



### GREENS SEEK FUNDING FOR THE AREA

## Cllr Kevin Frea is encouraging local community groups to apply for new Government funding

Cllr Frea chaired a meeting of Parish Councils and other rural organisations in January to discuss making applications to the Rural England Prosperity Fund. The Fund will support capital projects, including energy saving and renewable energy infrastructure.

Kevin said:

*"This is an opportunity for Halton-with-Aughton and Kellet to get funding for projects that can improve the lives of people in this area. Contact me if you want to know more."*

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### FIGHTING LONELINESS IN HALTON

Local campaigner Sam Pritchard runs the 'Fighting Loneliness One Village at a Time' campaign, and needs your help.

The campaign involves delivering cards to residents who may be at risk of loneliness. Since October, over 500 cards have been written, however, Sam still needs almost 100 more cards a month.

If you would like to help Sam with her campaign, please send her an email at [samanthajanehicks@gmail.com](mailto:samanthajanehicks@gmail.com) or search for 'Fighting Loneliness One Village at a Time' on Facebook.



Help Sam Pritchard with her campaign to fight loneliness in Halton

# LOCAL CO WHEELS CAR CLUB EXPANDS

## A great programme for Halton-with-Aughton and Kellet residents

A new electric car is now available for residents to hire for short periods in Preston Street, Carnforth, as well as at Dallas Road Car Park (Lancaster) and Salt Ayre Leisure Centre.

Cllr Kevin said:

*“One of the ways we can all help to reduce CO2 emissions and other air pollution is by cutting down our use of private vehicles and using sustainable modes of transport instead.*

*“For those times when a car may be needed, our partnership with Co Wheels is an excellent option, as it provides the opportunity to hire an electric vehicle for short periods of time.*

*“I hope that the vehicles will be well used so that we can purchase more vehicles for rural areas, including Halton and Kellet.”*

**For more information and to sign up, visit: [www.co-wheels.org.uk/lancaster](http://www.co-wheels.org.uk/lancaster).**

Residents can get membership for just £1, plus £40 driving credit and no monthly fees, when they join using the promotion code LANCASTER40.



**Cllr Kevin Frea supports the Co Wheels car club**

## RENEWABLE ENERGY IN HALTON-WITH-AUGHTON

### Cllr Kevin speaks about the Parish on the BBC

Kevin appeared on the 'Rural Power' episode of BBC's Countryfile to talk about renewable energy in Halton-with-Aughton.

Halton has a long history of innovative, community led, sustainable energy projects, starting in 2009 when solar and thermal panels were installed at the Centre, along with a ground source heat pump. Since then there have been more solar panels installed on Wenning House, construction of the Halton Lune Hydro, and creation of Forgebank Cohousing. Green Councillors have been at the forefront of these projects and will continue to lead similarly sustainable projects.



**Cllr Kevin speaking about Halton-with-Aughton on Countryfile**

# GREENS CALL FOR WATER TO BE PUT BACK IN PUBLIC HANDS

## Privatised water: a 'scandal that needs to end'

Thousands of local residents had their water cut off just before Christmas, after icy weather damaged the water supply network. Morecambe & Lunesdale's Green Parliamentary Candidate, Cllr Gina Dowding, said:

*"Huge thanks to staff from the City Council and United Utilities who worked hard to support everyone during the loss of supply.*

*"While this was caused mainly by the cold weather, it was not helped by chronic under-investment in the water supply network since privatisation in 1989. It's a scandal that needs to end."*

### Eye-watering figures:

- 3 billion litres of water are wasted every day in England and Wales, due to leaks.
- The annual pay package for the boss of United Utilities is reported to be £3.2 million.
- Privatised water companies paid £57 billion in dividends to share-holders over 30 years.



**Green Parliamentary Candidate Gina Dowding:**  
*"Privatised water companies waste a lot of our money and water."*

## CITY COUNCIL BUDGET PRESSURES

### High inflation forces difficult decisions

Lancaster City Council is facing very significant financial pressure, mainly because Government funding has not increased in line with big hikes in energy, fuel and wage costs. The funding increase from Government for the next year amounts to less than 1.5% of the budget, whereas general inflation is more than 10%.

Green cabinet member Cllr Tim Hamilton-Cox said:

*"Cabinet members are working together to identify savings which have the 'least worst' impact on services. The Council cannot rely on increasing income to fill the gap.*

*"Some services will inevitably have to be reduced, but we are prioritising maintaining things like street cleaning, parks and green spaces, support for the poorest and most vulnerable people, and delivery of new - especially affordable - housing.*

*"Greens have successfully pushed the Council to invest in energy-saving and generating its own renewable energy. Without this, the Council's budget gap would be much worse."*



**Green Cllr Tim Hamilton-Cox speaking at a Council meeting**

# AMAZON EXHIBITION AT HALTON MILL

## Cllr Kevin contributes to exhibition about rainforest defenders

'For Dom, Bruno & the Amazon' is an exhibition that honours Dom Phillips and Bruno Pereira and others who have lost their lives defending the rainforest. It will return to Halton in February at St. Wilfrid's School.

Dom and Bruno were murdered in June while they were in the Brazilian Amazon researching sustainable solutions for a book Dom was writing. Dom's sister, Siân Phillips, ran a choir at Halton Mill for many years and has performed there with her band.



Kevin with with the President of the Black Environment Network, Judy Ling Wong CBE, who visited the exhibition

Kevin met Dom in 2021 when he visited

Halton, and Dom participated in a salmon and trout monitoring session at Halton Lune Hydro. Kevin researched one of the exhibition panels, 'Good Mines are hard to find', outlining how nearly all of the world's mines score badly on environmental, social and governance criteria.

For more information visit: [www.haltonmill.org.uk/dombruno](http://www.haltonmill.org.uk/dombruno)

## CAN YOU VOLUNTEER FOR THE GREEN PARTY?

### Extra help is needed as ward size increases

There will be a Lancaster City Council Election on 4 May 4 2023. Boundary changes mean that Halton-with-Aughton and Kellet Wards will be joined together, so two councillors will be elected to represent the single ward. Currently the two separate wards are represented by Cllr Kevin Frea (Green) and Cllr Stuart Morris (Conservative). We need volunteers to help with distributing leaflets and canvassing. Contact Jamie on [jamie.payne@greenparty.org.uk](mailto:jamie.payne@greenparty.org.uk) if you'd like to help, with the aim of getting two Green councillors elected in May!

GET IN TOUCH

Cllr Kevin Frea

Green Party

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To receive our local fortnightly email newsletter, sign up at: [tinyurl.com/nlgp-signup](http://tinyurl.com/nlgp-signup)

Can you help to deliver Green Views in your area? Do you need help with a local issue?

Please contact us!