



Council finally listens to need for community-led Canal Corridor plan

The Labour group on the City Council decided in March to abandon their plan to enter into a risky development scheme with British Land.

Green group leader Jon Barry said *"Abandoning the scheme with British Land is the right decision. The Green Party has been calling for a mixed-use scheme for the last 13 years and we are delighted that the Labour group and Council officers are now on board. If this decision had been made earlier, we might have avoided the City Council spending £283,000 on consultants for the negotiations with British Land in the last year."*

New proposals were considered at Full Council on 11th April, where Green Councillors proposed a series of amendments to the recommendations for the new 'Canal Quarter' scheme. These included public consultation before final plans are drawn up, and that the steering group for the scheme should be made up of councillors from all parties.

New housing numbers for South Lancaster

The City Council passed the Local Plan at its December meeting, with a reduced target of 522 new homes per year, compared to its previous aim of 675 per year. However Green Councillor Abi Mills says: *"Greens are arguing that this is still too high, and that the Government's own new method for calculating housing need would bring the figure down to 426 – a much more achievable target. An excessively high target means that developers may be able to secure permission to build in very undesirable locations."*

There will be a public examination of the Local Plan this autumn. Local group 'CLOUD' campaigns for more environmentally-sound housing development. For more info, contact CLOUD at cloudbgv2017@gmail.com

Electric Vehicle Charging Points Coming to Lancaster

'Charge My Street' is a new community benefit society, aiming to set up charging points around Lancaster.



Money will be raised with a share offer, for which investors could gain interest. See chargemystreet.co.uk for more details.

The first two charging points are due in May - at Bargain Booze on Greaves Road, and Dallas Road Boys and Girls Club.

New Projects in Scotch Quarry

It's been a busy few months for Scotch Quarry Community Garden, with two new projects launching in the park and a range of events taking place. Eagle-eyed passers by might have noticed the beginnings of a wildflower meadow planted in the autumn. This year we will complete the project – which will include paths and seating – so that the space will be really improved for people and wildlife. We also hosted a bat walk and coppicing course

with kind support from the Lancashire Wildlife Trust, and a wonderful botanical printmaking workshop with local artist Rebecca Willmott, so look out for more events of this kind in future. Finally, keep your eyes peeled for our new community project 'Scotch Quarry Village Green', which will host sessions on fire-making, willow weaving, crafts and more. For more information contact Rebecca Whittle at www.facebook.com/ScotchQuarryPark and www.facebook.com/ScotchQuarryVillageGreen

Community Emergency Centre

Green Councillors Abi Mills and Tim Hamilton-Cox, along with members of the public, are involved in setting up an emergency centre in St Paul's Parish Hall on Scotforth Road. Funding has been applied for to ensure that the hall can be used in a power cut, and for equipment for the centre.

Greaves Park Play Area

We are pleased to report that the Greaves Park play area has been resurfaced. Cllr Abi Mills says: *"This play area is very close to my heart: I was part of the original group who worked for four years to get the play park installed. The repair work will make the play area safer again."*

Cleaning up the Lune Estuary

Green Party member and JoG ward contact Paul Stubbins was one of over 50 people who helped to clear a section of the Lune estuary of plastics and other rubbish in early April.

Paul said *"It was astonishing how much waste we collected, most of it plastics. It was a*

fabulous community effort to get it cleared, which I was proud to be a part of - but we must learn the lessons of what we are doing to our environment.

If we can reduce our use of plastic bottles and other single use items, and stop being so careless how we dispose of them, we wouldn't be causing this mess and damaging our oceans and coastlines. We all have much more influence on our environment than we sometimes think."



Say No to Straws

Seastraw is working with pubs, bars, restaurants and other businesses to avoid single-use plastic and help businesses move to sustainable alternatives.

The campaign started in Manchester and Green Party ward contact Paul Stubbins is one of a growing number of volunteers who are helping us get the message out in Lancaster. For more information, contact Paul or go to www.seastraw.co.uk



County Council to Phase Out Single Use Plastics

Following a resolution by Green Councillor Gina Dowding, the County Council voted to phase out their use of single use plastic items—such as drinking straws, cups and plates.

However, Gina was disappointed that her suggested deadline of the end of 2018 was not accepted by the Conservative administration. Instead, a working group has been set up (chaired by Gina) to organise a slower phasing out of disposable items.

How to Report Potholes

Please report potholes, blocked gullies, rocking paving slabs etc. by email, with a photo if possible, to highways@lancashire.gov.uk

Cleaner Buses Coming

17 Stagecoach buses operating through Lancaster city centre will be retro-fitted with new technology using a government grant of £288k.

Nitrogen dioxide emissions which aggravate breathing difficulties will reduce by at least 50%.

Moor Hospital Pavilion

Housing developer PJ Livesey has been given a Listed Building Enforcement Notice, requiring reconstruction of the cricket pavilion which was demolished in August without planning permission.

Calling All Runners!

Support The Fairfield Association on Saturday 7th July by taking part in the Fun Day 3k and 5k running races. Start 12pm at Fairfield play area, LA1 5DP.



Scenic route, 90% traffic-free. Medals for finishers (first 100 entries), and prizes for first 3 men and first 3 women - and best fancy dress. Pre-entry £5 /£7. On the day £1 extra. Enter at www.bookitzone.com

Get involved

- ⦿ Can you help deliver Green Views in your area?
- ⦿ Did you know you can join North Lancashire Green Party as a local member for just £10 per year (or £5 unwaged)?
- ⦿ Interested? Contact Paul Stubbins 

How to Contact Us

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