

GREEN VIEW

HALTON-WITH-AUGHTON & KELLET WARD

No. 2 - Summer 2023



Councillor
Sarah
McGowan



Councillor
James
Sommerville

THANK YOU!

Sarah and James got elected

Sarah McGowan and James Sommerville are your new Lancaster City Councillors, having been elected in May.

Cllr Sarah said "We are delighted that so many residents took the time to vote, and put their faith in us to work hard for them over the next four years. We will do our best to represent the whole ward, which stretches from Halton to Arkholme."



Cllr James Sommerville said:
"Sarah and I are excited to represent this area, and would like to thank everyone who voted for us."

Votes for Sarah & James: 48%

Conservatives: 37%

Labour: 10%

Lib Dem: 5%

Turn-out = 40%

James and Sarah have already got stuck-in by attending City and Parish Council meetings and speaking with residents.

Sarah now also represents the Council on the Crook O'Lune Advisory Committee and the Lancaster Canal Regeneration Partnership.

MILLFEST 2023

Saturday 16 September

Halton Mill, LA2 6ND

Live music, street food, family activities, performances, craft beer and loads more!

Free (daytime) / £10 (eve)

www.haltonmill.org.uk

SOUTH LANCASTER PLANS SCRAPPED!

Funding for building new roads as part of the South Lancaster project has been returned to Government by the Conservative-led County Council in the face of escalating construction costs.

This puts an end to the controversial plan to build more than 9,000 new houses on the countryside between Lancaster and Galgate.

Cllr Gina Dowding said: *"This is great news. The South Lancaster project was a big financial risk to both the City and County Councils, because it relied on unrealistically large contributions of cash from developers.*

"But just as importantly, it would have had a terrible impact on the local environment and efforts to combat climate change."

"The project had been supported by Labour and most Conservative and Independent councillors, despite well-founded arguments from Green councillors, who did not vote for it."

SCANDAL OF SEWAGE IN THE LUNE

Time to renationalise the water industry

In 2022, raw sewage was discharged into the Lune (including via the Keer and Wenning rivers) 904 times - the highest number for all rivers across Lancashire.

Cllr Sarah McGowan said: *"For decades, billions of pounds that should have been invested in improved infrastructure has been pocketed by water company executives and shareholders.*

"The Green Party believes that shareholder payouts should be halted immediately, and the water industry brought back into public ownership at the earliest possible opportunity, in order to tackle leaks, stop sewage discharges and cut customers' bills."



UPDATE ON STREET WEEDS

Morecambe Town Council gets contract

Lancashire County Council has contracted Morecambe Town Council (MTC) to tackle street weeds across the Lancaster District for the next five years.

Cllr Gina Dowding said: *"It is good to see their staff using electric quad bikes to get around, and responding more quickly to bad spots. However, it is disappointing that glyphosate herbicide is still being used, despite increasing environmental concerns. I will continue to press the County to insist on alternative methods."*

For any queries about the cyclical weed spraying, contact MTC via clerk@morecambe.gov.uk

HOW TO MEET LOCAL HOUSING NEEDS

Green candidate for MP, Cllr Gina Dowding, calls for immediate review of the Local Plan

Following the cancellation of the planned South Lancaster roads and new town, Cllr Gina Dowding said:

"We need to review where well-designed housing can be built without massive new road schemes. The local and national shortage of affordable housing is caused by a reliance on private housing developers who prioritise making bigger profit over meeting local needs."

"Driven by the Greens, around 200 affordable homes are now planned for parts of the city centre Canal Quarter site, and over 130 on the former Skerton School site. The Council is also identifying smaller infill sites which could be suitable for building new homes."



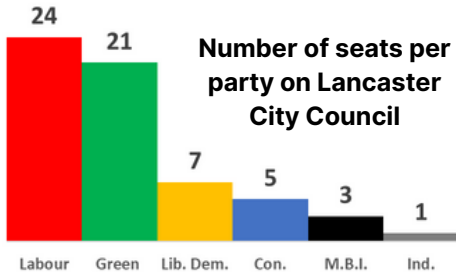
Green MP candidate for Morecambe & Lunesdale, Cllr Gina Dowding

GREENS, LABOUR & LIB DEMS RUN CITY COUNCIL

Greens win 21 (out of 61) Council seats



The new group of 21 Green City Councillors at their first Full Council meeting in May



In May's City Council elections, the Green Party won 21 out of 61 seats (up from 10 in 2019).

No party won a majority of seats, so Labour, Greens and Lib Dems have agreed to form a shared administration. It is led by a Labour councillor, with Green Cllr Caroline Jackson as Deputy Leader.

Greens have 4 of the 10 cabinet places, including the portfolios for 'Climate Action', 'Housing and Homelessness', 'Finance', and 'Regeneration, Skills and Digital Innovation'. The Green group is more diverse than ever, with a majority of women, and 3 new councillors under the age of 24.

NEWS IN BRIEF

CHEAP BUS FARES

The £2 price cap on single bus fares has been extended until 31 October.

DISABILITY GRANTS

The City Council has grants available to help adapt kitchens, bathrooms, stairs and heating systems. For more info contact 01524 582 610 or email hiaenquiries@lancaster.gov.uk

RECOGNITION FOR HALTON

Halton village was crowned as 'Highly Commended' in the recent Eden Project 'Coronation Communities' awards - only 10 communities received this out of the 500 that entered. Many congratulations to all involved!

NETHER KELLET CARE HOME

An application for a residential care home for young people in Nether Kellet has been made. James has been working with County Councillor Phillippa Williamson to keep residents updated. You can find out more at: www.lancaster.gov.uk/planning/view-applications-and-decisions - search for 23/00579/CU.



NEW BAKERY IN HALTON?

Filbert's bakery is hoping to open a shop on Mill Lane, next door to Halton Mill, and to offer local deliveries by e-bike.

The Halton bakery will also produce bread for wholesale and for the main Filbert's shop in Lancaster.

They are applying for 'change of use' planning permission, which will need to show how extra traffic will be mitigated.

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