

# FOCUS



Spring 2018

Lymm South

www.warringtonlibdems.org.uk

## By-election Special

On 19 April there will be two by-elections in Lymm South ward. Anna Fradgley is the Liberal Democrat candidate for the Warrington Council vacancy and Joan Stocker the candidate for the Lymm Parish Council one.

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



Anna and Joan have 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 have 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."

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

### Anna's priorities for Warrington and Lymm

### Joan's priorities for the Parish Council

- Making sure that Lymm gets its fair share of money from the Town Hall to safeguard our environment
- Stopping speculative builders from making easy profits by building on the Green Belt rather than brownfield sites before the Local Plan is approved
- Providing the infrastructure for any development that is allowed
- Fighting to get more genuinely affordable housing for local people
- Helping older people stay independent at home and encouraging the Council and the NHS to work more closely together
- Supporting businesses to bring more prosperity to our town and ensuring that the benefits of success are shared by all

- Supporting voluntary organisations, events and festivals that play a vital role in the life of the community
- Making the village a safer place by continuing to fund Police Community Support officers
- Putting pressure on Warrington Council for more repairs to our roads and pavements and keeping our parks and open spaces free from litter
- Backing the Neighbourhood Plan Group to ensure any development in Lymm has the support of the people and prevents unnecessary building in the Green Belt
- Working for better collaborative working between the Borough and Parish Councils to bring benefits to residents



**Lymm North Councillor and Opposition Leader on Warrington Council Bob Barr**

*"Anna would make an excellent addition to our team at Warrington. She listens to what people say and gets things done!"*

### Anna says.....

"I have been a Parish Councillor for the last two years and am currently the Deputy Chairman. During this time I am proud of the reputation I have earned for getting things done. I worked hard to save Lymm Library and helped promote local businesses with #LoveLymm. I took the lead in getting one hour free parking back and founded the 'Keep Lymm Kleen' group of volunteer litter pickers. Recently, I have been working tirelessly to oppose inappropriate planning applications. Please give me your support." on 19 April."

### Joan says.....

"Before moving to Lymm I was a Parish Councillor for twenty years and Deputy Leader of Cumbria County Council. My husband Geoff and I have now thrown ourselves into the Lymm community and we are active in many organisations. I love living in Lymm and would welcome the opportunity to be a member of the hard-working Liberal Democrat team on the Council. The job of a Parish Councillor is to listen to local problems and represent the views of the people. Please vote for me."

**Lymm North Councillor and former Warrington Council Leader Ian Marks**



*"Anna and Joan both live in Lymm so know first hand what the issues are. I would be delighted to have them both working alongside me."*

**Vote for Anna Fradgley and Joan Stocker**

## 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."

Joan and Anna look at potholes by the Library. Joan says, "These holes are dreadful and a safety hazard. I am pleased that the Lib Dems at Warrington have asked for repairs paid for by the car parking charges!"



## 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

Ever since the public toilet was removed from the spot by the Dam where Cllr Ann Johnstone is standing, there have been complaints from the public. Ann says, "We must get a new toilet back and the Parish Council is in active discussion with Warrington Council about this. Proposals and costs are being worked out for one, by the Rangers' hut near the Church Hall. If we don't get one, our Green Flag status must be 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'. So far two have failed to be approved, but only by a very narrow margin.

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. Anna says, This is a ridiculous proposal and we are very hopeful the planners will turn it down. The effect on nearby roads doesn't bear thinking about!"



## Update from the Parish Council Chairman

The Parish Council has been busy recently. 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."

## 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

The Parish Council is very concerned about the proposal to remove the No 35 bus service from April. This would cut off residents in Broomedge from Lymm and Altrincham. Getting to the doctor or the hospital would be a struggle. The good news is that the Council and Network Warrington are listening to residents' concerns and trying to come up with alternatives.



## 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 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 Anna Fradgley  | 34 Cyril Bell Close | 753631 |
| 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 |