



Green Party

GREEN NEWS

NEWTOWN & ST LEONARDS DECEMBER 2022



ANDY KETCHIN

NEWS FROM YOUR NEWTOWN & ST LEONARDS GREEN CAMPAIGNER

MOUNT RADFORD LAWN



The Newtown St Leonards Green Team are supporting the St Leonard's Neighbourhood Association's (SLNA) campaign to keep Mount Radford Lawn as a small and important area of green space. It is under threat of development when its temporary protected status runs out next year.

Green campaigner Andy said:

"SNLA is asking Exeter City Council to follow national guidelines on protecting playing field space from future development. I've been out with volunteers to ask residents to support this campaign. Please add your voice by responding to the current Local Plan consultation by December 5th at <https://bit.ly/3DVVNHZ>"

LABOUR U-TURN ON UNPOPULAR OLD POLICE STATION APPLICATION

Exeter Green Party has accused the Labour-led City Council of allowing developers to run circles around them.

The unpopular planning application to develop the old Police Station site into an 8 storey, high density housing & luxury student block was recently refused by the council. The the Council decided instead to 'defer' the application. This means the developer can make a few changes and resubmit essentially the same application.

Newtown & St Leonards Green Party campaigner, Andy Ketchin, said :

"Why should the developers be given yet another chance to win planning permission for this development? It will do nothing for local residents. Prices will be beyond the reach of most local people, and the hostel-style accommodation is not suitable for permanent homes. The developers will have to consult again on the revised proposal so please keep an eye out on the Council planning website and object again".



GET IN TOUCH

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MOTORISTS IGNORE WONFORD ROAD TRAFFIC FILTER



Cars are driving through the traffic filter on Wonford Road, especially during the school run hours. This is illegal and is causing near misses with cyclists. Green Campaigner Andy wrote to the County Council asking for action. The County have replied that they are hoping to set up CCTV monitoring on the site, subject to a decision taken by their Cabinet soon.

GREEN CHALLENGE TO FALLING RECYCLING

At a recent City Council meeting, Green Councillor Catherine Rees challenged the Labour-led Council on their poor recycling record. She asked about the longstanding promise to introduce food waste collections.

Newtown & St Leonards Green campaigner Andy Ketchin says :



"Residents regularly ask us when their promised food waste collections will start, but there is still no news for Newtown & St Leonards. We want to see a timetable for rolling out food waste collections across every neighbourhood. At the current rate of roll-out, it will be another 15 years before everyone has a food waste collection."

LITTER PICK IN BELMONT PARK



Andy was joined by volunteers to clear litter from Belmont Park. Several bags of litter and recyclables were collected.

GREENS CALL FOR ACTION ON DIRTY AIR



Air pollution is a serious problem along the Topsham Road and Heavitree Road. This affects anyone who lives on, or who travels regularly along these roads, whether on foot, by bike or in a car. The last Exeter City Council meeting was asked to 'note' the annual air quality report, which showed dirty air is on the increase again, with absolutely no actions suggested.

Green campaigner for Newtown & St Leonards Andy Ketchin said :

"As a local doctor, I see so many people of all ages whose health is being significantly affected by air pollution. The Council's report showed that traffic levels & air pollution are climbing back to pre-pandemic levels. It is not enough for Councillors to passively 'note' the report. We need the City and County Councils to provide both leadership and action, working together to protect residents."

Many of you have told us how you feel left out, let down and left behind by politics and politicians. So it's no surprise that you might not vote or bother to register to vote.

But voting for a city councillor is your chance to make a choice to improve your local quality of life – in Newtown & St Leonard's and the city as a whole.

Exeter City Council's decisions and actions have a massive impact on everyone living in the city, and those decisions are made by councillors elected by people like you.

If you are 18 years old or over on election day, are a British, Irish, or qualifying Commonwealth citizen and you have an address, you can vote. But you must register to vote. <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>.

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