

Castle Baynard Resident

In this issue:

- *Future of the City Post Pandemic*
- *City Covid-19 Small Business Recovery Fund*
- *New Year's Honours List*
- *City's New All Electric Refuse Vehicles*
- *Residential Refuse Collection & Recycling Services*
- *Ward Surgeries*

Check out our website for other news of the ward and further details on newsletter topics!

www.castle-baynard.org.uk

FUTURE OF THE CITY POST PANDEMIC (Graham Packham)

There is considerable speculation about the future of the City after the pandemic, one school of thought is that working from home will become the norm, and as a consequence demand for office space will be significantly reduced. However, a significant number of large planning applications have been received and passed recently (or are in the pipeline) for new office and commercial developments in the square mile, including the ward. These indicate positive business confidence in the economic future of the City post Brexit and the pandemic. These projects include:



A planning application has recently been submitted for a new combined Fraud and Economic Crime Court, City Police HQ and a commercial building designed by Eric Parry (see image of the proposed Court building on Fleet St above). The site is on the south side of Fleet Street between Salisbury Court and Whitefriars Street and involves the demolition of Fleetbank House and redevelopment of Salisbury Square. The commercial building will be located at the south part of the site and will provide office accommodation, space for retail and bars or restaurants at ground floor level.

Northcliffe House on Tudor Street Grade II listed; this building has recently been vacated by Freshfields who have moved to a new location in Bishopsgate. Permission has been granted for a significant re-design of the ground floor entrance areas, upgrading of the office spaces and central atrium, and the provision of new office space at levels 5 and 6, where new landscaped terraces will form part of the works.

The former Daily Express Art Deco Grade II* listed building at 120 Fleet Street has recently been vacated by Goldman Sachs who have moved into new offices at Plumtree Court on the east side of Shoe lane. A redevelopment is proposed to refurbish and open-up the Daily Express building for public access, including spaces for cultural uses, and to redevelop River Court (the building immediately to the east) to introduce a new, high quality, flexible modern office building. The proposals would see the setting-back of River Court from the Daily Express Building, introducing new public realm and wayfinding around the site at ground floor, as well as a series of active retail units. Pre planning consultations are currently in progress.

Other developments in the City include; developers Tenacity have received planning permission for two large developments on Gracechurch Street. Number 55 will be a 29-storeys high rise, providing 34,004 sq.m of flexible office floor space, 2456 sq.m flexible retail and a 1,603 sq.m public roof garden terrace. Number 70 will be a 33-storey high rise providing 72,000 sq.m flexible office floor space and a 1,125 sq.m public viewing gallery. British Land have received permission for a 12-storey podium with a 35 storey East Tower and 20-storey West Tower at 2-3 Finsbury Ave. The City has also approved plans for a 15-storey tower near Aldgate underground station.

CITY COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY FUND (Catherine McGuinness)

Retail, hospitality and other supporting businesses in the City have suffered significantly from the loss of office worker footfall over the past year. While many have been able to access government support, the package available to City businesses has been much lower than that available elsewhere, because the discretionary grant element made available to the City has so far been allocated on the basis of residential rather than business headcount.

In view of the exceptionally challenging trading conditions which these businesses have faced, the City of London Corporation is adding to the support which government has been providing by creating a new Covid Business Recovery Fund of up to £50 million. This fund will be made available to small and independent retailers and hospitality businesses together with those providing clinical and professional services (e.g. dentists and opticians) necessary to support the successful return of office footfall. Further details will be announced in due course.

Your voice on
Common Council:



Ian Luder - Alderman



Chris Boden



Michael Hudson



Angus Knowles-Cutler



Natasha Lloyd-Owen



Catherine McGuinness



Graham Packham



Henrika Priest



Jeremy Simons

Find our details on:

www.castle-baynard.org.uk

WARD MEMBER RECOGNISED IN NEW YEAR'S HONOURS LIST

The Ward Team is delighted that Jeremy Simons was awarded an OBE in the New Year's Honours List, for services to Air Quality and Environmental Conservation in London.

Jeremy was elected in 2004 and since then, as well as assisting residents and local businesses with their queries and problems, has served with distinction on many of the City's committees. He chaired the Hampstead Heath, Highgate Wood and Queen's Park Committee most notably during three years of public engagement on the controversial but highly successful Ponds Project, designed to protect local communities from flooding.

More recently, Jeremy chaired the City's Port Health and Environmental Services Committee, with responsibilities including low emission zones, the delivery of the first zero emission street in the UK, reducing pollution through a no-idling campaign and the introduction of measures to reduce pollution from stationary equipment on building sites. He led the development of the City's new five-year Clean Air Strategy. Jeremy was also involved in a campaign to reduce the use of plastics in the City, a computer and mobile phone recycling initiative and the introduction of electric vehicles into the City's vehicle fleet.

CITY'S NEW ALL ELECTRIC REFUSE VEHICLES (Jeremy Simons)

The City has taken delivery of the first of its new fleet of Electric Refuse Collection Vehicles following recent successful trials. The vehicles will form the UK's first all-electric zero-emission waste collection fleet. The new 18-tonne and 26-tonne trucks are powered by lithium-ion batteries. This will help to reduce air pollution in the City. The batteries not only power the vehicle, but also raise the bins to empty them into the back of the vehicle, and then compressing the waste.



The vehicles are designed for urban environments with short routes, and are able to complete a full shift on a single charge. They are currently being delivered and should be seen on the streets before the end of March. The vehicles will be collecting an estimated 20,000 tonnes of residents' waste and recycling per year. One vehicle will be working at Smithfield market. The vehicles use innovative technologies for their charging infrastructure and are part of the City's plan to ensure at least 90% of the Square Mile meets World Health Organisation guidelines for nitrogen dioxide by 2025. The photograph shows ward member Jeremy Simons, outgoing Chair of the City's Port Health and Environmental Services Committee at the official hand-over of the first vehicle on 3 March 2021.

RESIDENTIAL REFUSE COLLECTION & RECYCLING SERVICES (Henrika Priest)

For those residents who do not have access to communal bin stores, if you are unsure about what to do about your waste and recycling or would like to read more in depth about the City's efforts, please go to: www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/recycling. Your household waste and recycling bags are collected Monday to Saturday between 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm. Please note that there are no collections on Sundays or Bank Holidays. Please tie your bags, using only the bags provided by The City, no black bin liners or carrier bags, and place them on the street outside your property. Help us keep our streets clean by only placing your bag on the street for collection on the days and times specified. If your waste and recycling bags are presented for collection outside of these times you may be subject to enforcement action. To order clear recycling and white household waste sacks between deliveries, call 0207-606 3110 or order on-line at www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/recycling.

WARD SURGERIES

We are continuing to hold on-line Zoom ward surgeries on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm. Future dates are, April 21st, May 19th, June 16th, and July 21st. Details can be found on our web site at: <http://castle-baynard.org.uk/ward-news/>