

GREEN NEWS

NEWTOWN & ST LEONARDS SUMMER 2022



ANDY KETCHIN

NEWS FROM YOUR
NEWTOWN & ST LEONARDS
GREEN CAMPAIGNER

THANK YOU FROM ANDY

I would like to thank every Newtown St Leonards resident who voted for me in May.

Your votes represent a strong Green voice across the ward. Though I was pipped at the post, I was pleased to share the election night with three successful new Green councillors in Heavitree and St Davids, bringing the total Green councillors in Exeter to five. I am grateful for the many personal messages of encouragement and thanks that people have made since the election. Many residents told me they were first-time Green voters. It is clear that large numbers of local residents feel that we need a strong Green voice on the council representing Newtown St Leonards. During the campaign, we knocked on lots of doors, and many twice! I am sorry if you did not get to meet either the team or me but the 2023 campaign starts here. Having met many residents in the ward, I was struck by an enduring theme: our ward is full of welcoming, friendly and engaged people. With this in mind, we look forward to talking to you on the doorstep about the issues that matter to you.



UNAFFORDABLE HOUSING

A recent report commissioned by the city council has found Exeter's housing is unaffordable for many residents. Over the last 10 years, house prices have increased by almost 60% with half of homes now more than 10 times median earnings. The report also highlights rental rates which are cited as being 'much higher' than both Devon and England.

Green campaigner Andy Ketchin says:

"This report is timely as residents adjust to the cost of living crisis. It is clear our Labour-led council is not only doing little to support residents housing needs but actually compounding the problem by planning to build homes out of the reach of ordinary residents on the site of the Clifton Hill sports centre".



**GET IN
TOUCH**

Andy Ketchin



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BUCKRELL LODGE

Many residents have been asking about the fate of Buckrell Lodge.

Not just a hotel but a large green space and very strong views locally on how or even whether the site should be developed. Planning permission is being sought to develop the site with the construction of 63 retirement apartments, complete with communal facilities and car park parking. Local residents have

been consulted with the application due to be determined in August. Andy has been around reminding residents that the deadline for submissions is the 17th July. The previous planning application was refused following 32 resident objections noting the unreasonable scale of the building, the impact on the local community and wildlife in addition to a lack of amenities such as green space and parking. The new planning submission does not address any of the previous issues and remains worthy of further community involvement and Green campaigner Andy Ketchin is on hand to listen to residents' views. With the support of Exeter's Green Councillors, we are here to answer residents' questions about the planning process.

Please get in touch at ntsl@exeter.greenparty.org.uk



COMMUNITY LINKS

A new project to distribute fresh surplus food to the community for free, no questions asked, has opened in Exeter Library. Open Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat. Interested in volunteering?

Call Emma on 01392 383159.



DREAM FESTIVAL

The Cygnet Theatre are celebrating 40 years with a summer festival for all. Many events are free!

@ cygnettheatre.co.uk/dreamfestival/whats-on



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