

Marsh Estate Residents

Are you interested in starting a Tenants' and Residents' Association that could help improve the estate?

To find out more, please contact Community Engagement Officer, Juliet Grant, on 01524 582587 or jgrant@lancaster.gov.uk

BUS NEWS

- Gina and Mandy have requested that the County Council funds a bus service along the Quay
- A temporary bus stop is being trialled at the bottom of Cannon Hill. Mandy consulted the households nearby, who were happy to go ahead with the trial.
- Green Cllrs are hoping that a bus shelter will be installed at the bus stop on Meeting House Lane, opposite the Storey. It will depend on passenger numbers.

SPEEDING

A website for reporting speeding problems has been launched by the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership. Visit www.lancsroadsafety.co.uk and select 'contact' to report concerns.

ALMSHOUSES AVAILABLE

The Lancaster Charity manages a variety of one-bedroom bungalows and flats, including those on Kings Street, Regent Street and Queen Street. Applicants must be aged 55 or over and have lived in the district for 3 years. For more details call Yvonne Kent 01524 842663 or see www.lancastercharity.org

SMOOTHER ROADS

By the time you read this, West Road should have been resurfaced. Gina said: *"I'm pleased to see this happen at last, having requested it in previous years' budgets."* New Quay Road has finally been resurfaced after much chasing by Green councillors. Gina says: *"The corner with Lune Road is still in a very bad state. I have asked for this to be repaired as a matter of urgency."*

How to contact us

Cllr Mandy Bannon

07813 334 018

mbannon@lancaster.gov.uk

City & County Cllr Gina Dowding

07838 793 674

gina.dowding@lancashire.gov.uk

Facebook:

Lancaster Green Councillors



Freeman's Wood Victory!

Freeman's Wood has been officially designated as a Town Green by Lancashire County Council. The application was originally made by former Green councillor Jon Barry in 2012. Over 80 Marsh residents provided evidence, and 16 spoke at the Public Inquiry in August 2019. The local community, with generous support from the Open Spaces Society, raised £17k for legal help. The inquiry inspector ruled in favour of the Town Green.



Former Green Cllr Jon Barry with Cllrs Mandy Bannon Gina Dowding

Marsh ward councillor Mandy Bannon, who gave evidence at the Inquiry said: *"This decision is a great victory for the local community. It's fantastic that people will still be able to walk their dogs, take exercise, play and explore there. It's also great news for the many birds and animals who have made Freeman's Wood their home."*

The Friends of Freeman's Wood are exploring the possibility of buying the land. In the meantime, a celebration event is being planned for Friday 27th March at the Hornets Bar. More details will be available soon (e.g. follow the Facebook group [Save Freemans Woods](#)).

Marsh Litter Pick Meet outside the Spar shop on Willow Lane at 11am on Good Friday 10th April. Litter-pickers, gloves and bags provided. All welcome!



**Marsh Councillor
Mandy Bannon**

Long Marsh Lane to the Quay

Following a request from a resident, Cllr Mandy Bannon pushed for the opening of the cycle path/footpath through the new St George's Walk estate. She has asked for the dropped kerbs to be improved so that wheelchair users can use it too.

Towneley Close handrail

County engineers say the handrail will be fitted soon. It has been funded via the Fairfield Association, and a County grant.

Marsh Ward polling stations - nearer to home

Marsh Green councillors advocated keeping polling stations as near to residents as possible, in a recent review. A new polling station is now planned at the Giant Axe Scout Hut for Marsh voters who live along the Quay, Lune Road, the Willows estate, Westfield Memorial Village and streets between West Road/Willow Lane.

Action on city centre anti-social behaviour

Green Cllr and cabinet member for housing, Caroline Jackson, joined a multi-agency task force to tackle anti-social behaviour in the city centre. Caroline said, *"Everyone needs to feel safe in the city centre. I'm impressed by how Police, BID and Council have worked together to support rough sleepers and all the community."*

A better balance of housing types

Green Cllr Tim Hamilton-Cox has successfully pushed for better control of the number of private houses being converted to Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs, which are often student houses). Subject to consultation and formal approval, applications for HMOs will not be permitted if more than 10% of houses within 100m are already HMOs (see <https://tinyurl.com/u2hqkno>).

Loss of ash trees

To try to stop the spread of ash die-back, the City Council has removed more than 20 dead or diseased trees from the coppice near the Willow Lane/Westbourne Road roundabout.

Gina Dowding is back from Brussels!

Cllr Gina Dowding's term as the North West's Green Member of the European Parliament ended on 31st January. Gina worked with the European Green Group, made up of 75 MEPs from all over Europe.

During her time in Brussels, Gina produced several reports on topics including Sustainable Transport and A Green New Deal for the NW.

As promised, Gina donated £1500 (most of her City Council allowance for the period that she was also an MEP) to local ward charities. These included: **Marsh Community Centre, Friends of Freeman's Wood, Marsh United Football Club and The Olive Branch.**

Gina said: *"It was a great experience to be an MEP. I am now energised about how we can - and must - 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."*



**County and City Councillor
Gina Dowding,
former Green Party MEP**

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 workers and residents?

**With Gina Dowding
Tuesday 10 March 7.30pm**
Friends' Meeting House
(next to the station)

International Women's Day Cabaret

**Sunday 8th March from 7pm at Hornet's Bar
(behind Spar). £5. Proceeds to Women's Aid.**