



County Cllr Gina Dowding

Floating pontoons for Glasson basin marina

Gina wrote to the City Council planning officers expressing concerns about the possible disturbance to the bed of the basin by the proposed replacement of the existing 10 pontoons with floating pontoons.

The RSPB and Thurnham with Glasson PC both submitted responses highlighting the dangers of contamination. However Natural England, in their response about the effect on marine ecology, stated that they do not believe there will be an adverse effect.

Planners say that while piling will cause some disturbance to mud, it would not cause significant harm to the site. The deadline for comments is closed and the planning application is due to be decided imminently.

Keep a lid on it!

To help to reduce litter, you can get soft replacement recycling box covers, free of charge. Call the City Council on 01524 582 000 or email: customerservices@lancaster.gov.uk

Postal voting reminder

Anyone can apply for a postal vote. Phone the Council's elections office on 01524 582 905, or find the form online.

Glasson, Thurnham & Cockerham GREEN VIEW



April 2021

Gina for re-election to County Council

Experienced Green Party Councillor Gina Dowding is standing for re-election in the County Council elections on May 6th.

Gina's latest success at County Hall was to get cross-party support for a commitment to move Lancashire's economy away from fossil fuels by 2030. See inside for details.



Gina says: *"It is a privilege to represent the rural communities that are part of the area called Lancaster Central – and I would love to continue that role."*

Bailrigg Garden Village (or new town?)

The master-planning stage for Bailrigg Garden Village has now ended. More than 8000 new homes are planned - way above the figures quoted previously. They would be built over the next 20-25 years on the fields either side of Lancaster canal, stretching to Galgate and Conder Green. There will be a consultation on the next stage - the 'Lancaster South Area Action Plan'.

Gina says: *"If it were to proceed as planned, this 'new town' will be the biggest change to Lancaster for decades. It is important that the ideas and concerns of local people are properly respected. Green councillors have serious concerns about how the necessary infrastructure will be financed. We don't want to end up with piecemeal development."*

Gina has asked for a formal response about the implications of the associated proposed slip road from Motorway Junction 33 for traffic to and from Glasson and Cockerham villages. Visit local residents' website CLOUD and sign up for direct updates: www.cloudbgv2017.co.uk.

Slower traffic on A588

Gina is supporting both local Parish Councils' calls for further speed limits in the vicinity of Cockerham and Upper Thurnham village centre.

Highways Officers have sadly repeated that the A588 does not meet the national criteria for the introduction of further speed limits.

Gina said: *"My hope is that the 'average speed camera road safety scheme for the A588', currently in the final stages before introduction, will provide some safety benefit within the villages along the route."*

'SLOW' road markings have finally been replaced on Moss Lane – and Highways have promised an advisory 30mph sign in the easterly direction.

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Green Cllrs Gina Dowding and Tim Dant on the newly surfaced path: thanks to Aldcliffe-with-Stodday Parish Council

Path to Lune Estuary flood-free at last

Snuff Mill Lane path, which runs from the picnic area on the Lune cycle path up to Stodday and Aldcliffe Lane, has finally had its flooding problem sorted.

Gina, who was involved in initial discussions with United Utilities eight years ago, said: *“Many thanks to United Utilities for their donation, and congratulations to Aldcliffe-with-Stodday Parish Council for pushing hard to get this work completed.”*

‘Right to Food’ for all

Gina Dowding and other Green City Councillors were successful in getting cross-party support to tackle the causes of food poverty.

The call is for the Government to include a ‘Right to Food’ in its forthcoming food strategy.

Contact Gina

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(will ring you back – just say!)

Facebook: Lancaster District Green Councillors

Website:

northlancs.greenparty.org.uk

‘Bay Council’ proposal

‘The Bay’ Unitary Authority, which would include the districts of Lancaster, South Lakeland and Barrow, is now one of four proposals in a Government consultation on the creation of new councils.

It would replace the existing two-tier system with a single council responsible for providing all local government services.

For more information and to respond to the consultation online, see www.bit.ly/307EhM3

Zero Carbon County

As a result of Gina’s initiative in December, the County Cabinet agreed in March to a new climate action plan with a budget of nearly £1 million.

Gina says: *“I will continue to push for new jobs in the green economy. We need many more jobs in renewables and energy efficiency, repairing and recycling, active travel, nature recovery and food growing.”*



Green Cllr Gina Dowding in Glasson Dock with residents in March.

Glasson Dock: village changes update

Gina attended an online meeting between members of Thurnham Parish Council and the Lancaster Port Commission (LPC) in March to discuss the recent changes by LPC which have affected some residents in the village.

Gina said: *“I was pleased to be able to meet members of the Port Commission and to emphasise the importance of engaging with the local community about their plans. The Port plays a very important role in Glasson village life. Despite some clear differences of opinion about changes made to date, the meeting was respectful and I am hopeful that there will be a constructive approach in the future.”*

Issues and ideas put forward included:

- Port Commissioners attending Parish Council meetings;
- An open community meeting at which LPC presents its plans and answers questions;
- A written explanation from LPC for its earlier actions, delivered to local residents as part of a regular newsletter.

LPC members agreed to discuss these ideas with their full board, and communicate with the Parish Council as soon as this could be arranged.

Your local Green Councillor - keeping you informed all year round.