

February 2023

NEW toy library to open soon

Polly's KETL: every child's cup of tea

Edward, Juliet and Tracey are pleased to be supporting a great new initiative; Polly's KETL (Kidderminster Evangelical Toy Library), a new toy lending service opening soon on Greatfield Road.

The new toy library will be open the third Monday of each month from 10.30am - 12.30pm commencing Monday 20th March. Children will be able to loan a wide range of toys and parents and guardians will have the opportunity to meet other

care-givers in a friendly and welcoming meeting place. The Library is for pre-school children aged 0-4 and to make it as accessible as possible there is only a small fee of £1.00 per visit per child. The library will be held at Kidderminster Evangelical Church, Greatfield Road, which has a large car park and facilities for anyone with disabilities. For further information and a registration form e-mail: pollysket@gmail.com



Juliet and Edward outside Kidderminster Evangelical Church where the new toy library will be held.

A step in the right direction for new crossing

Following years of campaigning for a pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of the **Poplar Road junction on Sutton Road**, where many residents cross to access Brinton Park, Cllr Tracey Onslow and Cllr Nathan Desmond have been successful in getting this proposal to the next stage. Tracey and Nathan have agreed to join their funding together to match fund a crossing. The team will keep residents updated with the progress.



Taking action on your concerns

- ✓ **Blakebrook Close:** Tracey used Divisional Funding to pay for bollards to be installed around the green area, to prevent parking which was churning up the area.
- ✓ **Alley from Crestwood to Truro:** Following the removal of the bollards which did not allow disabled access, a new slalom gate has now been installed, which allows prams and wheelchairs, but forces cyclists to slow down at the least! Tracey used Divisional Funding to pay for this and thank you to the team at Worcestershire Highways.



- ✓ **Franchise Street and Greatfield Road:** Cllr Stokes was fed up with waiting for the weeds to be removed from around the street sign, so he and Cllr Onslow removed them themselves!
- ✓ **Stretton Road:** Serious pooling of water at the junction with Greatfield Road. We have had the drains unblocked but have asked residents to let us know if this occurs again.
- ✓ **Parkland Avenue:** Following months of campaigning, the team were delighted to see that the pavement has now been resurfaced. They were also pleased that the one remaining large hole has now been filled in.
- ✓ **Castle Road - Caldwell Tower:** After three years, the scaffolding around the beautiful tower has now gone! Thank you to the owners for getting this arranged.

Wyre Forest Conservatives –working hard all year round

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Working hard on your priorities

Bewdley Hill Woods: Cllr Onslow has paid for a handrail to be installed on the steps closest to the Gainsborough Hotel.

Bewdley Hill: Edward has asked for the large pothole at the junction with Summerhill to be patched.

Brinton Park: We have asked for the Heritage Lottery Funding Project to go to Scrutiny due to the ongoing delays. We have also requested for the cost of repairing Youth Shelter, rather than just removing it which would leave younger people with one less facility.

Franchise Street: We asked for several areas of patching of the road and happily we have been advised that the road will be resurfaced in the next financial year. At this point, this is scheduled for July 2023 but that is very provisional at this stage, particularly with the road being a blue light route.

Park Lane: Bollards have been requested at the junction with Castle Road to resolve the issue of parking damaging the pavement.

Summerhill Ave: The team are still chasing the reinstatement of the SLOW signs on the bends.

Habberley Road: The team are chasing for double yellow lines at the exit of the car park for the playing field to assist with visibility.

Hill Street: There is a meeting scheduled for end of January to investigate the issue of the steps being closed off.

Parks ownership transferred

Your Conservative representatives on Kidderminster Town Council – Cllrs Juliet Smith, Edward Stokes and Julian Phillips – are delighted that, after long negotiations, three popular Kidderminster parks are now owned by Kidderminster Town Council. Baxter Gardens, Broadwaters Park and St George's Park.

This is excellent news as these important open spaces can now be protected and developed for the benefit of Kidderminster.

FREE event



Eggciting Easter egg trail is back!

Churches Together in Kidderminster, Cllr Edward Stokes, Cllr Tracey Onslow and Cllr Juliet Smith invite you to an Easter Egg Trail in Brinton Park.

This popular event for children 11 years and under will take place on **Saturday 8th April, 10.30am until 12 noon**. This is a FREE event funded by the councillors with Community Leadership Funding. To book please call Cllr Juliet Smith on 07825 653297 or email severnpublishing@outlook.com. Please provide the number of children wishing to attend. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

A warm welcome

A new warm hub has been set up by Weaver's Wharf Shopping Centre and is located at the old Shoe Zone unit at 16 Vicar Street. The hub is aimed at anyone struggling with their heating bills and hopes it will bring the community together.

The Vicar Street hub in the town centre opened before Christmas 2022 and, to start with, will be open between 10.30am and 3.00pm from Monday to Saturday and will serve hot drinks and biscuits.

Kidderminster Town Council voted unanimously to offer funding for the initiative and County Councillor, Tracey Onslow has also donated £1000 to the hub.



The new warm hub in Kidderminster town centre

New polling station

Following the closure of the Gainsborough Hotel and recent consultation, please be advised that the polling station will now be at the Social Club on Habberley Estate for those who previously voted at The Gainsborough. If this causes any issues for you and you would like to arrange to vote by post, please contact **Elections Dept at Wyre Forest District Council on 01562 732928**

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