

GREEN LIGHT

NEWSLETTER OF YORK GREEN PARTY

AUTUMN 2019



FLOOD PREVENTION WORKS MOVING FORWARD

Greens fight to get the right flood protections for Clementhorpe

Your Green Party councillors have been working hard to ensure flood prevention measures are introduced quickly.

Throughout August, Rosie has been meeting with local residents and affected groups such as Pedestrians & Cyclists Together and Friends of Rowntrees Park to ensure local views are taken into account.

The Environment Agency (EA) has now appointed new contractors and a new round of Ground Investigation works will take place to assess the use of grout injections instead of piling.

Green Party Councillor **Andy D'Agorne** has said "The council is doing its best

to ensure that these works are done as quickly as possible.

"But at the same time it must be done in a safe manner which does not put anyone at risk. The EA has the responsibility to deliver the defences before the funding deadline."

Rosie has responded to concerns from residents about interim measures if flooding before the scheme is built.

"Clementhorpe will be protected by the best available measures we have: large sand bags will be deployed, as stated in the Clementhorpe Emergency Plan which volunteers have worked hard to put in place."



"We must protect residents at risk of flooding and we have a duty of care to all users of the riverside.

"The costs/benefits and feasibility of all the options are now being given the proper consideration they deserve – we can get this done!"

Councillor Rosie Baker

TIMELINE

MAY 2019: Greens opened the dialogue with Environment Agency (EA)

JULY: Micklegate Ward councillors held a public meeting at Southlands Church.

SEPT: EA holds a workshop to discuss safe access options.

OCT–NOV: EA submits its new outline plans for Clementhorpe to Area Planning Committee.

Property Flood Resilience consultation begins for Southbank flood–risk residents (Butcher Terrace / Terry Street)

DEC: Results of investigations published to determine feasibility of new scheme.

APRIL 2021: Works approved / started by this deadline.

YORK GREEN PARTY : HERE ALL YEAR, NOT JUST AT ELECTION TIME

GREENS' BUDGET FOR CHILDREN & CLIMATE

The Green–Lib Dem ‘mini–budget’ passed in July bringing new measures to support children & tackle poverty in York.

This means continued support for the community–based ‘Hubs’ tackling food poverty, setting up of an ‘inclusive growth’ fund to help tackle child poverty, extra investment in children’s social care, support for care leavers and children with special educational needs, additional foster carer recruitment and £250,000 for new play equipment across the city.

Climate Emergency

The mini budget also kick started work on the climate emergency, with a new Carbon Reduction and Sustainability Officer post, more tree–planting and a review of waste collection services. Funds were earmarked to protect some existing evening and rural bus services and for a public transport study focused on the needs of developments in the Local Plan – including research into options for a light transit system.

An extra £1m was agreed for walking and cycling, another £1m to start improving



▲ North Yorkshire Police are looking for volunteers to take part in the Bishy Road & Scarcroft Road Area Speedwatch Scheme.

energy efficiency (and reducing fuel bills) in the city’s council housing and extra staff to boost zero carbon planning guidance.

An extra £250,000 ‘Safer and Inclusive Communities Fund’ is available for wards as well. There are also extra funds going into road repairs, council housing maintenance, tackling graffiti, new litter bins, and cutting delays implementing Respark schemes.

Green Executive Members

Two of York’s four Green Councillors are now part of the nine–member Executive, working with senior officers to drive forward these initiatives.

Councillor Andy D’Agorne is lead member for Transport while Guildhall **Councillor Denise Craghill** oversees the Housing portfolio.

Councillor Dave Taylor chairs the Children Education and Culture Committee while **Councillor Rosie Baker** is vice chair of the new Climate Change Committee.

SPEEDWATCH NEEDS YOU!

Community Speed Watch is an initiative by North Yorkshire Police and supports local communities to improve road safety.

Residents are able to address speed concerns in their community by using Radar Guns to record the speed and registration number of the offending vehicles.

Volunteers are needed to help in the Bishy Road & Scarcroft Road Area. **For more information please email jimcowen@talktalk.net or text 07752 654432.**

SCARCROFT ORCHARD UPDATE

Councillor Rosie Baker recently visited Laura at Scarcroft Community Orchard.

It is hoped that primary school children will be able to complete the orchard with more tree planting soon.

There are over 30 bio-diverse species living in the orchard.

The Green Party had their “Pollinator Action Plan” approved by York Council in July which will help protect our vital insect populations.

GET IN TOUCH

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WARD MEETING

The next public Micklegate Ward meeting is on Thursday 17th October.

It will be at 6:30pm at Priory Street Centre.

Topics: Bishophill / Micklegate area access & ‘Talk York’ consultation.