

News in brief

Dropped kerb to be installed at Keswick Road bus stop

County has agreed to do the work in response to a plea that Tim conveyed earlier in the year. A Ridge resident was struggling to access the bus service with her husband in a wheelchair.

Quernmore Park play area enforcement action

Tim writes: "I found that Barratt Homes should in fact have delivered the play area by February 2019. I asked officers to pursue the matter and the City Council has commenced legal action."

Williamson Park "dogs on leads" consultation

City council officers are still considering the responses. No changes to the current rules are intended in the near future.

Residents' parking changes in place

The County Council pressed ahead with changes to residents' parking permits, despite a large number of objections from residents and Green councillors. Any 30-visit cards already issued remain valid until they are used up, after which residents will need to buy a £25 annual visitor permit. Carers' permits are no longer available.

Canal Quarter consultation coming soon – sign up at:

<https://www.lancaster.gov.uk/the-council-and-democracy/have-your-say>

How to contact us / keep in touch

Cllr Tim Hamilton-Cox 07894 587927 thamiltoncox@lancaster.gov.uk

Cllr Caroline Jackson 07958 434549 cjackson@lancaster.gov.uk

Cllr Lucie Carrington lcarrington@lancaster.gov.uk

Bulk Ward Drop-In - now at the Gregson 2nd Tuesday of each month, 3.00-4.30pm in the bar. Please get in touch about any local issue, or if you can help deliver our newsletters.

Facebook: **Lancaster Green Councillors**

Website: **northlancs.greenparty.org.uk**



Council's Climate Action Plan Published

Lancaster City Council has published the first stage of its Climate Emergency Action Plan, aiming to reduce its own carbon emissions to net zero by 2030. Actions include building solar farms at Salt Ayre leisure centre and tip, electrifying the Council's vehicle fleet, and moving away from gas for heating buildings. There is also a plan to set up a 'Citizens' Jury' on this topic in early 2020.



Cllr Caroline Jackson
Green MP candidate for
Lancaster & Fleetwood

Caroline for Parliament

Caroline Jackson will be your Green Party candidate in the General Election.

Caroline has lived in the Lancaster area for 25 years. During that time, she has worked as a teacher and head-teacher, a charity volunteer, an environmental campaigner and an elected City Councillor.

She said: "As your Green MP I will fight to protect our livelihoods and our environment from economic uncertainty and climate change."



Uni says now more than enough student accommodation in city centre

Lancaster University made the statement in commenting on a planning application for a new block of student rooms at 106 St. Leonardgate (what is currently a private car park). The University wrote that, '...we feel the market is currently at saturation point for the current academic growth on campus.'

Tim comments: *"There is around a thousand more rooms under construction with more planning applications coming in for conversion of buildings and houses to student accommodation. I have asked officers if the council can take note of this statement to inform decisions on future planning applications around the city centre."*

Caton Court student blocks beset by problems

Aparto, the developer of the Bulk Rd student village – now known as Caton Court, moved students in before work was finished or properly commissioned. Aparto's managing director has agreed compensation packages for students and said that, *"We are addressing the issues with the seriousness deserved."*

Students' union announces closure of Sugar House night club – then student outcry leads to review

Lancaster University Students' Union has reportedly suspended talks with a developer over the possible sale and redevelopment of the site.

More plastics can go for recycling

Plastic pots, tubs and trays – and any other hard plastic with a 1, 2 or 5 symbol (see left) – can now go in to your recycling box. Items need to be clean with any plastic film removed. Green Cllr Dave Brookes, cabinet member for Environmental Services said: *"Whilst it is still better to avoid single-use plastics packaging wherever possible, at least more is now recyclable."*



These three types of plastic that can now go in your recycling box

Caroline leading on housing and homelessness

Since June, Caroline has been the City Council's cabinet member with responsibility for council housing, homelessness and refugees. Top priorities are to reduce rough sleeping and create more affordable housing.

Caroline has been working with Council staff, local organisations and charities to support and re-house rough sleepers in Morecambe and Lancaster. A new Homelessness Strategy will be launched in early 2020.

The Council is also planning to build new homes. Caroline said: *"We know that local residents need affordable homes of all types and sizes that are easy to keep warm. We are now surveying the sites we own, including the Canal Quarter, and will consult residents about plans next year."*

News from your Green MEP

The end of October saw the launch of North West MEP Gina Dowding's report on 'The Green New Deal in the North West.' This lays out a transition to a low-carbon economy, creating thousands of jobs in green industries, warm home renovations, public transport and renewable energy. You can read the report and other news on Gina's website at:

www.ginadowding.org.uk



Green Cllrs Mandy Bannon, Caroline Jackson and Dave Brookes planting bulbs in Storey Gardens last month

No.18 bus service – use it or risk losing it?

Stagecoach has reported that passenger numbers had increased by more than a third in the 5 months up to September compared to the same period in 2018. Cllr Lucie Carrington said: *"But so far as we understand, the service is not yet breaking even and the subsidy is due to run only to the end of March 2020. We'd love to see the service retained so please think about using it, or using it a bit more, if you can. The council is looking to promote visits to Williamson Park via the 18 bus."*