

Register NOW so that you can vote Green in May's elections.

Two Green councillors in Fishergate have made an impact and a difference to the council in York. More Greens elected in May could mean we hold the balance of power if there was a 'hung' council. Make *your* voice heard.

Time is short to make sure you're on the electoral register. You can phone the council on 551050 for a form. Students can register at both home and term time addresses, and EU nationals can also vote in local elections.

If you think you might be away in May, then remember to phone 551050 to ask for a postal or proxy vote form.



Help York Green Party to win in May

Write to us and let us know if you have any issues, local or national, which you would like us to take up. Please post us this form or email or telephone if you prefer.

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Name

Address.....

Phone / Email.....

Please send me some information about York Green Party

I would like to become a member of the Green Party

I can distribute Green Party leaflets in my area

I could display a Green Party poster during the election

I'll contribute £5 £10 £20 £..... to help.

Cheques are payable to 'York Green Party'. Thank you.

Please fill in and return this form to: York Green Party, Basement, 22a Fishergate, York, YO10 4AB or email: swain4micklegate@yahoo.co.uk

or contact Alan Swain via the Green Party Office on 636239

New website launched : www.york.greenparty.org.uk



Micklegate – February 2007

Consultation for some, but not for Micklegate residents

The council made £4 million from selling the Barbican site for flats and hotels. It recently ran a consultation into how it might spend this money, but replacing the public sports and leisure facilities on the site was not on the menu.

Survey options were either to refurbish Edmund Wilson Pool or build a new pool alongside the new sports centre at Oaklands - both of them in the Lib Dem Leader Steve Galloway's own ward. Worse still, the council surveys were only posted to homes in that part of the city.

Micklegate Green Candidate, Alan Swain, says, "Since the council's closure of the Barbican, Edmund Wilson has become the closest pool for quite a large number of city centre residents, and yet the council clearly believes that our views are worth less when it comes to consultation. I can only see this as a form of gerrymandering to get the desired result from the consultation."

Barbican Centre: from public pool to private gambling den?

York Council has left the door open for casinos to be introduced to York despite fears that the Barbican may be converted for gambling use. Andy D'Agorne, for the Greens, cast the only vote for a "no casino" clause.



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Printed by Greentrade, 20 Byram Buildings, Station Street, Huddersfield.

Promoted by Andy Chase, Basement, 22a Fishergate YO10 4AB on behalf of York Green Party, Basement, 22a Fishergate YO10 4AB

Recycling latest

Green councillors welcome the planned extension of cardboard recycling collections from early 2007. We want this service to be available to all residents as soon as possible.

Alan Swain says, "From talking to residents it's clear recycling opportunities are not consistent across the city. In **South Bank Avenue**, for example, people tell me that one side of the street has doorstep recycling but the other side does not! In every street I have canvassed, from **Clementhorpe** to **Campleshon Road** and **Nunthorpe Crescent** to **East Mount Road**, people want recycling to include cardboard and plastic. The Greens will take steps to ensure that recycling is as easy as putting out your rubbish!"

York Greens also oppose council plans for a £1.5 billion waste incinerator. We call for waste reduction as a more cost effective and sustainable long term strategy. If you agree visit www.noburner.org.uk and take action.

STOP PRESS: Kerbside recycling starts from 17th January on **Brunswick Street, Kensington Street, Queen Victoria Street, Sutherland Street and Trafalgar Street**. Phone St. Nicholas Fields on 01904 411821 for details.

Improved safety for Bishopthorpe Road residents?

Bishopthorpe Road will be added to the next list of roads to be considered by the council when deciding on the introduction of new road safety measures.

Alan Swain says, "While canvassing of Bishopthorpe Road, residents told me of their concerns about speeding. I have contacted the relevant Council department and this issue will be considered at the next Council meeting to discuss speed management measures."

Real Rotters save us all money

York Rotters was started by a keen green who discovered that many people wanted info on how to recycle kitchen and garden waste on a compost heap.

Rotters have regular training, social events and attend national conferences. Home composting is a great 'waste reduction' technology and won funding from DEFRA. This paid for a co-ordinator who has been the key to York Rotters' success. Another year's funding from the Council would mean home composting diverting waste from landfill saving you and the Council money.

Do *you* want to start composting? York Rotters can visit or advise by phone. Compost bin + delivery offers from just £8. www.recyclenow.com/compost

Call Keely Mellor at York Rotters - 412861 / email roppers@stnicksfields.org.uk

Trident replacement to cost billions

Tony Blair has said that Britain will buy new nuclear weapons systems costing at least £25 billion. Blair's likely successor, Gordon Brown, has said he will back the replacement of the Trident nuclear missile system.

Alan Swain says, "There is simply no legal, moral, military or economic case for the Government to replace Trident. If the Government has billions to spend on security, it should use it to tackle the real security threats we face today: terrorism and climate change. The Government should be taking the opportunity to press for nuclear disarmament worldwide as required under the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty."

See www.cnduk.org

Green Euro-MP comes to York to blast Blair's nuclear policy



A fierce critic of Trident, Dr Caroline Lucas, is speaking at the University of York against the threat of nuclear weapons and the appalling waste of public money in maintaining nuclear systems.

"Blair's proposal to replace Trident, but cut the number of warheads from 200 to 160, will still break international law, threaten security, and cost us billions," says Dr Lucas.

The Green MEP will meet students and York citizens at 3:15pm on February 8th.

The venue is room ATB057 in Alcuin College.

We can beat climate change

York Green Party welcomes the publication of the Stern Report highlighting the economic costs of climate change to the UK. Gales and flooding in York are recent examples. It also sets out the fundamental changes that need to be made at all levels of government and in the lives of all ordinary people.

Micklegate Green candidate, Alan Swain, says, "The Stern Report shows that climate change is the greatest economic challenge facing the world. We can all take action to slow global warming. Together we can make a difference.

The Green Party is the only party willing to make the decisions that will truly address climate change. If you want your politicians to take real action to safeguard our futures you must vote for the Green Party at the next council elections in May. We will not let you down."