



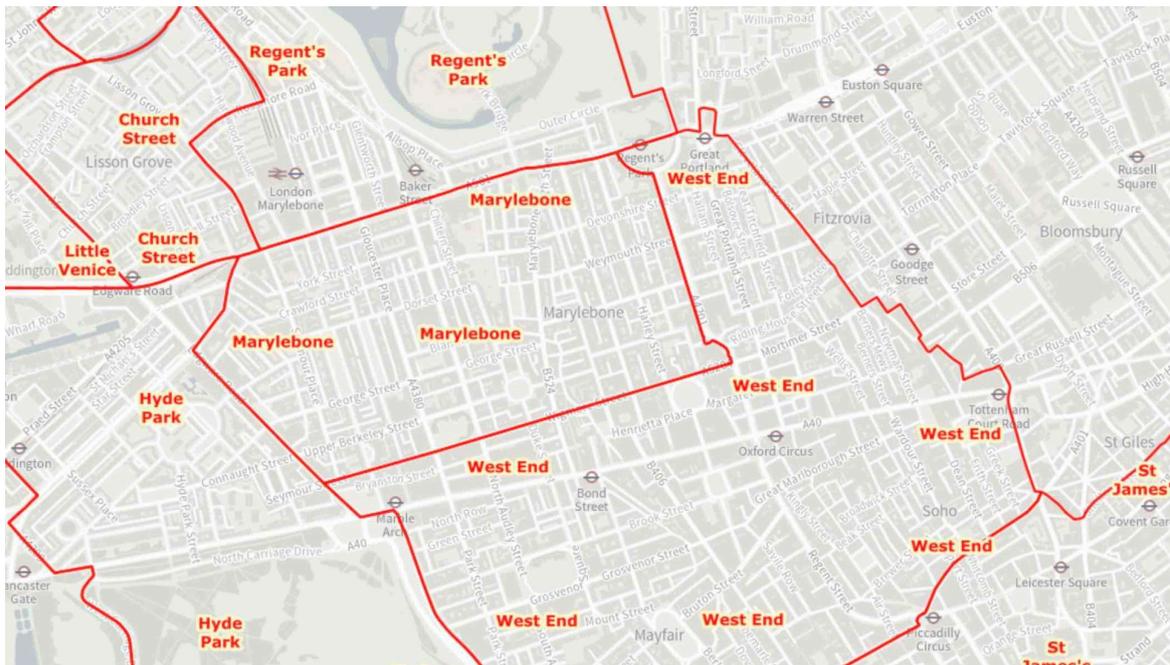
Marylebone Association

Newsletter April 2022

Dear {Contact_First_Name},

Spring is here..or is winter back? We are looking forward to the warmer months ahead.

West End Ward Council Election Hustings



Local elections will be held on Thursday 5th May 2022. West End Ward Hustings on the 28th April.

This time round the wards covering the Marylebone area have changed. Marylebone High Street and Bryanston and Dorset Square Wards have gone. There is now a new [Marylebone Ward](#) covering the northern part of Marylebone to the Marylebone Road and an enlarged [West End Ward](#) covering the south of our area.

Residents often complain that they are not listened to and their views not taken into account particularly with respect to major changes. So this is the chance for residents to make their voice heard on local issues. To do this effectively it is important to know what your local candidates have to say and where they stand

on key issues.

Previous newsletters have given a brief synopsis of the candidates standing where they have been made available to us. To recap, in the West End Ward Councillors Pancho Lewis and Jonathan Glanz are standing down so we will have at least 2 new councillors after the election. The Conservative candidates are Tim Barnes, Eoghain Murphy and Julie Redmond. The Labour candidates are Paul Fisher, Jessica Toale and Patrick Lilley.

In the Marylebone Ward the Conservative candidates are Karen Scarborough and Ian Rowley who presently represent the Marylebone High Street Ward and Barbara Arzymanow, presently representing the BDS Ward. The Lib Dem candidate is Elizabeth Botsford.

We have just received details of the names of the Liberal Democratic candidates standing for Marylebone, they are: Elizabeth Botsford, Alistair Barr and Freddie Poser. We will put further details up on our website during April. We have asked the Liberal Democrats for the West End Ward candidates and the Green Party to let us know when and if they select a candidate for either of the Wards.

In order to enable residents to hear the views of the candidates standing in the West End Ward, we are holding joint hustings with Soho and Fitzrovia later this month, details below.

Hustings for Marylebone Ward have not been possible to arrange as to date we have not had notice of the Labour and Green candidates for this ward.

The Hustings for the West End Ward council elections will take place on 28 April 2022, from 6pm in St Anne's Church Hall, 55 Dean Street. Members and Marylebone residents are invited as are other voters that live in the West End.

If you would like to vote in the Local Elections by post, you can use this form to apply for a postal vote.

You can either email your completed form to electoralservices@westminster.gov.uk or post it to Electoral Services, Westminster City Council, 14th Floor City Hall, 64 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 6QP.

Breakfast with the Leader



For those with an appetite for an early breakfast and in the face of a tube strike, Cllr Rachael Robathan (Leader of Westminster City Council) and the rest of Westminster Council attended the Town Hall for the launch of their City for All

vision in March. The Leader took the opportunity to speak about the Oxford Street District, economic growth, housing and sustainability. Cllr Matthew Green (Cabinet Member for Business, Licensing and Planning) also touched on the “pioneering” early community engagement guidance that will “put residents at the heart of the planning process”.

Westminster, we were told, is known for its clean streets, excellent services and low council tax, but WCC’s biggest ambitions need partnership with local communities. “This strategy sets out a plan for a world-class City for All to be achieved by working together with you – our residents, businesses and partners – to ensure everyone has the chance to succeed in this special part of London we call home.”

Other achievements were listed -an additional 1,190 affordable homes, installation of more than 1,000 electric vehicle charging points, and support for more than 900 businesses with al fresco dining to help them bounce back from the past two years.

Amongst the questions was one from Professor Tony Travers of the LSE - he noted that nothing had been mentioned about the amount of people moving out of central London and asked if there was any data about this and how the population has changed in total, and its structure. He was interested in the demographic makeup by age group, and what implications this may have on the retail changes and for future planning Policy, “it’s a very big question but particularly the demography I’d be interested to know about.”

The Leader said this was a really important point but that she didn’t know how this would “shake out”. They will need to adapt and thought it unlikely that they will see a reversion to 5 day a week working pattern but they will be keen on retaining the offices they have in Westminster as this is important to retain jobs.

Tim Lord, Soho Society Chairman, was concerned about the extensive pavement widening across Soho, which he said represented the largest changes to the public realm for 50 years. “We are concerned this will lead to extensive outdoor drinking and dining until 11pm at night, seven days a week, a permanent alfresco, and the noise pollution this would create, while the council have denied this, it has never explained why our concerns are not justified.”

He highlighted the inadequacy of the consultation that has been conducted to justify this intervention which “got a response from 109 residents, representing 4% of the total population of 2600 people”.

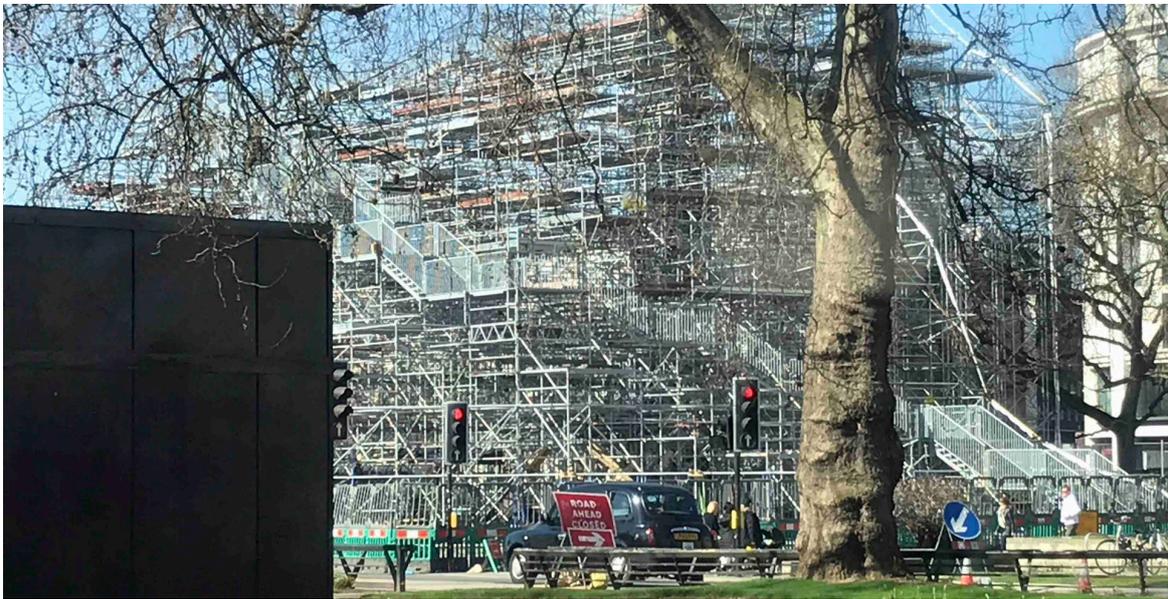
The Leader responded that she was working closely with the whole of the Soho Community to co-create their “Vision for Soho”. She expressed a desire to work with the residential community.

The Leader pointed out that in some areas of Westminster “residents have been banging on our door to say we want you to make al fresco permanent”. There has been no door banging by residents in Marylebone for more al fresco activities as far as we are aware.

Following the meeting, the City Council announced its ‘refreshed’ City for All strategy which will continue to work on the themes of Vibrant Communities, Greener and Cleaner, Thriving Economy and Smart City. The strategy can be read [here](#).

City for All [Vision and Strategy 2022/23](#)

The Mound and Manchester Square



The Marble Arch Mound “temporary attraction” closed on 9 January 2022, with over 250,000 people having visited it, free of charge.

The process of removing the structure has commenced with an anticipated time scale of around 4 months to fully complete at a cost of £660,000. It was erected in less time than that, so it is odd that it should take so long to demolish- but then not much about the Mound has ever made any sense.

The Council is now working in partnership with The Portman Estate and the Baker Street Quarter Partnerships on proposals to “improve Manchester Square in Marylebone.”

We are told proposals for the Manchester Square area will create a new co-funded culture-focused public space, improve pedestrian safety and introduce a dedicated eastbound cycle lane on the northern side of the square. The proposals received Cabinet Member approval in December 2021 to progress to construction.

Most residents however are of the opinion that the square does not require improving and is perfectly safe as it is. They question why so much money needs to be spent in diverting traffic onto the roads around it. They are also concerned about the noise and nuisance aspects of having such a large open area, particularly at night, and particularly when it will be unpatrolled.

However, much like the Mound, the proposal went through with very little by way of residential consultation, and what there was far too late in the process to have any effect. This is unacceptable given that the scheme has been in development jointly with the council over the last two years. This cavalier attitude towards consultation with those who actually live in the area was precisely what got the council into so much trouble last year with the Mound and other projects inflicted from above, resulting in various complaints from the many Westminster Amenity Societies.

The Return of the Spiegeltent





A planning application for the return of the Spiegeltent has been received by WCC. This "one off" event was given consent last year as a Covid emergency measure to help draw people back into central London.

We never saw the point of it - as the one thing that central London was not short of then, or now, was drinking establishments. So why just add to the competition when licensees are already having a hard time filling the many bars and pubs already in the area?

However, what we are definitely short on is green space and this proposes to remove one of the few squares available to us for most of the Summer.

Add to this the potential for noise, rubbish, and general disruption, not to mention the unsightliness of the whole thing and it begins to hold as little attraction as that other great supposed people magnet- the ill-fated Mound. Talking of which, if Westminster Council really sees the need for a drinking tent in central London- why not put it in Marble Arch now the Mound has nearly gone. At least that would leave us our square to enjoy - and situated in Marble Arch it would not be a disturbance to Marylebone residents.

Our objection can be seen [here](#).

Tat Shops of Oxford Street to Go?



Spiegeltents were one of the side-effects of the Covid crises over the last 2 years, another has been the acceleration of the demise of retail in the West End, and nowhere is that more noticeable at present than in Oxford Street. As we have previously reported, large parts of Oxford Street are now blighted with US-style candy stores, phone repair outlets and tourist shops.

These emporiums of tat bear more resemblance to penny bazaars than the retailers they have replaced and drag Oxford Street down to a new low. The mystery has been how such basic establishments can afford the prime rents that still go with the area. A recent Private Eye investigation seems to hold the explanation as it uncovered that one recent source of their funding to nav the

leases, “being a string of dubious Covid bounce-back loans”. If this is the case it would appear that we, the taxpayers, are actually funding them.

Things are now so bad that Westminster City Council has decided that some action needs to be taken. Rachael Robathan, Leader of the Council, outlined the Council’s intention to rid central London’s Oxford Street of “questionable candy and tat shops” and has said “Oxford Street is Europe’s hardest hit street by Covid” and that the decline will continue without a serious intervention.

“Of course, there are beacons of hope, such as IKEA moving on to the street, and the Elizabeth Line finally due to open later this year, but unless we do something, the decline of Oxford Street will continue”.

“Nobody wants their local high street to be filled with questionable candy or tat shops. But more importantly, nobody wants to see the loss of jobs which would come with a long-term decline of an Oxford Street District filled with empty or derelict buildings.”

However, the answer to halting this long term decline may ultimately lie outside retail. The Centre for Cities think tank found that central London’s high streets were the worst affected in the country, with businesses losing out on 47 weeks of sales throughout the pandemic.

Central London is undergoing an evolution from being fashion and retail-focused to being a place people come to eat, drink and be entertained. Although people are still coming to Oxford Street to shop, the Centre for Cities analyst explained that the trend is for this to change.

“Sectors like fashion and retail are much more vulnerable to the switch online than the ‘experience economy’ like food and drink...the places pre-COVID that were already doing quite well are those which had already made the shift away from retail.”

“When you look at night-time and weekend footfall there is still an appetite to go back to the city centre for these types of uses.”

In contrast, the suburban areas of London have done quite well out of the pandemic, with so many people working from home, these places have been less affected and indeed brought life back to some areas as a consequence.

According to Centre for Cities’ research central London lost three times as many weeks of sales (47) than suburban areas (14). By September 2021 spending in the areas further out was nearly at pre-pandemic levels (97 per cent of the level in 2019) while the centre of the city was still lagging behind (82 per cent).

Marylebone Forum AGM



The Marylebone Forum 2022 AGM took place online on Monday 14 March, 6.30pm – 8.00pm. Members heard an update on progress made on the development of Marylebone’s Neighbourhood Plan and were given a timetable for its development to a referendum. The plan has had a recent breakthrough with having had the approval from Westminster Council for Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Funding (CIL funding) in the sum of £45,000 for help with plan development and community engagement.

Members were then addressed on recent successful CIL funding applications for local projects. St Marylebone School had received funding that went towards new laboratories and a new roof terrace. Marylebone Church Rector Stephen Evans outlined the 3 church applications for neighbourhood CIL, to go towards the church roof repairs, ceiling repairs and access improvements.

The current offices were re-elected with Yael Saunders continuing as Chair, other members of the committee were re-elected representing an equal split between business and non-business.

Seymour Leisure Centre & Library



Following the [two public meetings](#) in late January and early February the WCC project team are preparing for the next phase of engagement with user groups and key stakeholders.

Commencing in April, amenity groups, existing users of the centre and interested groups will be invited to workshops with officers and the architectural team. These sessions will be an opportunity to see how the proposals have progressed and how the new services will be configured. Groups will be invited to provide feedback and suggestions in order to shape the designs further.

This will lead to the pre-planning consultation in late Spring where designs will be shared in public exhibitions at the Seymour Leisure Centre and the Marylebone and Church Street Libraries.

The security gates at the back of the Seymour Leisure Centre remain firmly on the agenda. However, the architect's responsible for the overall redevelopment of the site will be taking charge and submitting a planning application.

Shouldham Street Car Park





Update from Westminster Council: “We continue to pursue our priority to make sure the building is safe and can confirm a representative from the fire brigade has now visited alongside the director of the company occupying the parking bay with our WCC Planning Enforcement Officer.”

“We will continue to liaise with the London Fire brigade and ensure that the relevant documents will be provided to complete the fire risk assessment. The application for planning permission was submitted at the end of last week and the relevant fee paid.”

Fatal collision Regent St Junction

A woman has died after being knocked down by a bus on Margaret Street just west of the junction with Regent Street.

The collision happened on Monday 7 March at about 12:40pm, police officers, London Ambulance Service and the London Fire Brigade attended, but the pedestrian died shortly afterwards at the scene.

This is one of roads which could see a vast increase in bus and other traffic if the proposals to close Oxford Circus on both sides of Oxford Street (at present on hold until after the election) were ever to be implemented.

Chiltern Firehouse - Agent of Change

The activities at the ever popular Firehouse in Chiltern Street continue to pose a significant disturbance to a number of residents in the immediate vicinity, with allegations of much noise and late night activity disturbing their amenity. To date there is not much the council have managed to do about this. But our legal expert feels that, considering the residential element was there long before the hotel, new statutory provisions may be of some help.

The revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF2) was delivered and came into force on 24 July 2018 and within it is contained the “agent of change principle”.

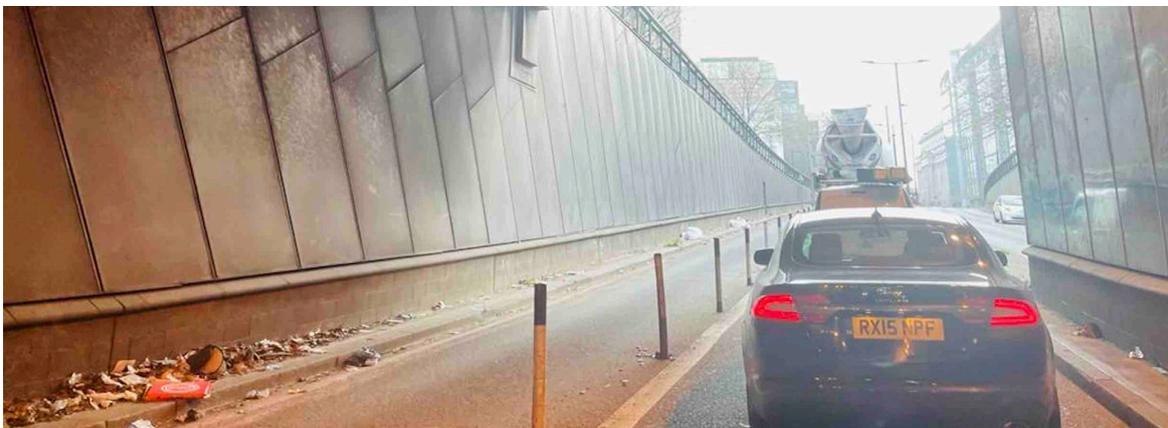
Campaigners on behalf of licensed premises have long advocated support for the implementation of an agent of change principle to place the responsibility for noise management measures on the incoming agent of change. This encapsulates the position that a person or business (i.e. the agent) introducing a new land use is responsible for managing the impact of that change. The practical issue that has arisen on occasion is that in circumstances where residents move into an area where noise is emanating from e.g. a long-standing music venue, this may have resulted in the Local Planning Authority (LPA) imposing additional licensing restrictions on the established licensed venue.

But what helps existing businesses in case of new residential also applies to a new business in the face of existing residential. For the existing land use the advice in National Planning Policy Framework -NPPF2 paragraph 182 may affect nuisance claims in another way. Following previous case law, the Supreme Court

nuisance claims in another way. Following previous case law, the Supreme Court in *Coventry v Lawrence* found that the existence of a planning permission authorising a use of land does not, of itself, make the activities that generate complaints of nuisance lawful.

However, the existence of a planning permission is not irrelevant. Lord Neuberger considered that a planning permission can have evidential value, with the extent depending on the facts of the case. In particular, conditions on a planning permission "may be of real value" where they set stipulations as to what the LPA considered to be an acceptable impact on others. Nevertheless, it is clear that the "Agent of Change" can be responsible for impact management and new licensed establishments opening in residential areas need to bear this in mind.

20 mph for Park Lane and Marylebone Road



Having apparently carried out a "consultation" last year - and obtained the usual ringing endorsement, TfL are now in the process of carrying out initial work to implement this. They have already installed the lower 20mph speed limit 'roundels'. They now intend to build raised pedestrian crossings and raised tables and recalibrate all existing speed cameras to enforce the new lower speed limit.

Of course since the TfL "improvements" implemented nearly 2 years ago in closing off one lane from the underpass to Euston station - where it now still lies dormant, the prospect of any drivers achieving 20mph travelling eastbound is highly unlikely in daylight hours. Conversely, the prospect of not waiting 30 minutes queuing as a result of this totally useless, polluting and wasteful gesture would be most welcome.

Instead, TfL have in fact spent the last 2 years doing their best to cripple both Euston Road and Park Lane which they are now treating more like a back street school runs than two of London's vital transport arteries. And this is just one more step to make life as unpleasant as possible for London's commercial drivers. How a 40 tonne truck is meant to negotiate a series of speed bumps remains to be seen - but it won't be quietly.

Westminster News

Short-Lets Disruption

Currently, rules in London allow homeowners to let their property for up to 90 nights a year. However, it is clear that many landlords are exceeding this limit. Too many short-lets directly impact the supply of rented properties and hike up rents for others. Worse though is the misery that these operators bring, especially the anti-social behaviour, parties, rubbish and unwanted noise from visitors arriving at all times of day and night.

MP Nickie Aiken is calling on the Government to introduce a registration scheme to make it mandatory for anyone renting out their property on a short-term lets basis to register it.

“We must send a clear message to Ministers that we need to halt the rise in rogue short-letting. A registration scheme would require those renting their property to notify their local authority, in turn, empowering authorities to notify platforms about issues with listings in their area.”

A complete ban on them would be even better, but that is too much to hope for.

Retail and Office Continues to Improve

Savills reports that the West End office market has continued to recover from the pandemic but January's transactions remained 35% down on the ten-year average.

The largest take-up in new office space (26%) was in Mayfair, which also commands the highest rents - with the Medical Properties Trust paying £150 psf for the sixth and seventh floors at 61 Curzon Street. Office space under offer is concentrated in North Oxford Street East (22%), Covent Garden (15%), and Victoria (13%), with active requirement for office space coming from the insurance and financial services sector (26%) and tech and media sector (24%).

Confidence in London's recovery was also laid out in the latest global financial centres index, which ranks the top 126 finance hubs worldwide and considers political stability, labour market flexibility and quality of life. London came second (with New York taking the top spot) which the Telegraph notes “is in stark contrast to warnings that Brexit would damage the Square Mile's reputation”.

Central London's office market has marked £5 billion investment turnover since the start of the year, as confidence in the category returns. Property advisors Knight Frank have revealed a 300 per cent increase in comparison to the first quarter of 2021 when there were transactions worth £1.2 billion.

There are £5.8 billion worth of central London office deals currently under offer, with institutional investors targeting secure income opportunities and green premiums.

A Tall Story





One deal however will not be going forward at present- as Westminster's Planning Committee have refused permission for it- is the gigantic Travis Perkins/Unite scheme for a 768-bed student hall by the canal at Paddington.

The proposed building reached 20 storeys high and would have taken up to 90% of the light from neighbouring flats with particular impact on Sheldon Square and Dudley House, as well as on residents in Little Venice. In addition, the service management plan would have resulted in traffic queues along Bishops Bridge Road putting pedestrians and cyclists in danger.

20th Century House



We are supporting the Soho Society's petition to Save 20th Century House on Soho Square. Its owners, Royal London, have applied to demolish and rebuild the building. Not only would this detract from the square, losing a building with deep historical connection to the film industry, it would also release a massive amount of CO2. Refurbishing the building could save 9.6 thousand tonnes of CO2.

You can sign the petition [here](#).

Crossrail - The Final Bail-Out?





Transport News has reported that the Crossrail project is still going to require a final injection of around £150 million to complete the railway, to keep services running through to June 2022. An emergency funding package agreed last June was temporarily extended for a fourth time last week and was set to expire at midnight on Friday.

This is not a total surprise as Crossrail has been warning for some time that the gap existed. Under the terms of the new bailout TfL must present a plan by 31 March outlining how it intends to achieve £400 million of savings or additional revenue in the upcoming financial year.

The latest bailout pushes the total emergency funding provided by the Government close to £5 billion over the past two years.

Transport Secretary Grant Shapps said: "These support packages must be fair to all taxpayers and the settlement agreed today provides enough to cover lost revenue from the pandemic while the Mayor follows through on his promises to keep TfL on the path to financial sustainability by 2023.

When it opens, the Crossrail project will have cost £18.9 billion, including the cost of the Network Rail station upgrades. That compares to the original budget of £15.9 billion which was later cut to £14.8 billion in 2010.

Vision for Soho Put On Hold



The plans to make various alfresco outdoor dining schemes permanent in some Soho streets has surprisingly been put on hold until after the election. If it was as popular with residents as the council claim then why the delay?

The answer to this comes from the Soho Society - Westminster City Council closed 14 streets in Soho in 2020 and 2021 to allow for the temporary use of the streets for outdoor dining 7 days a week until 11pm in response to the pandemic and restrictions on indoor dining.

The council repeatedly stated that these were temporary measures but in

February 2021 decided it would consult on making them permanent. Cllr Green and the Leader of the council said that the proposals would only progress with the backing of residents.

Having discovered in its consultation that residents do not support the proposals the council has moved the decision on next steps until after the local elections in May. During the schemes in 2020 and 2021 a number of long term residents were forced out of their homes because of the intensity of noise at night.

Noisy Vehicles

Action against the increasing nuisance of noisy vehicles in some parts of Westminster was to be combated by the installation of acoustic cameras. An update on this was given at a recent Westminster committee hearing.

The committee had sought clarification of the effectiveness of the acoustic cameras and the data to evidence the cameras' effectiveness and enforcement. The Cabinet Member advised the committee that the cameras were not in fact in use, they were being used to gather data, but that the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) had not yet been signed.

The Cabinet Member confirmed that in spite of this he thought that the enforcement had had some effect, consequently, there had been some displacement. We were not informed where to however.

Double Glazing Good News

The [Environmental Supplementary Planning Document](#) (ESPD) is good news for residents who want to install double glazing in a listed buildings.

WCC is finalising the document to take into account views expressed in the consultation and the new guidance published by the GLA. They are also ensuring the ESPD aligns with Council strategies and documents. The final Environment SPD will be accompanied by a statement explaining how the comments received during the consultation were considered in the final drafting of the document.

The council will also be developing a series of how-to guides to make it easier for "citizens to retrofit listed residential buildings". For the first time, under certain circumstances, double glazing would be permissible in conservation areas and in some listed buildings - with planning consent

Electric Vehicle Charging Points

Currently, there are 81 charging bays in Marylebone. The Council's Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy has set targets for the increase in the provision of charging infrastructure to both keep pace with the growing numbers of electric vehicles on the City's streets and to further encourage the transition from Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) vehicles.

The Strategy recognises that this market is still in its infancy, and as such recommends the use of an annual review or action plan, to determine the extent

recommends the use of an annual review, or action plan, to determine the extent of the rollouts required to both satisfy demand and acknowledge the latest technological developments. For the current year (2021/2022), through the action plan, the Council has set a target of installing a further 500 charge points.

Currently, there are 22 rapid charge points, with a 50kW output, on the public highway throughout the City, with 11 of them being exclusively for taxis and the remainder available to all EVs. introducing a further 38 to be installed in 2022.

There are currently 16 22kW charge points on the public highway provided by Source London; that number is to increase by a further 30.

There are also approximately 820 resident charge points retrofitted into lamp columns. In addition, it is proposed to dedicate over 400 bays alongside the resident charge points to make them dedicated resident EV charging bays to make it easier for EV-owning residents to connect to the points.

Women's Safety at Night



The Marylebone Association joined the NIGHT STARS, a new initiative by Westminster City Council to help vulnerable people after a night out. They consist of a team of volunteers that work with St John Ambulance and the Metropolitan Police service to ensure the safety of all at night.

Night Stars patrol across Westminster and will have a particular focus on women's safety. The expansion of the volunteers follows on from the success of the Soho Angels. The volunteers operate every Friday and Saturday night until 5am and provide medical care when needed.

Marylebone Diary

Spring has sprung in Marylebone with exciting events coming and many events that we have already enjoyed. The high street is buzzing and the Sunday market is as busy as ever.

Marylebone Food Festival is taking place on Tuesday 26 April to Sunday 1 May. Further details are below under announcements.

The Marylebone Summer Festival is returning this year on 18-19 June.

The two-day event consists of an outdoor cinema night in Paddington Street Gardens on Saturday evening and a street festival on Sunday. Expect 150 F&B and gift stalls, live music, and entertainment, a children's area, and fair rides as well as a new edition this year of a community dog show hosted by local retailer Mr & Mrs Smalls. The charity partner this year is Green House Sports

New openings:

Residents are enjoying Gail's bakery on Baker Street. Cavita, Lina Stores on Wigmore Street and Granger & Co on Marylebone High Street will all be opening their doors late spring/early summer. Chotto Matte is opening on Paddington Street. Follow them on Instagram and sign up to their newsletters to be the first to hear about their soft launch and opening plans. We were sad to see Joy leave the high street.

The bi-annual Marylebone Village Retail Forum took place this month hosted by Howard De Walden. The event brought together retailers, both longstanding and new from across Marylebone Village to discuss the latest news, new opening and plans for the coming months.

The Covid Vaccine Bus and the WCC Health Champions were out on the high street and in Regents Park this month.

Finally, the spring booster vaccine is available for people aged 75 and older, anyone aged 12 and over with a weakened immune system and those who live in a care home.

Flooding London

From [Bloomberg](#): Rather than water spilling over from the River Thames or its tributaries, the city's biggest flood risk in this century is from rainwater overwhelming the drainage system. Water then bubbles up from underground in random places at unexpected times. As London has expanded, in terms of both concrete and people, its 150-year-old sewer system has come under increasing strain.

A lack of permeable surfaces means more rainwater ends up in the brick-lined tunnels, which have to carry both water and sewage. The system was built for only 2.5 million people, not the more than 9 million residents who live there today.

Shirley Rodrigues, who's been Mayor Khan's deputy in charge of environment for the past five years, says City Hall's hands are tied as long as no single organisation has responsibility for surface flooding. Her office wants the government to appoint a body.

Rodrigues says it was just luck that no one was killed in July. She's become increasingly concerned that authorities don't know where people are living in basements, don't have enough data on where risk lurks, and don't communicate well with endangered residents.

"The governance of surface water flooding is massively complicated," she says. "We just need to know where the hell they are and to make sure the local emergency responders at least know if it happened in their patch."

Announcements

Local Business Help in Ukraine Appeal

The Ukraine Cathedral situated in Binney Street has been the focal point of the Ukraine Appeal in the West End. Following an appeal put out for help many of Marylebone local businesses have stepped forward with offers of assistance.

Residents can also stand shoulder to shoulder with the people of Ukraine in their hour of need. You can support them in their struggle against Putin's invasion [here](#).

St Marylebone Parish Church



The Crucifixion, written by Sir John Stainer in 1887 and dedicated to the Choir of St Marylebone, has been performed at the Parish Church annually since that date. The Crucifixion was a hugely well-attended event and people came from far and wide every year. After the interruption caused by Covid, the work will be performed again on Good Friday, 15 April at 6.30pm. Admission is free.

The St Marylebone Festival will also take place from 17 - 22 July so keep the dates in your diary. More information and tickets at [here](#).

St James's Church, Sussex Gardens

Nearby at St James's Church, Sussex Gardens, Paddington Saturday 2nd April you can enjoy high quality choral music. Tickets available on the door or from Eventbrite. Further details at www.stjamespaddington.org.uk

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Annly to host a street party in Westminster to celebrate The Queen's Platinum

Apply to host a street party in Westminster to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee!

To celebrate Her Majesty, The Queen's 70 years on the throne, Westminster City Council is supporting residents and community groups to apply to hold individual Platinum Jubilee street parties with their neighbours over the extended bank holiday weekend, from Thursday 2nd June to Sunday 5th June 2022.

People who wish to host a street party can apply to the council for free, where normally there is a fee involved which has been waived for this occasion, and applications are open now until Thursday 21st April. You can apply online and find out lots more related information and support at our dedicated Platinum Jubilee [here](#).

Marylebone Food Festival



[Marylebone Food Festival](#) is taking place on Tue 26 April – Sun 1 May.

The festival is a collaboration between The Howard de Walden Estate and The Portman Estate to showcase the wonderful food and beverage offering here in Marylebone. This year's charity partner is The Food Chain

Soho Poly



Solo performance by Brian Willoughby

Brian Willoughby is an English guitarist, best known for his contribution to The Stroubs, a highly successful English folk rock group of the 60s and 70s. With The

Strawbs, a highly-successful English folk rock group of the 60s and 70s. With The Strawbs, Brian recorded a UK Number 2 best-selling single, and later with The Monks, listed another UK Top 20 single in 1979. As a solo artist he has collaborated with the likes of Mary Hopkins and even Monty Python.

Brian will be playing a full amp selection of some of his favourite songs.

On 4th April (12.30-2.30pm)

Due to the limited numbers available of 35 people for these private events, we ask that you please register to either one of the events via the Eventbrite pages [here](#).

Marylebone Summer Festival



The Howard de Walden Estate organises this lovely annual event which is a firm fixture on the Marylebone calendar, formerly the Summer Fayre, it provides a wonderful opportunity for new and small businesses to take a stall and spread the word about their products or services.

Any business members who would like to consider participating with a stall at The Sunday Street Party should email events@hdwe.co.uk for more information.

Date: Sunday 19th June 2022

Association Events

The Royal College of Music Museum

Wednesday, 6th April, 2022 at 11am

Prince Consort Road, South Kensington, SW7 2BS

Fee: £5 payable on the day

THIS EVENT IS NOW FULLY BOOKED but see below to go on the waiting list

The Royal College of Music maintains one of the richest collections of music-related objects in the UK and Europe and, following a £3.6m investment from Heritage Lottery Fund, the completely re-designed museum opened last October. And what a feast of goodies to see, including the oldest stringed instrument in the world and the first guitar as well as original scores, documents, paintings and musical memorabilia.

This event is now fully booked but if you would like to go on the waiting list contact Liz Queenan: liz.queenan@marylebone.org

COFFEE MORNING

Wednesday 20th April at 10.30am

The Mandeville London, Mandeville Place, London, W1U 2BE.

We are pleased to advise that our next Coffee Morning will be at another new venue, The Mandeville London. They will welcome us with coffee, tea and pastries all for the excellent price of £6.50 per person, payable to the restaurant on the day.

Places need to be booked by 13th April - to allow for catering - so to reserve a place please email Lois German on lois.german@marylebone.org or telephone 0207 487 2706.

ROYAL REGENT'S PARK WALK

Saturday 28th May at 2.30 pm

Join us for this tour led by Blue Badge Guide, Janice Liverseidge. The walk will take approximately 90 minutes – but there are benches to take a break en route.

Once a royal hunting ground for the exclusive use of Henry VIII, the park has been open to the public for nearly 200 years. However, in this Royal Platinum Jubilee year we'll take a look at the many links with royalty including: the George V Silver Jubilee gates, Queen Mary's Garden and not just one, but three Royal Societies. Along the way we'll hear the story behind the Grade II listed St John's Lodge, a skating club, and discover a 'secret garden'.

As Regent's Park Theatre celebrates its 90th Anniversary, we'll also hear how it came to be Britain's oldest professional permanent outdoor theatre and of the many actors who have performed here. Finally, we'll look at both the Japanese and Mediterranean gardens and learn more about the Park's sculptures.

Places need to be booked and the cost will be £10 per person, payable in advance. To reserve your place please initially contact Lois German on lois.german@marylebone.org or telephone 0207 487 2706.

PLANNED FUTURE EVENTS

Cocktail Masterclass/Experience - Thursday 19th May at 6pm - Full details in May Newsletter

Coffee Morning - Wednesday 15th June at 10.30am - Make a note in the diary now – full details follow next month

REGULAR ASSOCIATION EVENTS

BOOK CLUB

Wednesday 6 April at 6.30 pm

The King's Head,
13 Westmoreland Street, London W1G 8PJ

Members meet upstairs at The King's Head pub in Westmoreland Street. Anyone who is interested in joining in should contact Liz Queenan. Meetings have

who is interested in joining in should contact Liz Queenan. Meetings have changed to the first WEDNESDAY of each month but still commence at 6.30. This month's choice is The Guest List by Lucy Foley. All books read are available on paper and on e-readers. For more information contact Liz Queenan (liz.queenan@marylebone.org) or tel: 020 7486 3709.

PUB EVENING

Monday 11th April at 6.30pm

The Larrik, 32 Crawford Place, London, W1H 5NN

Continuing with our regular bi-monthly pub evenings at this cosy warm and welcoming gastro pub with great food, wines, beers and cocktails. Everybody is welcome so do come along whether you are a regular or new to our pub evenings, where you will be greeted by our hostess for the evening Ann Marie Johnson.

SCRABBLE CLUB

Tuesday 12 and 26 April 2022 at 5.00 pm

The Duke of Wellington, 54a Crawford Street, London W1H 2HQ

The Scrabble Club normally meets in the private dining-room at The Duke of Wellington pub in Crawford Street on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, from 5 until 7, with Scrabble sets and dictionaries provided – and all levels of players very welcome.

Anyone interested in joining and/or wanting further information should contact rosemary.forgan@marylebone.org or 0788 789 1977.

Mailing Address: Marylebone Association, 229 Great Portland Street, London, W1W 5PN

If you have news get in touch by emailing news@marylebone.org

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