

## crime falls in West Mercia

Recorded crime in West Mercia is decreasing year on year. The figures which show a 2.4% decrease in overall crime, are welcomed by the Police and Crime Commissioner, who has been supporting West Mercia Police to be more effective.

The figures from ONS also show reductions in violence with injury, drugs offences, burglary, robbery, sexual offences, public order, vehicle offences and theft.

Conversely to the national trend, cyber crime offences have fallen in West Mercia and there are low numbers of offences involving knives and other bladed weapons.

Work will continue to ensure the Force is able address some of the areas, where increases have been seen including

## parking app is a resounding success

Thousands of motorists are now paying to park on Wyre Forest District Council car parks using the secure 'JustPark' website and phone app. The app has overtaken card payments, which are now just 5% of payments. The Council will soon remove card readers from the pay and display machines, as new encryption regulations would otherwise require all the machines to be replaced.

Cllr Rebecca Vale, Cabinet Member for Operational Services, said, "Drivers will still be able to pay for parking with credit and debit cards, but by using their phones. With the number of people using the pay and display machines to pay by card declining it does not make sense to spend thousands

offences relating to death and serious injury caused by unlawful driving, shoplifting and possession of weapons.

**John Campion**  
said, *"I made a commitment to reform West Mercia Police and the latest crime figures show this approach is working. West Mercia is a place where people are safe and feel safe, and it is reassuring to see a decrease in the types of crimes which affect our communities the most. We are not complacent however and there are always areas to improve. I will continue to ensure the police can continue to work efficiently and effectively to tackle these."*



*of pounds to replace them in order to comply with the new regulations."*

Cllr Anna Coleman said, "We will continue to accept cash in all pay and display machines. We are seeing a growing number of people switching to the JustPark app. It costs exactly the same and it also options extras such as real-time reminders and the ability to extend car parking if needed."

# Bewdley and Rock Matters

the newsletter of your local Conservatives



Editors: Anna and Roger Coleman and Rebecca Vale.

March 2019

**Election Day is on Thursday 2nd May 2019**



Your Conservative Candidates for the 'All Out' Wyre Forest District Council election in May are Councillors Anna Coleman, Roger Coleman, and Rebecca Vale.

Anna Coleman has served as a Town Councillor since 2014, and was Town Mayor in 2017. Her Mayoral charities were the Riverside North Park and Bewdley Food Bank. She was elected to represent Bewdley and Rock Ward on Wyre Forest District Council in 2018.

Roger Coleman has served as a Town Councillor since 2011 and is currently the Town Mayor. He has worked in the agricultural industry and as a publican prior to his retirement.

Rebecca Vale lives on the family farm and is also a company director. She has been County Councillor for Bewdley since 2017. Her Bewdley Division includes the Town of Bewdley, with the Parishes of Rock, Ribbesford and Pound Green.

**On 2nd May vote for the Team that gets things done:**

**Anna COLEMAN**  
The Conservative Party Candidate  X

**Roger COLEMAN**  
The Conservative Party Candidate  X

**Rebecca VALE**  
The Conservative Party Candidate  X

## Contact your Local Team

For local issues, please contact:

Anna Coleman on 01299 400589;  
Roger Coleman on 01299 400589;  
Rebecca Vale on 01562 743395;  
or the office on 01562 823820.

For national issues contact  
Mark Garnier on 01562 746771.

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## Your Conservative Team



Anna Coleman  
Town and  
District  
Councillor



Roger  
Coleman  
Town  
Councillor



Rebecca  
Vale  
County  
Councillor



Mark  
Garnier  
MP

## asthmatic resident helped by a house MoT and service

A couple of Community Housing Group residents called for help from Bewdley Town Councillor Roger Coleman. The residents' house was warm but they were getting problems with moisture

and mould, and from previous experience Roger could see that whilst the house had had upgrades to its heating and new windows' no allowance had been made for the house to 'breathe' and it was as though it was asthmatic, just like one of the occupants.

Contact was made with Oakleaf Commercial Services who promptly accepted ownership of the issue and accepted our suggested solutions. This resulted in a house 'MoT', new doors and locks to suit the disabled, an extractor fan to the bathroom and a positive airflow device allowing the house to breathe and its occupants with it. The work was completed speedily and to the complete satisfaction of the Laceys.

Team work at its best and a very happy couple enjoying their home to the best they can.

## Crown House demolition contract signed

Clr Rebecca Vale, Cabinet Member for Operational Services, said, "For the last three months Wyre Forest District Council has been negotiating with the leaseholder behind the scenes and Tereal Trillium has finally signed the agreement with an eighteen-month backstop."

"This is great news for us as an administration. Sticking to our guns means that Tereal Trillium is paying hundreds of thousands for the demolition, not local Council Taxpayers."



## Bewdley Museum reopens

The Town's Museum reopened on the first Saturday of March. Sunshine and a live band set the right atmosphere. During January and February Wyre Forest District Council has carried out maintenance and improvement works in the building, hence it was closed for public, a disappointment to local families during half term. New glass doors have been installed, which allows plenty of natural light into the windowless area of the museum shop.



Work has also started on a new fire escape for the Guildhall, and the new tenants of the cafe are bringing the concept of sustainable food into the heart of Bewdley.

As a member of Bewdley Museum

Management Committee Anna sees the challenge of making the Museum sustainable and supporting its prominent position in the heart of the Bewdley community.

## Election Day 2nd May 2019

On Thursday 2nd May, there will be 'All Out' elections for **Wyre Forest District Council**. You have three District Councillors in the **Bewdley and Rock Ward** and will have **three** votes.

Elections for **Bewdley Town Council** will also be held on Thursday 2nd May. There are **four** Town Councillors in both the **Bewdley East Ward** and the **Bewdley West Ward** and you will have **four** votes.

The Councillors elected will all serve four-year terms. Please vote for the Conservative candidates who will work hard for you all year round.

If you are going to be away on Election Day then do you need a **Postal Vote** or a **Proxy Vote**? You can contact the Wyre Forest District Council elections office on **01562 732762** or e-mail: [electoral@wyreforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:electoral@wyreforestdc.gov.uk) to ask them to send you for a form.



of the effectiveness of each of the Town's cameras. Though Bewdley has got the smallest number of cameras compared with Kidderminster and Stourport, we need to make sure that Bewdley's camera's will be upgraded within the next twelve months.

Anna is now planning a visit with her colleagues to the Monitoring Centre. It is a work in progress.

## Town CCTV update

Following recent cases of criminal damage caused to the premises of some of the Town traders, Bewdley's Conservative Team launched their own investigation into how effective CCTV cameras in the Town actually are.

Cllr Anna Coleman says, "*There are four cameras in Bewdley, all of them installed more than ten years ago, and all are in need of an upgrade. Wyre Forest District Council has a contract with Redditch Borough Council for 24/7 monitoring from the Redditch Monitoring Centre.*"

After the Conservative Team raised its concerns we are delighted to report that the Police and Crime Commissioner allocated funds to upgrade the Council's system to digital, which provides the flexibility to add new cameras more easily and cheaply (as digital is much less expensive than analogue) and also to have mobile and re-deployable cameras.

A review is to be undertaken

**Bewdley and Rock Conservatives: working hard for you all year round, not just at election time.**