

# Habberley & Blakebrook



The Newsletter of your  
Local Conservatives

# Matters

Editor: Cllr Ken Prosser

April 2012

## Ken Prosser to Seek Re-Election!

Your Habberley and Blakebrook Conservative team is delighted to announce that your sitting councillor, Councillor Ken Prosser, is to seek re-election on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

Ken has served the residents of Habberley and Blakebrook on Wyre Forest District Council since 2008, responding to hundreds of local residents' issues within the ward.

In Habberley and Blakebrook you have three councillors to represent you and as Wyre Forest District Council elects in thirds, it is Ken's turn for re-election.

Ken Prosser says, "It is an honour to have served the residents of Habberley and Blakebrook for the last 4 years and I believe that you have a strong local Conservative team working hard all year round on every issue. If you feel that I do a good job as your local ward councillor please use your vote on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May to support me."



**Ken Prosser**  
The Conservative Party Candidate



### Contact your Habberley & Blakebrook Team

If you have a problem concerning local issues, please contact:

Ken, Ian, Anne or Marcus on:

☎ 01562 631139

For national issues, please contact Mark on:

☎ 01562 746771

or email: [office@wyreforestconservatives.com](mailto:office@wyreforestconservatives.com)

Or write to: 35 Mill St, Kidderminster, DY11 6XB.



Cllr Ken Prosser  
Habberley & Blakebrook



Cllr Ian Hardiman  
Habberley & Blakebrook



Cllr Anne Hingley  
St Barnabas



Cllr Marcus Hart  
St Johns



Mark Garnier  
MP

## **Government pledges £100,000 to Support Kidderminster Town Centre**



### **Your Habberley & Blakebrook Team; Working together to bring life back into Kidderminster High Street**

The Government has announced that it has pledged £100,000 to support Kidderminster Town Centre. This money is part of a £10m fund established by the Government to address the issues raised by Mary Portas in her review of the Town Centres in the UK.

In launching the fund, The Rt Hon Grant Shapps said "I'm accepting virtually all of the recommendations from Mary Portas's review - but I'm also going that one step further, offering a 'Portas-Plus' deal, with a range of measures designed to help local people turn their high streets into the beating hearts of their communities once again."

This money will be used in conjunction with the £1,000,000 fund created by the Conservative Controlled District Council to help support the local economy including Kidderminster town centre.

Cllr Ken Prosser says "My colleagues and I are working hard with all our partners to support the local economy including the Town Centre. There is much to do, but this additional money will really help us get projects delivered."

## **Residents Concern over School Dog Bin**

Councillor Ian Hardiman is pleased to report that the Dog Litter Bin that is attached to the Safety Fence by the entrance to St. John's School will soon be moved by Wyre Forest District Council. This follows residents raising concerns over child safety and health issues. The bin will be moved to the grass verge opposite the Police Station.

Cllr Hardiman says "Local residents raised this issue with your local Conservative Team and I am pleased we have been able to come up with a sensible solution. We want to encourage all dog owners to be responsible and clear up after their pets. To enable them to do this there need to be dog bins, but it is right that school children aren't affected by them."

## **Community Leadership Fund Announced**

Your Habberley & Blakebrook Conservative team is pleased to announce that at the budget meeting on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> February a new 'Community Fund' has been set up for each ward councillor to spend on projects in their own ward.

Each councillor has been allocated £1000 and Ken and Ian will be announcing how local residents and community groups within Habberley & Blakebrook can apply for funding in due course.

Habberley & Blakebrook Ward Councillor Ken Prosser says, "This is great news for the residents of Habberley & Blakebrook and another example of local Conservative Councillors investing in local residents and local organisations. There are many community groups doing good work in the ward and I hope we will be able to support their work through this fund."

He added "This money has only been possible because of the continued efficiencies delivered by your Conservative run District Council."

## Good Things Come In Threes



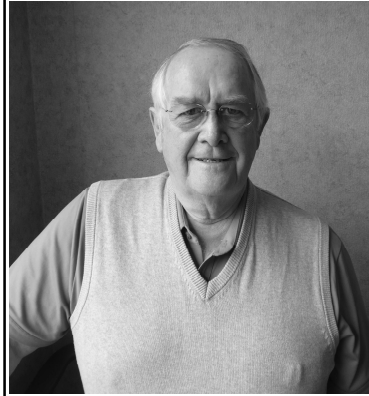
Earlier this year Wyre Forest proudly opened its new Crematorium and Cemetery, the result of hard work by the local Conservative controlled District Council.

Later this year we will see the opening of the new HQ for the District Council on Stourport Road, delivering £500,000 of efficiency savings every year. This project, in some form, has had the support of members of all political groups, but it has taken a Conservative Group to deliver. The project will see money diverted from office buildings into protecting front line services.

The building of the new HQ has given local jobs to local people and it's hoped that many of their skills will be put to good use when the next major project to build a new leisure centre is undertaken. Again this is being delivered by your Conservative Council, saving £100,000's per year.

Cllr Ken Prosser says "All of these capital projects will bring long term benefits to the Wyre Forest. All three either have or will bring both cost savings for the local taxpayer and much needed jobs and skills for local people."

## Local Issues - Raised by Residents



Whilst out discussing local issues on the doorstep with many local residents over the past few weeks, issues have been pointed out which Cllr Ken Prosser and the Habberley & Blakebrook

Conservative Team are actively seeking to resolve.

Cllr Ken Prosser says "In Pineridge Drive it's clear that some people are not clearing up after their dogs, especially in the alleyway. We can look at enforcement, but a community spirit would make the area less offensive for your fellow residents if you would just please clear up the dog mess."

Ken added "I'm pleased to report that we hope to find funding for the footpaths, and a 'no entry' sign is already on order to try to stop traffic turning into the road, with the potential for accidents when 3 point turns are being made.

On Western way it became clear that the road surface is in a terrible condition, I will be doing my best to bring pressure that will mean that resurfacing takes place as soon as possible. The residents of Summerhill Avenue and the surrounding roads are right to be concerned about speeding traffic. Efforts continue by your local Conservative Team to persuade County Highways that speed continues to be a problem and that something of a more permanent nature needs to be done.

Cllr Ken Prosser says "I am trying to persuade the Highways Department to get a permanent solution to this important safety issue."

These were just a few of the issues that have been raised by local Residents to you Local Conservative team.

# Diamond Jubilee



As most residents will be aware, the Conservative controlled District Council has provided funding to help local residents celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June.

Over 50 applications were received from local community groups, including several from Habberley & Blakebrook. The groups were organising a varied range of events from tree planting and fun days, to teas, lunches and street parties. The funding applied for nearly trebled the amount available so it was not possible to give groups all they asked for, but with few exceptions, WFDC will be able to give support to most of the groups.

Cllr Ken Prosser says "It was really good to see that all the events designed by the successful applicants are to bring local communities together and, in the case of the street parties, will enable neighbours to meet each other."

He added "We were really pleased at the huge number of applications and the enthusiasm for the Jubilee. Although the country faces tough financial times, we had to strike a balance between the funding available and that applied for. We have been able to support a wide range of events and, most importantly, across the whole of Wyre Forest".

# PACT Meeting Dates

The next Habberley & Blakebrook meetings will be held on:

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May 6.30 p.m.**

**&**

**Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 6.30 p.m.**

Both at St. Pius' Church Habberley Estate.

Cllr Ken Prosser says, "These local meetings are a direct way that local people can ask for things to be done in their area. It is important that we all play our part in improving our local community. Please do come along and have your say."

## Wyre Forest Conservatives Investing in New Leisure Facilities

At the budget council meeting on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> February the Conservative controlled Wyre Forest District Council approved £300,000 to be invested in splash parks facilities.

Councillor Marcus Hart says, "We have a number of paddling pools across the district that are becoming outdated, expensive to run and requiring a lot of maintenance and we are looking at replacing them with new state of the art modern facilities."

There are currently 4 paddling pools throughout the district.

Marcus added, "Obviously Brinton Park in the heart of Kidderminster is the flagship park for the district and I will be strongly arguing that this should be one of the strategic locations for one of the new splash park facilities."