



BELLS GARDENS TENANTS & RESIDENTS NEWSLETTER

ENTER OUR RAFFLE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN **£75** IN SUPERMARKET VOUCHERS



HELLO!

2020 has been a different, weird and stressful year to say the least and we hope that you have been keeping well.

Despite the pandemic stopping us from using the community hall, we've continued to put on events where it's safe to do so. These have included the **Get Fit Classes** in the park and also the **Summer Fun Day** where we were lucky enough to hear The Cavaliers steel band play and see Orvil limboing! We've also carried on applying for funding for events and improvements.

Next year, the Get Fit Classes will continue together with neighbouring Lindley Estate, whom we are also working with to put on more events for kids. We will strive to help to resolve residents' issues and push for improvements for the estate.

Thank you Orvil and George for your efforts during the summer event, all of the residents involved in the New Homes project, Paul and Bernice for your huge help with everything TRA related and everyone who got involved in the Covid Mutual Aid efforts or came along to our TRA meetings. This newsletter is dedicated to Sue and Paul who sadly passed this year. Big love.

Chris - TRA chairperson



GET INVOLVED



Our next online Zoom meeting will be on December 7th at 7pm - everyone is welcome. We also have a WhatsApp group which is a good way to keep up with whats happening (scan the QR code to join). If there is anything you would like us to help with or if you have any funding or event ideas please let us know. Our contact details are below and on our website.

BINS AND RECYCLING



We've been working with Southwark Council to try and bring improvements to the estate for the way waste and recycling is managed. It's a slow process but we'll keep at it. If you have any views on the bins from where you are we want to hear from you. Go to:

www.bellsgardens.org.uk/bins

NEW HOMES - OUR VIEW

You should have recently received a newsletter from Southwark council about the new homes. The process has been long, time-consuming and at times frustrating for the residents who have taken part. We have tried very hard to get the most out of it for the estate including fighting for green space and trees, play-space and reducing the number of units being proposed. However, we still have concerns:

1

The proposed block heights are too high

During the first drop-in event the council highlighted how the proposals would need to respect current building heights. These proposals do not do that. **The project group residents have consistently opposed a nine-storey block.**

2

There is not enough green space

Current residents are not counted in green space calculations. We believe Southwark should also do calculations that include the rest of us, as this is a shared space between existing residents and the new development.

3

The site boundary was extended without consulting residents

The extension to include the grass by Edwin House was introduced in meeting number five (out of seven) and was imposed by Southwark without a formal consultation with residents.

4

More than 30% of the homes will be private sale

At every meeting with residents, Southwark promised to build at least 70% social rent homes. They have not put forward a plan which does this.

It is not too late to have your say and we would like to hear how you feel about the proposals. Visit www.bellsgardens.org.uk/new-homes for more information

WIN UP TO £75 IN OUR END OF YEAR RAFFLE

Unfortunately it's not possible to have an end of year party this year so instead we are having a raffle. We're giving away **4 × £75 vouchers, 10 × £50 vouchers and 20 × £30 vouchers** from your choice of Asda, Marks and Spencer, Morrisons, Sainsbury's or Tesco's.

It's **free** and easy to enter - either go to www.bellsgardens.org.uk/win and fill the form in or text **07534 569436** (If you text please include your name and address and also let us know which supermarket you would like vouchers for).

Only one entry per household. The closing date is the **7th of December 2020**.

We will notify the winners soon after that. Good luck!