



The Winter 2015 Newsletter of the Green Party in Bungay

Bungay Town Enhancement Scheme

After many rocky years getting Bungay's controversial one way system in place, it is now bedding in very nicely.

While there are still a few snagging issues to be resolved, most people agree that it has vastly improved safety within the town as well as greatly enhancing the aesthetic appearance of St. Mary's Street. Town Councillor and Green Party candidate for the District Council elections in May, Simon Thompson, was thrilled when the scheme was finally completed. It was his idea to try and think more creatively in finding affordable solutions to the traffic problems in Bungay, after Suffolk County Council repeatedly and categorically turned down proposals for a town bypass, the cost of which was prohibitive.

Simon Thompson presented the initial proposal nearly 7 years ago, and he is very thankful to those of his fellow councillors who took the risk in sharing his vision and carrying it forward to fruition. The leader of the Green Party, Natalie Bennett, visited Bungay as the scheme was being finished and was impressed to see how well the new scheme worked in terms of traffic flow, increased safety and the ease of use for pedestrians and cyclists.



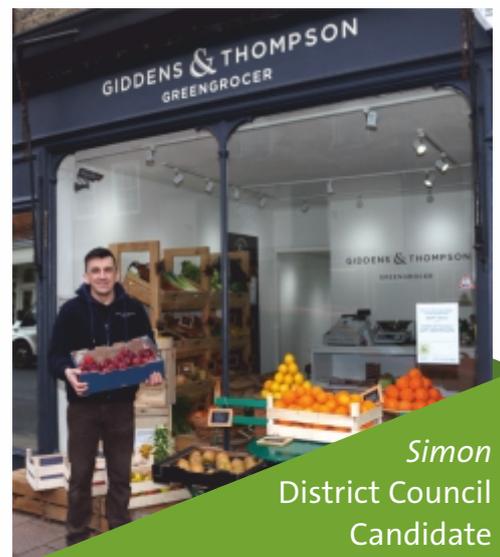
Green Party
Leader Natalie Bennett
visiting Bungay

Local greengrocer is Green Party candidate

Simon Thompson will stand for the Green Party in Bungay in the District Council election in May

Simon has served on Bungay Town Council for 8 years, during which time he has worked hard to make the town safer with the implementation of a new one-way system. He has also managed to reduce the use of plastic carrier bags and increased the number of public litter bins, including recycling ones.

Simon has lived in Bungay for 18 years and now runs Giddens & Thompson greengrocer on Earsham Street with his partner Christopher. He is deeply moved by the growing environmental problems we face both globally and locally. He feels that becoming a District Councillor will put him in a better position to achieve some of the changes needed



Simon
District Council
Candidate

to help the environment and our community. He lives with his partner and has a daughter who attends Bungay High School.

Whose Railways? Our Railways!

Green Party members in Beccles took part in a national day of action on 5 January to object to the latest round of rail fare increases and to demand that the railways are returned to public ownership.

The Green Party proposal, as outlined in Caroline Lucas' Railway Bill, is a pragmatic approach that would bring each franchise back into public ownership on its expiry at zero cost to the taxpayer.

The failed East Coast franchise was taken back into public ownership in November 2009 and has been run by a publicly owned company for 5 years. In this time the tax payer has

benefited financially and the service has improved. The franchise will revert to the private sector in March in what can only be described as an ideologically motivated decision. We believe that our model for the railways will cost the taxpayer less money and will deliver a better, more integrated service.

Graham Elliott, Green Party Parliamentary Candidate for



*The Green Party
at Beccles station*

Waveney said:

“The year on year increases in fares ARE unacceptable. The Green Party would bring the railways back into public ownership and reduce fares. A joined-up railway network should be an essential component of a truly integrated transport system working for the common good instead of for shareholders.”

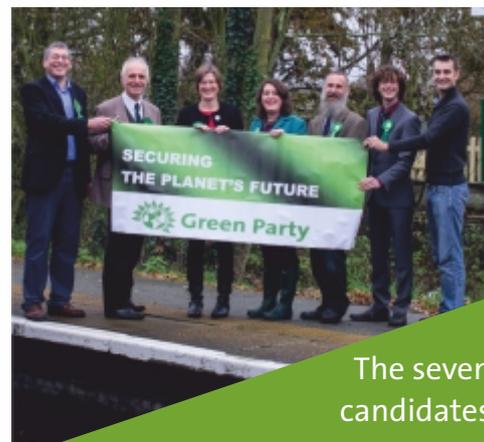
Green Party to fight all seven seats in Suffolk

For the first time ever the Green Party will fight all seven Parliamentary seats in Suffolk.

Graham Elliott has again been selected to stand in Waveney and he has been joined by Barry Broom (Ipswich), Rhodri Griffiths (Central

Suffolk & North Ipswich), Helen Geake (Bury St Edmunds), Robert Lindsay (South Suffolk), Niall Pettitt (West Suffolk) and Rachel Smith -Lyte (Suffolk Coastal).

Green Party membership doubled during 2014 and has been rising even more dramatically during the first few weeks of 2015. This surge in membership has put The Green Party ahead of both the LibDems and UKIP



The seven candidates

and it is coupled with an even more impressive rise in the opinion polls, making the coming general election the most open ever.

Would you like to help?

If you would like to have a poster for your window or to help your local Green Party in the run-up to the District Council and General Elections in May 2015, please contact us using the details below.

For further information on the Green Party please visit:- www.waveney.greenparty.org.uk or phone **01502 714661**, e-mail waveney@greenparty.org.uk or write to 2 Old Hall, Barsham, Beccles NR34 8HB.



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