm as a rotating gallery space.

July sees the return of the ever-popular City Beerfest – the annual charity beer festival in Guildhall Yard that raises money for the Lord Mayor's Appeal which also offering excellent beer, good food and live music.

Also that month will be Feria de Londres and FestLatAm – international fiestas celebrating Spanish and Latin American culture, with incredible global cuisine, fun entertainment and a party atmosphere across three days.

Now on at the Museum of London is Harry Kane "I want to play football". This is an exclusive, free display celebrating one of the city's sporting heroes – the world-leading striker and England captain Harry Kane. Through his story of persistence, hard work, resilience, and sporting achievement, this free display curated in collaboration with Harry Kane will aim to inspire the next generation, encouraging visitors of all ages to be their best and never give up on their dreams. Rarely-seen personal items, family photos and iconic objects will document Harry's career so far: from his first club, to winning golden boot awards and being named England captain.



Inspired! Is still running at Guildhall Art Gallery – a new exhibition drawn from the Guildhall Art Gallery's permanent collections which examines ways in which visual artists have taken inspiration from the literary arts – poetry, plays, novels, and also music.

And finally, Open House returns September 8-21 offering the chance to explore outstanding architecture, hidden gems, and guided tours across the City of London.

**Keep up to date on all these events and more by visiting [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do) and where you can also subscribe for regular updates.**

As this issue was going to press, the City Corporation announced a package of measures designed to boost the vibrancy of the Square Mile, drive forward its recovery from the pandemic and increase its attractiveness to talent.

A key element of 'Destination City' will be to enhance the Square Mile's leisure offer with a £2.5 million annual investment and an exciting events programme including outdoor festivals, music, art, education, sport and wellness.

## Beech Street Zero Emissions Scheme



The City Corporation recently ran an 18-month traffic experiment on Beech Street to improve air quality. The experiment restricted polluting traffic from using the Street as a "through route" whilst still allowing access for zero emission capable vehicles and for any vehicle type that was accessing a property on Beech Street.

The City Corporation will soon be consulting on whether it should reinstate the zero emission restrictions as a permanent measure. It will also be capturing views on the Barbican and Golden Lane area as part of a healthy street-wide approach to improving air quality, local streets and public spaces. This is early engagement to help us develop a plan for reducing through traffic in the area by encouraging the use of cleaner vehicles and there will be further consultation in the future as plans for individual projects are developed.

**The consultation will be launching shortly. To take part, review historical data or attend an informational meeting about these initiatives visit [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/beecheestreet](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/beecheestreet).**

## Pedestrian Priority Streets

**The City Corporation is working to enhance the comfort and safety of people walking in the Square Mile. To make pavements wider, provide more space for people walking and reduce crowding we need to restrict access for motorised traffic on some streets.**

**In the Summer of 2020, we temporarily provided more space for people walking to improve social distancing. We are now keeping some of these changes in place as traffic experiments. This will enable us to test their effectiveness and gather feedback.**

**If you would like to find out more about the Pedestrian Priority Streets, take part in the consultation or sign up for updates, please visit [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/streets/pedestrian-priority-programme](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/streets/pedestrian-priority-programme)**



# Bassishaw

## Who We Are



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Elected 2013  
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Tel: 07801151780

**Committee Appointments:**  
Court of Common Council  
Court of Aldermen  
General Purposes Committee of Aldermen  
Policy and Resources Committee  
Public Relations Sub Committee  
Member Development Steering Group  
Bridewell Royal Hospital  
Capital Buildings Committee  
City of London Police Authority Board  
Economic Crime Committee of the CLPAB  
Resource, Risk and Estates of the CLPAB  
Strategic Planning & Performance of the CLPAB



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Elected 2022  
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**Committee Appointments:**  
Court of Common Council  
Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee  
Finance Committee



**Ian Bishop-Laggett**  
Elected 2022  
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Tel: 07973 506 370

**Committee Appointments:**  
Court of Common Council  
Planning and Transportation Committee

## CONTACT US

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, only want to receive an email notification to download it or are receiving more than one copy per household then please send your details and the name of your ward newsletter to [wardnewsletters@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:wardnewsletters@cityoflondon.gov.uk) and we will amend our database.



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

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bolster the broader City ambitions for innovation. The Fintech industry faces a precarious moment as the funding environment collapses and only the strongest best managed firms will survive. The future of the City is dependent on evolution of our digital offerings. I look forward to meetings this month with the Chair and CEO of Innovate Finance to discuss what part the Corporation and national government can play to engineer a soft landing for our brightest technologies.

Finally, I have also been busy working with Catherine McGuiness, Chris's predecessor, on Progress Together, a government initiative led by the City to support Socio-economic mobility in the workplace. This area has often been the poor child of the Diversity and Inclusion agenda and I firmly believe resolving this is the key to solving many other D&I challenges in business and society today.

My mission is to engage the ward and I would be delighted to have coffee or meet on Teams or Zoom. If there is anything I can support you with, please do not hesitate to drop me a line at [madush.gupta@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:madush.gupta@cityoflondon.gov.uk).

### The Ancient City of London

The City of London Corporation is the oldest continuously elected body in the UK and possibly the world, dating back more than 800 years to 1215. The history of the City is the history of mercantile Britain. It was the home to the Guilds (now Livery Companies) who authorised an individual to learn a trade and develop a profession, first as an apprentice and ultimately as a master of your craft. Many of these crafts have less relevancy today such as the Pewterers, Mercers, Merchant Tailors, Saddle Makers and Candle Markers, but they leave a rich legacy of patronage and charitable giving that continues today. I am a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Pewterers, based directly behind 25 Gresham Street.

### Today's City of London Corporation

The City Corporation is an idiosyncratic local authority, with only ~9,000 residents and as many as 500,000 workers pre-pandemic. The City of London Corporation has a diverse role as both a normal Local Authority (Planning, Social Housing and Transportation, Education) and a host of other critical responsibilities. The City Corporation maintains the bridges of central London through the City Bridge Estates funds, owner/manager of London's wholesale Markets (New Spitalfields, Smithfield Meat and Billingsgate fish), owner/manager of the Barbican, Europe's biggest arts complex, the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, Europe's leading conservatoire, manages West Ham Common and Hampstead Heath and administration of the River Thames. The City Corporation gives more than £30m to charity annually and this is expected to rise to £60m by 2025. The City Corporation is uniquely active in its soft power approach to attracting investment to London and lobbying for a supportive regulatory environment for the financial services industry, a critical contributor to the health of the UK economy.

The City Corporation has 3 key leaders, The Town Clerk, who is the Chief executive in modern parlance; the Leader of the Council, Cllr Chris Hayward and The Lord Mayor, Alderman Vincent Keaveny, who is the City's ambassador in chief on the national and global stage. Vincent encouraged me to stand several years ago when he was Sheriff of London and has been an incredible mentor ever since.