

# Rock Matters



The Newsletter of your Local Conservatives

Editor: Cllr Douglas Godwin

October 2011

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## SUCCESS Clows Top

Your Rock Conservative Team was pleased to see how the community worked together to raise a collective loud voice saying "NO" to the proposed consultation for a gypsy and travellers' site at Clows Top. The District Cabinet has removed the Clows Top site from the consultation and it will not be considered further.

Councillor Douglas Godwin says, "I was totally opposed to the plans and worked with the community and other Conservative councillors in Wyre Forest and Malvern Hills District to have this site removed from the consultation process".

County Councillor John Campion added, "I was also concerned to see the Clows Top site proposed by the District Council's consultants. Anybody with sufficient knowledge of the site would have known that it was completely unsuitable for this type of use. What is needed in the area is affordable housing and I will be working with my colleagues to progress that issue."



### Contact your Rock Conservative Team

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

Douglas or John on:

☎ 01562 823820

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.



District Councillor  
Douglas  
Godwin



County Councillor  
John  
Campion



Mark  
Garnier  
MP

# ROCK CONSERVATIVES

## ROAD WORKS UPDATE



The works that have been carried out along the A456 and A4117 have cost some £170,000 and Douglas is very glad that the works were carried out quickly and thanks the residents for their fortitude during the disruption. Road works and road drainage continue to be a problem but the repair of the Dark Lane culvert was completed on budget. Douglas will report any damage to the roads and the drainage system; the theft of drain covers has been a continuing problem and Douglas has been working with the Highways Department and police to try and stop this anti-social and dangerous stealing of metal which is not scrap!

Douglas has also had the roadside along Lem Hill cut back and the verge cleared so that the "Johnson" road sweeper can get closer to the kerb. Douglas comments, "This is the first time that this hill has been swept for over five years".

The broken main at Gorst Hill has been repaired but the road is still in a poor state. Your Rock Conservative team has this matter under review with the Highways Department and further works are planned for the road.

The leaking water at Cross Bank has been inspected again and works are now planned for the culvert at Gladderbrook which will take this water problem into account when the works are done.

Last but by no means least, roadside fences have also been reported and works are promised to replace dangerous broken railings.

## COUNTY COUNCILLORS' DIVISIONAL FUND

The Conservative-controlled County Council has established a fund for each County Councillor of £10,000 to spend on projects in their division. The fund is part of a new focus of localism from the County Council, recognising that local decision making and spending is a first step towards empowering communities.

Rock County Councillor John Champion says, "I have funded a range of projects so far, from activities for young people, community transport and other community groups. If you are aware of a local community group or project that needs a small amount of pump-priming money, then please do get in touch."

Full details of the scheme and what the money has been spent on can be found at the County Council's website: [www.worcestershire.gov.uk](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk)



# WORKING FOR YOU ALL YEAR ROUND!

## THE TRAVELLERS REST

Your District Councillor, Douglas Godwin is very pleased to report that a second bus shelter has recently been put in place in Far Forest. Douglas says, "It has been a long hard slog on the Parish Council's behalf to get these bus shelters in place and I want to express my thanks to the Parish Council for their hard work and funding for the project".

Douglas has also received many letters from distressed residents expressing their concern over the reduced level of bus services as the County Council struggles to save £70m from its budget.



## COMMUNITY HOUSING

Councillor Douglas Godwin now sits on the Wyre Forest Community Housing board as a Director responsible for the management and provision of the housing. Ensuring the supply of suitable, sustainable housing is one of the most important functions of a civilised society. This is a complicated and difficult area taking into account planning law, finance, design and overall provision of homes for the residents of the District. However, we are all working hard to provide more affordable and energy efficient homes.

## SUGARS LANE PUMPING STATION

At long last the problems with the Pumping Station appear to be progressing. Douglas is able to report that, after several surveys and drainage tests over the past year, Severn Trent has agreed to the replacement of the current plant with a larger and more modern system fit for purpose to serve the whole village. This has taken three years of letters, reports, photographs and complaints from the residents demanding that something be done. It is hoped that new plant will be in service in the New Year.



## THE ECONOMY

Councillor Douglas Godwin has been working with employers and workers within the ward to try and reduce the effects of the down turn in the economy and cuts in public spending. Your Conservative Team fully supports the additional £250k that the District Council has invested in Economic Regeneration in Wyre Forest. The money will be used to help support existing businesses, attract new ones to the District and help support new business start-ups. Douglas says, "I fully support all sections of the working community and my colleagues and I are working towards making sure there are more local job opportunities."

## KILL YOUR SPEED

Councillor Douglas Godwin is pleased to report that new speed warning signs are to be installed soon with help from both the Parish Council and County Council. The warning signs are to be located on the A456 and A4117 and will cost several thousand pounds. They will be up for a few days and then moved again so that the warning remains 'fresh'. The accident at the Lye Head/A456 junction in the summer proved how fast this road is and Douglas, who continues to monitor the speed reports and problems, was glad that the cyclist recovered well.

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## **ROCK AND FAR FOREST CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION**

Back in June the Rock & Far Forest branch of the Wyre Forest Conservative Association held a very successful coffee morning at Organs Hill Farm. This is the first of many events where I can meet with the members of the association and residents of the ward and have a chat about the various matters that concern us all in our busy lives. Douglas says, "I hope that other such events will happen this year and during the coming campaigns".

## **THE DISTRICT DIARY REPORT**

Look out for the *Rock & District News* as Douglas has a monthly article on District Matters and publishes useful information on the work of the council and your District Councillor. Douglas says, "This is a very useful and informative magazine that is available from various pubs, restaurants and shops in the area".

## **CLOWS TOP DEVELOPMENT BY MAR CITY**

Your District Councillor, Douglas Godwin has been behind the proposed redevelopment of the car park and Old Crown Pub site to include some 12 to 14 houses opposite the current Terrace.

At a recent meeting of residents, Douglas spoke on the difficulties involved in developing the site and the difficulties for the installation of mains drainage. The development has been planned for some time but the difficulties with the infrastructure have yet to be addressed. It is hoped a further meeting with the developer and Severn Trent will shed light on the problems. Douglas continues to support sustainable development in the community and believes that these drainage difficulties can be overcome.

### **PACT MEETING**

To find out when your next Rock PACT meeting is scheduled please visit:  
[www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk)

### **THE BIG TIDY UP**

Look out for the next big tidy up coming to your area. Douglas is glad to be able to help keep our ward part of the green England that we all love.

## **Do You Need Help From Your Local Conservative Team?**

Dear Douglas, John or Mark  
Something should be done about ...

### **Or Can You Help Your Local Conservative Team?**

All Conservative Party leaflets are delivered by volunteers. Can you help your local Conservative Team to keep in touch on a regular basis, by delivering just a few leaflets in the Rock area? If so, either tick the box, fill in your details below and send back to us or alternatively telephone the team on 01562 823820. Thank You.

**Yes, I can deliver a few leaflets**

Name.....Address.....

Email..... Tel..... Mob.....

When completed please return to, **Rock Conservatives, c/o WFCAs, 35 Mill St, Kidderminster, Worcs. DY11 6XB**