

Dear Members & Supporters,

Here we are at the end of another year, my first as PPC for Yeovil. We really have made some positive steps and grown as a Party locally this year.

Firstly, our newly updated official Green Party website is now LIVE! Many thanks to Kate Stevenson for all her hard work getting this done; we haven't had a working website for SSGP for some time now, so it's great to finally be up and running again.

<https://southsomerset.greenparty.org.uk/>

Since last month I have met with Cllr Faye Purbrick from SCC regarding the ongoing issue of road safety outside Oaklands and Huish Primary Schools here in Yeovil. Unsurprisingly, she attempted to fob me off, hoping I would go away nicely and stop making a nuisance of myself! Basically, what they are proposing is simply not good enough, cutting corners and trying to "do road safety" on the cheap. Yes, I am perfectly aware that SCC is in serious financial strife at the moment, so perhaps they should have resolved this issue years ago, instead of pandering to residents with connections! As I told Ms Purbrick, it's not her that has to stand in the middle of the road with a four-year-old trying to force the cars to stop and let us cross!

Let's just say, I'm ready for a fight with SCC and I'm not going away!

On a similar theme, SCC is proposing severe cuts to services they currently offer via Children's Centres throughout Somerset. I attended an information session yesterday and met with getset staff, who are extremely concerned about the knock-on effect this will inevitably have for vulnerable kids and their families. Funding to getset has already been drastically reduced by central government, leaving the voluntary sector to pick up the slack, however SCC wants to cut Level 2 support offered by getset for children aged 0-4 and their families: this means one-to-one support for families with additional needs would stop and parenting support groups would close, 10 here in South Somerset.

Please take a couple of minutes to complete the short online questionnaire to let SCC know your thoughts on these proposals. Deadline is 31st Dec.

www.somerset.gov.uk/getsetconsultation

Dates for the diary....



**extinction
rebellion**

**SYMBOLIC
FUNERAL
PROCESSION**

**In memory of the species that have been wiped out
In mourning of the species that will be wiped out
In celebration of the rebellion against this ecological crisis**

This Saturday 8th December, Extinction Rebellion comes to Yeovil. Starts at 11am at St. John's Church, dress as for mourning or as an animal. The procession will move through the town before returning to the Church, where I will be speaking to the assembled participants. It's time for Yeovil to stand up against climate change inaction.

Our social event is on Saturday 12th January at 7:30 at the Muddled Man Inn. Vegetarian buffet and as much skittles as you can handle! All proceeds will go towards the SSGP. Tickets are £10 per person and available via the online link:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/southsomersetgreenparty/214336>

Our next Party meeting is due to be in Ilminster, details to follow.

May I take this opportunity to wish all of you the very best for Christmas and the coming year; may you spend time with loved ones and find yourselves healthy and happy. 2019 means local elections, maybe a general election, maybe even European Elections???! Onwards and upwards.

Until next year.....

Best wishes

Diane Wood (PPC and Membership Secretary)