

# BITS & PIECES

THE BITMO NEWSLETTER FOR BELLE ISLE TENANTS & RESIDENTS



May-June 2023

## Taking Belle Isle Circus back for the community

**The work is about to finish on the new fence around Belle Isle Circus.** This has been put up at the request of residents to prevent cars and quads churning up the grass and intimidating people walking across the Circus and those who live nearby.

If you see any criminal damage being caused to the fence please report this to the Police and give any relevant vehicle registration numbers (via 999 if the damage is happening at the time). You should not obviously endanger yourself in any way



BITMO staff have been knocking on doors and leaving survey forms to talk about your positive ideas for what can be done on Belle Isle Circus. We know residents want to reclaim the Circus as a safe space for the community. There are low cost ideas like wild flowers and shrubs that attract butterflies that can be started straightaway and we can discuss ideas and look for funding for long term improvements like better lighting or play space as well as making it easier to cross the road onto the Circus. It took a few years to get the fence and it will probably take a few years to get any improvements, but now the fence is up we need to make sure we can reclaim the Circus for the community and make plans for its future.

**Building a Safer and Stronger Community** is a key aim of BITMO. We are run by a Board of elected tenants. Resident volunteers run a variety of services from providing meals to a community garden. So many residents play a vital role looking out for neighbours, helping in schools, litter picking and volunteering in the other community centres.

If you are interested in playing a bigger part in community life in Belle Isle, please contact our Community Development Team based in BITMO's GATE. Could you be a Board member – making decisions on the running of the estate? Could you help run a volunteer activity? Or would you like to link up with neighbours to run a local fun day, community clean up or get together to pursue a hobby. BITMO can support you with training or qualifications to help you in your role.

The **BITMO housing counter** is currently open 9am-12.30pm Monday to Friday. This is due to staff shortages. We operate a full day telephone service on 0800 389 5503 or 0113 378 2188.

Emergency out of hours 0113 376 0499.  
Email [bitmo.enquiries@belleisletmo.co.uk](mailto:bitmo.enquiries@belleisletmo.co.uk)

You can phone the Rents Team directly on 0113 378 2187.

**BITMO's GATE** community centre is open:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-1pm  
Tuesday and Thursday 1pm—7pm  
and Saturday 17 June 1-4pm

For ways to report repairs you can use this QR code.



# Flytipping

There has been a noticeable increase of fly tipping across the estate, not only does this look bad but can also be very expensive either for the person doing the tipping or the person that the rubbish belongs to.

**In February this year a BITMO tenant was arrested under warrant** and brought before Leeds Magistrates Court. They were charged under section 34 for the offence of failing to ensure they had done all they could to arrange a properly authorised person to dispose of the waste from their garden. The court fined them £150 plus £34 victim surcharge and added £200 contribution to the council's prosecution costs totalling £384.

If you are spring cleaning your property, tidying up the garden or emptying the shed you must ensure that you dispose of any rubbish correctly.

Unfortunately, there are some bad people out there who are happy to take your money but do not have the correct licence to dispose of waste, and will dump it with little regard as to whether this will impact on you or not.

BITMO work very closely with Leeds City Council Environmental team, and we will pursue those who break the law in this way.

If you witness fly tipping, please contact us or the LCC Environmental team with as much information regarding the perpetrators, including descriptions of individuals, names and addresses if known and if possible, the registration numbers of any vehicles involved.

Please scan this QR code for more information on how to dispose of waste legally and recycle items



**Need help with anything online? Universal Credit, bidding for a new home, applying for jobs? Drop in to BITMO's GATE every Tuesday and Thursday 1-6pm for help, or call 07891 270094 for an appointment at other times.**

## BITMO's GATE

is the community centre in the old library near Kasa. There are a number of new events this month:

**Free toasties** 11 - 12.30 on Wednesdays. Any combination of ham, cheese, tomato, onion and beans.

**Repair Café** - bring in anything broken - from toaster and lamps to clothes or toys and our fixers will try to mend them. Saturday 20 May 1-4pm.

**Stay & Play** - bring your under-5s. Tuesdays 9 - 10.30am with the team from Windmill Children's Centre.



### Free half term activities:

**Tuesday May 30** "Nature themed arts and crafts" - leaf printing and stick people from 2 - 3.30pm. Hot meal served from 3.30 - 5.30pm

**Thursday June 1.** Free picnic from 12pm. Den building in and outside BITMO's GATE 1 - 4pm

**Friday June 2** - Belle Isle Big Breakfast 9.30am-12pm. Plant your own salad and vegetables with the community garden volunteers.

Scan this QR code for the latest updates



There will be regular free food and activities throughout the summer holidays on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

This newsletter is available in large print on request by phoning 0113 378 2188.

 @BITMO\_LS10  Belle Isle TMO

