

Around the city

Slimy pavements

Pavements on the steep hills in the local area are very slippery in the wet, as Green Cllr Abi Mills has experienced walking from school with her childminded children. Abi has asked for all the pavements to be checked and jet washed if necessary.

Greaves Park Lime trees

Residents raised concerned about fairy lights that had been nailed into two lime trees in Greaves Park. Green Cllr Abi Mills reported this to the Arboriculture Officer at the City Council, who requested that the lights be removed. The Planning Enforcement Officer also ordered that excess signage from the pub be removed from the park.

Bowerham Garage Site

A Planning Enforcement Notice has been issued to the owner of the Bowerham Garage site, that requires the garage building to be demolished by 27th April.

Gina Dowding back from Brussels!



Councillor Gina Dowding's term as Green MEP for the North West ended on 31st January. Gina worked with the European Green group which had 75 MEPs from all over Europe. Gina said: *"It was a privilege to be an MEP and I am more determined than ever to work at a local level to tackle the climate and biodiversity crisis, while creating jobs and ensuring everyone feels the benefits of new Green measures."*

Public Meeting - all welcome

GREEN NEW DEAL: WHAT IS IT?

"How can we improve our local environment, tackle the climate crisis, and improve everyday life for residents?"

Speaker County Councillor Gina Dowding

Tuesday 10 March 7.30pm
Friends' Meeting House

How to contact us

JoG ward contact Jamie Melly 07516642902 jamiemelly@cantab.net

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Green County Cllr Gina Dowding Gina.Dowding@lancashire.gov.uk

Green View



Spring 2020

News and Views from John O' Gaunt Ward

Better balanced communities

Green councillors have pushed for better control over the number of houses being converted to Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs). In addition to existing licensing requirements, subject to consultation and formal approval, planning applications for HMOs of three or more unrelated people may not be permitted if more than 10% of houses within 100m are already HMOs. There will also be control over the display of 'to let' signs. JoG Ward Contact Jamie Melly said: *"As a long standing Bowerham resident I have seen the character of the local community change, with difficulties parking and bins left out in the street. Often these HMOs could otherwise be first homes for young people."* Local residents can respond to the six-week consultation on the Lancaster Planning and Place webpages at: <https://tinyurl.com/u2hqkno>



JoG Ward Contact Jamie Melly

Bowling Green Planning Appeal dismissed

An appeal lodged by AG Enterprises, against the City Council's rejection of the Bowerham Bowling Green planning application in February last year, has been dismissed. The Planning Inspectorate identified many issues including effect on the character and appearance of the area, privacy of neighbours and implications for safety and free flow of traffic. Green Cllr Paul Stubbins, who alerted local residents to the proposals in July 2018, said: *"This proposal was of significant scale and not in keeping with the local area. It is a credit to the local community that it co-ordinated such a vigorous response to the plans. I am hopeful that the Bowling Green will be used to enhance local facility, such as a walled beer garden to the pub."*

Action on City Centre Anti-Social Behaviour

Lancaster city centre experienced an increase in anti-social behaviour recently, with incidents amongst groups of young people, and the City Museum closing its front door because of street drinkers and abandoned belongings on the museum steps. In January, The Police, City Council and the Business Improvement District took action together. The museum is now open and local shops and businesses have better links to report problems more rapidly. Green Councillor Caroline Jackson, Cabinet Member for Housing said, *"I was impressed by the high level of co-operation at our meetings, and the amount of compassion and support that was expressed for rough sleepers."*



Green Cllr Caroline Jackson on the museum steps



Former Green Cllr Jon Barry with Marsh Cllrs Mandy Bannon and Gina Dowding

Freeman's Wood has been officially designated as a Town Green by Lancashire County Council. The application was originally made by former Green Cllr Jon Barry in 2012 and was approved following a public inquiry in August 2019.

Promoting Recycling

The City Council agreed in November to find new ways to work with residents to promote recycling. Green Cllr Paul Stubbins, who brought the motion to Council, said: *"Residents are to be asked what they want to know about recycling and more meaningful targets are to be set. Progress will be also be reported on the Council Website so we can all share in the success. Please contact me if you have any suggestions, or would like to see improvements in recycling facilities where you live"*. (details on back page)..

Flooding near you?

In an emergency such as a flood, the South Lancaster Community Emergency Centre (at St Paul's Parish Hall) will open its doors to residents for a cuppa, company and support. Green Cllr Abi Mills, one of the Emergency Coordinators, said *"If the Centre is needed, the Emergency Services and City Council will notify residents. The details are on our Facebook page"*.



Bands at the Town Hall

Green Cllr Joanna Young produced a report on making better use of the Ashton Hall event space as a music venue after organising a sell-out event in aid of Morecambe Bay Food Bank. Joanna said: *"Lancaster needs a good sized venue to attract bigger-name acts, and with a bit of investment to improve facilities the Ashton Hall could bring in much-needed extra revenue for the Council."*



Railings repaired on Belle Vue Terrace

At long last the railings have been repaired along Belle Vue Terrace. Green Cllr Abi Mills said: *"These railings have been knocked by cars a number of times and were leaning against the trees. Residents are proud of these historic cast iron railings and are delighted that Lancashire County Council have firmly set them upright."*

Almshouses available

The Lancaster Charity manages a number of one-bedroom bungalows and flats in and around the city centre, available at affordable rates inclusive of energy and water bills. To qualify applicants must be aged 55 or over and have lived in the district for at least 3 years. For more information call Yvonne Kent on 01524 842663 or visit www.lancastercharity.org