

# Thurlow Park News



17 years on the Job - Councillors Irene Kimm, Clare Whelan and John Whelan  
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## Labour Lambeth - Taxing Until the 'Pips Squeak'

### Average Council Tax Bill Hits £1,300

Labour Lambeth, the worst performing council in London, is increasing Council Tax way above the rate of inflation. From April Labour councillors want you to pay an average of £925 for Lambeth services alone which in total adds up to a 4.75 per cent hike

The rise will take the average council tax bill to £1,299 including Mayor Livingstone's share of the plunder. John says: "Tax and spend is back at the town hall under Labour. The 4.75 per cent increase is 2.6 per cent higher than the rate of inflation and the squeeze comes when mortgage payments, gas and electric bills are all going up."

Irene adds: "Labour is taxing the poorest people in the borough until the pips squeak. The elderly, people on low incomes, and lone parents will suffer most. The increase is not justified. There is no reason for it to be so high."

For more information contact John on [john@whelan.net](mailto:john@whelan.net)

### Council House Rents Rise 7.23%

People who rent their homes from the Council will have to find a whopping 7.23 per cent extra just to pay the rent in the coming financial year. The increase has been met with fury by tenants leaders and Conservative councillors.



John, Clare and Irene - working hard for Thurlow Park

Irene says: "Tenants will, not only have to pay more in council tax but they are also being hit with the maximum rent rise allowed by the government. Yet services on our estates are getting worse and rises in garage and parking charges are also in the pipeline."

For more information contact Irene on [ikimm@lambeth.gov.uk](mailto:ikimm@lambeth.gov.uk)



Clare and Shirley - crime is the top local concern

#### Contact Shirley

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## Shirley Backs Residents Over Crime Fears

Conservative candidate for the City Hall elections in May Shirley Houghton is working closely with your councillors and local residents to highlight crime and anti-social behaviour around Brockwell Park.

Several incidents have been reported in Brockwell Gardens and Trinity Rise. Shirley says: "There are so many different sets of statistics, all aiming to prove that crime is falling, and yet every survey of public opinion shows that the fear of crime is rising, as is the case around Brockwell Park.

"Almost without fail, when I talk to local residents in Thurlow Park, the issue at the top of their list is crime and it is a very rare occasion to meet someone who has not been a victim of robbery, burglary, assault or anti-social behaviour.

"Lambeth needs more police resources and it needs to see those resources focused on the front-line fight against crime rather than the paper-chasing that the current Labour government is intent on pursuing."

**We're around all the year round not just at election time**



## Bad News and Good News At Tulse Hill Station

### Labour U-Turn Over Disabled Access to Trains

Plans to upgrade Tulse Hill Station to “step free access” for commuters, especially the disabled, have been ditched by the Labour Government. In 2006, the government announced that Tulse Hill was to be among 47 in the country to gain step free access but the funding has now been withdrawn. The move has been condemned by disability groups and your local councillors.

“Tulse Hill is a busy station where passengers often need to change trains, but many disabled people or those with heavy luggage or youngsters and buggies find it impossible to do so. Tulse Hill was one of the few stations included in the first place and it is obviously in need of improvement. The reasons for not making disabled access must be challenged to ensure they are not just an excuse to save money at the expense of our residents and train users.”



Clare Backs Step Free Access at Station

## Residents and Councillors Lead Station Clean Up



Residents and Councillors join forces for clean up day.

Around 25 residents living around Tulse Hill Station, and your three councillors, braved torrential rain to join in a community clean up at Tulse Hill Station. Anoraks and waterproofs were the order of the day as tonnes of garbage was collected into a skip or picked up by trucks supplied by Lambeth cleansing contractor Veolia. The initiative was

lead by residents from Malley Avenue and Station Rise who freely gave up their Saturday morning to take part.

Irene says: “As a result of the clean up, residents feel much happier using the station which during the summer had become a magnet for anti-social behaviour. Policing has also been stepped up and the council is ensuring that trade waste is regularly cleared. Once the weather improves a second clean up day will take place to repaint bollards and have another spring clean of the surrounding environment.”

For more information contact Clare on [clare@whelan.net](mailto:clare@whelan.net)

## Game, Set and Match Over Tennis

The charging system for tennis in Lambeth parks is likely to be dropped after a successful campaign by your ward councillors. Labour has announced it will formally review the scheme in May but it is like to be scrapped.

Last year Clare highlighted in a series of complaints to the Council that it was costing more to collect charges for tennis than the actual income. “The Conservatives also stressed the value of giving everyone easier access to tennis so as to have a fitter and more healthy community. The U-turn amounts to game, set and match for common sense,” she says.

For more information contact Clare on [clare@whelan.net](mailto:clare@whelan.net)

Help us to help you!

### What are your Priority Issues?

If there is a local issue you would like us to take up please let us know, but filling in the slip below or emailing to [john@whelan.net](mailto:john@whelan.net).

Name:  
Address:  
Tel:  
E-mail:

Return this slip (no stamp is needed) to Thurlow Park Councillors, FREEPOST, SE5180, London SE27 9BP or tel. 020 7926 2149.