

# FOCUS



May 2018

Lymm  
North

[www.warringtonlibdems.org.uk](http://www.warringtonlibdems.org.uk)

## VICTORY FOR ANNA

Liberal Democrat Anna Fradgley took a seat off the Conservatives to win the Warrington Borough Council by-election in Lymm South on 15 April. The by-election was caused by the sad death of Cllr Sheila Woodyatt. The result:

Liberal Democrat	769
Conservative	649
Labour	328
UKIP	25
Green	24

Anna said, "I am overwhelmed by the result. It was a great victory for the Liberal Democrats. I have very big shoes to fill following in Sheila's footsteps but I am sure I can rise to the challenge. I am sorry that Joan Stocker did not win the Parish Council seat.

My priority is for Lymm and its residents. I shall continue to protect the Green Belt until the Lymm Neighbourhood Plan is in place. I will also continue to maintain the environment with 'Keep Lymm Kleen' and do more to improve our roads and safety. Other major issues I will work on with my fellow Councillors are Youth provision and Engagement and improving the business facilities available in Lymm."



### Anna and Joan launch a petition for double yellow lines on Pepper Street



During their election campaign, Anna Fradgley and Joan Stocker launched a petition for double yellow lines to be painted on both sides of Pepper Street from the village centre as far as the entrance to the Rosebank Centre.

Anna says, "With a team of supporters we knocked on over 360 doors in the Pepper Street 'cul-de-sac'. Sixty percent of households have been in when we called and fully support our petition with only five objections.

Cars parked along Pepper Street cause an obstruction and cars backing up are particularly a problem during the School run. Parents with buggies and wheelchair users are forced into the road to get by. I have contacted Warrington Council and the Police to ask them to step up enforcement. New signs have been ordered and cars breaking the law will be ticketed."

Joan adds, "We are also asking the Council to review parking in and around Pepper Street and Rosebank."

**Yellow lines on Whitbarrow Road**  
Another petition has been sent to Warrington Council asking for double yellow lines on Whitbarrow Road near the Lymm Hotel. Cllr Anna Fradgley says, "Cars parked on the blind bend are a concern for both motorists and pedestrians. The petition has been signed by residents of Statham Avenue, Brook Road and Whitbarrow Road."

### Update from the outgoing Parish Council Chairman

**The Parish Council has been busy recently.** Outgoing Chairman Cllr John Bamforth says, "We have recruited a Deputy Clerk to help share the increased workload arising from the new work we are taking on.



We have set up an Environmental Group with an independent Chairman to generate ideas and co-ordinate the extra work we are doing to look after our village.

We have confirmed our continuing support for Police Community Support Officers, although because of changes to police funding, we will only have two rather than three in the future. We have bought a second 'Speed Indicator Device' to help slow down traffic on our roads."

### Best election results for a decade

The Liberal Democrats enjoyed their best local election results for a decade winning 75 council seats, against the predicted figure of 30. Party leader Vince Cable said, "These results show a return to three party politics and a strong future for the Liberal Democrats. We are making gains against both a Conservative party driven by their right wing, and a left wing Labour party absorbed by Corbyn's dated economic vision."

### New Chairman

Anna has also been elected to serve as Chairman of the Parish Council for the coming year. She says, "I am extremely proud to have been elected, particularly as this is the 'Year of the Woman', celebrating 100 years since some women got the right to vote in Britain. I am keen to encourage more residents to become involved in what happens in our village. I feel confident that the Parish Council will continue to serve residents and help make Lymm a wonderful place to live, work and visit.



Thanks very much to last year's Chairman John Bamforth for all his hard work."

## Keep Sandy Lane Waste Tip open

Warrington Borough Council is reviewing its waste strategy and proposals are coming to its Executive Board on 22 May. The Council faces budget pressures and closing Sandy Lane Recycling and Waste Centre is reported to be one of the options proposed. If this happens, people in the south of the town will have to travel to Gatewarth or Woolston to recycle. This will add to traffic congestion, reduce recycling rates and is likely to increase fly tipping.

The Council tried to close Sandy Lane four years ago, but vigorous action by residents led by your Liberal Democrat Councillors stopped this with slightly reduced opening hours. We have now launched a petition to try and stop them closing it this time. It calls on the Council 'to keep Sandy Lane Recycling and Waste Centre open or to provide alternative recycling facilities in South Warrington'. To sign the on-line version of the petition, please google 'save Sandy Lane waste'.

We have over 2800 names, but we need more to show the strength of residents' feelings. Please sign the petition now and return to Lib Dems Freepost RRTA-UJLL-HCYT 75 Grappenhall Rd WA4 2AR.

**We the undersigned urge Warrington Council to keep Sandy Lane Recycling & Household Waste Centre open or to provide alternative recycling facilities in South Warrington.**

Name	Address	Signature



## Lib Dems support Warrington Council's Budget with reservations

The Liberal Democrats supported the 6% rise in Council Tax.



Finance Spokesperson Cllr Ian Marks said, "We have reservations but believe it is the only way to protect services. Too much austerity from the Government has meant there is now a strong risk of a severe breakdown in services."

We are sympathetic to the Council's innovative income generation scheme, but we are worried about the risks they are taking and too much investment is going outside the town. It is unfair discrimination to charge £3 more if you do not renew your green bin licence on-line.

The Labour Party has got themselves in a real mess over provision for the homeless. We would continue the £36,000 to 'Room at the Inn'. We want more openness and transparency about spending decisions, so disastrous cuts like closing down libraries are not sprung on the public. Ways must be found to spend more on filling potholes."

## Keep Lymm Kleen

This volunteer group goes from strength to strength, but more help is needed.

Recent recruits are Lymm Runners who are doing monthly clean-ups whilst out running. Group founder,



Cllr Anna Fradgley says, "My next target is a 'Scoop-the-poop' campaign to encourage owners to clear up after their dogs."

## Engaging our young people



There is increasing concern about young people gathering at The Cross especially on Friday evenings. Shop staff and residents suffer from intimidation and this is not acceptable. The young people are also dropping litter around the area.

Cllr Graham Gowland says, "I called a public meeting on 1 February to discuss the problem. Representatives were there from the Police, the High School and youth and community groups. The Police are able to impose Dispersal Orders, but this is not the solution. We need to find ways of engaging young people and finding out what we can do to help. The number of people causing the problems is small, but the perception is of a bigger problem made worse by social media.

The Parish Council is working closely with others to find a way forward."

## Plans for a new toilet

Since the public toilet was removed from near the Dam where Cllr Ann Johnstone is standing, there have been complaints. Ann says, "We need a new toilet and the Parish Council is in active discussion with Warrington Council about this. I have met officers on site. Proposals and costs are being worked out for a toilet, by the Rangers' hut near the Church Hall. If we don't get one, our Green Flag status is in doubt."



# Planning and Lymm



Warrington's Local Plan, which will guide development for the next 20 years, is due out for public consultation late this year. It will then be examined in public by an independent inspector early next year and should be adopted soon afterwards.



Cllr Bob Barr says, "One of the most controversial aspects of the plan is whether the Green Belt will need to be reviewed to provide enough housing and employment sites to meet government imposed housing numbers. Developers around Lymm are putting in large planning applications in the Green Belt in the hope that they may be able to get around the recommendations of the Local Plan. These can only be approved if there are 'very special circumstances'."



Cllr Wendy Johnson adds, "Your Liberal Democrat Councillors are being very vigilant and are opposing these applications. We don't believe that any major development should be allowed in Lymm's Green Belt until the Local Plan is adopted and the need to review Green Belt has been proven. If it is, sites where development does least harm must be chosen."

## Green belt victories!

Proposals to build nineteen houses at the top of Pepper Street and sixty four houses at Tanyard Farm behind Sainsburys have been turned down.

Cllr Anna Fradgley says, "The Pepper Street land is Green Belt and the law states there has to be 'very special circumstances' to justify building. Having a few more affordable homes than required, is not a sufficient justification. Traffic on Pepper Street is already a problem because of the School.

I led the protest against the Tanyard Farm proposal and we gathered over 100 objections. This is also Green Belt, but has been allowed to badly deteriorate. Businesses would be displaced from the site."

## Victory against 'garden grabbing'

A proposal to remove a bungalow and replace it by two large houses on a bend in Grammar School Road was also turned down. Cllr Anna Fradgley says, "I put the case against it at the Town Hall and argued that it was over-development and would have a detrimental effect on the street scene. It would overlook the neighbour and be a traffic hazard being on a sharp bend."

## Lymm Hotel

The proposal to demolish the Lymm Hotel and build apartments, a care home and a nursery has received 240 objections from local residents. Cllr Wendy Johnson says, This is a ridiculous proposal and we are thankful the planners turned it down. The effect on nearby roads doesn't bear thinking about!"



## Makers' Market for Lymm?

The Parish Council is supporting a proposal for a 'Makers' Market' in Lymm. Cllr John Bamforth says, "It would take place once a month on a Sunday and be a great way of encouraging more visitors to our village."

## Opposition to Airport Parking Plan

There is widespread opposition to a proposal to turn Caddicks Nursery site just over the border in Thelwall into a car park for 1200 vehicles. This would be used while the owners go on holiday from Manchester Airport. We object because:

- The land is green belt
- The area floods
- It is near a Conservation Area and a listed building
- Access to the highway is poor with no improvements on offer
- There would be an increase in traffic.

## Slow progress on Library Building

Cllr Andy Cooper says, "It is taking much longer than we expected to fill the space in the Library building. The Parish Council Clerk now has an office there, but we want the other space filling so that it can be used for the benefit of the community."



## No 35 Bus

Removal of the No 35 bus in April has cut off residents in Broomeedge from Lymm and Altrincham. Getting to the doctor or the hospital is a struggle. The Council and Network Warrington have introduced a No 47 service to Knutsford, but the timings are wrong and connections with other services are poor. The Parish Council is working with residents for some improvements.



## Outdoor Gym Funding confirmed

The 'Landfill Tax' organisation, WREN, has now confirmed its grant funding for the Outdoor Gym in Ridgway Grundy Park.



Local campaigner, Denis McAllister says, "This is great news and, in conjunction with Warrington Council, we can now go ahead with the installation. Our thanks go to the Parish Council, the Round Table and Active Cheshire for their financial contributions too. Thanks also to the residents who provided some crowdfunding support and others who filled in our consultation survey."

## MBE Award for local Councillor

Local Councillor Ian Marks has been awarded an MBE for 'services to the community in Warrington'.

## Your FOCUS Team – can we help?

### Warrington Borough Councillors

Cllr Bob Barr	2A Dane Bank Road	750910
	bbarr@warrington.gov.uk	
Cllr Anna Fradgley	34 Cyril Bell Close	753631
	cilrafradgley@sky.com	
Cllr Wendy Johnson	37 Clearwater Quays	637398
	wjohnson@warrington.gov.uk	
Cllr Ian Marks	80A Whitbarrow Road	753051
	imarks2@warrington.gov.uk	

### Lymm Parish Councillors & FOCUS Team

Cllr John Bamforth	24 Elm Tree Road	755048
Cllr Andy Cooper	4 The Paddock	756723
Cllr Graham Gowland	32 Wychwood Ave	751599
Cllr Ann Johnstone	3 Lakeside Road	755554
Denis McAllister	32 Rosebank	755073
Janet Socorro	77 Warrington Road	753576
Joan Stocker	10 Quayside Mews	558165