

## **APRIL 2018 NEWSLETTER**

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**MONDAY 16 APRIL 2018**  
**The Old Laundry**  
**Stockwell Gardens Estate**  
**20 Eastcote Road**  
**Stockwell, London SW9 9JU**  
**12.00 pm to 2.30 pm**

### ***LOCAL ELECTIONS MAY 2018 HUSTINGS***

On Thursday 3 May local elections will be taking place in London. This is an important event in local democracy. It is a chance for you to cast your vote for local councillors of the party which to your knowledge and experience has fulfilled their statutory duties to deliver the services which have enhanced your health, wellbeing, social inclusion and sense of community.

The forthcoming elections fall at a time when Austerity programmes and cuts have reduced front line services and impacted on communities badly. More cuts are due to take effect in 2019. The present funding situation is acute and urgent and costing lives. The Local Authority has consistently explained that there is no option but to implement the cuts handed down from the central government. Our view is that a Labour Council should be at the forefront of the fight against Austerity and for the creation of a local system that will work for the whole community. All Local Authorities should have sufficient resources to maintain their local services and facilities and should resist further cuts.

We have invited representatives of the Labour, Conservative, Lib Dems and Green Parties to a Hustings where you will have the opportunity to ask questions about what they plan to do if elected, to address the range of issues that affect you as residents. Come armed with your questions and make your voices heard. Our **Pensioners Manifesto** on local issues sets out our demands.

# PENSIONERS MANIFESTO

## on Local Issues

### Health Inequalities

- Identify and address the socio-economic and environmental causes of health inequalities which mitigate against healthy living, wellbeing and community involvement.
- Campaign for legislative reform that protects the rights of the vulnerable and the marginalised.

### Social Care

- End further damaging cuts to social care funding and protections that result in failure to meet the needs of older people.
- Commit to the NPC Dignity Code and imbed its principles within Council Commissioning Policy to ensure that recipients are able to live in dignity and comfort and care, workers are highly trained, properly remunerated and their working conditions protected.
- Introduce high regulatory standards in care and nursing home and ensure compliance with the Human Rights Act and an end to elder abuse.

### Housing.

- Increase the housing stock by building new accessible homes at council or truly affordable rents and which meet the Decent Homes Standards.
- Ensure that the tenants and residents are at the heart of estate regeneration and fully engaged in planning developments including design and the appointment of architects and contractors.
- Support and strengthen advice for older people who wish to downsize and adapt their homes to meet their needs.
- Protect the rights of older private renters to security of tenure, rent controls and repairs.
- Tackle homelessness amongst older people by providing a proper safety net when they fall into difficulties.

### Public services

- Recognise the importance of **community centres** and other **cultural facilities** that support the community and voluntary groups that engage with older people.
- Maintain the number of fully equipped and staffed **libraries** as centres of research, learning, recreation and general interest.
- Provide **Later Life Learning** opportunities through adult education and community centres to expand interest and capability including internet capability.
- Ensure that **pavements** are safe and accessible and increase **seating** in public spaces and that there are sufficient accessible **public toilets**.
- Improve **street lighting** in order to ensure safety and reduce fear.
- Protect the **Freedom Pass**.

### Participation

- Involve older people in any decisions regarding the funding of local services, changes and new initiatives in order that their views are known and their voices heard.

### May Day Rally. Tuesday 1 May.

Assemble on Clerkenwell Green 12 noon. March to Trafalgar Square at 13.00.  
Alternatively meet on the step of the Town Hall at 11.15 am. Leave for Clerkenwell Green 11.30 am. Meet on Trafalgar Square if you cannot do the walk.

**Please note at our AGM members voted to increase our LAMPAG subscription to £10. This can be paid in two instalments of £5 if preferred.**

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