

# Your Pollards Hill

## Local update for Pollards Hill residents

Welcome to your latest edition of Your Pollards Hill! As the days get shorter and the air turns crisp, we're bringing you the latest updates from your Neighbourhoods team on the work we're doing to make Pollards Hill a better, cleaner, and safer place to live.



Back in September, we were joined on a community walkabout by Councillor Neaverson, Mayor Martin Whelton, Councillor Joan Henry, and teams from Merton's Anti-Social Behaviour, Streets, and Enforcement services. Together, we took a close look at the challenges facing the estate — from fly tipping and abandoned vehicles to litter and waste. We're now developing targeted action plans for each Close and will be sharing these with you individually and in our next newsletter.



For now, here's a quick look at some of the improvements already underway:

### Extra bin collections



In the new year, general waste bins will be collected twice a week including a new Saturday collection. This extra round should help reduce overflows and keep communal areas cleaner. Litter picking continues every two weeks, and our caretakers and cleaning teams are out daily making sure your Closes stay in good condition.

Fly tipping continues to be an issue. This is when bulk items are left beside instead of inside a bin. We're aware that some bulky waste is dumped by non-residents, but unfortunately some is by residents.

Please help us tackle bulky waste and please report dumped waste if you see it.

### Better CCTV and improved visibility



Merton's CCTV cameras have already helped deter and identify offenders across Pollards Hill. We're exploring the addition of more cameras in partnership with the Council and police. In readiness for this, we'll be cutting back trees around the refuse bin areas.

### Tackling our estates' abandoned vehicles



Thanks to Merton's Street Environment team, several abandoned vehicles have been removed from the estate. This not only frees up parking but also improves the overall look and feel of our streets.

### New team members

You might have noticed some new faces! Jordan Adjei is now Neighbourhood Services Manager for the left side of the estate, while Angela Allen supports the right side. Lennox remains your trusted caretaker, and we've welcomed James Mpalauni as our new Neighbourhood Response Officer based right here in Pollards Hill.



### New recycling initiatives



As part of our Sustainable Merton WeRPollards project we're launching new recycling initiatives to help everyone recycle more effectively. With improved waste collection, we're also aiming to reduce contamination - so more of what you recycle gets recycled.

### Knife amnesty bin



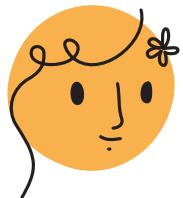
We're proud to have worked with Merton Council, the police, and community partners to install a secure knife amnesty bin at Pollards Hill Baptist Church. It provides a safe, anonymous way to surrender weapons - helping make our neighbourhood safer for everyone.

Thank you for helping to keep Pollards Hill clean, safe, and welcoming. If you've got questions, ideas, or want to get involved - just get in touch. We'd love to hear from you.

YOUR

# Wellbeing Studio.

Pollards Hill



We love celebrating the wonderful community in Pollards Hill – and we'd love for you to join in! Whether you're looking to brighten your day, grow your confidence, or meet new people, the Wellbeing Studio has something for you.

Wellbeing  
Wednesdays



**Wednesdays are full of life at the Studio!**

Here's what's on offer:

- Community drop-in | 10am – 12.30pm
- Income and benefits support | 10am – 1pm
- Arts and crafts class | 10am – 12pm
- NHS Health and Wellbeing support | 10am – 1pm
- Ready Steady Cook course | 11am – 2pm

Prefer something more active? Try our women's yoga class every Friday, 10am – 11.15am



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I remember walking in and feeling like I got a big warm hug. I still feel that way every time I come.

Jason, Pollards Hill resident

One of our Pollards Hill residents, Jason, joined the Wellbeing Studio after being referred by his GP and Wellbeing Coach after he suffered a serious head injury. Jason started coming to our Community Drop-in, and then joined our Ready, Steady, Cook, course. He says it's helped him rediscover his confidence.

Jason is now leading a community garden project behind the Studio – complete with plans for a reading corner, bug hotel, orchard, and vegetable patch.

If you'd like to get involved with this project, we'd love to hear from you!

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## Building a greener future

Residents are teaming up with Sustainable Merton to help make Pollards Hill cleaner and greener through our Recycle, Reuse, Repair project. Activities include improving outdoor spaces, hosting a repairs café, and launching a new sewing course.

Supporting these efforts is Graham, Sustainable Merton's new Project Officer for Pollards Hill. He's available at the Community Drop-in every Wednesday to chat about the project and how you can take part.



Graham, Sustainable Merton's new Project Officer for Pollards Hill.

To find out more about WeRPollards, visit Sustainable Merton's website.



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