

Your Conservative led district council local investment and opposing new housing quota

Plan to regenerate redundant brown field sites

The Conservative led District Council are considering options for the re-development of brown field sites within the town centre. We are looking at re-development options for the former Glades leisure centre site and part of the Bromsgrove Street car park. As Leader of WFDC, Cllr Marcus Hart says,

"I would like to see residential development on this site. We need to revitalise our town centre and create urban living. We are also looking at options for the redundant land in Market Street and the former Crown House site."

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The Conservative led district council have opposed the new proposed standard methodology (the formula) that allocates housing figures to each area.

The Labour Government's proposals would see Wyre Forest's annual dwellings per annum rise from 276 to a staggering 617. Marcus says, "This is totally unacceptable and would see

further green belt land having to be used as there simply will not be enough brownfield land. We totally oppose unnecessary release of further green belt land."

The Cabinet have sent a formal response back to Government and they proposed a notice of motion at full council opposing the proposals in the NPPF.

Town Centre Connectivity Project update

The contract for the build of the urban park has now been agreed and McPhillips (Wellington) Limited are on site. The project is due to be completed by Spring 2025.

This is an important link from the top end of Bromsgrove Street to the town centre. It is part of the Conservative District Council's plan to regenerate the town centre.



The urban park is an important part of the connectivity project for regeneration projects and developments

Castle Road temporary accommodation

This is currently being constructed on a former, under utilised, pay and display car park owned by WFDC. Costs of providing temporary accommodation continues to rise and this is a sound financial way of seeking to control that cost whilst providing fit for purpose accommodation.



Update from Mark Garnier Your Member of Parliament for Wyre Forest

Now the new Labour government has settled

down, we can see what they are proposing to do and how they will govern. And their first policy proposal? To take away benefits from all but the poorest of pensioners - those in receipt of pension credit.*

Winter fuel allowance has been a lifesaver – literally – to many pensioners. But in an extraordinary move, Labour Chancellor Rachel Reeves has taken this benefit away from hundreds of thousands of financially stretched pensioners. In another move, **the new Labour government is exploring removing the single occupancy discount on council tax.** An 80 year old widow/er will lose not just their £300 winter fuel allowance, but will see their council tax bill increase by 33%.

This is a taste of what is to come. At the end of October, Labour will present their first budget. Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer is warning that it will be tough. Pensioners have been hit; single people already under attack; even many military personnel trying to do the best for their kids will be hit with a 20% hike in the cost of their kid's education. If that is just a sample of what is to come, its going to be a lot grimmer than anyone expected when we all voted just three months ago.

*It is estimated that 1,431 pensioners in Wyre Forest who are eligible are not claiming Pension Credit. (source: Policy in Practice).

If you or a family member needs assistance with a Pension Credit application, assistance is available at Citizens Advice, Age UK or contact my office.

To Contact YOUR local Conservative team



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Birchen Coopice, Foley Park, Hoobrook, Silverwoods and Aggborough


MATTERS

Update from you local St Peters Division Conservative team

November 2024



**Safer pedestrian crossing
for Sutton Road - UPDATE**

 **Conservatives**

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

Your local Conservative Team - Working For You All Year Round

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NEW Pedestrian crossing for Sutton Road

Councillor Nathan Desmond is delighted to announce that after 15 years of campaigning for a dedicated pedestrian crossing for Sutton Road, it has finally been built and is now fully working.

The new “Puffin crossing” that is situated close to Poplar Road, is a traffic signal controlled crossing and includes footway construction, with new road lighting improvements to ensure safe illumination for crossing.

Nathan has been working closely with fellow County Councillor, Tracey Onslow and they both committed £29k from their devolved Highways budgets to make this project happen out of the total budget of £250k.



Cllr Nathan Desmond said, “To finally see the new pedestrian crossing in place and working is amazing. I’ve been pushing Highways for 15 years for this, as Sutton Road is very busy and crossing this road to get to Brinton Park is dangerous. The new crossing will really improve pedestrian safety and will make crossing a busy road, much safer for local residents”.

Trees get a trim on Larches Road



Popular pedestrian route to town has been cleared of vegetation

Nathan Desmond has had **all the overgrown branches and vegetation trimmed and cut back** which was affecting pedestrians walking up the hill on Larches Road, from the Stourport Road.

Many residents had complained about the overgrown trees as it is a busy pedestrian route to and from town. Nathan spoke to the Lengthsman at Kidderminster Town Council and the work was carried out.

Barriers for Stourport Road - UPDATE

Cllrs Kevin and Nicky Gale have reported the broken metal pedestrian barriers, on the junction of Sutton Park Road and Stourport Road to

Highways, on the grounds of safety they have confirmed that they will be replaced soon under a 3 way traffic light scheme.

Barrier is due to be replaced



New double yellow lines Needed for Rifle Range Road and Shrawley Avenue

Cllr Nathan Desmond has been contacted by local residents requesting **double yellow lines to be installed on the junction of Rifle Range Road with Shrawley Avenue. Many people are parking close to the junction and causing visibility issues for drivers turning out of Shrawley Avenue.**

Cllr Desmond said “I’m grateful to local residents for raising this issue with me. I have been out to see for myself the problems and agree double yellow lines are needed. I have spoken to Highways and requested that the process be started for them to be installed”.



Yellow lines have been requested to prevent parking near to this junction

New pavements for Beauchamp Avenue

Councillor Nathan Desmond, together with Cllrs Kevin and Nicky Gale are delighted to announce that **Highways have completed the first phase of the resurfacing project in Beauchamp Avenue.**

Your Conservative team, raised the poor condition of the pavements with Highways over 12 months ago and have delivered on their promise of getting



The first phase of resurfacing the pavement is completed

them resurfaced. **There is still a section of pavement between number 2 and 30 to be completed and this will be done in the new year.**

Nathan said, “The new pavements look fantastic and make a huge difference. Highways have done a great job, I know local residents are delighted”.

LOCALLY DETERMINED FUNDING

Cllr Nathan Desmond has monies available to distribute to local groups, charities or organisations. Cllr Desmond still has available money from his £10,000 County Divisional pot.

If you would like to apply for funds please contact Cllr Desmond by email: NDesmond@worcestershire.gov.uk

New Speed Activated Sign on Hoo Road to tackle speeding

Cllr Nathan Desmond has responded to local concerns about speeding on the top part of Hoo Road by purchasing a new dedicated Vehicle Activated Speed Sign to be positioned close to Aggborough stadium.

The VAS sign has cost £2400.00 and has been funded by Nathan out of his devolved County Council monies.

Nathan also contacted Police and Crime Commissioner, John Campion, to highlight the growing issue of speeding and to request police enforcement.

Cllr Nathan Desmond said, “Speeding on Hoo Road is a big issue for local residents and residents are being listened to as action has happened. I am working with the police to ensure there is regular enforcement on this road and by having the new VAS sign installed, should start to address the issue”.



A vehicle speed activation sign has been purchased for Hoo Road

Highway updates in brief

Beauchamp Avenue –

Cllr Nathan Desmond has reported a number of large pot holes to Highways. Nathan has been out and reported a number pot holes between numbers 65 to 71 to be infilled urgently.

Boy Racers -

Following concerns of residents on Silverwoods regarding speeding cars along Silverwoods Way and Worcester Road late at night, Nathan is working with the local police for more enforcement. The issue is aggravated with boy racers having loud exhausts and this problem needs to be tackled.

Meredith Green –

Cllr Kevin Gale is pushing Highways to have the worst of the pavements around Meredith Green, Birchen Coppice completely resurfaced. The pavements are very worn and uneven.

Gamson Close -

Cllr Kevin Gale has reported the overgrown conifer trees that are blocking the pavement on the entrance to Gamson Close, to Highways. These trees are on private property and Highways have written to the property owner to request they are cut back.