

In this issue:

- *Olympic Torch*
- *Licensing Reviews Update*
- *St Paul's Crossing Consultation*
- *Ice Cream Vans - again*
- *Holborn Circus Enhancement*
- *The Last – Licence Amendment*
- *City Policing*
- *What's on in Castle Baynard:*
– *Bridewell Theatre*

*If you have any comments on this newsletter or matters you want to see covered, please contact
jeremy.simons@cityoflondon.gov.uk*

OLYMPIC TORCH IN CITY 26 JULY

On the morning of Thursday 26 July, the Olympic Torch Relay will arrive in the City. The torch enters the City at 8:50am and will visit St Paul's Cathedral, the Museum of London and Guildhall, before leaving the City at around 10am, via Millennium Bridge. See the torch website for details – www.london2012.com/torch-relay.

CARTER LANE LICENSING REVIEWS – UPDATE

As reported in February, applications were made by Carter Lane residents to the City's licensing department to review two licensed premises in Carter Lane, Patch and Carter Rooms, as residents had been disturbed for some time by noise and anti-social behaviour. Both hearings took place on Friday 4 May 2012 attended by both residents and ward members. The Licensing Sub-committee decided to cut the hours for both bars until 12.00 midnight, Monday to Sunday, in order to promote the licensing objective of preventing public nuisance.

Both bars have appealed and the appeals will be heard in Westminster Magistrates Court; unfortunately probably not before the Olympics. During this period, both bars are able to operate under their current hours. Residents should keep a record of any disturbances. Local PCSOs will regularly patrol the area and maintain contact with residents. This process has taken a very long time and still has some way to go. Members have been working closely with neighbouring ward to provide support to residents over this. We will keep you updated.

PROPOSAL FOR SIGNAL CONTROLLED CROSSING AT ST PAUL'S TO GO TO CONSULTATION

Following many years of debate over the need for a signal controlled crossing at the top of Ludgate Hill in front of St Paul's Cathedral, Ward Councilmen were recently given a preview of plans for the Fleet Street / Ludgate Hill corridor. In previous issues we have mentioned our concerns at the lack of signals at this crossing, which can lead to delays to traffic, particularly to bus passengers at busy times. However a lack of pavement space and a wish not to clutter the iconic view of St Paul's with traffic signals has prevented any progress being made so far.

Transport for London are keen to see improvements to what they consider to be a key east-west pedestrian corridor leading from the Strand, through Fleet Street, Ludgate Hill, St Paul's Churchyard, New Change and into Cheapside (already much improved). The idea is to make this route more "pedestrian friendly" with improved footways and better shopping facilities. TfL are willing to provide funding to add to "planning gain" payments towards the improvements.

To date the City of London Corporation has received funding from TfL for a study. The study area includes Fleet Street, Ludgate Hill and the area immediately south of Fleet Street not included in the "Courts and Lanes" strategy of a few years back. Work is at preliminary stage, with initial ideas likely to go to public consultation during the autumn of this year. Proposals will include widening the footways, whilst at the same time maintaining the existing road capacity for vehicles. In Ludgate Hill traffic signals would be installed at the junction with Ave Maria Lane. This would include two crossings on the east and west arms of the junction, controlled by the lights. The existing pedestrian crossing a few meters to the east would be removed. By having two crossings and wider footways, pedestrian congestion whilst waiting for the lights to change should be avoided, whilst having traffic lights a few meters more distant from the cathedral should reduce their impact on the view of the building.

Please take part in the forthcoming public consultation. We will let you know when it is about to take place. The whole scheme, which is subject to funding being received from both from TfL and new office developments, is likely to take up to five years to complete. We will monitor progress closely, and will press for early introduction of the new crossing on Ludgate Hill.

ICE CREAM VANS – AGAIN

Your ever vigilant Ward Councilmen have noticed the re-appearance of Ice Cream vans again in the Ward, particularly in and around Knightrider Court. Their re-appearance has been reported to the City Environmental Services department who are stepping up patrols of the area. In the meantime we will continue to note the registration numbers of any stationary ice cream vans in the Ward and surrounding area, along with the place, date and time they are spotted, so the City Corporation can build a case for another injunction if the problem persists. Please let your Councilmen, or Environmental Services, know if you see ice cream vans trading in the City, with the registration number, place observed, date and time so the information can be used to aid enforcement action.

*Your voice on
Common Council:*



Ian Luder



Ray Catt



Nigel Challis



Michael Hudson



William Hunt



Catherine McGuinness



Henrika Priest



Jeremy Simons

*Find our details on
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk*

HOLBORN CIRCUS AREA ENHANCEMENT SCHEME

In Issue 21 we reported on proposals to improve the junction at Holborn Circus, and outlined a number of changes to improve safety at the junction. There have been an average of 7.6 personal injury accidents at the junction over each of the last three years, including a fatality in 2009. The City wishes to, and indeed is obliged to, take action to improve safety. The City's Streets and Walkway's Sub-Committee has recently approved the scheme as previously outlined. The overall cost of the scheme, which includes moving the statue of Prince Albert and remodelling the junction, has been reduced from the original estimate and is now funded almost entirely by a grant from TfL. The grant is conditional on the work being carried out during the current (2012/13) financial year. Refusal of the TfL grant would, most likely, lead to a delay of many years before any work could proceed based on City funding. The revised junction will include better crossing facilities for pedestrians, improved sightlines for vehicles turning from Holborn into New Fetter Lane, full cycle connectivity including a contra-flow cycle lane on Hatton Garden (which will now be one-way northbound) and additional green space outside St Andrew Holborn Church. It is now eight years since improvements to this important junction were first proposed. We are pleased that work is now about to begin.

THE LAST, 73 SHOE LANE, APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE AMENDMENT

The Last, a licensed premises at 73 Shoe Lane, has recently applied for an extension to their Licence to 0400 on Saturday night/Sunday morning. Your Councilmen have opposed this application as we believe that late licences can cause public nuisance to residents living in the vicinity and on dispersal routes towards late night public transport. Whilst an application for a licence variation may add one hour to the closure time, the cumulative effect of several such applications can cause considerable distress to local people.

CITY OF LONDON POLICE REVIEW OF ITS SERVICE

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary has recently published its thematic report 'Policing in Austerity: One year on' on the plans by all forces in England and Wales to meet the financial challenge of the government's Comprehensive Spending Review.

The City of London Police face the financial challenge of a 20 per cent budget reduction by 2014-15. The City Police have a history of reducing cost while improving performance; although it has the lowest budget of all forces it has to make the largest reduction under the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review.

The force has been carrying out an in-depth review of its operations and structure. Every aspect of service delivery is being reviewed and assessed to reduce costs and inefficiencies, whilst continuing to provide quality policing, protection and engagement with the public that our community expect.

You should not notice a difference in the visible police presence in the City and there will still be community neighbourhood cover for the whole City. Through the more carefully targeted deployment of its resources, the force will make sure that police officers are on the streets and visible in our communities when they are most needed.

WHAT'S ON IN CASTLE BAYNARD...

BRIDEWELL THEATRE – SPRING / SUMMER PROGRAMME

The programme at the Bridewell Theatre features the following shows for the next few months. For ticket purchases, please go online www.stbridefoundation.org/bridewelltheatre or telephone 020 7353 3331 for information on how to book.

Lunchbox Theatre

All lunchbox theatre performances start at 1.00 pm prompt and are about 45 minutes long. Don't forget that you can get tickets until 11.00 am on the day of the performance at £1.00 advance booking discount. On the door you can buy tickets at full price from 12.00 noon at the theatre box office:

- ▶ The Bite-Sized Comedy Club (Black Sun Theatre Company): 10 – 27 July

Evening Programme

- ▶ War and Patriotism Double Bill (SEDOS): 17 – 21 July
- ▶ David Copperfield (Tower Theatre Company): 24 – 28 July
- ▶ Songs for a New World (The National Youth Music Theatre): 31 July – 4 August