

Community Walkabouts

Councillors Ben Brookes and David Ross were out with the Safer Neighbourhood Team and the Community Housing Group on their regular walk around the ward. David and Ben were able to raise issues with the police at the session such as anti-social behaviour which has been a cause for concern at White

Wickets Park and on the Marlpool estate.

On these walkabouts, residents are able to discuss local issues with Community Housing and, if within the remit of the council, Ben and David may be able to help. Cllr Brookes said *"This is a very useful means of councillors keeping in touch with residents."*



Keeping in touch - David and Ben join multi agency community walkabouts

An Elizabethan Tribute



David met with the group who raised funds to plant a tree as part of The Queen's Green Canopy and as a tribute to Her late Majesty. David used his County Council community fund and arranged to have the area cleared and a dead tree removed in Coningsby Drive.

This was done in time to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee although on the day the heavens opened, the group enjoyed the day. A new tree was sourced and planted which will become a lasting tribute to our late Queen.

Councillor David Ross with the Coningsby Drive group

News Updates for Franche & Habberley North



Bridgnorth Road

David has been asked to see what can be done regarding vegetation encroaching on the narrow footpath. He has asked the County Council to carry out this work.

Speeding

Residents have contacted Cllr David Ross to enquire if anything can be done regarding speeding on Habberley Lane and the Franche Road. David contacted the police to ask if speed checks could be done.

David is pleased to report that speed checks have been carried out on the Franche Road and several drivers were issued with tickets. The Police will be continuing with ad hoc checks in the area.

Broomfield Close

Cllr David Ross has been asked to help with an overgrown hedge in the Close. David visited with the County Highways Officer and they are attempting to find out who is responsible for the hedge.

Gardeners Close

Residents contacted Cllr Ben Brookes regarding overgrown vegetation at the end of the close. This has been reported to the council to arrange a cut back.

Woodland Avenue

Cllr Ben Brookes was asked by a resident to deal with an overhanging branch on the footpath. Ben arranged to have this work done.

Habberley Lane

Cllr David Ross is pleased to report that the issue with the street light in Habberley Lane has been resolved. The fault was due to a power supply and the delay was due to National Grid. David has raised this the County Council as to why there was such a delay.

Action on the Off-Side Parking

Some good news on the parking at the junction of Broomfield Road and Habberley Road, which is due to inconsiderate parking by those attending the football at the weekends. **Following residents complaints the police visited recently and issued warnings to drivers who were blocking the footpath and the junction. Further visits will see tickets**

issued to offending motorists. The vast majority attending the football park properly, that is not on the footpath and not where it blocks the view of a junction. David would also like to thank one enterprising resident who wrote to the Chief Constable. David shall be raising it with the new Chief Inspector at the police station as an ongoing concern.



Police have now warned drivers and next time tickets will will be issued

Local Crime

There has been an **increase in theft from properties, houses and sheds, and also breaking into vehicles.** The police have reminded car owners not to leave anything in cars overnight or on display and ensure keys are not accessible from outside their house. As the festive season approaches this is even more important.



Anti-Social Behaviour

Ben and David have both been contacted by residents regarding **Anti-Social Behaviour on the Marlpool Estate. This seems to be coming from a very small group of individuals.** David and Ben are working with the police and other agencies to stop this unwanted behaviour.

Snowdon Close - Flooding Issue



Residents have reported a problem with flooding in Snowdon Close which makes getting around very difficult. **David has made an urgent report to Highways Department at the County Council.**

Town Hall Closes for Refurbishment

Cllr George Connolly is pleased to report that planning permission has been granted for Kidderminster Town Hall redevelopment. **The town hall will close at the end of this year for about two years whilst the £11 million refurbishment programme received from the Government's Levelling Up Fund is carried out.**

Pension Triple Lock

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

GUARANTEED

Energy Support from April 2023 - Announced

- The Government **will continue to protect all households from high electricity and gas prices** with a new Energy Price Guarantee.
- **£900** Cost of Living Payment for households on means tested benefits.
- **£300** Cost of Living Payment for Pensioner households.
- **£150** Cost of Living Payment for individuals in receipt of disability benefits.

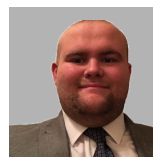
To Contact Your Conservative team for Franche and Habberley North



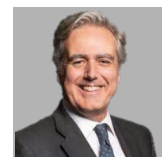
Cllr David Ross
County, District & Town
07792 959696



Cllr Ben Brookes
District
07537 171282



Cllr George Connolly
Town
07398 231849



Mark Garnier
Member of Parliament
01562 746771

Email us at: FHN@wyreforestconservatives.com or mark.garnier.mp@parliament.uk