

February 2010

Issue 13

Castle Baynard Resident

In this issue:

- *Ward Mote*
- *St Paul's Churchyard*
- *Policing Priorities*
- *Taxi rank in St Bride Street*
- *St Bride's Passage*
- *A Boards*
- *What's on in the Ward*

Your voice on Common Council

Ray Catt

Nigel Challis

Michael Hudson

William Hunt

Catherine McGuinness

Henrika Priest

Jeremy Simons

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

WARD MOTE

The annual Ward Mote – a traditional gathering of the Ward – will be held at 12 noon on Friday 12th March in the parish room at St Andrew by the Wardrobe, St Andrew's Hill. This is an opportunity to meet your local representatives and raise any local issues you may have, as well as seeing an old City tradition in practice. Please come and join us.

ST PAUL'S CHURCHYARD

An exhibition is currently underway in Carter Lane Gardens giving details of proposals for the enhancement of the St Paul's Churchyard area. The proposals aim to:

- * improve access to the area on foot, public transport and coach,
- * facilitate the movement of pedestrians from the Carter Lane Gardens to St Paul's Cathedral and Cheapside,
- * create a sustainable public realm that promotes biodiversity and encourages walking and cycling, and
- * establish a high quality green space that enhances the setting of St Paul's Cathedral and can be enjoyed by everyone.

A key part of the plan is to close the existing coach park. This would be landscaped with new seating, planting and trees and enhanced footways paved in natural materials. Dedicated bays for short-stay coaches would be provided north of the Cathedral, mainly in Angel Street. Long-stay bays would be provided in Queen Victoria Street to the west of the Millennium Bridge. A managed drop-off point would be provided in Ave Maria Lane.

The exhibition is open from 3 February to 26 February, and comments should be made to Michael Haymen (020 7332 1511) or John Harte (020 7332 1978) at the City's Department of Planning and Transportation.

POLICING PRIORITIES FOR WARD

Policing priorities for the ward have recently been changed following a West Area Community Partnership meeting. The revised priorities are:

- * to address anti-social behaviour around licensed premises in Fleet Street and Carter Lane, particularly between 8pm and 11pm,
- * to address traffic offences at Ludgate Circus and the junction of Fleet Street and Fetter Lane between 8am and 6pm, and
- * to address the recent rise in burglaries.

Previous priorities had included dealing with rough sleepers within the Ward. It was considered that the police, working in conjunction with the charity Broadway, had now made sufficient progress in reducing the incidence of rough sleepers for this to no longer be a priority.

Updates on the current priorities are posted on the City of London Police's web-site www.cityoflondon.police.uk/citypolice/safercitywards

The next West Area Community Partnership Meeting will be held at 1pm on Tuesday 16 March at Freshfields, Northcliffe House, Tudor Street/Bouverie Street entrance. All are welcome to attend.

TAXI RANK IN ST BRIDE STREET

We have been asked whether the taxis which wait in the rank on St Bride Street can refuse to accept fares from local people. These mostly wait for fares from the adjacent business premises. Some wait with the lights on, some with their lights off. We have queried whether taxis with their lights on can refuse a fare from a member of the general public, and whether a taxi with their light off should be waiting on a public rank, and have been informed that at least two taxi cabs should wait with their lights on, and that these cabs should accept fares. If only one or two cabs are waiting, both should have their lights on. If a cab with a light on refuses a fare, then the Traffic Commissioner (Transport for London) can be informed.

ST BRIDE'S PASSAGE

Improvements have been agreed for St Bride's Passage, which runs from Salisbury Square towards the St Bride's Institute and Bridewell Theatre. This will be funded from Section 106 monies (for local projects) from the Fleetway House development in Farringdon Road.

The work will upgrade existing planters and provide new planters to create a green wall of climbers along the north side of the passage (the south wall of St Bride's Church), sustainably sourced wooden seating at the east end of the passage, cycle parking and bird boxes in the planters to encourage urban bird species. In addition uplighters will be provided in the paving and existing lighting will be upgraded.

This is the first area on the south side of Fleet Street to be improved as part of the Fleet Street Courts and Lanes Design Strategy, and we are pleased that funding has been able to be found to improve what is currently a rather bleak area.

Ward members are delighted at this news, we have pressed for improvements to this area.

A-BOARDS

The nuisance of A-Boards, particularly outside licensed premises, has been raised with us on a number of occasions. At present it is necessary to show that an A-Board is causing an obstruction and is a danger to pedestrians before it can be removed. It then has to be stored and can only be destroyed after an application to a magistrate. Legislation had been proposed as part of a recent Local Government Act to give local authorities greater powers to deal with these, but this failed to get through the House of Lords. The City Corporation is looking into what it can do to deal with A-Boards.

WHAT'S ON IN CASTLE BAYNARD

A quick update on future events within the Ward:

Dr Johnson's House

Thursday 18 March and Friday 19 March at 7pm: The Famous Fanny Burney. A solo performance by Karin Fernaid, who will bring Fanny Burney, later Madame d'Arblay, to life in Dr Johnson's atmospheric Dictionary Garret. Tickets £15 (£13 concessions) from the House or telephone 020 7353 3745.

City of London Free Winter Concerts

Wednesday 17 March at St Bride's Fleet Street at 1.05pm: The Bardos Band. To celebrate St Patrick's day an exploration of ancient folktale featuring the Celtic harp, voice, psaltery, gittern and percussion.

Wednesday 31 March at St Andrew Holborn (not quite in Castle Baynard!) at 1.05pm: The City of London Sinfonia under Joseph Cullen. Purcell Chacony, L Berkeley Four Poems for St Teresa of Avila, Holst St Paul's Suite and JS Bach Cantata No 54.

Printed and published by Catherine McGuinness, 507 Bryer Court, Barbican EC2

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