

NOVEMBER 2022

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GREEN PARTY COVERING
HALESWORTH AND OUTLYING VILLAGES

GREENVIEW



Green Party
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ADRIAN RAMSAY VISITS HALESWORTH

GREEN PARTY CO-LEADER SPOKE WITH CONCERNED BUSINESSES



FRANK FROM FOCUS ORGANIC, SHOWS
ADRIAN RAMSAY HIS RECENT ELECTRIC BILL

Your local Green Party councillor Annette Dunning welcomed Adrian Ramsay, co-leader of the Green Party, and your parliamentary candidate, to Halesworth this November. Locally, she has been working to support local businesses as they suffer with rising bills. These businesses are community hubs for people and we need to help them through this tough time.

One local business owner showed Adrian and Annette his recent electric bill which had hit £2,000 for just one month. Businesses, unlike residential users, get charged 20% VAT but this increase is over 100%. Adrian sympathised: “*We need a short-term solution with a proper windfall tax on oil and gas companies and a longer-term answer by providing proper insulation for all and transitioning to 100% renewable energy in order to wean ourselves off dependence on fossil fuels.*”

Much more needs to be done by both our local council and the government and so Annette was able to shine a spotlight on the lack of support available for struggling businesses as she took Adrian through the Thoroughfare and Market Place. Many expressed the same anxiety with another business saying they will struggle to stay afloat with energy costs reaching £24,000 a year.



ANNETTE DUNING WITH HENRY PARKER-DAY,
ADRIAN RAMSAY, AND ALEX CATT, IN HALESWORTH

ANNETTE DUNNING: WORKING TO GET THINGS DONE IN HALESWORTH

<https://easterngreenparty.org.uk>



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RACHEL KELLETT AND HENRY PARKER-DAY
WALKING THEIR DOGS IN HOLTON PITS



HOLTON PITS DEVELOPMENT BLOCKED

ANNETTE DUNNING SUPPORTS LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUP IN CAMPAIGN TO SAVE GREEN SPACE

Hurrah - we've just heard that Holton Pits is an Asset of Community Value (ACV)! Holton Pits, for decades used as a unique natural open space for recreation by parents, children, dog-walkers and fishermen, was put up for sale by its owner, CEMEX. In a week, over 100 people, led by Rachel Kellett and Gaina Dunsire, formed an unconstituted community group (Holton Pits Preservation Group) supported by local Green Party councillor Annette Dunning to try to prevent the 20 acre site being developed in a manner that would threaten its fragile biodiversity, and restrict access for the local community.

The ACV prevents the owners, CEMEX, from disposing of the property for 6 months allowing time for the community to raise the necessary funds, should they choose to. However, this doesn't have any influence on who the owner sells it to, but it gives us opportunity a chance to bid to keep this as a community open space.

At a meeting many people shared their often life time experience of using the Pits, which were particularly valued during Lock Down. *'They saved my sanity'*, said one. Much has been uncovered about the Pits, not only a crane that may or may not exist in one of the lakes, but also the importance of the northern section as an rare geological site of specific scientific interest, whilst the southern section is a County Wildlife Site.

A core group of local residents have been working hard behind the scenes. As a result, we are supported by Annette Dunning (Suffolk County Councillor) and Holton Parish Council. HPPG are calling a meeting of all who wish to discuss saving the Pits on Wednesday November 30th at Holton Village Hall.



PLANT A TREE IN 73 - DO YOU RECOGNISE ANY OF THESE
EARLY TREE PLANTERS, IN THE PITS. LET US KNOW IF YOU
DO! TREES HAVE ALL GROWN BUT WILL THEY REMAIN?

PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE: Pupils at Holton Primary School gather for a commemorative tree planting

If you'd like to add to our testaments or get involved, you can contact us from here: <https://kaliwood.wordpress.com/pit-stop/>

COUNCILLOR ANNETTE DUNNING TALKS ABOUT LOCALITY BUDGETS

Most people know very little about a councillor's 'locality' budget. "I get £8,000 a year from the County Council to spend on projects which are within my 'Division'. This year, however, I gave nearly half of that to Bungay High School for mental health training, to be delivered as part of the curriculum. Bungay is outside my area, but many of the pupils attending the school come from this Division, so the money benefits our community" explained Annette. "Children's health and wellbeing is of concern, especially after COVID lockdown experiences. Mental health awareness training and the ability to recognise issues amongst their peers is an important skill worth learning." Asked what other grants she had made this year, Annette's said: "I do seem to have focussed rather a lot of time on lavatories. Both the Holton Village Hall and the Rifle Hall in Halesworth need their toilets updated, accessibility would certainly help meet licensing regulations. I have also given money to support the compassionate communities project by the Kinda Forest School and for the development of a women's wellbeing group at The Pear Tree Centre and not forgetting Frostenden playing fields, for a piece of play equipment. I've only £90 left. Any suggestions?"

GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS



HOW CLEAN IS THE RIVER BLYTH?

Following the campaign in Bungay challenging the dumping of sewage into the Waveney River led by Green Party campaigners, - the River Waveney Trust are now working with Anglia Water to raise the standard to human bathing standard. Now councillor Annette Dunning is looking at our own River Blyth which has been scrutinised by local resident Will Harvey who who once worked at a Sewage Treatment Plant, so he knows how they work, or don't work.

During heavy rain the sewage works can't cope with the extra volume and so raw untreated sewage overflows back into our precious rivers and seas, threatening wildlife and our own safety in enjoying these areas. During 2021 there was a total of 159 hours of sewage overflow for Halesworth into the Blyth.

More information can be found at:
<https://top-of-the-poops.org>

Councillor Annette Dunning has questioned whether investment is actually happening to deal with this and stop raw sewage being dumped into our rivers. With the Halesworth water treatment plant appearing unloved and unrepaired, Annette is calling for investment to go into upgrading these systems so that they can handle this extra volume.

Full Article here: [https:// waveney.greenparty.org.uk/2022/11/14/going-through-the-motions/](https://waveney.greenparty.org.uk/2022/11/14/going-through-the-motions/)



REPAIR CAFE ONE YEAR ON TOURING TO THE CUT

Repair Cafe continues to thrive, one year on. In October we had an extra event, in collaboration with the Men's Shed at the Cut Theatre. Central to it all, was the gluing table, where volunteer Chris Hart wielded different glues with expertise according to need. Three sewing machinists, a darner, several electricians were also there and Mens Shed offered tours of their enterprise next door.

If you are interested in getting things mended, learning new skills, or sharing existing ones, please come to our monthly repairs at the library on the 4th Monday of the month (2-4.00). If you cannot make that time, let me know. aliceeastough@hotmail.co.uk



We are collecting stories - here they are, along with details of when and where to find us <https://halesworthrepaircafe.wordpress.com/>

HALESWORTH GREENS WHY NOT JOIN US FOR A GREEN DRINK?

Halesworth Greens are involved in many community-based activities and collaborations. You are welcome to come and talk to us at one of our Green Drinks, which take place on the first Wednesday of the month in the White Hart, in Halesworth Thoroughfare, from 7.30pm. Our Suffolk County Councillor, Annette Dunning, frequently comes. We also meet twice a year in Kaliwoods, Holton, for a brainstorming social under the Hornbeams.



CAN YOU HELP? GREENVIEW IS DELIVERED BY RESIDENTS LIKE YOU IN YOUR AREA. IF YOU CAN SPARE A COUPLE OF HOURS, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH.



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