

SPRING 2020 GREENVIEW

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREEN PARTY IN BECCLES,
WORLINGHAM, NORTH COVE AND BARNBY



Green Party
for the common good

BECCLES LIDO UPDATE



GRAHAM AND ELFREDE
WITH SHAUN AT THE LIDO

Beccles Lido is in the midst of its biggest ever refurbishment and enhancement project!

It will leave the community-owned facility in good shape for a generation with all the major pieces of infrastructure now either replaced or refurbished since it left Council ownership 10 years ago. The half-million pound project includes replacing the main circulation pipes to the deep end of the pool to ensure the water can be kept clean and safe. The old pipes were damaged beyond repair and allowed an ingress of air which seriously hampered the ability to manage the pool on busy summer's days. To compliment this new pipework all the scum drains have been replaced and laser-installed to ensure they work effectively. Other work includes the provision of underwater lighting that will allow for safer after dark swimming and potentially a long swim season. And finally it will include the installation of a new pool liner.

Beccles Lido operates without public subsidy and generates a small profit every year. Whilst this profit has contributed to the refurbishment project

it has been necessary to secure grant funding and for the first time ever the District Council has contributed.

Councillor Graham Elliott, who has actively supported the Lido project from the outset said, "I am delighted that East Suffolk Council has now made a financial contribution to the lido a decade after the near derelict facility was handed over to a community group. I have been working with officers and other Councillors since the formation of East Suffolk Council and am pleased to see this work result in a £10k 'Exemplar Grant' and a £75,000 grant from 'Community Infrastructure Levy' (CIL) funding. And to cap it all your three District Councillors (Graham Elliott, Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw and Caroline Topping) have joined together to make a £10k contribution from their 'Enabling Community Budgets'. Beccles Lido is one of the jewels in the crown of the town and has really helped put the town 'on the map'. We are grateful to the vision and commitment of the volunteer directors, without whom we would have lost this precious facility."

CLIMATE YOUTH ACTION GROUP

Beccles Area Youth Climate Alliance has recently been set up in Beccles.

The idea was thought up by Sixth Former Ellie Pritchard who said she wanted to "give young people a chance to show their support and make a difference."

Cllr Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw said "I was absolutely delighted when Ellie contacted me about setting up a climate action group in Beccles. I was delighted to lend my support and facilitate as much as possible, our children will suffer the greatest consequences of Climate Change and must be given a voice. The first event was a huge success with over 40 people attending, all the young people printed t-shirts, made banners and planned their next event on Valentine's Day."



YOUR GREEN COUNCILLORS AT
THE FIRST BAYCA MEETING



Photo © Matthew Nixon

DOGS AT WETHERSPOON

After six months of behind the scenes discussions with Green Councillor Graham Elliott, Wetherspoon's senior management have had a change of heart and have removed the ban on dogs from the seating area outside the Kings Head in Sheepgate, Beccles.

It is thought to be the only part of any Wetherspoon's operation in the whole country that allows customers to sit with a dog!

Their statement says *"After further consideration and discussion it has been agreed by our senior management team that the Kings Head Inn will not uphold the Company's No Dog policy in the pavement café area and will be serving customers seated at the tables and chairs with a dog. For the avoidance of doubt, the policy will remain in force inside the premises and the premises garden. The Company reserves the right to manage customers with problem dogs."*

Graham Elliott said, *"I am delighted that Wetherspoon have taken note of the legal advice that I shared with them and also of the strength of public opinion on this matter. The ban on dogs has given a poor impression of the town to visitors who seek a pleasant place to sit for a drink or a meal. It has also been very unpopular with local dog owners. Please can everyone ensure dogs using the sitting out area in Sheepgate are well behaved!"*

LEGO CLUB

David Brambley-Crawshaw continues to grow the monthly Lego Club at Beccles Library, with recent themed sessions including Valentines Chocolate boxes, Catapults, Christmas decorations (which adorned the Libraries Christmas tree), parachutes and cranes.

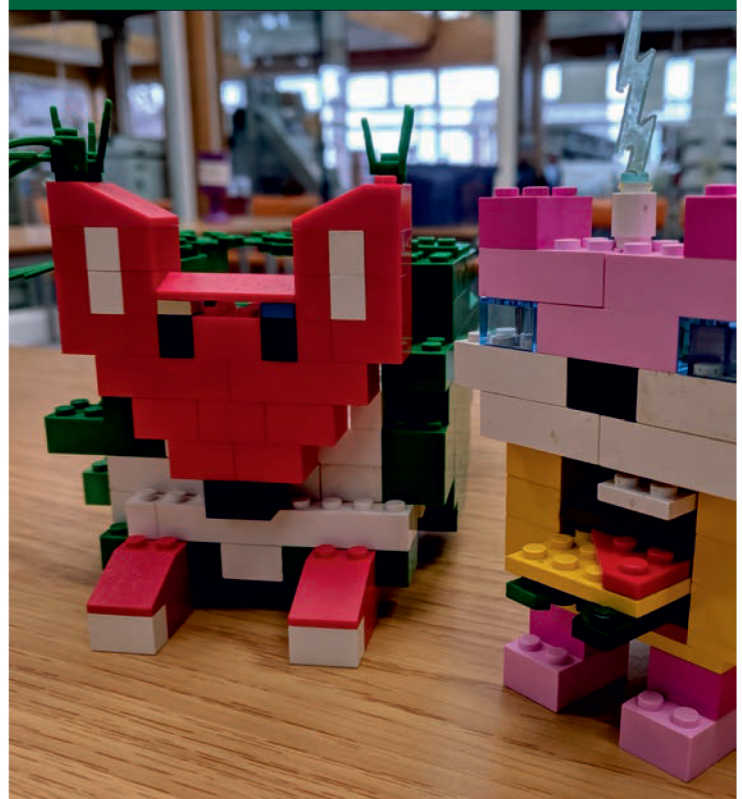
The children who attend really enjoy the opportunity to be creative, challenge themselves and make some incredible creations.

The group are very grateful to Lego donations that have been dropped off at the Library by residents, this has really improved the kind of builds that the children have been able to make.

The next dates are 15 March and 19 April 10am-11:30am. In March, David has planned a really special 'mini golf' session, where the children will be making the obstacles for a mini golf course! This will definitely be an opportunity for some whacky ideas and I'm sure lots of the parents will get involved with the creating. In April the theme will be Easter as this is the last day of the Easter Holidays, the session will almost certainly involve chocolate!

All Children from age 6 plus are welcome to attend the club and must be accompanied by a parent. The cost of the session is £1 donation, with all proceeds going to the Friends of Beccles Library to purchase more Lego!

LEGO CLUB IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP RUN THE SESSIONS, IF THIS IS SOMETHING THAT YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THEN PLEASE DO GET IN TOUCH.



BECCLES QUAY PLAYPARK

Elfrede continues to lead the fundraising for Beccles Quay play equipment, with the amount raised now over £27,000. Beccles Town Council have pledged £20,000 to the project which is a significant amount. To complete the project, we will need in excess of £70,000 so there is still lots of fundraising to do. Many thanks to all the individuals that have raised money and supported in different ways. Your Tesco tokens can currently support our project in the Beccles store so please support this appeal when you are shopping. If you'd like to help us or have an idea that could raise some money do get in touch or join the Facebook group 'Fundraising for new play equipment at Beccles quay'.

THE GREEN SURGE

Green Party groups have been established in both Halesworth and Bungay following the dramatic Green win in last May's Council election in Beccles and Worlingham. Halesworth Greens are already running a monthly Terracycle event. They are holding an open evening on Thursday March 26th at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church Hall, Halesworth to explore ideas for the future. And "Bungay Green Drinks" is a very informal gathering of people interested in taking the Green agenda forward in the Bungay area. The gatherings take place at 7:30pm on the first Thursday of the month at The Green Dragon. Details are on Facebook

@BungayGreens.



PUMPKIN GROWING COMPETITION TO TAKE PLACE IN BECCLES

This Year Elfrede, Caroline and Graham are challenging you to home grow your Halloween pumpkin and join in with a 'town wide' competition. Join us from 11am on Sunday 3 May at Exchange Square (near Wetherspoons).

We will supply seeds, pots, compost and instructions to get your seeds growing into productive plants. Take home your planted seeds and grow them on a windowsill. After the first frost they can be planted out, either in your garden or if you don't have the space, we can find some on a Town Council allotment. If you can't make 3 May but would like to join in then please get in touch to register separately.

Once the pumpkins start growing there will be lots of opportunities to share updates, tips and progress on social media.

When the pumpkins are ready in the Autumn for harvesting, we will be hosting a 'Village Show' in Beccles Library (date to be decided), we'll be collaborating with the Library staff to judge the prettiest pumpkin, largest pumpkin and ugliest pumpkin as well as some cookery judging too! Who can make the best Pumpkin pie in Beccles, Worlingham, North Cove and Barnby?!

Pumpkins are fun and easy to grow plus they taste so much better than store bought! Home grown food has a really low Carbon footprint and no packaging at all. Pumpkins can be made into cake, pie, chutney, pasta sauce, pasties



(think Harry Potter), we will share plenty of recipes as we go along. In Beccles we are lucky that the Carnival Committee also organise the Pumpkin festival, and we'd encourage you to take your pumpkin to be judged if you decide to carve it.

IF YOU'D LIKE MORE INFORMATION DO GET IN TOUCH WITH ELFREDE.

BECCLES COMMUNITY GARDENERS

Our Community Gardening group goes from strength to strength, and we love welcoming new volunteers, just come along bringing small gardening tools if you have them.

- Saturday 25th April 10am – Exchange Square Gardens
- Saturday 2nd May 10am – Beccles Quay Planters
- Saturday 16th May 10am – Fire Station Gardens, Ravensmere
- Saturday 30th May 10am – Beccles Bell Tower planting and weeding

TERRACYCLE AND GIVE & TAKE EVENTS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:-

Blyburgate Hall, Beccles, 10am - 11:30am Saturdays

- 14th March
- 9th May
- 18th July
- 12th September

Halesworth Greens are running similar events on the second Saturday of each month, 10am to midday in St Mary's Church Hall, Steeple End, Halesworth. Details are on the Facebook page, (Terracycle Halesworth), or email at halesworthgreens@gmail.com

All our events include a great cafe and lots of chat!

YOUR LOCAL GREEN COUNCILLORS

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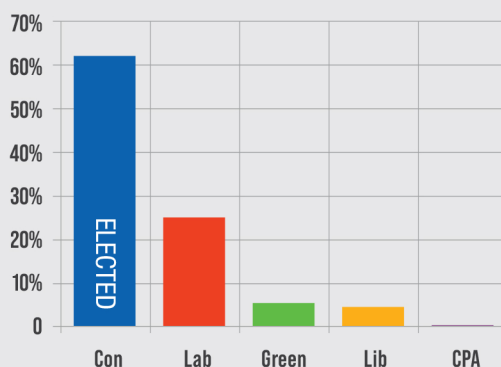
📱 @ToppCat01



CONTACT US ANYTIME, OR COME AND SEE US AT THE TERRACYCLE EVENT (SEE ABOVE FOR DATES). THIS IS A GOOD CHANCE FOR A CUP OF TEA AND A CHAT!

SNAP GENERAL ELECTION

The snap general election on 12 December produced our best ever result in the Waveney constituency with Elfrede doubling the Green vote and for the first time ever we saved our deposit by gaining over 5% of the vote. And we finished third for the first time ever! Thank you for your support.



GET INVOLVED... DO YOU WANT TO HELP DELIVER GREEN PARTY NEWSLETTERS?



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