

Westley Vale Tidying and Planting Day - Sat 3rd November 10am - 2pm
 The trustees of our precious Millennium Green have organised a day for the local community to come along and help improve the site. If you've got a couple of hours spare why not join with other local people to have a positive impact on our local environment. Refreshments for all volunteers!

To the Polls - 15th November

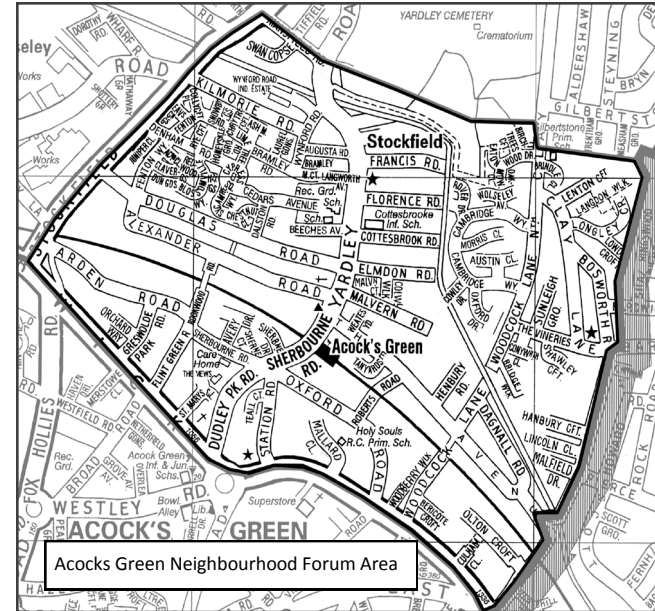
Those of you who were at our last Public Meeting may remember a guest speaker from the West Midlands Police Authority who updated us on the developments leading to the decision to introduce Police & Crime Commissioners. This process is now becoming reality and the first election for a **West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)** will be on 15th November 2012. The possible candidates are submitting their applications at the moment. They can be from any walk of life, but they cannot be an employee of the police or civil service.

This is a massive change to how local policing is run. If you are on the electoral register then you will have the chance to vote for the person you would like to take the new role of PCC. The aim of the Commissioner will be to cut crime and deliver an effective and efficient police service within their area, you will be able to find out more about the candidates nearer the time in the local press and media or on the website www.westmidlandspcc.info or you can contact 0121 626 5599

After the election, the office of the West Midlands PCC and the office of the West Midlands Chief Constable will become legally separate organisations. The West Midlands PCC will be responsible for writing the local Police and Crime Plan, setting objectives and defining how the performance of the West Midlands Police service will be measured. The PCC will also set the Police budget and decide the amount of Council Tax that goes to policing. The PCC will hold the Chief Constable to account and work with a range of partner organisations in community safety. The West Midlands PCC will be scrutinised and supported by a new separate West Midlands Police and Crime Panel.

Acocks Green Neighbourhood FORUM NEWS

October 2012



Acocks Green Neighbourhood Forum is a community organisation run by local residents. Its aim is to enhance the area that we live in. The Forum holds regular meetings to share and inform the local community. Everyone in the area is welcome to come along to our next ...

Public Meeting : Tuesday 30th October, 7.30pm at the Baptist Church Community Hall, Yardley Road (corner of Alexander Rd).

The meeting has an informal layout to give more opportunity for discussion. There will be several organisations on hand that are relevant to issues in our area (see next page). Residents will have the chance to talk to the organisations one to one and chat with other local people whilst having a cuppa. Come along to find out more about your neighbourhood and meet some of your neighbours.



Present at our next meeting on Tuesday 30th October :

- * PC Sarah Mutter, **Security & Partnerships Officer** to talk about Community Safety.
- * From the **Fire Service** - 'Purple Watch' Commander A. Dawson
This is an opportunity for residents to meet their Fire Service personnel and discuss matters of home and community fire safety and any concerns you may have.
- * Police from the Acocks Green Dedicated Neighbourhood Team, **Acocks Green Police Station**.
- * From **Waste Management** - Les Williams, Operations Manager (Redfern Road) and Acocks Green ward manager Noel Delaney

Britain in Bloom - Acocks Green Medal Winners!

We hope that residents have noticed the great improvements in the look of the village over the summer. There were many floral enhancements and general tidying up. For the first time Acocks Green Village was entered into the Britain in Bloom competition, under the 'Urban Category' and we were awarded **Bronze Medal!** Many locals helped to tidy and plant up flowerbeds, weed overgrown reservations and encourage people to take a pride in their surroundings. Businesses and the council helped by repairing crumbling walls and dealing with dumped rubbish.

The whole project was overseen with the vision, dedication and tireless hardwork and enthusiasm of local resident and RHS (Royal Horticultural Society) volunteer **Fran Lee**. This is an ongoing project and there are plans afoot for the new planting season already. If you would like to put your name forward to help with next years project contact the Forum via our website or contact Fran Lee: 0121 7060076, fran.lee47@yahoo.co.uk



We may or may not win a gold medal next year, but focusing on improving the look of our village will make our centre a more pleasant place for us all to work, shop and enjoy.

Next AG Forum Public Meeting - Tuesday 30th October
Baptist Church Hall 7.30pm - everyone is welcome

www.acocks-green-neighbourhood-forum.org

Acocks Green Farmers Market - the third Saturday of each month:

- 20th October
- 17th November (Christmas Spectacular and Lights Switch-on)
- 15th December

The market stalls are on the service road on Warwick Rd, opposite Holy Souls Church. Come along to try the fresh and tasty delights that are on offer and find out more about what's going on on the Community stall. If you are a local crafty person and would like a stall for November contact Sandy Gianni at the email address below or phone 0121 706 7581.

Photo Competition - The Acocks Green Business Investment District (BID) Manager has also launched a photo competition. Amateur photographers are being urged to get snap happy and capture 'the essence of Acocks Green' with prizes being awarded for the best images in 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. BID manager Sandy Gianni, said: "We are creating our new website for the village and thought what a great idea it would be to hold a competition for people to capture great images of Acocks Green, to feature on our website. Be as clever and imaginative as you like."

All images should be in JPEG format, and not featuring children. Email them to agvbidinfo@gmail.com by 12noon on Oct 26th. Winners will be announced 'on stage' at the **Christmas Spectacular and Lights Switch On**

Stockfield Youth Programme SYP Launched

Sport4Life have been busy organising activities for young people aged 8 to 18 living in the Stockfield area. The programme includes lots of sporting activities in Stockfield Park, and a Girls-only Youth Club, taking place in the Arthur Moore Church Hall (Alexander Rd). For more info look out for the Sport4Life staff at the park or give them a ring on 07850 350073



Musical Delights at St Mary's Church - Swansong Concert

On the 21st November St Mary's Church will host an evening of sophisticated music dating from 17th century, performed by classically-trained musicians and set in this impressive Acocks Green church. The Swansong Concerts are a regular programme of musical evenings organised by former librarian and music-lover Mike Byrne. As AG library is due to close for a couple of months for roof improvements the venue for these concerts has been temporarily moved from the library. The concert starts at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be served and there will be a collection at the end. Hope to see you there.