

**GREEN NEWS**

HEAVITREE DECEMBER 2022



CLLR CAROL BENNETT



CLLR CATHERINE REES

**COUNCILLORS CALL FOR A BREATH OF FRESH AIR**

Improving air quality is a priority for Heavitree residents, especially for those living on or near main roads such as Fore Street. At the last Exeter City Council meeting, Councillors were asked to 'note' the Annual Air Quality report, which showed dirty air is on the increase again.

At the meeting, Green Councillors said that it was not enough to simply 'note' what the report says, as the Annual Air Quality report said air pollution is contributing to more deaths in Exeter. They called for better action on tackling dirty air and won the backing of the Council for the report to be sent to Devon County Council for a response to these concerns.

Councillor Catherine Rees said,

"We need more action by the City and County Councils working together to protect residents."



Green Councillor Carol Bennett calls for action on dirty air to protect residents.

**RESIDENTS WANT CLARITY ON LOW TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS**

**Where Low Traffic Neighbourhoods have been introduced, walking & cycling have increased by 50% and traffic reduced by 45%.**


Councillor Carol Bennett has written to Devon County Council to get a clear understanding about the proposed Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) in Heavitree. Carol said,

"Devon County Council has confirmed they are now in consultation with Emergency Services, carers, and disability groups. After this consultation, there is likely to be a trial of a Heavitree Low Traffic Neighbourhood, but they don't know yet when that will happen."

**Contact Carol if you would like any further details. Further updates will be published on [www.devon.cc/exeterstreets](http://www.devon.cc/exeterstreets)**


**GET IN TOUCH**

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# GREEN CHALLENGE AS RECYCLING RATES DROP



**Heavitree residents are asking us when the long-promised food waste collections will begin.**

At a recent Council meeting, Catherine challenged the Labour-led Council on their recycling rates. We welcome the recent announcement that food waste collections will start in two more neighbourhoods, but we want to see a clear timetable for rolling this out across the whole city. There is still no news for Heavitree.

**Follow Denis the Dustcart for excellent recycling info on Facebook or on Twitter @DustcartDenis.**

**Green Councillor Catherine Rees challenges Labour to act urgently on food waste as recycling rates drop to 25.5% - the lowest since 2004.**

## BRING BACK OUR CROSSING!

A new housing development threatens to permanently block the popular, longstanding crossing of the Northbrook stream that links Hamlin Gardens to Hamlin Playing Fields and allotments. Carol and Catherine have been talking to residents and working closely with Exeter City Council planning officers to find a way to keep the crossing open.

Carol said,

"There is no reason Exeter City Council shouldn't reopen this crossing once the building work at Hamlin Gardens is complete. We continue to work with residents and the Council to make it happen."

Catherine added, "We are also exploring ways to partner with other local groups to make the crossing more accessible should it be reopened."



**The Northbrook stream crossing has been well used by residents for decades.**

## MAKE EVERY VOTE COUNT IN EXETER



**Green Cllr Amy Sparling**

**Green Councillors welcomed Exeter City Council's backing of a Progressive Group motion for proportional representation (PR) to be used for General Elections. But the debate exposed double standards by Exeter Labour who refused to support the same rights for people in local elections.**

Cllr Carol Bennett, who put forward the motion for a PR system for both local and national elections, said,

"With the country coping with an economic and democratic crisis, it's never been more urgent for residents to know that their vote counts. We need a fair system of voting at all levels of government."

**See the full motion here: [https://bit.ly/Council\\_backsPR](https://bit.ly/Council_backsPR)**

**IN MAY'S LOCAL ELECTIONS,  
LABOUR WON JUST 46% OF THE  
VOTE, BUT ENDED UP WITH 71%  
(12 OUT OF 17) OF THE COUNCIL  
SEATS AVAILABLE.**

## COMMUNITY LINKS

If you need Foodbank support please don't be afraid to call the Council for a voucher: 01392 277 888.

The Foodbank is also accepting donations at most local supermarkets.

**Do you run a community project, a local festival, or a craft group which benefits the people of Heavitree?**

**Please apply for a ward grant!**

Your Councillors can approve ward grants for up to £350 for costs like equipment, resources, publicity, materials, and refreshments. See <https://bit.ly/ECCWardGrant> and contact a councillor about your project.

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