

FOCUS

Your Local Newsletter No. 287

Tower Block Safety Fears



Artist impression of the revamped Tower blocks

The Fred Wigg and John Walsh Towers are about to start undergoing extensive renovations.

The council are already moving residents out of their homes to start the works, but Waltham Forest Council haven't yet published the plans showing what they're going to do.

The 'transformation' plans published as part of the 2014 consultation showed new cladding being added to the buildings (pictured), and the consultation did not mention fire safety.

The towers are essential social housing. It's bad enough that the proposed plans may actually result in a drop in the number of social homes available to Waltham Forest residents. We need our council to confirm that those who are housed, are housed safely.

Local campaigner, Alice Thomas, says "In the wake of the tragedy at Grenfell Tower, Waltham Forest Council needs to reassure Cann Hall residents that the towers will meet the highest safety standards after the works."

Nearly 200 people have signed our petition already calling on the council to publish the plans, and to confirm to everyone affected that:

1. No cladding will be added to the building unless it is 100% non-flammable and meets the highest safety standards
2. Sprinklers will be added to the towers as part of the refurbishment - something the towers don't yet have

If you would like to join them, you can sign up by filling out the attached form and posting it back to The Focus Team, 61 Matcham Road, E11 3LA.

PETITION

I/we, the undersigned, call on Waltham Forest Council to pledge that no cladding will be added to Towers unless it is 100% non-flammable, and a sprinkler system will be added as part of the refurbishment.

Name _____

Address _____ Postcode _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Protect your Right to Vote

During August every household will receive an electoral registration form. This must be completed, including all members in the house over the age of 16-17, depending on date of birth, and returned to the Town Hall in Walthamstow. These forms will be the basis of the new electoral register that comes out in December 2017.

If you're not on the register you won't be able to vote!



Will we ever receive a newsletter from our three Labour councillors? They're now in their fourth and final year and nothing so far!

Acacia Road - overgrown street tree

Focus team member Liz Phillips has reported this overgrown tree base in **Acacia Road** to the Council for urgent pruning.



Pedestrians are finding it difficult to walk past it, and for cars to park near as it is also encroaching into the road.

Acacia Road - street tree obstructing pavement and road

Community Roadwatch in Cann Hall



Lib Dem Focus Team Member
Liz Phillips on Roadwatch duty

FOCUS Team members Rupert Alexander and Liz Phillips and other local residents have been working alongside the Police Safer Transport Team in a Community Roadwatch scheme across **Cann Hall**.

Using speed detection equipment to identify speeding drivers on our roads, the registered keeper of the vehicle or driver is notified by letter and advised accordingly.

Liz and Rupert say: Residents are worried that speeding might cause their children or other people to get hit by a vehicle or that a dangerous collision could occur. This working together initiative of Police and residents is welcomed, to promote awareness.

If you are over the age of 18, why not volunteer to take part in Roadwatching? Just contact: **Cann Hall Neighbourhood Policing Team**
E mail - Cannhall.NPT@met.police.uk or Tel - 0208 721 2036.

The Lib Dem Focus Team Fighting to protect our area

Disabled Parking in Cecil Road

A local resident has informed **FOCUS Team member Rupert Alexander** of the daily abuse of the two parking bays for the disabled opposite the council building in **Cecil Road**.

Drivers are parking **without** displaying a **Blue Badge**; that allows parking in these bays. Clearly, drivers with a disability would experience inconvenience and stress if they could not find a parking space.

Drivers **must** display a Blue Badge at all times to ensure vehicles are legally parked. We would all agree that to do so is fair and just.



Pevensey Road bridge - plague of flytipping



A fly tipping hot spot

Residents are reaching the end of their tether regarding the increasing frequency of rubbish dumping under **Pevensey Road** bridge. The dumping is physically hazardous, especially to the visually impaired, wheelchair and buggy users.

The Neighbourhood Ward Officer for **Cann Hall** has stated he will be patrolling the area more regularly due to the volume of complaints and glaring photo evidence.

The council are planning to reinstate CCTV, as requested by concerned residents and **FOCUS Team member Rupert Alexander**. Leaflets have been dropped through letterboxes advising people to dispose of their rubbish responsibly. **Rupert comments:** Working together with the council has proved positive. We shall keep an eye on things.



Problems - Ideas - Views, We Want To Hear From You

Name _____
Address _____
Tel/Email _____

Return to THE CANN HALL FOCUS TEAM, 61 MATCHAM ROAD, LEYTONSTONE, E11 3LA

The Liberal Democrats and their elected representatives may use the information you've given to contact you.
By providing your data to us, you are consenting to us making contact with you in the future by mail, email, telephone, text, website and apps, even though you may be registered with the Telephone Preference Service. You can always opt out of communications at any time by contacting us or visiting www.libdems.org.uk/optout For more information go to www.libdems.org.uk/privacy.
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Lib Dems - Service and Action All Year Round