

York Central

GreenLight



The Newsletter of York Green Party

Summer 2014

Highest Green vote in region

In the recent Euro elections, York voters gave us the biggest increase in Green votes in Yorkshire and the Humber (up from 14% to 16%). Our total of 7456 was 50% above the Lib Dems vote and only 25% below the Labour and Tory totals. We gained a new MEP for SW England to add to the two re-elected Green MEPs from the UK, only just missing out in our region. However, the York vote gives the Greens a strong base for our campaign for the 2015 local elections, when all 47 York council seats will be contested on the same day as the General Election.

Time to elect more Green Councillors

Thank you to everyone who voted for us in Guildhall ward, as well as supporters in the Haxby and Wiggington Road, Eboracum Way and Lawrence Street areas, which will become part of a three councillor Guildhall ward next May. This will give all voters in the area three votes for the Council alongside one vote for Parliament.

Green Party coordinator for Guildhall ward, Denise Craghill, who was second in the last council election in the ward said 'More and more people on the doorstep are telling us they would like a positive change to the 'business as usual of the 3 'main parties'. Green councillors will speak out not just for our environment but also for residents, local communities and for more democratic and open local decision-making.'

Are you 'greener' than you thought? Test it out at www.voteforpolicies.org.uk – choose your preferred policies and find out which party they most match up to!

Green Party



for the Common Good



Action on Haxby Road

Denise Craghill is pictured with Guildhall Green Party team members June Tranmer and Andy Law at the zebra crossing near Haxby Rd School. Denise arranged for the belisha beacons to be repaired following concern from residents that some drivers don't always respect the crossing.

The council also plans to change the beacons to brighter energy efficient led lights 'soon', to fit shields to protect nearby residents from the light and to mend the white 'spotlights' which should light up the crossing a bit more in dark or dull conditions. Denise said, 'I have also asked the road safety team to look at whether anything else can be done to make the crossing safer, for example getting the white lines re-painted.'

Blockbusters change of use

The Green Party also objected alongside a large number of residents to the application for change of use to a Pizza Hut delivery of the old Blockbusters shop at the corner of Vyner Street and Haxby Rd. Green councillor Dave Taylor also pressed for the decision to go to committee to enable residents to participate in a full and open discussion. The decision is unknown as we go to print.



Call for 20mph in Walmgate and Navigation Road

Green Party Guildhall ward co-ordinator, Denise Craghill, wrote to the Council asking why the current 20mph roll-out for residential streets has left out the streets around Walmgate and Navigation Road. Residents frequently raise issues about speeding in these areas (including buses and taxis), and the Bishophill area, which is also inside the city walls, has now been included. Denise said 'The Council has said that it doesn't have the resources to include this relatively small area of residential streets in the 2014/15 rollout. We believe that residents in the Walmgate /Navigation Road area have as much right to safer streets as anyone else in York – and that the extra money could be found.'

If you live in the area and would like to be included in the 20 mph rollout please sign our petition at www.greenparty.org.uk or contact us for paper copies.

The Groves Association

The Groves Association is open to everyone who lives in the Groves area, not just council tenants. Everyone is welcome to get involved in this lively community group as it sets out to make life in The Groves better for everyone. The Association has regular open meetings at Door 84 on Lowther Street, supports the Groves Secret Garden, holds community events, bids for funding for the area and liaises with organisations such as the Council and York St John University.

For more information see bit.ly/1sTpOuW or email groves.residents@hotmail.co.uk or contact us and we will pass the message on.

Fracking in East Yorkshire – good news and bad news

The good news is that protestors have significantly delayed fracking activity at Crawberry Hill near Beverley, although lorry loads of contaminated water have been

Calls for more controls on street drinking in Lowther Street area

The Green Party supports the calls from local residents and shopkeepers for the current alcohol exclusion zone which covers the Clarence Street area to be extended to include the full length of Lowther Street up to the Foss. This doesn't prevent anyone having a drink outside, it means that anyone drinking in the street in such a way that intimidates others is required to stop and hand over their alcohol if requested to do so by a police officer.

Copies of the petition can be found in shops around Lowther Street. It is also very important to report incidents to the police – even if they can't attend, the number of reported incidents strengthens the case for the zone extension. Call 101 (or 999 in an emergency only).

removed from the site following some test drilling. Protests are building up at West Newton, 14 miles away near the east coast, where Rathlin Energy took in a convoy of 50 -60 lorries full of drilling equipment several weeks ago to proceed with what amounts to a 'mini-frack'. For more info and to support the protestors see www.frackfreeyork.org.uk and 'Battle for Crawberry Hill' on facebook .



Denise Craghill & Dr Candy Spillard of York Green Party visiting the Crawberry Hill protestors' camp

