

GREEN VIEW

SCOTFORTH WEST

Summer 2023, No. 94



City Cllr
Abi Mills



City Cllr
Tim
Hamilton-Cox



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 Scotforth West with huge majority of votes

Cllr Abi Mills said: *"Thank you to all those who voted, and especially those who supported me and Tim in the City Council elections. Along with County Cllr Gina Dowding, we look forward to continuing to work hard for all local residents."*



Abi and Tim celebrate their election success in May

Votes for Greens in Scotforth West ward: 64%

Labour: 23%

Cons: 11%

Lib Dem: 2%

The turn-out in Scotforth West was 43% - the 3rd highest across 27 wards.

GREAVES PARK - NEW PLAY AREA NOW OPEN



Abi and Tim at the opening event for the new play area in Greaves Park, June 2023

Cllr Abi Mills co-ordinated the new play area project

Abi said: "The launch event was buzzing, with children enjoying the new, inclusive play equipment, and the games and face-painting. A huge thank you to the funders, and to the City Council for their contribution to the project. Since the opening it has been good to see so many children enjoying the park!"

STREET WEEDS UPDATE

County contracts Morecambe Town Council (MTC) to tackle street weeds across District.

Gina 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

NEW HOMES IN ALDCLIFFE?

Cllr Tim has 'called in' the planning application, off Aldcliffe Hall Lane.

This means it will be decided by a committee of councillors, not by Council staff. In 2015 a planning inspector turned down this site for housing due to landscape impact.

HOMES BY CANAL REFUSED

Councillors unanimously voted against 70 homes at Canal Bank Stables, behind Ashford Ave.

County Cllr Gina Dowding spoke at the planning meeting, alongside five others.

The application was refused due to designation of the site in the Local Plan as 'Urban Setting Landscape', and highways issues.

ROYAL ALBERT FIELDS

Abi and Tim are working to prevent a repeat of the incursion onto the Royal Albert playing field.

Tim said: "I'm aware of the distress many residents experienced last month. The Council has to do everything possible to avoid vehicles being able to access the field again.

"Thank you to those residents who tidied up the field immediately after the caravans left."

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

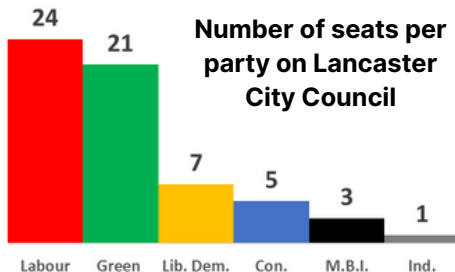
"Driven by the Greens, around 200 affordable homes are now planned for parts of the city centre Canal Quarter site; and over 130 on the former Skerton School site. The Council is also identifying smaller infill sites which could be suitable for building new homes."

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, led by a Labour councillor with Green Cllr Caroline Jackson as Deputy Leader.

Greens have 4 of 10 cabinet places, including Tim Hamilton-Cox (Finance) and Gina Dowding (Climate Action). The new Green group is more diverse than ever with a majority of women, and 3 councillors under the age of 24.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Recent Green Councillors' successes:

- ✓ Zebra crossing lines have been refreshed on Ashton Road.
- ✓ County Highways have agreed to install dropped kerbs and H bars on corner of Brunton and Binyon Roads.
- ✓ Pot holes fixed on Rays Drive and various other spots.
- ✓ An application for a 16m telecoms mast near Hibbert Terrace has been refused by a planning inspector.
- ✓ No Cycling signs to be put up at each entrance to the snicket between Bridge Rd and Princess Ave.
- ✓ Cllr Abi elected as Council's Disability Champion! Abi said:

"I am passionate about advocating for people with disabilities. I hope to do even more in my new role."

- ✓ County Highways have repainted road markings at all of the junctions on Heaton Road (pictured).



THANKS FOR GREEN SPACE MAKE-OVER



Cllr Tim thanks volunteers for work on community garden on Ashton Rd

Following the transformation by local residents of the area off Ashton Road south of the Barn, Cllr Tim Hamilton-Cox said: *"Huge credit, and thanks, to the local residents on Ashton Road for creating a really wonderful community green space!"*

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



Cllr Abi Mills

Cllr Tim Hamilton-Cox

Cllr Gina Dowding

amills@lancaster.gov.uk

thamilton-cox@lancaster.gov.uk

gina.dowding@lancashire.gov.uk

01524 389069

07894 587927

07838 793674

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.