



De Vitre Community Gardens is a Friends group, who are developing an orchard and garden open to the public on land next to De Vitre House on Ashton Road. Since the group was formed last year, 50 fruit trees have been planted and the area has been seeded with grass and wildflowers. Volunteers have installed an entrance arch, fence and benches and most recently the pergola pictured above. Green Cllr Tim Dant said *“Future sessions will be on the 10th and 21st August from 9.30am. Oh, and put the 14th September in your diary; it will be Apple Day at De Vitre!”*

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This much-loved green space on the Marsh is under threat of development for 250 houses, but the local community is trying to get it designated as a ‘Town Green’ to keep it for wildlife and recreation. A public inquiry will be held in Lancaster Town Hall on 27th – 30th August. The Friends of Freeman’s Wood are fundraising to hire a barrister to help them win the case. For more info about their campaign, events and how you can help, see www.freemanswood.com or call Jon Barry on 01524 844 113.

Uniform Project launched
 Families who need school uniform can now get it from the Morecambe Bay Foodbank shop on Euston Road, Morecambe. The project welcomes donations of school uniform in good condition, for all ages from 4-16. If you would like to donate, there is a donation bin at Lancaster Town Hall. Green Cllr Joanna Young, Chair of Morecambe Bay Foodbank said: *“The Uniform Project will help local families and keep clothing out of landfill.”* Find out more via the Foodbank’s Facebook page or at: www.morecambebay.foodbank.org.uk

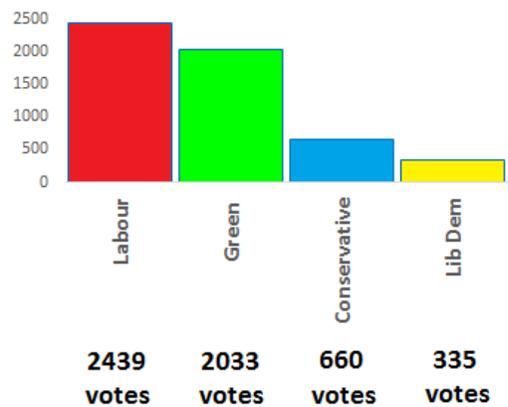
News and Views from the Green Party in John O’Gaunt

Green support grows in JoG

Greens secured a strong second place in John O’Gaunt at the local elections in May. Although we didn’t win seats this time, we are delighted to see our share of the vote in this ward increase to 37%. JoG ward contact Paul Stubbins, was very pleased to be elected as a Green City Councillor in Castle Ward. He moved into town earlier this year, after living in Bowerham for over 20 years. Paul said *“It takes time to build up support and trust for a party,*

but it is clear locally, as well as nationally, that people are finding that the Greens work hardest to represent them and are pressing for change in the areas most important to people, like protecting our environment. We thank our three candidates Ceri Turner, Marianne Waine and Rebecca Whittle for standing, and everybody who voted for them, and we will continue to work hard keeping you informed through the Green View and campaigning on local issues.”

Total votes cast in John O’Gaunt at the City Council elections in May



Green City Cllr Paul Stubbins

Lancaster receives a Bronze SFC Award



FoodFutures, Lancaster's Sustainable Food City (SFC) initiative, received a Bronze Award at SFC's national gathering in Newcastle in June. The Sustainable Food Cities Award celebrates the success of those places taking a joined up, holistic approach to food and that are achieving significant positive change on a range of key food issues.

Everyone can support FoodFutures; from buying more local seasonal produce and volunteering at a local community food initiative to starting a sustainable food business, attending FoodFutures working groups, feeding into the council's climate strategy or hosting a sustainable food event and skill share. For more information contact Anna Clayton at food@lessuk.org

Improving recycling for flats

Cllr Paul Stubbins has arranged for recycling bins to replace general waste bins for a block of flats in town and is looking to ensure that everybody has suitable facilities for recycling. In 2017, 45.7% of household waste was recycled in the UK, with a target of 50% of household waste by 2020. Much more than 50% could be achieved if we recycled all of the items that we can, including taking our Tetra Paks (juice cartons) to the recycling site at Auction Mart car park near Kwik Fit. If you would like Paul to review the recycling provision where you live, please contact him using the details on the back of this newsletter.



Gina's our Eurostar!

County and City Councillor Gina Dowding has been elected as the North West's first Green MEP, with 12.5% of the vote overall across Lancashire, Cheshire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Cumbria. Within the Lancaster District she won 20.5% of the vote.

Gina says: "I will continue my councillor roles until the UK's future relationship with the EU is clear. As an MEP, I have staff to help me both in Brussels and here in the NW region. Locally, the Green Party and I will continue to work hard for Lancaster Central and the Lancaster District."

Consultation on dogs on leads in Williamson Park

The City Council is consulting on whether dogs should be kept on leads in all, or parts of, Williamson Park. There has been much comment on local social media, with many people feeling strongly about being able to keep their dogs off a lead. Former Green Cllr Jon Barry commented "Definitely it should be dogs off leads in Fenham Carr. If you are not a dog owner, it will be difficult to understand how important this issue is for dog owners (and dogs). Walking dogs off a lead there is a large part of many people's lives."

To take part, visit Lancaster.gov.uk/park-consultation before September 2nd.

Scotch Quarry's new Bee Bank!



The Scotch Quarry Park team have installed a bee bank to provide a home for ground nesting bees, and the wildflower meadow has been developing really well. The seating area, created with the help of local artist Janette Ireland, is also looking great.

The Village Green group has met every six weeks since last autumn to build community and celebrate the seasons in connection with nature. Public events coming up include carving and willow weaving. For more information visit Facebook: Scotch Quarry Park and Scotch Quarry Village Green

Green Councillors join a co-operative alliance

Greens, Labour and Liberal Democrats have agreed to work in partnership to run the City Council. Green Cllrs Tim Hamilton-Cox, Caroline Jackson and Dave Brookes will be working with the seven Labour cabinet members to ensure that the Council delivers on the promises made when a climate emergency was declared earlier this year.



Lancaster now has ten Green Councillors representing Marsh, Castle, Scotforth West and Bulk Wards.

Cleaner buses

Stagecoach have recently introduced 18 new double decker buses for Lancaster routes with 60% less NOx pollution than the current fleet.