



NEW PLANNING APPLICATION FOR BOWLING GREEN SITE

A new planning application has been submitted for the bowling green next to the Bowerham Hotel. It features:

- Two retail units with parking for 22 cars and a loading bay on the site of the bowling green.

- Demolition of the barn behind the hotel, and removal of most of the stone wall which fronts on to Bowerham Road.

You can view and comment on the plan at: www.lancaster.gov.uk/planning - search for reference no. 22/00551/FUL.

An earlier application for a mix of retail units and student accommodation was refused permission, and the applicant's appeal was



Artist's impression of the proposed new retail development, viewed from the opposite side of Bowerham Road

also refused in February 2020. Many of the concerns about the previous application are also likely to apply to this one.

Green Party member Sarah Punshon, who lives in Bowerham, said:

"Like many other residents, I have concerns about safe access via Newsham Road, changing the character of Bowerham, and loss of another green space."

SCOTCH QUARRY PLAY PARK RENOVATIONS

It is looking promising for renovation of the Scotch Quarry play park in early 2023.

More than £34,000 has been raised so far, with generous support from local charities and organisations.

The current play park has been in a semi-derelict condition for many years, with nothing for younger children, in particular.

The project will involve resurfacing, replacing the equipment for younger children, providing more seating for parents, and incorporating beautiful, edible landscaping and a new wildflower meadow nearby.

If you can support the crowd-funder to raise the last £5,000 needed for this project, please make a donation at:
<https://gofund.me/5e6260b4>

ELLEL GOES GREEN!

Green candidate Sally Maddocks won the recent by-election in Ellel Ward (covering Galgate, Glasson, Cockerham, Dolphinholme), following the dismissal of a Conservative councillor for not attending Council meetings for six months.

This takes the number of Greens on Lancaster City Council to 11 (out of 60).

SALLY

40%
(+20)

LAB

30%
(-2)

CON

27%
(-15)

LD

3%
(-3)

Ellel by-election results from 19 May 2022



New Green Councillor Sally Maddocks (with her dog Harry who won his first dog agility competition in the same week!)

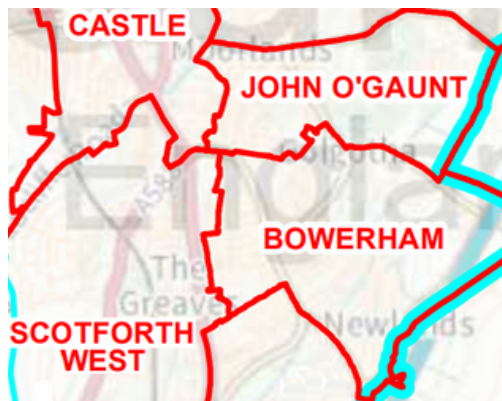
GREENS PUSH FOR ACTION ON WALKING AND CYCLE SAFETY

During the spring, Green councillors Jack Lenox and Gina Dowding took leading County officials on guided cycle safety tours of Lancaster. They highlighted dangerous spots and worn out lines on Lancaster's limited cycle network. Jack said:

“Lancaster urgently needs proper, segregated cycle lanes. Safer routes for pedestrians and cyclists will make our city a better place for everyone.”

JOHN O'GAUNT WARD CHANGES

City Council ward boundaries are set to change at the local elections next May. John O'Gaunt Ward will be one of the most affected, as it will be divided into two separate wards - Bowerham and John O'Gaunt - each to be represented by two Councillors (up from the current three in total), reflecting the increased population.



Cllr Jack Lenox taking Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner Andrew Pratt for a cycle safety tour of the city centre

IMPROVING THE PLAY AREA IN GREAVES PARK

Final plans have been drawn up for new play equipment, improved drainage and surfacing in Greaves Park. Cllr Abi Mills has secured nearly £53,000 in grants for this project, but slightly more is needed. Abi said:

"I have written to all local businesses and schools for their support. We are hoping that the new play park will be ready for everyone to use by late Autumn."



If you would like to donate, please scan the QR code or go to:

<https://friendsofgreavespark.weebly.com>



Green Cllrs Abi Mills and Paul Stubbins at the Greaves Park consultation

GREEN CANDIDATES WANTED!

Would you like to help people and the environment, represent your community and get things done?

The Green Party is seeking candidates to win seats in the May 2023 City Council elections. Being a councillor is a part-time role with a small allowance of around £3,600 per year (plus carer's and travel expenses if needed). Interested? Please contact Paul or Abi.

WEEDING UPDATE

The County Council has responded to calls by Green City Councillors to increase resources to deal with weeds in our district. A contractor was appointed in May. Sadly, calls to switch from spraying herbicide to more environmentally-friendly alternatives have been rejected due to costs. Streets across John O'Gaunt ward are scheduled to be 'treated' by mid-July.

HOPES FOR NEW HOMES TO RENT IN CANAL QUARTER

With the shortage of affordable rented homes, Green councillors are keen that sustainable housing schemes get developed as quickly as possible.

Cllr Tim Hamilton-Cox said:

"Much of the Canal Quarter land is owned by the council, so this gives us an opportunity to increase numbers of homes to rent. There is a plan being designed and costed for around 70 two-bedroom flats on one of the sites."

Tim added:

"Councillors are now able to challenge applications to convert family homes to Houses in Multiple Occupancy (HMOs), where there is already a high concentration of them. This new rule was recently used to reject an HMO application in Greaves."

HELP AVAILABLE WITH ENERGY BILLS

It is being predicted that energy costs will continue to soar as we head for winter, causing household heating bills to rise by as much as £1500 per year. Below is a summary of what financial support may be available, depending on your circumstances.

Type of financial help	Who gets it?	How much?	When?
Council tax rebate	Households in council tax bands A-D (with a few in higher bands) including those receiving council tax benefit	£150	May/June 2022 - vouchers cashable at post offices for those not paying council tax by direct debit.
Discount on energy bills	All households	£400	October 2022
Welfare Cost of Living Payment	Means-tested benefits recipients	£650	£325 in July; £325 in autumn.
Pensioner Cost of Living Payment	Pensioner households	£300	Nov/Dec. 2022 alongside winter fuel payment
Disability Cost of Living Payment	Individuals in receipt of 'extra cost' disability benefits	£150	By September 2022

Between now and the end of March 2023, hardship grants will be available via the Council - details still to be determined. If you are struggling, please see the list of support services at: www.lancaster.gov.uk/sites/community-hub/support-available.

BOWERHAM GARAGE UPDATE

Planning permission for a shop on the site was refused in December, due to concerns about the design and traffic implications. The site owner has appealed against the decision.

FESTIVAL OF THE EARTH AT THE PRIORY

Lancaster Priory is hosting a Festival of the Earth, from June 24 - July 17. A giant illuminated Gaia globe will be hung in the church. There will be lots of themed events. For more info see:

<https://lancasterpriory.org/gaia/>

GET IN TOUCH

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