

GREEN VIEW

MARSH WARD

Summer 2023, No. 97



City Cllr
Mandy Bannon



City Cllr
Nick Wilkinson



City & County
Cllr Gina
Dowding

SOUTH LANCASTER PLANS SCRAPPED

County Council cancels plans for roads and new town

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 over 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 huge 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 pushed through at the City Council level in 2021 by Labour and some Conservatives and Independent councillors, despite well-founded arguments from Green councillors, who did not vote for it."

THANK YOU FOR VOTING GREEN!

Greens win Marsh ward with huge majority of votes

Cllr Mandy Bannon said: *"Thank you to everyone who voted, and especially to all who supported the Greens. We will continue to work hard on behalf of all residents."*

Votes for Greens in Marsh Ward: 69%

Labour 23%

Conservative 6%

Lib. Dem. 2%



Green Cllrs Nick Wilkinson,
Mandy Bannon & Gina Dowding
were (re)elected in May.

WHAT NEXT FOR FREEMAN'S WOOD?



Friends of Freeman's Wood celebrate the community buy-out success

The Friends of Freeman's Wood (FFW) completed the purchase of the wood in April, having set up a new charity to own and manage the land for the benefit of local people and wildlife. Cllr Mandy Bannon is a trustee of FFW. She said: "Come and celebrate, and have your say on plans to improve access to the woods, on **Saturday 22nd July, 12-3 pm on Coronation Field**. Everyone welcome. Refreshments will be available to buy, as a fundraiser for FFW."

GRAFFITI ON RAILWAY BRIDGE REMOVED

Network Rail has responded to calls by Green Councillors to remove homophobic graffiti on the pedestrian bridge over the railway.

Discussions are underway about how to keep the bridge in better shape with community support in the future.



Marsh Cllr Nick Wilkinson on the recently painted bridge

UPDATE ON STREET WEEDS

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 - such as Cedar Road and Willow Lane just recently. 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

CEDAR ROAD PLAY AREA TIDIED UP

City Council officers responded quickly to Cllr Mandy Bannon's reports of fly tipping and overgrowth along the railings on the play area between Willow Lane and Cedar Road.



HOW TO MEET LOCAL HOUSING NEEDS

Green general election candidate, Cllr Jack Lenox, calls for immediate review of Local Plan

Following the cancellation of the planned South Lancaster road and new town, Cllr Jack Lenox said: *"We need to review where well-designed housing can be built, without massive new road schemes or unacceptable impacts. The local and national shortage of affordable housing is caused by a reliance on private housing developers who prioritise making bigger profits over meeting local needs.*



Green candidate for MP, Cllr Jack Lenox

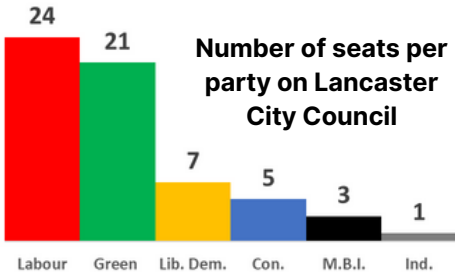
"Driven by the Greens, around 200 affordable homes are now planned for parts of the Lancaster centre's Canal Quarter site; and over 130 on the former Skerton School site. The Council is also identifying smaller infill sites which could be suitable for building new homes."

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 Gina (Climate Action) and Nick (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

FUNDING SUCCESS AT MEMORIAL VILLAGE

Westfield Memorial Village Community Centre has received funding towards the cost of laptops and exercise equipment from the County's Champion for Armed Forces and Veterans. Cllr Gina Dowding put the community in touch with the funder.

QUERIES OVER LAND ON NEW QUAY ROAD

Despite confusing land-owner notices on land on the river side of New Quay Road (near Fife Street), the developers are currently still pursuing the planning application for housing on the site. No date for the decision is known.

STATION ROAD LINES RE-PAINTED

The lines on the corner of Station Road and Westbourne Road were re-painted following reports by Greens.



JOY AT FUNDING FOR PLAY AREA

Sycamore Grove Play Area has received a £28,000 grant from Lancashire Environment Fund, which Cllr Mandy Bannon helped the Friends of Marsh to apply for. The City Council has a backlog of play areas to install. Work on Sycamore Grove is scheduled to start in early 2024.

DRY FEET AT LAST

After years of requests by Cllr Gina Dowding, the County Highways have at last levelled the Willow Lane school crossing area, to resolve the puddling problem.



SIGN UP FOR OUR EMAIL NEWSLETTER

For news from your 21 Green councillors, local Green events, campaigns and more ...



Scan the QR code to sign up



Or sign up at: tinyurl.com/nlgp-signup



Green Party

Cllr Mandy Bannon

Cllr Nick Wilkinson

Cllr Gina Dowding

mbannon@lancaster.gov.uk

nwilkinson@lancaster.gov.uk

gina.dowding@lancashire.gov.uk

07813 334018

07568 543676

07838 793674

[NORTHLANCS.GREENPARTY.ORG.UK](https://northlancs.greenparty.org.uk)

Do you like receiving our regular newsletters? Can you help to deliver them in your area? Do you need help with a local issue? Please contact us!

Printed on FSC-certified paper by Leafletfrog Ltd, Units 38-39 Britannia Way, Bolton BL2 2HH.

Promoted on behalf of North Lancs Green Party by Anne Chapman, c/o 12A Derwent Road, Lancaster LA1 3ES.