

## Coronavirus Support is Available

Help is at hand for anyone in need as lockdown measures continue. Contact the Coronavirus Community Hub via the City Council with any queries or worries. The Hub has details of organisations who

- can provide help with shopping
- pick up prescriptions or food deliveries.
- people can be referred to for an emergency food parcel, or even a regular call for those feeling very low.

Emergency Assistance Grants are now available for people in financial crisis as a result of the pandemic, for help with bills and essential items. Ring 01524 582000 or email [customerservices@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@lancaster.gov.uk)

## How to contact us

**Cllr Mandy Bannon**

07813 334018

[mbannon@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:mbannon@lancaster.gov.uk)

**City & County Cllr Gina Dowding**

07838 793674

[gina.dowding@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:gina.dowding@lancashire.gov.uk)

**Green Party Website:**

[northlancls.greenparty.org.uk](http://northlancls.greenparty.org.uk)

**Facebook:**

Lancaster District Green Councillors

## Calling Nature Lovers!

Help is needed to protect and improve our local green spaces.

### Hedgehog heroes?

Before winter, the City Council will be cutting some grassed areas that have been left to grow long through the pandemic, while maintenance staff were working on other priorities. Helpers are needed to check for sleeping or hibernating hedgehogs before work starts.



### Wild about wildflowers?

Following Green councillors' success in getting funding for bulbs for one of the green spaces on Willow Lane, helpers are wanted to create wildflower meadows on the other patches of grassland. This will involve heavy clearing work starting in spring/early summer 2021.

To get involved contact Cllr Mandy Bannon (See contact box.)

## Lune Industrial Estate

Hurstwood, the company that owns most of Lune Industrial Estate has put a sign at the entrance to the estate with proposals for new industrial units, along with some retail and leisure facilities. At present no formal planning applications have been submitted.

# Green View



Nov 2020  
No. 85

News and Views from the Green Party in Marsh Ward

## Freeman's Wood: Final Milestone!

The planning application for 250 houses on Freeman's Wood was formally withdrawn in September. This follows Town Green status being awarded to Freeman's Wood earlier this year. Since then, the land has been legally protected from development. Councillor Mandy Bannon said: *"Well done and huge thanks to the hundreds of people who have helped campaign to save Freeman's Wood. Whilst it is still privately owned by overseas*

*investors, Town Green status means the public can use it for 'lawful sports and pastimes'. Jon Barry, Chairman of the Friends' group said: "This is the final milestone, at the end of a long journey that started a decade ago."*



**Halloween came early to Coronation Field!**  
Cllr Mandy Bannon with Simon Gershon, Jon Barry, and Eleanor Levin installing the new community noticeboard.  
(Funded by players of the People's Postcode Lottery)

## Weeding Success

In October Cllr Gina Dowding (left) was joined by neighbours in clearing the weeds blocking the pavement on Aldcliffe Road. Look out for Green councillors' 'Weeding Wednesday' sessions in Marsh. Council staff are currently prioritising waste and recycling services and have higher levels of staff sickness due to Covid.





## Better bus stops!

Following pressure by Cllr Mandy Bannon (left) on County Highways:

- ✓ There is now a permanent bus stop on Westbourne Rd by Westbourne Drive.
- ✓ The bus stop on Willow Lane, near the mini roundabout, has been resurfaced.

## Build back greener

The overwhelming response to the Lancaster Green Councillors' Lockdown Survey was for the City Council to support local communities, help local businesses and tackle climate change. Cllr Mandy Bannon said:

*"Local people are telling us that they want to 'Build back greener' after lockdown. We think the '20 Minute Neighbourhood' idea would help the Council create the kind of places that people want. This means you can get almost everything you need within a 20 minute safe and pleasant walk, and where you can cycle and reach public transport easily."* More information about 20 Minute Neighbourhoods and the Green Councillors survey report are on the Green Party website. See contact box.

### Make Votes Matter!

Tues 17 Nov, 7.30 pm

Online meeting.

Everyone Welcome.

*Hear more about the campaign for a fairer voting system with proportional representation, to replace the outdated first past the post system.*

Details on website or contact Green Cllrs. See contact box.

### Long Marsh Lane bollards

Following months of chasing, Cllr Gina Dowding says: *"County Highways says the turning area should be created in November, but this is subject to both developers and County Council completing the legal paperwork for the bollards to be put in place."*

## Local greener electricity supply

Green County Cllr Gina Dowding won support from across all parties on the County Council to support a new green law. Gina said: *"The Right to Local Supply of electricity would help small-scale renewable energy businesses get off the ground in Lancashire. Local projects are key to a future low carbon energy supply."*



County and City Councillor Gina Dowding

## Councils to re-organise?

The City Council is working on a proposal to merge with South Lakeland and Barrow councils to form a new Morecambe Bay 'unitary' council, which would provide the services currently provided by the county and district councils. However the County Council's plan is to divide Lancashire into three large 'unitaries', with Lancaster merged with Blackpool, Fylde, Wyre, and Ribble Valley.

- Join the Greens for a Zoom meeting to explore new County Council transport proposals and the 20-Minute neighbourhood on 25th November at 7.30 pm. Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lancaster-transport-fit-for-the-future-tickets-126602472403>

### Help to make your home greener

The Green Homes Grant scheme is now available until March 2021, to improve homes and make them more energy efficient. Grants of up to £5,000 for everyone to cover two thirds of costs, and £10,000 to those in receipt of benefits, are available for things like insulation, low carbon heating, and upgrading windows and doors. See [www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk](http://www.simpleenergyadvice.org.uk). Local energy advice service, Green Rose, can help, for example, by finding suitable local contractors on 0800 7022528 or email [info@greenrosecc.org.uk](mailto:info@greenrosecc.org.uk)

### Help end leaseholds

Buyers of new-build leasehold homes like those on New Quay Road and St. George's Quay can have unexpected costs. Cllr Gina Dowding said: *"The Government promised to reform the leasehold system. But they still haven't done it. Help put pressure on with this petition to ban leaseholds and set ground rents at zero."* <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/548738>