

GREEN VIEW #11

BROMBOROUGH, PORT SUNLIGHT & NEW FERRY



Kieran Murphy



Ruth Molyneux



Cllr Jo Bird

UPROAR OVER RENT HIKES AND REPAIRS

Port Sunlight residents in despair over 26% surge in rents and repairs backlog



Green campaigner Kieran Murphy chats with Port Sunlight residents Trevor and Edith Jones

Cllr Jo Bird has spoken out as tenants in Port Sunlight village face massive rent hikes while essential repairs are not being completed by Port Sunlight Village Trust.

Jo says, "Over a dozen tenants have contacted me with their concerns. During a cost of living crisis, Port Sunlight Village Trust is choosing to impose extortionate rent increases. **Some rents are going up by as much as 26%. This is not okay and not charitable.** We urge Trustees to think again and negotiate with your tenants. Meanwhile, we urge the Trust to freeze all disputed rent increases.

Many of their properties are cold, old, mouldy and hard to heat. With £40m in assets and over £1m net surplus last year, Port Sunlight Village Trust can afford to improve and insulate all its 292 rented properties up to decent standards."

GREEN ACTION STREET BY STREET

Here are some of the successful outcomes from the many recent reports from your Green team

- We have assisted numerous residents with **disability and welfare** issues including assisted bin collections and blue badges
- Kieran, Ruth and Jo met with Merseyrail, Merseytravel and the Liverpool City Combined Authority to urge an immediate restoration of train services at **Bromborough Rake station**
- Petitions started against incinerator ash planning application close to **River Park**
- Dozens of street lights fixed across **Port Sunlight** village
- Large overhanging tree branches trimmed back on **Croft Avenue, Magazine Walk, Mayfields Park** and **The Glen**
- Overgrown hedges trimmed back on **New Chester Road, New Ferry Road, the railway path** and **Wirral Circular Trail**
- Double yellow lines will be extended on **Queensbury Avenue** and **High Street** to reduce dangerous parking
- New trees will be planted to replace felled poplars on **Church Drive**
- Litter bin moved off cycle path on **New Chester Road**
- Road safety on **Spital Road** to be reconsidered by council officers.



Ruth talks to resident Neil Belton about the disability adaptations installed at his family home



60 seconds with Jo Bird

With the local elections just a few months away here is the first of three introductions to your Green candidates.

Why are you standing for re-election? It's a privilege and a pleasure to represent Bromborough, Port Sunlight, New Ferry and Spital. Our communities are full of people passionate about making things better for people and the environment. I love amplifying our voices and achieving positive changes.

What changes are you most proud of achieving as a Councillor?

1. Winning some justice for victims of the New Ferry explosion and rebuilding New Ferry precinct
2. Reporting over a thousand local problems to the council for fixing
3. Proposing balanced council budgets with no cuts to valued local services
4. Promoting the Real Living Wage and standing with frontline workers on strike for decent pay
5. Introduction of new 20 mile per hour zones later this year

Why are you standing for the Greens? I was first elected as your local councillor in 2018 – and re-elected in 2021 with 61% of your votes. In November 2021 the Labour Party expelled me for talking about the racism I deal with as a Jewish person. I'm honoured to be standing as a Green candidate. Wirral Green councillors treat people fairly, protect public services like libraries, buses and trains - and put local communities before party politics.

What do you like to do in your spare time? Hahaha! What spare time?! I enjoy comedy, hanging out with my family and student step-daughter, and exploring new places, cultures and languages.



THE RESULTS ARE IN!

Jo confirmed as Wirral's hardest working councillor

Official figures from Wirral Council confirm what many residents in Bromborough, Port Sunlight and New Ferry already know: Jo Bird is Wirral's hardest working councillor.

During 2022, **Jo reported 586 issues on behalf of residents** using the council's web platform which all councillors are required to use. Jo's total was the highest of all 66 councillors in Wirral.

Jo's results reflect an extremely strong performance for the group of 9 Green councillors in Wirral. Greens typically reported 273 cases each. That was miles ahead of the Lib Dems (84) and even further ahead of Labour and Conservatives (both 37). Jo says, *"The evidence speaks for itself. Green councillors work harder on behalf of residents than any other party. I'm very proud to be part of a group that gives so much back to our wonderful communities."*



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Kieran, Ruth and Jo celebrate Graham and Ann's attractive alleyway behind **Beaconsfield Road**