

The Fitzrovia News

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Community centre hails fundraising success

The Fitzrovia Community Centre in Foley Street has thanked everyone who responded to its recent fundraising appeal with news that the target has nearly been met.

“We wanted to update you and let you know that we have almost reached our target of £12k to save the Fitzrovia Advice Service — a lifeline for some of the most vulnerable people in our community,” says Donna Yay, Community Centre director.

“Thank you so much to everyone who has donated and shared the campaign so far. Please keep going and help us reach our target!”

Crabtree Fields friends’ group seeks more volunteers for tidy-up

Volunteer group the Friends of Crabtree Fields is asking more people to join their tidy-up events at the public park this spring.

Three tidy-up events are scheduled for March and April and volunteers are requested to dress ready for hard labour.

Activities include litter picking, gardening, and watering the new plants. Tea and biscuits are on offer.

Crabtree Fields is a public open space on the corner of Colville Place and Whitfield Street, Fitzrovia. Last year it re-opened after a major refurbishment.

Email crabtreefriends@gmail.com for further information.

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GPE plans revamp of TCR commercial building

Great Portland Estates (GPE) has announced plans for the refurbishment of The Gable Building, which faces onto Alfred Place and Tottenham Court Road.

Currently the building is a mix of office and retail space, and includes an Argos shop and a Bensons for Beds store on the ground floor on the Tottenham Court Road frontage, which may have to be vacated before construction work gets underway.

GPE plan to “retain and extend the 20th-century buildings to create high-quality office and new ground floor retail”, according to a web page describing the summary proposals.

Working with architects Emrys, GPE’s plans include covering over an internal courtyard, a new rooftop external space, a new entrance on Alfred Place, and updating the shopfronts on Tottenham Court Road.

Camden to sell ground floor and basement of 24 Warren Street

Camden Council has taken a decision to sell a long-lease on commercial premises on the ground floor and basement of 24 Warren Street in Fitzrovia, to raise money for its house building programme.

According to a report on the decision the property is currently “under offer on a short lease” at £40,000 per year to a local cafe operator.

“The three upper floors are occupied under two secure residential tenancies. The property is held in the Housing Revenue Account.”

The building was constructed in the 1960s and Camden Council has owned the building as a freeholder since 1979.

Council elections 7 May

Local elections for Camden and Westminster councils will take place on Thursday 7 May.

You can register to vote if you are aged 16 or over and if you are a British citizen, a European Union citizen, or a Commonwealth citizen who has, or does not require, leave to remain in the UK.

Camden Council revokes licence of restaurant

Elysée at 13 Percy Street lost its licence to sell alcohol and provide late-night refreshments and entertainment because it was failing to promote the objectives set out in the Licensing Act 2003.

Councillors Sylvia McNamara (Labour, Kentish Town North) and Meric Apak (Labour, Kentish Town South) heard that the Metropolitan Police investigated Elysée after two victims alleged they’d been assaulted at the restaurant in November 2025. Upon inspection, officers say they discovered “serious, fundamental mismanagement”.

In the bundle of documents submitted ahead of the hearing, a police officer stated: “The Metropolitan Police strongly believe that this venue continues to pose a significant risk to the community, and in particular to women. Evidence has been obtained demonstrating repeated breaches of a number of licence conditions, despite the licensee having been advised by the licensing sub-committee during a review hearing in 2022 that this represented their final chance.”

A2Dominion apologises to residents after leaks and flooding

Registered housing provider A2Dominion has apologised to residents living in a block of flats on Mortimer Street in Fitzrovia West after multiple episodes of flooding and leaks in their homes — the latest in a series of problems they have faced.

The newest report is from a disabled couple who say they have endured water leaking into their flat since they moved there in 2015.

Photographs showed rotting timber and damaged fittings from prolonged leaks and electrical equipment shrouded in plastic sheeting to prevent it being damaged.

“The flat was flooded with water the day we moved in and we were kept in the flat sleeping in the lounge on the sofa for two months until they dried and refurbished the bedrooms,” said the couple.

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Drew Warner, chief repairs officer at A2Dominion, said: “We’d like to apologise to our customers affected by recent water leaks, customer safety is our top priority and we’re taking steps to put things right.”

Honey and Spice store to quit Warren Street

Owners of a small chain of middle-eastern delicatessens and cafes have announced their Warren Street food store is to close permanently this month.

Honey and Spice, run by Sarit Packer and Itamar Srulovich, has been at 52 Warren Street for 10 years and was the second of their shops to open.

Their original shop and cafe, named Honey and Co, opened at 25A Warren Street in 2012 but shut in 2022. With this month’s closure of Honey and Spice at number 52 it brings to a end 14 years of trading on the street.

In an email to their customers they explained that they had decided not to renew their existing lease on the shop.

“Saturday 28 March will be our last day of trading on Warren Street,” said Packer and Srulovich.

The couple’s food business started as a single shop on Warren Street in 2012 and now boasts five outlets — three in Fitzrovia and two on Lamb’s Conduit Street in Holborn.

News in brief

Pedicabs will soon be regulated and enforced effectively to prevent drivers working illegally, Transport for London has said.

Families are urged to get children vaccinated due to a recent **measles** outbreak in North London.

Lloyds Bank at 88 Tottenham Court Road is one of many branches that will close over the next year. It will close on 27 May 2026.

Camden Council is proposing changes to the carriageways and footways on **Chitty Street** and **Scala Street**, as well as part of **Whitfield Street** and **Tottenham Street**, with motor traffic restrictions and tree planting.

Plans have been submitted to Camden Council to redevelop 37 and 38 **Warren Street** which also fronts onto **Euston Road**. If given approval it will be one of many noisy construction projects either planned or underway in the street.

This edition of *The Fitzrovia News* went to press later than usual.

Planning applications

Camden Council registered 28 new planning applications in Bloomsbury ward, which includes Fitzrovia East, during February 2026. There is also one previous application being re-consulted upon.

See: planningrecords.camden.gov.uk

Westminster Council validated 36 planning applications in the Fitzrovia West area during February 2026.

See: idoxpa.westminster.gov.uk

Licensing applications

DaGe Noodle Bar, 28 Torrington Place: seeks permission for the sale of alcohol to drink on the premises from 10.30am to 10pm every day of the week.

Popeyes, 6-17 Tottenham Court Road: seeks permission for late night refreshment until 5am every day. See: camden.gov.uk/public-licensing-register

Advice for responding

Residents should check Camden and Westminster’s websites for the latest.

In Westminster residents can contact licensingadvice.org for free advice, and should also email the Fitzrovia Neighbourhood Association fna@fitzrovia.org.uk

In Camden email the Charlotte Street Association at csafitzrovia@yahoo.co.uk where you can also seek advice.

It is also a good idea to contact your ward councillors well before the closing dates with your concerns about any planning or licensing applications.

This news-sheet is produced usually four times or more a year and is available from outside Fitzrovia Community Centre, 2 Foley Street. More news, features and comment on our website: fitzrovia.com
Subscribe to our free email newsletter: fitzrovia.com/newsletter

Free housing and welfare advice for residents

The Fitzrovia Advice Service, run by Fitzrovia Community Centre, is able to help residents with private and social housing problems, housing and council tax benefits, disability benefits, Universal Credit and Job Seekers Allowance, pensions and Pension Credit, Working and Child Tax Credits, fuel poverty; and help with benefit, passport and other forms.

Advice is available to Camden and Westminster residents by telephone, email and in person, for speakers of English, Bengali, Sylheti, Urdu and Hindi. Contact 020 3984 6364; or email: advice@fitzrovia.org.uk

Cost of living support

Camden has help at camden.gov.uk/find-support-in-camden
Westminster has help at westminster.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support

Neighbourhood listings

Covid-19 vaccine information is available from Camden and Westminster councils. See Camden.gov.uk and Westminster.gov.uk

Local councillors serving Fitzrovia on the **Camden** side are: Adam Harrison, Sabrina Francis, and Rishi Madhani; telephone: 020 7974 2792. On the **Westminster** side they are: Tim Barnes, Paul Fisher, and Patrick Lilley; telephone: 020 7641 5377.

Fitzrovia Community Centre has activities available, and a community garden. fitzroviacommunitycentre.org
Visit 2 Foley Street, call 020 7580 8680.
All Souls C of E Primary School, Foley Street takes children from ages 3 to 11. See allsoulsprimary.co.uk for more.

Fitzrovia Youth in Action is a local charity for young people. See fya.org.uk or call at Basement 66-68 Warren Street or call 020 7388 7399.

Rainbow Angels Nursery Fitzrovia 54A Whitfield Street. More information at rainbowangels.co.uk

Little Raccoons Day Nursery, Holcroft Court, Carburton Street, Fitzrovia, London W1W 5AL. littleraccoons.co.uk
Age UK provides services for people over 50 years old. In Camden call 020 7239 0400 or visit ageuk.org.uk/camden; in Westminster call 020 3004 5610 or visit ageuk.org.uk/westminster

American International Church offers services including a soup kitchen for the homeless and those in need. See amchurch.co.uk, call 020 7580 2791, or visit 79A Tottenham Court Road.