

Action for our area

Cllrs Keith Sears, Anthony Harris and Mike Flower have been working hard on Oak Park over the last few months.

The car park has been resurfaced, speed bumps installed, more litter bins added and the police have been working with Council officers to fine people who have been causing litter and rubbish on the site.



Oak Park car park before the clean-up...

In the longer term, your Councillors would like a new leisure and community centre built on the Oak Park site. Keith Sears commented, "The leisure centre is looking tired and dated

and we have asked the Council to look into building a new one."

He was supported by Anthony Harris, who said: "It is time Oak Park became a sporting and leisure facility worthy of the twenty-first century."

Mike Flower added, "We would like Oak Park and the area around Lichfield Road to be regenerated, which would give the area a big boost."



..and after your Conservative Team took action

Mike says 'Thanks!'

Mike Flower was elected to serve a four-year term at the Local Elections, held in May.

Mike said, "It is a great honour to have been re-elected. I will continue to work hard for all people in Aldridge and Walsall Wood and would like to thank everyone for their help and support."

Mike will now serve on the Development Control & Regeneration Committees. Cllr. Keith Sears serves as Chairman of Licensing, while Anthony Harris has taken up the Transport Portfolio on the Cabinet.

Aldridge War Memorial

Your local Conservative Councillors have successfully lobbied for the War Memorial in Aldridge to be renovated.

Meet The Team **Advice Surgeries**

Cllrs Keith Sears and Mike Flower hold their Surgeries at Walsall Wood Library on every 1st, 3rd and 5th Saturday of the month.

Cllr. Anthony Harris is available 24 hours a day.

Richard Shepherd MP's Surgeries take place every 1st and 3rd Friday at the Conservative Office, Walsall Road, Aldridge.

Serving the people of Aldridge North and Walsall Wood

Cllr Mike Flower **07732 079881** or **01922 451449**

Cllr Anthony Harris **07831 124219** or **01543 372820**

Cllr Keith Sears **07817 900815** or **01922 457893**

Richard Shepherd MP **01922 451449** or **020 7219 5004**

Waste Reduction Consultation

- The Labour Government will fine Walsall Residents over £1.5million in 2011 if the Borough does not reduce the amount of waste that is buried in the ground at landfill sites. This would be equivalent to about 1.5% EXTRA on your Council Tax or cuts to services - and the fines will increase every year.
- Rather than target the people who create much of the unnecessary waste, such as supermarkets and manufacturers, the Government is making local residents pick up the bill.
- You may have read in local papers or heard on the radio that Walsall Council has already decided to introduce fortnightly bin collections. **This is not true.**

Your Conservative Council DOES NOT want Walsall to fork out £1.5million of our money because Labour are failing to deal with the cause of the problem. Labour are effectively blackmailing Walsall and other councils into changing the system against your wishes. It is just another Labour stealth tax.

The Story So Far in Conservative-Led Walsall

PROJECT: Brown Bins for over 80,000 eligible households

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED: This has ensured that 15,000 tonnes of garden waste is no longer buried in a landfill site every year and gets turned into compost.

PROJECT: Green Box doorstep collections from over 100,000 households

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED: Paper, glass and cans collected from your doorstep have led to 10,000 tonnes of recyclable material not going to landfill. This is a huge cut in landfill waste, but even more waste could be recycled if more people used their box.

PROJECT: 80 schools now recycling plastic.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED: The project is encouraging young people to recycle and has resulted in many thousands of plastic bottles not going to landfill.

PROJECT: 55 'bring' sites (16 of which accept plastic bottles) and 2 Household Waste and Recycling Centres (the 'Tip!')

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED: An added service alongside the green boxes, making it possible for residents to recycle other materials. Metal, paper, glass, cans, cardboard, garden waste, plastic bottles, wood, electrical equipment, batteries, oil, mobile phones, CDs and florescent tubes can all be taken to the HWRC sites, to avoid landfill. Over 8,000 tonnes of waste was taken to these sites and recycled last year.

PROJECT: Over 4,000 home compost bins have been issued at a reduced cost.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED: This means that some kitchen and garden waste does not need collecting and provides people with useful compost to use on gardens and allotments.

PROJECT: Kitchen Waste pilot scheme launched to 7,000 households.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED: This pilot scheme, collecting waste food, was launched in August and will run for 3 months. the waste will be composted instead of going to landfill. This will allow us to see if the scheme is worth expanding further.

Please complete the survey on the back of this leaflet to let us know what you think...

Have your say: Waste Reduction

Your three Conservative councillors: Keith Sears, Anthony Harris and Mike Flower are strongly against any negative changes to the waste collection service. We do not believe people want either a fortnightly collection. Whilst we understand the need to reduce the amount going to landfill we believe that the taxpayers of Aldridge North & Walsall Wood deserve a decent waste collection service. We would like to see a kerbside plastics and cardboard collection.

Do you support our stance? Tell us what you think.

- 1 Should the Labour Government be able to impose fines on local taxpayers if they do not reduce waste going to landfill? **YES** **NO**
- 2 Should all residents try to reduce the amount of waste that goes into landfill? **YES** **NO**
- 3 Would you support fortnightly collections of your existing Green Bin in order to reduce waste sent to landfill? **YES** **NO**
- 4 Would you support the introduction of a smaller bin for your household waste to be collected weekly with your existing green bin then used for a door step collection of Glass, Cans, Paper, Cardboard, and Plastic bottles? **YES** **NO**
- 5 Would you support keeping the existing system, but adding more recycling? **YES** **NO**
- 6 Should the Government give local councils incentives to reduce landfill, rather than be threatened with fines? **YES** **NO**
- 7 Do you think it would be useful to introduce a doorstep collection of food waste? **YES** **NO**

Please return to:

**Aldridge-Brownhills
Conservatives
82 Walsall Road
Aldridge
Walsall
WS9 0JW**

Name(s):

Address:

Post Code:

Tel No:

Email:

Update from around the Ward

Speeding update: Lazy Hill and Walsall Wood Roads

Following complaints from residents, your local Conservative Councillors arranged to have traffic surveys installed on these roads.

Traffic speed was not high enough to warrant traffic calming installation – but your Councillors have arranged to have temporary speed check signs installed and a clamp-down on speed with the local police.

Further monitoring will continue over the year and weight limits and new signage is currently being looked at by the Council.



Stonnall Road Bail Hostel

Cllrs Keith Sears, Anthony Harris, Mike Flower and Richard Shepherd MP have requested that the Probation Service and Walsall Council actively pursue plans which could result in the closure of the Bail Hostel on Stonnall Road in Aldridge.

Council officers will now work with the Probation Service to find alternative sites and funding. It is hoped they will be report back with their initial findings before Christmas.

Post Offices

Your local Conservatives are concerned by Government plans to close more Post Offices next year.

We believe our Post Offices in Aldridge and Walsall Wood provide an invaluable community service and we fully support them.

Stand Up, Speak Up!

What would YOU like to see in a future ConservativeManifesto?

Tell David Cameron and the Shadow Cabinet what you think. You can take part online at: www.standupspakeup.conservatives.com

or alternatively, write to us at: 82 Walsall Road, Aldridge, WS9 0JW – 01922 451449 – and we will pass your comments on.

Conservatives Annual Dinner

Would you like to come to our Annual Dinner, which will be held at the Terrace Restaurant, Brownhills on Friday 21st September 2007 at 7pm?

The guest speaker is Chairman of the Conservative Party, Caroline Spelman MP and our own MP, Richard Shepherd.

For more information, please ring: **01922 451449**

Conservatives will protect the Greenbelt

Your local Conservatives remain committed to protecting the greenbelt in Aldridge North & Walsall Wood.

Richard Shepherd MP said, "Whilst there may be a need to build more homes the Government should work with local communities and must respect the wishes of local people. Greenbelt should not be concreted over."

