

# Green View

Hitchin Walsworth  
Autumn 2015



## Anti-austerity Action

**Richard Cano** met with Natalie Bennett, Leader of the Green Party, to join the demonstration against austerity in Hitchin Town Square. The protest was organised by The People's Assembly who campaign against government cuts, which are affecting so many people in Hitchin and across the UK.



## Contacting Richard

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have an issue we could help with or would like to know more about your local Green Party.

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Visit our website at <http://northherts.greenparty.org.uk>

Facebook: **North Hertfordshire & Stevenage Green Party**



## Cycling

You may have seen Richard Cano and his Green Party team in your road delivering our survey to residents. If you haven't received a survey yet, you will soon. We are aiming to knock on every door in Walsworth Ward.

The results so far show that cycling and cycle safety is an issue many people are concerned about. Of the survey responses received to date, over 50% contained comments about feeling unsafe cycling on the roads in Hitchin. Several people were in support of more cycle lanes to improve safety for cyclists, together with lower speed limits for vehicles. Many expressed concern about the narrow streets with parked cars and the number of HGVs travelling on the roads.

### Green Party policy aims to:

- **Make streets healthy and safe places for people to cycle and walk and for children to play, giving them the opportunity to include physical activity in their daily journeys;**
- **Work to reduce traffic accidents and fuel use by ensuring existing speed limits are enforced with speed cameras and policing;**
- **Help schools and workplaces to support active travel for students and employees, ensuring local authorities assist this by linking public health and transport functions;**
- **Ensure that all planning decisions have to take into account the implications for active travel and good public transport links;**
- **Provide cycle parking in towns and cities where there is demand and invest in on-street secure cycle storage in residential streets.**

Richard Cano said, *"The Green Party supports better facilities for cycling as part of its Transport Policy. We want to reduce traffic congestion and air pollution in and around Hitchin, to improve the environment for everyone. It is important to enhance road safety as, not only will it encourage more people to cycle, it will have the effect of reducing the numbers of deaths and serious injuries caused by road traffic accidents."*

The Green Party's plan is very much in line with the findings of the Get Britain Cycling Inquiry, an initiative of the All Party Parliamentary Cycling Group ('APPCG'). Their April 2013 report recommended a transformation of our towns, streets and communities, and in the way we think about cycling. APPCG's vision is to see an increase in the number and diversity of people who cycle, and an increase in the percentage of journeys by cycle (from less than 2% in 2011, to around 25% by 2050). The Green Party calls upon both local and national politicians to make this a reality by acting on these recommendations.

For more information, please see:

<http://www.sustrans.org.uk/sites/default/files/images/files/get%20britain%20cycling/get-britain-cycling.pdf>

## The Green Party – for the Common Good

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Promoted by Richard Cano, c/o 15 Hampden Road, Hitchin, SG4 0LD, on behalf of himself.