

ST HELENS BOROUGH LABOUR GROUP

Haydock

Remembrance
Garden

NOVEMBER 2021 REVIEW



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ST HELENS REMEMBERS

Mayor of St Helens Cllr Sue Murphy, Labour councillors, MPs and members were proud to take part in Remembrance Sunday events around the borough. We remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom, and will be forever grateful to all those who continue to serve in our Armed Forces. Lest we forget.

MAJOR SCHEMES APPROVED

Following exhaustive public inquiries, Ministers have approved our decision to regenerate the former Parkside colliery site in Newton-le-Willows, and plans can also progress for major new investment and jobs at Omega West along the M62.

Various Parkside schemes have faced many hurdles since the pit closed three decades ago, but the hard work of our Labour council and councillors – working in partnership with Langtree, St Helens North MP Conor McGinn, and the Liverpool City Region – has paid off. The first phase of development will see 93,000 square metres of new employment space built on the site, which will bring a range of jobs offering a variety of skills. The announcement also saw approval of the Parkside Link Road, and given that the site is also a major part of the City Region's bid for Freeport status the potential opportunities here are extremely significant.

At Omega West, Home Bargains will take the largest distribution unit – they're a fantastic employer and I warmly welcome them and this development to our borough. The project will create an estimated 1200 construction jobs in the development of the site, and more than 1000 new jobs – many high skill, high pay – when fully operational.

We will continue to do everything we can to attract new jobs, opportunities and prosperity to St Helens. **Read more from Cllr Richard McCauley about the huge opportunity these schemes represent:** <https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2021/11/12/opportunity/>.

LABOUR CONDEMN TORY BUDGET AND UNIVERSAL CREDIT CUT

At November's full council meeting St Helens Borough Labour brought two motions – one condemning the cut of £20 a week to Universal Credit at a time when energy, food and other costs are rising, and a second expressing our concern and anger at a Tory Budget which does nothing for ordinary households but cuts tax for banks and champagne.

Labour councillors including Anthony Burns, Derek Long and Michelle Sweeney spoke passionately on behalf of residents and our communities who are suffering at the hands of the Tories. **Read more:** <https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2021/11/04/budget2021-2/>.



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ST HELENS PLEDGES TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

On White Ribbon Day Thursday 25 November, St Helens Borough Council asked communities, organisations and workplaces across the borough to come together and say 'no' to violence against women and girls. The awareness day comes after a dramatic increase in domestic violence cases, especially towards women.

Read more: <https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2021/11/25/st-helens-borough-pledges-to-end-violence-against-women-on-white-ribbon-day/>.

ST HELENS HOSTS STRATEGIC REGIONAL TRANSPORT MEETING

Plans to improve public transport across the wider St Helens, Wigan and Warrington areas were among the items on the agenda as part of a Strategic Transport Meeting held in St Helens Town Hall.

Liverpool City Region Metro Mayor Steve Rotheram and Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham joined St Helens Borough Council Leader Councillor David Baines, St Helens North MP Conor McGinn, and representatives from Wigan and Warrington Councils, Transport for Greater Manchester and MerseyTravel. Read more: <https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2021/11/23/transportsummit/>.

MORE SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES AVAILABLE – AND FREE SATURDAY PARKING ANNOUNCED

Businesses in St Helens Borough impacted by the coronavirus pandemic can still apply for a share of an additional £8.1m funding package from the Liverpool City Region Trading On Scheme.

We've also announced free Saturday parking in the run up to Christmas. See <https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2021/11/26/business-grant-scheme-extended/> and <https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2021/11/26/free-saturday-parking/> for more information.

GRASSROOTS SPORT IMPROVEMENTS AT HAYDOCK AND SUTTON

Major investment is taking place at Sutton and Haydock to improve facilities for grassroots sports and thousands of participants in a variety of sports.

Read more about the improvements at <https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2021/11/06/haydock-kgv-plans-approved/> and <https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2021/11/25/sutton3g/>.



SPECIAL FEATURE:

ST HELENS LEADING THE WAY ON CLIMATE CHANGE

St Helens is leading the way in the fight against climate change, and our Labour council is at the forefront.

In the past month Cllr Andy Bowden, Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport, led on the approval of our new Climate Action Plan: <https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2021/11/11/pathway-to-net-zero-carbon-emissions-set-as-cabinet-approves-climate-change-response-plan/> and we held the first meeting of our Youth Climate Commission: <https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2021/11/25/youthclimatechangecommission/>. Our first ever Climate Change Champion Cllr Mancya Uddin also brought a motion to council calling on the Government to make the most of the COP26 opportunity: <https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2021/11/05/climatechangemotion/>.

Mancya says: *"I want to thank everyone who supported the COP26 motion highlighting the excellent work the Council is doing that I am extremely proud of, and calling for further support from Government so we can go further and create longer-lasting change. The necessity to act couldn't be clearer than it is now and that is why we are investing in our future, making our borough cleaner and greener for those who'll come after us."*

St Helens and our City Region were well represented at COP26: <https://www.sthelenslabour.org/latest-news/2021/11/07/st-helens-leading-the-way-at-cop26/>.

Council leader David Baines says: *"It was a privilege to represent St Helens at COP26. As the City Region portfolio holder for Climate Emergency and Renewable Energy I had meetings with regional, national and international partners and stakeholders to discuss a range of common issues and challenges. I also spoke at an event to highlight Glass Futures with attendees from regional and national partners and at an event to promote the Mersey Tidal project."*

I left the conference feeling confident that St Helens and our region are in an excellent position to seize the opportunities to create new green jobs, new sustainable homes, and new cleaner transport – all to help us not just reach net zero, but to create a more equal and sustainable economy to benefit the many not the few."

Our recent work builds on other progress including the appointment of Cllr Mancya Uddin as our first ever Climate Change Champion and co-chair of our first Climate Change Commission; fighting for funding to redevelop brownfield land; organising green festivals; fighting for and winning investment in sustainable transport improvements; working with partners to invest in hydrogen-fuelled buses for St Helens; launching a grant scheme for local green projects; supporting the delivery of world-first energy projects, and much more.

Labour are the only Party taking the action necessary to bring about the changes we need. Find out more at <https://www.sthelenslabour.org/climatechange/>.



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