

STOP PRESS

Natalie Bennett, former leader of the Green Party, will be visiting Beccles on 12 September to talk about sustainable farming and food production.

She will be speaking at a public meeting in Beccles Public Hall at 7:30pm. Free admission.



NATALIE BENNETT

YOUR LOCAL GREEN COUNCILLORS

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SPEAK TO US

Councillor surgeries at Beccles Library with Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw and Graham Elliott. An opportunity for residents within Beccles Division to come and speak to us about any concerns they may have.

17 June 10:30 – 11:30am,

22 July 10:30 – 11:30am


12 August 10:30 – 11:30am

16 September 10:30 – 11:30am

WE BELIEVE IN A SOCIETY THAT WORKS FOR
THE COMMON GOOD...

...AND WE VALUE
YOUR SUPPORT

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Green Party
for the common good

SUMMER 2018 GREENVIEW

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



CENTENARY OF VOTES FOR WOMEN

Cllr. Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw is one of the organisers of an exciting event to celebrate 100 years since some women gained the parliamentary vote.



Elfrede with Beccles Town Council and others will be organising music, drama, activities, refreshments and a unique exhibit in partnership with Beccles Museum. The event will take place at Blyburgate Hall on 13 October 11am- 3pm. All welcome and if you'd like to get involved please get in touch.

The representation of the People act in 1918 allowed women over the age of 30 who owned property (or if their husbands did) to vote in parliamentary elections, as well as all men over the age of 21. Women had to wait until 1928 to get equal voting rights, and they were not allowed to sit in the House of Lords until 1958. Women still remain under-represented in Politics. Beccles Town Council is possibly unique in England having naturally arrived at a point of equal representation.



ELFREDE BECOMES MAYOR OF BECCLES

We are really excited that Elfrede's hard work on Beccles Town Council has been recognised and she was duly elected Mayor on 15 May. She is looking forward to enthusiastically representing the town over the coming year.

MORE PROGRESS AT THE RAILWAY STATION...

Green Party Councillors Graham and Nicky Elliott have been busy in their roles of ‘Station Adopters’ in making the railway station a better place.

The island platform, which was reinstated in 2012 to accommodate the hourly train service, now boasts four three-tiered planters which were funded by Beccles Town Council. The planters brighten up the platform and will soon be joined by a replica 1950s sign on the non-operational section of the platform.

For many years the passenger shelter on the Lowestoft bound platform has provided very little shelter from the rain and has been subject to significant flooding. This ensured passengers got wet from above and below at the same time! But after several years of pressure and with funding secured through the East Suffolk Lines Community Rail Partnership the shelter has been replaced and the drainage problems solved with a new soak-away.

Graham Elliott said *“Our vision is to make Beccles Station an attractive and welcoming gateway to the town. There is still more to be done but we are working towards realising this vision.”*



MORE IMPROVEMENTS AT BECCLES LIDO...

Beccles Lido is run by volunteers who have raised hundreds of thousands of pounds to fund its transformation. Following a huge fundraising campaign last year and thanks to generous donations from the community, including from Cllr Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw's SCC locality budget, and some major grants, the ageing portacabin toilets have been replaced.

The toddler pool has also been completely refurbished. Director Shaun Crowley told us *“After the pool closed in 2008 we lined both pools but the linings have reached the end of their lives. The refurbished toddler pool is now looking fantastic, so we are launching our 2018 fundraising campaign to refurbish the main pool.”*

For more information, to make a donation or to do a sponsored event, please visit UK.VIRGINMONEYGIVING.COM/TEAM/NEWLINER or call 01502 714911.

The Lido has a slide, springboard, giant inflatable aquarun (daily lunchtime sessions), outdoor exercise equipment and a kiddies adventure play area. There are also lots of grassy areas, sunloungers, tables and chairs to relax on as well as an all-weather eating and spectating area and a café serving hot and cold snacks, drinks and ices.

The Lido season runs until Sunday 9 September.

TOXIC PESTICIDES, HARMFUL TO BEES, BUTTERFLIES AND BIRDS BANNED ACROSS EU

On 27 April the EU voted to ban the outdoor use of all neonicotinoid pesticides.

This is an amazing result from a grass roots campaign across Europe and one that is likely to survive Brexit as our Government is now supportive of the ban.

Green Party Councillor, Graham Elliott, managed to secure support for this ban from both Waveney District Council and Beccles Town Council after the River Waveney was discovered to have the highest rates of neonicotinoid pollution in the country. Studies have shown that sprayed crops only take up a small amount of the chemical with the residue building up in our soils or finding its way into our watercourses.

The impact of neonicotinoids on pollinating insects is now well documented but the longer term effect on aquatic ecosystems and the potential impact of this on the leisure and tourism sector could be equally devastating.



ROAD SAFETY

A group of residents including Green Party Councillors Graham Elliott and Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw have been working to ensure the Beccles Southern Relief Road delivers the maximum possible benefit to the town. In February the group discovered that the County Council were intending to leave the A145 in Beccles and to label the new relief road as a B Road. A really effective campaign was launched and posters sprang up all along the route of the A145. With support from Beccles Town Council and Cllr. Mark Bee this decision was reversed and the A road will now be diverted around the town. Graham Elliott said *“This is an excellent result and will help discourage vehicles from coming through the centre of Beccles unless they are actually visiting the town.”*

The next phase of the campaign is to ensure the signage for the new road actively discourages through traffic from passing through the town and that weight limits are imposed on all roads within the town. Elfrede added *“Access to businesses will of course be retained – it is the through traffic that we want to remove from the town.”*

