



Moreton and Saughall Massie Community Newslines 6

News from local councillors **Colin Baldwin, Gary Bennett and Vida Wilson**

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We've done it! A new banking hub is coming

After an 18 month campaign started by your local councillors, banking is coming back to Moreton.

As reported in the Wirral Globe, the bid to bring a new banking 'hub' has been agreed by Link - the cash machine organisation.

Banking hubs are a shared banking space, similar to a traditional bank branch, but available to everyone. The hub will consist of a counter service, where customers of any bank can withdraw and deposit cash, make bill payments and carry out regular banking transactions.

In addition, there will be private spaces where customers can speak to community bankers from their own bank for more complicated matters that require specialist knowledge or privacy. The banks will be working on a rotating basis, so there will be staff from different banks available on different days.

So what happens next? Link will identify the top 10 banks for this area, based on the number of accounts held by residents and businesses. Those 10 banks will be invited to take part in this hub. In the meantime, Link, and their agents, Cash Access UK, will be working with your local councillors to identify suitable premises in Moreton. The aim is to open it within the next 12 months.



Councillors Gary Bennett, Vida Wilson and Colin Baldwin celebrate the news that a banking hub is coming to Moreton.

Reporting back: local issues, local action



Environment Agency acts on Arroe Brook

While Storm Babet saw water levels in the Birket and the Arroe Brook rise dramatically, the clearance work in the summer by the Environment Agency, following requests from Vida, ensured the waters flowed but thankfully did not flood.



Saughall Bridge Post Office to reopen?

Following our appeals to the Post Office, they have confirmed they are working to have the branch at Saughall Bridge on Hoylake Road re-opened. Vida has stressed to them its importance to the local community.



Another delay on review of Fender Lane

Gary continues to push the Council to publish the survey into the usage of the cycle scheme on Fender Lane, including questions made to the Labour Councillor in charge of the scheme at recent council meetings. We'll report back when we get it.



Town Hall apologises for bin problems

During late summer, the emptying of street litter bins ceased in many parts of Moreton and Saughall Massie. Colin reported numerous problems and the Council did eventually apologise. We are also pushing for the installation of the new bins.

Promoted by Ian Lewis, on behalf of Wallasey and Birkenhead Conservative Federation, both at PO Box 290, Wirral CH29 9GB. Printed by Paragon CC, 19 Brunswick Street, Liverpool, L2 0PJ.

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Calls to review 20mph zones rejected by Town Hall

The roll out of 20 mph speed limits almost all residential roads in Wirral will continue, after calls to review Phase 1 first, were voted down.

At the Council meeting on 9 October, Labour, Green and Liberal Democrat councillors voted against a proposal to pause the roll out, to enable results from Phase 1 of the scheme to be analysed.

The call, by the Borough's Conservative Councillors, would have also seen a proper consultation with residents and road users, while continuing with road safety measures around schools.

Wirral Council has said the scheme so far is costing £350,000 but with no additional resources to enforce it.

Councillors of all parties have supported road safety measures at many of the worst crash hot spots and near schools.

Over the last 10 years, this has contributed to a reduction in the number of people in Wirral seriously

injured or killed from 161 in 2013 to 137 last year.

However, there is no evidence, yet, that the blanket 20mph zones will reduce that figure here, or how those who currently drive irresponsibly or under the influence of drink or drugs will change their behaviour.



Embankment clean up after calls by councillors

In our Summer newsletter, we reported on calls by Councillor Gary Bennett for the Embankment to be cleared of weeds, sand and litter. We're pleased to report that work has now been carried out.



Consultation closes on new 'parking strategy'

Thank you to everyone who responded to our email bulletin in September, highlighting a new parking 'strategy' that could see parking charges introduced in Moreton. We'll report back when we have details.



Better bus services on the way for Wirral?

Six years after being given the power to improve bus services, it looks like the Liverpool City Region and Metro Mayor are finally going to use them. The powers enable essential, but unprofitable routes, to be secured.

Hearing underway on plan to protect our local Green Belt

The latest stage of the review of the Council's draft Local Plan is underway. Independent Inspectors are questioning council managers and developers at meetings held in public at Birkenhead Town Hall.

At the time of going to print, the proposals by Bloor Homes, Taylor Wimpey and Russell Homes for more than 1,000 houses on Green Belt around Saughall Massie were set to be considered.

In September, at their Party Conference in Liverpool, Labour pledged to ignore any future concerns of residents and campaigners and to give the go ahead to building on the country's Green Belt.



Local Councillors Colin Baldwin, Gary Bennett and Vida Wilson at Saughall Road - where Taylor Wimpey want to build 180 houses.

Welcome to our new members

Thank you to those supporters in Moreton and Saughall Massie who have joined us since the last edition of our newsletter.

We now offer three levels of membership:

- £10 a year if aged 26 or under
- £25 a year if a current or former member of the Armed Forces
- £3.50 a month by direct debit, or £39 a year by cheque, for standard membership.

Every new member makes us that bit stronger and all of the membership fee is used locally.

Go to www.conservatives.com/join