

The newsletter of your local Conservatives

Lickhill Matters



Editor: Councillor Dave Little

November 2011

STOURPORT'S BIG STEP FORWARD **LOCAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP**



In a major step forward Wyre Forest District Council recently gave "in principle" agreement to the transfer of the Civic Centre and Civic Hall into community ownership/management following a draft business case.

This means that the Stourport Facilities Project Steering Group can start to work in earnest, on the next stage of the project to develop a multi-use hub at the Civic Centre, and to further develop plans for the recently formed Civic Group to take over the management of the Civic Hall/theatre from June 2012, when the District Council vacate the site.

In this ground-breaking project local Councillors Dave Little and colleagues from other political parties, together with officers and representatives of local community groups, have put politics to one side and worked together to develop the Stourport Civic Centre as the "Heart" of the Community.

Anyone who would like to get involved should contact Liz Sheerin, Stourport Forward on 01299 822827 or use the FREEPOST reply slip on page 4.

Do you have an issue concerning Lickhill?

Then get in touch with

Your Lickhill Conservative Team on:

01299 824373

If you have a national issue, then you can contact

Mark Garnier on: 01562 746 771.

Email: office@wyreforestconservatives.com

Write: 35 Mill St, Kidderminster, DY11 6XB



**Councillor
David Little**



**Mark
Garnier
MP**

www.wyreforestconservatives.com

LICKHILL CONSERVATIVES

COMMUNICATING WITH OUR RESIDENTS

Many residents, when they have a problem with services, are sometimes confused as to where to go for help – apart from their local Councillors.

Wyre Forest District Council has a resident's magazine called "Wyredin" which has two editions for summer and winter. You can sign up to receive the magazine at:

www.wyreforest.gov.uk/wyredin

In addition, Wyre Forest District Council's website offers an A-Z of council services, Councillor profiles and a list of the four departments and their various responsibilities. You can access the website:

ww.wyreforestdc.gov.uk

Customer Services (the best in Worcestershire) can be contacted on 01562 732928 or call in at the Civic Centre, New Street, Stourport on Severn, Mon/Friday 9am–5pm or email at worcesteshirehub@wyreforest.org.uk



COUNTY'S POLICY ON HIGHWAY TREES

At this time of year, it is quite common for councillors and spokespeople to receive comments and complaints about trees, especially so because as the leaves fall tree damage and dead wood become apparent. With this in mind, Lickhill residents may find it useful to understand the County's policy on trees.

The County will not carry out work on highway trees for:

- Restriction of light;
- Cables in trees;
- Reasons pertaining to birds, leaves, sap;
- Roots in drainage.

The County will carry out work on highway trees for:

- Trees which present a danger to the public;
- Trees touching property or preventing residents from walking around their garden;
- Roots causing damage to a property (based on a tree inspection and report advice, which may require evidence gathered over up to 5 years);
- Valid safety concerns (following a tree inspection);
- Dead trees (a stump will be left, so that if funds allow the tree might be replaced);
- Restrictions to the travelling public;
- Replacement of missing trees (where funds allow).

The trimming of trees is always balanced with the possibility of damaging the tree (through poor cutting, or cutting at the wrong time of year et cetera) and making a tree too heavy on one side can cause it to fall and/or die.

In general, the County cannot offer any financial help with trimming problem trees, but will listen to concerns and will arrange for the tree to be inspected if required.

WORKING FOR YOU ALL YEAR ROUND

MARK GARNIER PUSHES REGENERATION AGENDA

On 20th October Mark Garnier MP organised a meeting between Board Members of the Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), officers of the Wyre Forest District Council and Local Government Secretary of State the Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP. The meeting was initiated by Mark after the bid for the Kidderminster Business Park was not successful in achieving Business Enterprise Zone (BEZ) status.

The result of the meeting is that Eric Pickles has promised to assist the South Kidderminster Business Park in attaining much of what BEZ status would have provided. Importantly, he has agreed that he will help with the local development order, which will give blanket planning permission for new business premises and extensions for existing business premises; he has agreed to provide help with local infrastructure bottlenecks; and he will make his officials available to WFDC officers to help with any other issues that may arise.



Speaking after the meeting, Mark Garnier said: "I am incredibly grateful to Eric ... we achieved everything that we wanted from this and when taken into account with the fact that BT and Virgin are providing super fast broadband for Kidderminster, we are getting very close to everything that a BEZ can provide, but without any of the restrictions. This is a good day for the Wyre Forest and I am delighted that we are making progress. This provides more opportunity for existing businesses and an attractive venue for new businesses to relocate to".

The South Kidderminster Business Park covers around 200 Ha of brownfield and industrial land along the Stourport Road and Worcester Road corridors.



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



As we approach the festivities of Christmas, let us "Pause for Thought". Let us take a few moments on Christmas Day, to remember families who have been devastated by war, famine and floods. Also, those closer to home that are less fortunate than ourselves. As 2012 arrives, let us hope that the New Year brings prosperity for all.

***Your Lickhill Conservative Team
would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year.***



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Now that (in principle) the transfer into community ownership of the Civic Centre and Civic Hall is now taking place, "volunteers" are required.

If the transfer into Community Ownership is to be successful we need your help.

If you are retired, semi-retired, have a trade skill, or skills in marketing or finance, or you can pick up a paint brush, or help at functions, your time as a volunteer is precious. Please fill in the form giving your details and send to the **FREEPOST** address

Name: -----

Address: -----

Tel: -----

Skills offered: -----

Mobile No: -----

Email: -----

**SEND TO: LICKHILL CONSERVATIVES, c/o WFCA,
FREEPOST MID 31156, 35 Mill St, Kidderminster, DY11 6BR**



LICKHILL PACT MEETING

**Come along to the next meeting on:
Monday 12 December 2011, 7.00 pm
Lickhill Community Centre**

Don't Be Left In The Dark

**Phone 'Lights Out' Line
Freephone: 0800 137 352
For Repairs To Street Lamps
Unlit At Night Or On In The Day**

Do You Need Help From Your Lickhill Conservative Team?

Dear Dave and Mark,
Something should be done about ...

Name.....

Address.....

Email.....

Tel..... Mob.....

When completed please return to:

Lickhill Conservatives, c/o WFCA 35 Mill St, Kidderminster, DY11 6XB