

Fishergate

GreenLight



The Newsletter of York Green Party

Summer 2013

Yorkshire Greens Go for Europe

In 2009 the Green Party narrowly missed gaining the sixth seat for Yorkshire and the Humber at the European Parliament. The seat went to the BNP instead. In May 2014 Huddersfield Green councillor Andrew Cooper is determined to take that place for the Greens.

York Green Party chair Denise Craghill has been selected as one of the six candidates on the Green Party's regional list. She said, "The Green Party has a clear vision for a European Union that is run for people and not profit. A 'Europe of the Regions' would work together to tackle big international issues such as climate change, air pollution and energy, but give back power to countries and regions to protect their own economies and make their own decisions.

Our campaign for Europe will be based on 'Yes, yes, yes' – yes to a referendum, yes to staying part of Europe, and yes to very big changes in the way the European Union operates. A Green MEP for Yorkshire will campaign hard for this as part of the 50 strong Green Group in the European Parliament and will also fight for fair funding for Yorkshire, challenging the recent Government decision to take away millions of pounds of European funding from our region to use as a 'sweetener' in the Scottish independence debate'



The Green Party's candidates for the Euro-election next year (from left), Kevin Warnes, Martin Hemingway, Denise Craghill, Vicky Dunn, Shan Oakes and lead candidate Andrew Cooper

Informal Neighbourhood Forum Meeting Jul 23rd



Cllr Dave Taylor



Cllr Andy D'Agorne

Meet your councillors Dave Taylor and Andy D'Agorne and learn more about the tree planting and conservation work in Danesmead Wood. Meet **Millennium Bridge, Maple Grove** side at **5.30pm** and join a walking tour of the area.



Protecting York's Future

Printed by York Community Print, 22 Holgate Road, York YO24 4AB
Promoted by Andy Chase on behalf of York Green Party, both at 22 Holgate Road, York YO24 4AB



Local Plan will ‘kill the goose that laid the golden egg’!

Greens oppose Labour's plan to build 22,000 houses in the next 15 years, many on greenbelt land around York. York Green Party will make a formal response arguing that the proposals are unsustainable - threatening to choke our road networks, worsen flooding problems and affect the quality of life in our small historic city. We support new housing including affordable housing on sites like Hungate, Terry's, and British Sugar, with green space and good public transport, walking and cycling routes to help limit the traffic impact. But we oppose the two new settlements outside the ring road – one near Clifton Moor (4,000 houses) and Whinthorpe (5,500 houses) proposed for the 460 acre site next to the A64 just south of Heslington. These are likely to attract car-borne commuters working in Leeds. There is also a danger that developers will just concentrate on greenfield sites instead of developing more sustainable brownfield ones.

We support opportunities for local people to determine the size and location of wind turbines, preferably owned by local communities rather than multinationals. Farmers should be allowed to install renewables big enough to meet their own needs and those of their immediate local community.

To see the full range of Local Plan proposals and make comments by **Jul 31st** go to www.york.gov.uk/info/200396/planning_policy/428/planning_policy

Contact us!

Please use the form if you would like to get in touch.

Name

Address

.....

Tel

E-mail

- I would like to raise a local issue
- Please send me information about the Greens

Any additional info

.....

Please send to: York Green Party, 22 Holgate Road, York YO24 4AB, call us on **636239** or e-mail: yorkoffice@greenparty.org.uk

Austerity – there IS an alternative!

The Greens are the only main party offering any alternative to cuts and more cuts. Green MP Caroline Lucas said “As Ed Miliband now accepts the scale of the cuts and supports a cap on welfare spending (regardless of need) any chance of Labour challenging austerity has been lost.” She added, “The way to address the deficit is to invest in jobs, crack down on tax evasion and avoidance and invest in the infrastructure we urgently need.” She called for a programme of using carbon tax income to insulate Britain’s homes.

Locally the Greens are pushing for a council-led renewable energy company to establish district heating and combined heat and power (CHP) schemes as has been done at Derwenthorpe and in Sheffield, as a strategy for new housing sites.

Time to re-nationalise the railways



The Green Party wants to bring the railways back into public ownership – Green MP Caroline Lucas has introduced a private members bill to re-nationalise the network by 2020. The Greens also support the campaign to keep the East Coast service in public ownership, following its much improved performance over the last four years. This would mean public money could be used to support lower fares, more trains, less overcrowding and better staffing levels instead of bigger dividends for shareholders.

More people using trains rather than cars or planes also means less carbon emissions and cleaner air for everyone. Average rail fares are now 26% higher than before the recession. See www.farefail.org for how to take action now.

Fishergate Bar improvements



Improvements at Fishergate Bar are now complete, and thanks to Green councillor action include a safe point for cycles to leave the road and access the Bar away from people waiting to cross at the lights. A new zebra crossing and build-out near Toto’s also allows pedestrians to safely cross to the pubs and flats in the centre of the gyratory.

Despite efforts to keep historic paving outside the Phoenix, the council insisted that it all had to be replaced even though this was not part of the original plan. Edible York vegetable beds near the Barbican are being cultivated by local people promoting local food and healthy eating.