

Green View



News and Views from Natalie McVey

"Pride in our community"

CALLS TO SAVE OUR REGISTRY OFFICE

Do you have a problem connected to the local area?

Contact **Natalie**
07519 056971

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greenparty.org.uk

Green policies

* Improve people's overall quality of life

* Protect and enhance local strengths and sustainability.

* Promote the efficient use of energy and resources.



Local campaigner, **Natalie McVey** is concerned about **Worcestershire County Council's** decision to sell off **Kidderminster Registry Office**.

Natalie said *"This is a community asset, with great historical value. It is a very important place to the many couples who were married here. The council should work constructively with local people to retain ownership and modernise it. In this way it could provide additional services for the area. The large space behind – partly used as a car park – could also be developed for the advantage of the community and provide much needed revenue. I urge people to sign the petition on change.org"*

Natalie believes that communities work best when people have more say in the council business that affects their lives. Decisions should not be made at a higher level when they can be better done more locally.



Natalie is campaigning for a more 'human scale' democracy in **Worcestershire and Wyre Forest**

SCHOOL NEWS



Natalie believes that schools should be at the heart of communities and be for their communities

Natalie is concerned that changes to the government's education policy have had a damaging effect on schools and students in **Wyre Forest**.

Natalie said, *"School league tables suggest that there has been a dip in the performance of local schools. However, this is because of the governments' outdated view that exams are somehow less rigorous than they used to be."*

*I regularly speak with teachers, students and parents and most are happy that **Wyre Forest's** schools provide our young people with the knowledge and skills they need to participate fully in our community, and to lead fulfilled lives."*

Natalie is critical of school league tables in their current form, and believes that school leaving qualifications need to encourage a broader curriculum that gives equal value to academic, vocational, creative and practical subjects.

Natalie's campaigns



LOCAL RESIDENTS CLEAN UP FLY-TIPPING EYESORE



Woodfield Crescent before clean up



The area in Woodfield Crescent after clean up

Local campaigner, **Natalie McVey**, has been working with residents from the **Woodfield Crescent** and **Wood Street** area of **Kidderminster** to clear up a persistent fly-tipping problem.

Working over several months, the group organised volunteers from the local community to help clear the site of refuse. With the support of **Wyre Forest District Council's** Environmental Protection Officer, Chris Tudor, they also secured the use of a vehicle and Personal Protective Equipment to help with the disposal. They have now formed a residents' action group to help maintain the site, and are currently exploring the possibility of transforming the area into a community garden.

Natalie said, *'Everyone has the right to live in a safe, clean and healthy environment. Residents have been living with this escalating problem for a long time and it is wonderful to be a part of such a transformational project.'*

Natalie is calling for local councils to be given greater powers to remove fly-tipped waste from privately owned land.

**HELP
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GREEN
VIEW**

*If you can spare some time to help us deliver the next edition of **Green View** we'd love to hear from you.*

Phone
07519 056971

Or email
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Natalie's VIEWS

*"Street cleaning is a major problem in **Bewdley, Kidderminster and Stourport**, and this is a concern to me. There is dog mess on our pavements and the domestic waste left in public view makes our area look uncared for. When refuse isn't disposed of properly it can cause public health problems. I don't think that this is acceptable.*

Negligent waste disposal has many adverse effects. Not only is it unsightly and unhygienic, but it also pollutes our rivers and streams, and harms wildlife; simultaneously damaging both the natural environment and the local population. Street cleaning then, should be seen as both a public health and an environmental issue.

This is why I am calling for more effective, daily clean-up operations in the worst-hit areas, and more effective monitoring of the originating sources of the litter."

END TAX AVOIDANCE

In response to the latest tax scandal, **Natalie** is calling for corporate taxation to be regulated more strictly. She fears a loss of trust in Her Majesty's Revenue and Custom's effectiveness and even its independence. With little confidence in fair and accountable taxation, local people are less likely to comply with government taxation demands, and this presents a very real threat to our democracy.

Natalie said, *"Whatever the government might claim - and despite some progress by the international community - it is clear that these practices remain rife, and that there is currently little political will to rectify the situation. Even if it is legal, corporate tax avoidance is morally wrong, as it leaves **Wyre Forest's** workers and small businesses taking up the tax burden.*

She is also calling for a change in the way major political parties are themselves financed. She asserts that if parties were to be funded by the state - based on size of membership or numbers of votes cast - it would take politics out of the hands of the corporate tax avoiders.

For the common good

