

Blakedown, Churchill and Broome

Matters

January 2023



Contact your local team
See back page for details

Wyre Forest District Council's Conservative Group Propose Alternative Budget

Conservative Group Leader on WFDC Cllr Marcus Hart says, "This Labour, Green and Independent led Council is letting residents down. Consistently now you are being asked to pay more Council Tax for less. **We believe that front line services that are important to you should not only be protected but enhanced.** That is why we are proposing":-

- **To increase the number of Environmental Protection Officers** that tackle fly tipping from two to four officers.
- **To increase the number of Civil Enforcement Officers** from six to seven to specifically tackle parking enforcement on double yellow lines in our villages.
- **To increase the number of litter pickers** at peak seasonal times across the District.
- **To increase the grant support to our Parish Councils** to undertake litter picking, bin emptying and grass cutting on a local level.
- **To invest in arts, leisure and cultural activities** in our District.

Cllr Ian Hardiman says, "We believe these investments will make a real difference to the lives of local residents."

Parish Cllr Robin Drew added, "It is clear that your local Wyre Forest Rural Conservatives are on your side, tackling the issues that matter you. I recognise and support the need for the additional officers to tackle illegal fly tipping and illegal car parking."



Marcus is delighted that the new barrier in Churchill Lane has not only been correctly installed finally but has also been painted.

Stakenbridge Lane Marcus is actively tackling highways issues in Stakenbridge Lane



Stakenbridge Lane road safety is a top priority for Cllr Marcus Hart

and has already met with the Parish Council and WCC highways to see what more they can do to tackle road safety in this area, especially by the bridge.

Marcus says, "I am acutely aware of the issues along this road and will do all I can to ensure WCC highways do what they can to **make this road safer, especially where the road narrows on the sharp bend by the railway bridge.** I am also pressing the Police for action to tackle speeding motorists as speed enforcement is their role and not the role of WCC. I saw for myself and

met local residents at Stakenbridge Farm on 1st December, the damage caused by a motorist that left the road and smashed into their wall."

Marcus has ensured that WCC are going to install new double bend warning signs for the approach from the Rocky Lane direction and both chevron boards at the bend beneath the railway bridge will be replaced with new ones. Additionally, any existing signage which is obscured will be resolved ie hedges cut back and the white road markings will be repainted.

Marcus has also offered the Parish Council funds for a new flashing sign at this location.

Restore **PRIDE** in our District by removing the **CHAOS** of the Labour and Independent controlled council



News from Blakedown, Churchill and Broome



Marcus, Ian and Robin were pleased to be out just before Christmas meeting local residents and looking at a number of local issues.

Tackling Illegal Immigrants

The number of people entering the UK illegally in small boats has more than quadrupled in the last two years, from 8,404 in 2020 to more than 40,000 people so far in 2022.

A problem shared across Europe with the number of illegal arrivals up by over 50 per cent, with France alone receiving 100,000 asylum applications this year. Our co-operation with the French has led to 31,000 small boats crossings being stopped in 2022 – almost 50 per cent of the total crossings.

But more needs to be done to protect our beaches in Kent and to speed up the number of Asylum claims, with the Government announcing the following actions:

- **A new agreement with Albania so that the vast majority of Albanian claimants can be removed** with weekly flights until all Albanians in our backlog are sent home.
- **A new, permanent, unified Small Boats Operational Command in the channel with 700 new staff** to bring together military and civilian capabilities.
- **Tougher immigration enforcement with 200 new staff and better data sharing with banks** so they are unable to open bank accounts.
- **Cheaper accommodation sites so we can move migrants out of expensive hotels.** We will identify a range of alternative sites such as disused holiday parks, former student halls and surplus military land.
- **Clear the initial asylum backlog by 2023** by doubling the number of caseworkers and radically streamlining the process.

Community Leadership Fund

Thanks to the Conservatives for forcing a U-turn by Labour, Green and Independent Councillors

The Community Leadership Fund of £1,000 per councillor was introduced by the Conservatives some years ago. Last year it was reduced to £500 with nothing allocated for 2023-2024. This is something we opposed as this money is used to grant funds to groups and organisations within the ward, which do excellent work

for the local community. Marcus says, "I always liked to support 4 or 5 organisations granting them a couple of hundred pounds which meant they were able to make a real difference in the local community." Ian added, "I am delighted we have been able to persuade Labour, Green and the Independents to see sense."

Pension Triple Lock

GUARANTEED

The Chancellor has announced that the September inflation rate of 10.1% is confirmed for increasing the State Pension from April 2023.

The triple lock was brought in under a Conservative Government to rectify the low pension rate after years of low rises under Labour.

State Pension increased by only 44% in the last 10 years of the previous Labour government, compared 72% between 2011-2021 with the Conservatives.

* All benefits will increase by 10.1% including the benefit cap

Your Conservative team for **Blakedown, Churchill and Broome** - working hard all year round



Cllrs Ian Hardiman, Marcus Hart and Robin Drew

Blakedown, Churchill and Broome

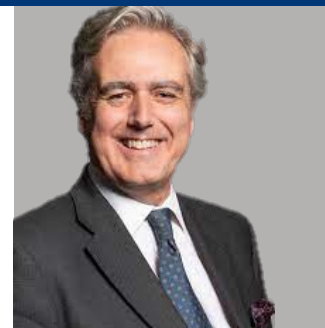
T. **01299 402424**
E. **wyreforest@rural@yahoo.com**

Follow us on Facebook:
WFRConservatives
conservatives4wyreforest

Mark Garnier

Member of Parliament

T. **01562 746771**
E. **mark.garnier.mp@parliament.uk**
Facebook: **markrgarnier**



wyreforestconservatives.com

Promoted by Caroline Garnier, on behalf of Wyre Forest Conservatives, all of 28 Bewdley Road North, Stourport-on-Severn, DY13 8PS
Printed by Paragon CC, Unit 2B Forward Park, Bagot Street, Birmingham, B4 7BA

 **Conservatives**