

Newsletter – September 2024

We recently sent this to members by email. If you would like to join our community group to hear about developments, please contact us through our website.

University of West London (UWL)

Our AGM in April was held at the University of West London (UWL) and started with a presentation by their Vice Chancellor, Professor Peter John, on their five-year strategy and impact plan. That was very well received by our members for being enthusiastic, telling us about the success of UWL, and reinforcing their commitment to being good neighbours. You can see their plan here.

Most of us didn't realise that UWL is rated 23rd in the UK by the Guardian and 40th out of 131 by the Sunday Times UK good university guides, and the best modern one in London. They were voted university of the year for teaching quality, student experience and social inclusion.

They have built a global reach through partnerships with campuses in Marbella, near Dubai and in Athens. They launched a new School of Medicine and Biosciences this year and are a research & development hub for STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) subjects. As well as training undergraduates, they train police officers and nurses, run centres such as for cyber-security, hospitality, aviation and food innovation. As the vice chancellor pointed out, West London is a commercial and cultural hub for many things, making them ideally placed to grow.

The VC also showed us what they would like to do with the frontage of their St. Mary's Road building for which plans have been submitted to Ealing Council, planning application 242987FUL.



Ealing Local Plan

The new Ealing Local Plan will set the overall planning rules in the borough for several years to come. It has all gone very quiet on this since the latest consultation ended a few months ago. There may be issues with alignment to the London Plan on tall buildings policy and with the new government's plans regarding housing numbers.

24 The Park

This property has now been empty and in a poor state for over 3 years. Planning applications for some changes to it have eventually been approved, so there is hope that work on it could start in the coming months.

23 Kenilworth Road

Planning application 230710FUL was approved for a new small detached house at the rear of this property. However, recent works at this site just seem to involve some changes to the rear of the current house. These would probably need planning permission and now appear to have been suspended, following reports about the matter to Ealing Council.

Major developments in Ealing

There is no sign at all of anything being done to implement planning application 223774FUL for the redevelopment of 9-42 The Broadway. There also isn't much action on implementing planning application 221687FUL for the redevelopment of Sandringham Mews (Lamertons) site on the western side of the High Street. At least work on the new building for Ealing Studios, planning application 223616FUL, is now well underway after a delayed start.

Meal at the Pillars Restaurant

Last year we had a couple of very pleasant group meals at UWL's Pillars Restaurant on Warwick Road. We are planning another one later this year and will be in touch about details when they are available.

Ealing Common Ward Panel (ECWP)

Our committee member Jim McWilliams had his first meeting with the Metropolitan Police's re-formed Ealing Common Ward Panel. Ward Panels are made up of residents and partner agencies and meet with the Met's local Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) at least every 3 months to set local priorities and hold the SNT to account on issues affecting the local community.

This can only work if the police are aware of all crimes and issues, so it is important that these are reported. Ones that need immediate police attendance should be reported by calling 999. Crimes that are less urgent, or where any offender would have gone by the time the police arrive, should be reported by calling 101 or online at https://www.met.police.uk/ Other local concerns that may need police involvement can be reported at https://www.met.police.uk/area/your-area/local-policing-team/

The local SNT can then set their priorities and focus their activities on the areas of greatest concern and the Ward Panel can hold them to account on their actions and hear of any successes.

Love Clean Streets app

For those who want to get simple problems on our streets fixed, there is the Love Clean Streets app for reporting things to Ealing Council. Issues like graffiti and flytipping often get sorted out in a day or two. Some other problems can take longer.

Subscriptions

We last collected subscriptions about 2 years ago and our coffers now need refilling. Subscriptions can be paid directly into our bank account with Metro Bank, account no. 45054691, sort code 23-05-80, account name THE PARK COMMUNITY GROUP. Please put the first line of your address, or as much of it as will fit, into the Reference box on the transfer so we know who it came from. The fee is £10 per household. You may get a "could not be verified" message when setting up a transfer as Metro Bank are not yet on the retail bank verification scheme. Just double-check the account details and continue.

For those who haven't paid in this way, committee members will be coming round for door-to-door collections in the coming weeks. Do please encourage any new neighbours that you have to join us using the "Contact Us" facility on our website https://www.thepcg.org.uk/, quoting their street address.