

# Walshes

Community Partnership News

Edition 2  
Summer 2011

## Good News for the Walshes Community Centre

The Walshes Community Partnership are pleased to announce that we will be working with Wyre Forest Community Housing for a year, to see if together we can come up with a sustainable plan for the future of the Community Centre. A big thank you to WFCH for giving the Partnership this amazing opportunity. The success of this is now in the hands of local people as we will be recruiting volunteers to form a management group to help look after and run the Centre.



If we want to keep the Centre we need not only to manage it but also make more use of it; the more it's used the more income there is to keep the building and improve it. However, I must make it clear, we have one year in which to develop a sustainable plan - so if we want to keep the centre we must use it!

The centre is well used and includes; an active Youth Club on Wednesdays which gives our young people somewhere to go; the Church runs a 'coffee club' on Thursday mornings and lunch time for people, all are welcome; on Monday mornings the Children's Centre use the centre for 'stay and play' for single mothers, on Wednesday afternoon there is an over 60's Bingo. There are also other groups who use it less regularly and of course it is available for private bookings.

The future of the Centre is not in the hands of some unknown bureaucratic body (often called 'them') but it is in our hands, it's in your hands. Vestia Community Trust has worked hard with the Partnership so that our community gets this opportunity. It is going to be difficult but if we can successfully run our own Centre it will be a source of pride for all people on the Walshes Estate and it will benefit everyone who lives here. On this estate we have a great school, a fantastic Children's Centre and soon I hope we will be able to say an even better Community Centre run by and for the Community.

The only way for the Walshes is up! *M. Turner*



If you are interested in being a part of this please contact myself or Vestia on (01562 732345) or you can visit our website for more details

Don't forget the Walshes Community Centre can be booked by calling Tina on 07925 572050

## New Website Launched!

To find out what's going on in your area please visit our new community website.

[www.thewalshes.weebly.com](http://www.thewalshes.weebly.com)

## Community Action Day

On 23rd & 24th September the Fire Service and other organisations will be offering free advice to residents from the Walshes. They will be going door to door in parts of the neighbourhood. Look out for them!



*Working together  
for cleaner,  
greener places*



## What is the Cleaner, Safer, Greener project?

The Cleaner Safer Greener project allows housing providers to work towards providing better quality neighbourhoods. The project brings together Wyre Forest Community Housing tenants, residents of the neighbourhood and partner agencies, such as Wyre Forest District Council and West Mercia Police, in order to identify areas of concern and develop long term solutions for them. This involves understanding the rights, responsibilities and expectations between residents, landlords, District Council and other service providers for creating a safe, clean and green neighbourhood. The project has been funded through the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership

## How can you get involved?

If you want to be involved with this project and help us achieve a cleaner, safer & greener neighbourhood you can:

- Join the Walshes Resident Support Group - This group helps identify what the main issues are in the neighbourhood and suggests ways on solving them. They also organise activities and events in the area (See the information on the Tidy Day below). For more information please phone Julia Whale 01562 733000 or visit our website for meeting dates - [www.thewalshes.weebly.com](http://www.thewalshes.weebly.com)
- Let us know what you think would help to improve the neighbourhood. This can be done by contacting Garry Holloway on 01562 733000

## What have we done so far?

### Radburn Recycling Scheme

Recycling pilot project is being introduced to the Radburn area by WFDC on a block by block basis. All residents involved will be notified of what their responsibilities are.

### Graffiti Vandalism

Some of the recent graffiti vandalism has been cleaned up with the help of a donation of £250 from the Walshes Tenant Consultative Committee.



### Community Tidy Day

On 9th August we held a tidy day on the Walshes. Over 30 people volunteered to help clean up the area. The day was organised by the Walshes resident support group and it was supported by all organisations working the area including Wyre Forest District Council and Wyre Forest Community Housing. We collected 26 bags of rubbish which made a visible difference to the area!

# Please support the project by reporting any issues as soon as you see them

## If you see it or hear it... report it!



### Fly Tipping

**Report to: Hub 01562 732928 or WFCH 0800 169 0933**

Fly-tipping is the 'illegal deposit of any waste onto land or a highway that has no licence to accept it.' We all know it's a problem in our area.



### Graffiti

**Report to: Hub 01562 732928 or WFCH 0800 169 0933**

Graffiti is any illegal marking to walls and other surfaces. It covers a wide variety of forms including 'masterpieces', 'tags', juvenile scribbles and etchings.



### Abandoned Cars

**Report to: Hub 01562 732928**

They have a negative impact on the environment, look unsightly and can lower the quality of life in neighbourhoods. If left they can become dangerous and attract other litter.



### Littering

**Report to: Hub 01562 732928**

If there is a problem with littering in your area please contact the Worcestershire HUB who will log it with the Environmental Protection Officer.



### Road Repairs

**Report to: Worcestershire Hub 0845 607 2005**

Existing known potholes will be identified by orange spray paint. They will not be able to fix them if they don't know where they are so please report any new ones spotted.



### Dog Fouling

**Report to: Hub 01562 732928**

It is the responsibility of the person who is out with the dog to remove any faeces that the dog may deposit and to dispose of it in the correct manner.

### Other Important Numbers:

Emergency Services	- 999
Police - non emergencies	- 0300 333 3000
Crime Stoppers - Anonymous	- 0800 555 111
Wyre Forest Community Housing - Repairs Hotline	- 0800 169 5454

# Inter Estate Football Competition



An Inter Estate Football Competition took place in June, set up by the Neighbourhood Wardens, YMCA and Barnardo's. There was a very good turn out from all the estates with the Walshes estate entering two teams. All the teams did very well and one of the teams from the Walshes came second place after playing well throughout the competition. They won all their games except for drawing their first game.

They had a hard fought final against the Rifle Range estate, which they lost 1-0. The second team come in fourth and also received a trophy for good sportsmanship throughout the competition. All



**Bronze** - Aaron Price, Scott Dalton, Kieran Bridge-water, Dan Long, Sam Downes

teams played well and in the spirit of the game. A special thanks goes to both teams for their good behaviour and manners throughout the day. They represented the Walshes estate very well. Also a big thank you to AJW travel for supplying the coach to and from the venue.



**Good Sportsmanship** - Jacob Sheeran, Jordan Ross, Reece Marchant, Brandon Calder, presented by Ray Brookes

Do you know how to keep your children safe online?



**policing**  
west mercia

More and more children are using the internet as a daily part of their lives and, as parents, it can be hard to keep up with the latest lingo and what they're up to online.

The internet is a fantastic place but just like any fantastic place it has risks. West Mercia Police has launched a new e-safety bulletin service, making it easy for parents and carers to stay up to date with the latest information

and safety advice. Signing up to the bulletin only takes a minute and is completely free.

Visit: [www.westmerciabulletin.org.uk](http://www.westmerciabulletin.org.uk)

Once you've signed up, you'll be able to download a handy free e-safety guide which you can download, print and share with your children. Please sign up today and help us to make West Mercia the safest region for child internet safety in the UK.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**Did you know...?** Many school children are eligible for free school meals, but aren't taking up the opportunity. **But did you also know...?** For every child that receives a free school meal, the school now receives additional funds from the government to be spent on further resources and opportunities for your child. It is called the **Pupil Premium** and is a means of providing schools with much needed income at a time of financial cuts elsewhere.

**Who is eligible...?** If you are in receipt of income support or other means tested benefits then your child may be entitled to a free school meal and you can help your school improve teaching and learning through the Pupil Premium fund. The free meals are completely discreet, so your child won't stand out from any other. For further information, or to request an application form, please speak to your local school, or contact Worcestershire County Council on:

**Phone: 01905 766182 or email:**

[freeschoolmeals@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:freeschoolmeals@worcestershire.gov.uk)