

24 Mead Row, London, SE1 7JG – 020 76330255 Website: www.wellingtonmills.org.uk

Welcome to our March/April 2021 edition of More Welly.

We would like to thank all the residents who returned their survey slips about the Bike Storage units on our estate.

A summary of the survey results is as follows;

Bike Storage Survey

Yes Responses	17
No Responses	9
Total Response	26

QUESTIONS	YES	NO	Maybe	Abstain
Own a cycle	5	21		
No. of Cycles	7			
In favour of cycle storage	17	9		1
Would you Use	8	13	1	5
Would you Pay	6	11	1	8

The MC is reviewing options, but in the meantime, would encourage those who have expressed an interest and are willing to pay to make a request to Lambeth on the link below.

<https://beta.lambeth.gov.uk/streets-roads-and-transport/cycling/cycle-parking-scheme/cycle-hangars-residential-use>

Update on Gardening

A new timber planter has been sited in the empty area between the pensioner blocks and Holst Court lawn at ground level. The intention is for the planter to be used by residents to grow vegetables. Entrance into the planter area is via a new gate in the railings, the combination to the lock is held in the estate office.

The planter will be divided into areas with string; it would be advisable to put a stake in the planter to identify your area.

If you wish to use the planter please inform the estate office who will take your details (this is to monitor the extent of interest only) and will provide you with the combination for the lock. Spaces will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

The gardeners will not be watering this planter; the nearest stand pipe is next to the bin store enclosure near Kennington Road entrance.

Update on Estate parking

The Management Committee thought it would be useful to clarify the arrangements for parking in the bays outside 17-23 Mead Row (between the estate office and the security barrier by the police station)

When the estate first opened in 1975, these bays were available for tenants to rent. Unfortunately, it soon became clear that vehicles parked so close to the flats in Mead Row caused considerable nuisance to the tenants living there, due to exhaust fumes and noise. A General Meeting voted that the bays should no longer be rented out. However, it was agreed that the area could be used for short term, daytime parking by contractors, visitors on estate business and people attending funerals.

Current situation

1. The bays outside 17-23 Mead Row are available for parking between 8:00am and 5:00pm by contractors, removal and delivery vans and for funerals.
2. They can also be used by staff, Lambeth Officers and contractors on Wellington Mills business

3. The vehicles should be parked in the marked bays, and facing the properties in Mead Row
4. The security barrier is locked with a Fire Brigade Padlock. Keys are kept in the estate office and residents have to sign them out if they need them before the office opens at 9:00am or at weekends.
5. The Management Committee suggests that these arrangements (**for short stay, daytime parking only**) could be extended to include **disabled residents and visitors** to the estate (i.e. those with a 'blue badge'). This is because on-street parking spaces close to the estate are often not available and this can cause problems for those with limited mobility.
6. Please can everyone using the spaces be careful to cause as little disturbance as possible to residents in the nearby flats.

Local News

Information concerning the possible closure of **Waterloo Action Centre**

Summary of the situation:

Since 1973 Waterloo Action Centre (WAC) has stood to serve as a community hub for a wide range of services including Waterloo Legal Advice Service – the largest such volunteer-run resource in the country - benefits advice, as well as providing a host of classes, leisure, and cultural activities and, above all, a friendly and welcoming meeting place for one and all. WAC's valuable work has been recognised by the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

WAC has just had unwelcome news that Lambeth Council plans on raising rents for voluntary groups like WAC which occupy Council-owned property. This could see a rent rise to a massive £45,000 a year plus £5,000 building insurance within 4 years of the change. This would simply mean the end of WAC!

This rise represents a third of WAC's hard-earned income and would mean a sharp reduction in activities and services we provide, hitting some of our most vulnerable citizens. WAC gets no public money but is

funded by grants and renting space to users – activity groups, charities, churches – plus support from local residents, businesses and other well-wishers. There is extensive volunteer involvement in the running of WAC's regular activities.

What we would love you to do - it is very simple:

1. Go online to the WAC community defence website

<https://www.waccommunitydefence.org>

2. Leave a testimonial on the website: click on "write a testimonial" and just explain in a few words why WAC means so much to you, what you do, what you like, why it is important for WAC to continue supporting the various groups through the different activities.

3. Please contact as many people around you as possible so that they do the exact same thing. Even if they do not attend WAC, they can express how important it is for someone in their family, for the community, for the neighbourhood, etc....

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR INCREDIBLE SUPPORT!

The WAC team

Useful Contact Numbers

- Estate Office: 020 7633 0255
- Lambeth Council: 020 7926 6000
- Out-Of-Hours Repair: 020 7926 6666
- Lambeth Adult Social Care: 020 7926 5555

