

GREEN VIEW

SCOTFORTH WEST WARD



City Cllrs Tim Dant, Abi Mills, Joanna Young, and County Cllr Gina Dowding

GREAVES PARK NEW PLAY AREA OPEN SOON

Cllr Abi Mills raised over £60,000, with the Friends of Greaves Park, to fund the new, accessible play equipment which is currently being installed.

Abi, who works part-time as a childminder, said: *"We can't wait for the park to be open again, and have been keeping an eye on the progress."*

"I am grateful to County Councillors, the community and other funders who have contributed."

More details about the play park and its funders can be found at: <https://friendsofgreavespark.weebly.com/>



Cllr Abi Mills visiting Greaves Park to see the play park revamp that she raised the funding for

NEW PICNIC TABLES FOR STODDAY

Two new picnic tables and new surfacing have been installed, with a plaque commemorating Queen Elizabeth II, at Stodday picnic area on the Lune Estuary path. Cllr Tim Dant said:

"This is the result of collaboration between Aldcliffe with Stodday Parish Council (who led the project), Lancaster City Council (who did the works), and Lancashire County Council and Lancaster University's Wind Turbine Fund (who both part funded it). A couple of benches will be installed soon."

£2 BUS FARES TIL END OF MARCH

Cllr Abi Mills, Vice Chair of the Lancaster District Bus User Group, said: *"The Government is encouraging more people to use buses by capping single bus fares at £2 for everyone until the end of March this year. It's a great incentive, and we really hope it will be extended."* See lancsbus.blogspot.com for more information.



STUDENT HOUSING - TEST CASE WON BY COUNCIL

The owner of a Greaves terraced house has had his application to convert it to a student let refused by a planning inspector. In 2021, after years of lobbying by Green Councillors, the Council adopted a policy to restrict the number of student 'Houses in Multiple Occupancy' (HMO's) in a neighbourhood. New conversions will be refused if more than 10% of properties are already let to students. Cllr Abi said:

"In this case the owner appealed against the Council's decision but was unsuccessful. The aim of keeping family homes and a mixed community, has been upheld."

LOWER GREAVES PARKING UPDATE

After a request from Green Cllrs, County Highways have said they will paint H-bars on the corners with dropped kerbs to prevent dangerous parking. Cllr Abi said:

"We welcome this action, but would like more to be done to make road crossing and pavements safe for pedestrians. We have invited the new County Cabinet member responsible for Highways to come and see the situation, and we have also requested that the traffic wardens come to this area more frequently."

ALDCLIFFE PATH DIVERSION

Aldcliffe Hall Drive, leading from the canal to Aldcliffe, has been designated as a Public Right of Way since 2018.

Now a diversion has been proposed by the owner of the renovated East Lodge. The new route would involve removing trees and shrubs.

Cllr Tim Dant said:

"It is good to see East Lodge at last being renovated. However, Aldcliffe with Stodday Parish Council and Green Councillors have objected to the trees being removed and to the diversion away from the direct route that has been used by Lancastrians for sixty years."



East Lodge under renovation, and the entrance to Aldcliffe Hall Drive. Cllr Tim Dant said:

"The proposed diversion of the path will harm the remaining trees and shrubs, and is quite simply unnecessary."

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. Lancaster's Green parliamentary candidate, Cllr Jack Lenox, said:

"Huge thanks to staff from the City Council and United Utilities who worked hard to support residents and businesses 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 Cllr Jack Lenox:
"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

NEWS IN BRIEF

DORRINGTON WOODS

The Friends of Dorrington Woods and Play Park are holding the next work sessions on Sunday 5th Feb and Sunday 5th March at 1 - 3pm. For more info and/or to confirm you will be coming please email fodwpp@gmail.com

WARM HUB AT LANCASTER METHODIST CHURCH

Lancaster Methodist Church (LMC) is offering a Warm Hub every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9am - 12 noon, with FREE porridge, toast and hot drinks - plus board games and wifi access. On Wednesdays there is soup at lunchtime. All welcome!

LMC is also the venue for South Lancaster Community Emergency Centre, which will be open in the event of a local emergency - e.g. flooding, prolonged power cuts.

FLY-TIPPING

In November, Cllr Joanna Young chaired a public meeting in Morecambe about fly-tipping. Joanna is the Chair of the Council's recycling group which looks at issues to do with waste, recycling and fly-tipping. To report fly-tipping, email: publicrealm@lancaster.gov.uk



Green Cllr Abi Mills at a work session in Dorrington Wood

COMMUNITY TIDY-UP

Sunday 12th February

**Meet at 11 am on the corner of
Hastings & Heaton Roads**

All welcome

Equipment provided

Contact:

enquiries@northlancs.greenparty.org.uk

GET IN TOUCH

Green Party

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