

Past events

Local Democracy Week Event - 10th October 2011

This event celebrated the Local Democracy Week campaign, which aims to give young people an insight into local politics & the importance of democracy. It included debate workshops on topics such as jobs for young people, cyber bullying and climate change. There was a policing workshop with the opportunity to try out beer goggles and a 'your town' workshop which looked at what decisions you would make if you were a councillor for that area. There was also an open panel question and answer session to round off the event.

The 5th Parish Conference - 12th April



This conference was in the Council Chamber at County Hall and was attended by Worcestershire parish and town councillors and clerks. They had the opportunity to explore a mini exhibition prior to the conference on such topics as sustainable transport, parishes working with young people, the Community Games and community resilience or gain funding advice at a drop in session. The conference agenda included street lighting, the standard agreement, the Olympics and Community Games and the Parish spotlight session on Peopleton's Flood Alleviation Scheme, as well as an open question and answer panel at the end.

The audience heard from three-time Olympian and UK 3,000m record-holder David Moorcroft also a former 5,000m world record holder, who told us about the opportunities for bringing the spirit of the Olympic Games to local communities. More information can be found at

<http://www.raisingourgame2012.org.uk/>

These Parish Conferences are an opportunity to network and look at how the County Council, Worcestershire County Association of Local Councils and Worcestershire parishes can work more closely together.

MP's (Members of Parliament) event - 4th March 2011

This event followed on from last year's local democracy week (LDW) event in October where young people from Worcestershire schools took part in a 'Send a postcard to your MP' session. The MP's event offered the young people the opportunity to meet their MP, find out the answers to their questions and give their opinions via e voting. The questions were on a diversity of topics such as university fees, finance for schools, voting at 16, antisocial behaviour and local leisure facilities. The MP's who came were Harriet Baldwin, Robin and Mark Garnier who answered these questions and further questions in open panel at the end of the conference.

Local Democracy Conference - 19th October 2010



This event celebrated the Local Democracy Week campaign, which aims to give young people an insight into local politics & the importance of democracy.

It included real-time e-voting on a variety of topics (such as voting & contacting your local politician), democracy games, a presentation from the UK Youth Parliament & Worcestershire Youth Cabinet & an open panel session.

This open panel session gave young people the opportunity to put their questions to a member of the [UK Youth Parliament](#) (Max Robinson), members of the [Worcestershire Youth Cabinet](#) (Alex White & Ed Workman), the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People (0-11 years) Marcus Hart & the Operational Manager for Youth Support (Paul Finnemore).

The 4th Parish Conference - 7th September 2010



This event took place in the Council Chamber at County Hall and was for all parish councillors and clerks in Worcestershire.

The agenda included West Mercia Probation Service and Worcestershire County Council talking about Community Pay back schemes and how parishes may be able to have work done in their area.

There was also a presentation from Sedgberrow Flood group about the work they have done in recovering from flooding and to protect their village in the future and we also heard from Worcestershire County Council on community resilience and how communities can help safeguard against such events as flooding.

Holocaust Memorial Day – 27th January 2010

[Holocaust Memorial Day](#) takes place annually on the 27th of January and is the international day of remembrance for victims and survivors of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides. This day acts as a reminder to all of us of our responsibility to protect the civil and human rights of all people in our society and across the world. This January was the 65th anniversary of the liberation of [Auschwitz-Birkenau](#) (extermination/concentration camp).

Over 70 pupils attended this fantastic event from schools across Worcestershire. Dr George Lord, Leader of the Council gave the opening speech and introduced Keshena Theakston and George Doran, pupils from Trinity High School, Redditch, who shared their experiences of their recent visit to Auschwitz. They gave a presentation on what they had seen and talked about the effect the visit has had on them. Pupils then had the opportunity to put any questions to them.

This was followed by a very interesting talk by Jim Lowe, Gypsy Sites Officer who is also a member of the Romany Gypsy community. Jim spoke about his important role at Worcestershire County Council and spoke about the issues facing the Gypsy Traveller community today.

Pupils took part in workshops which looked at the importance of respecting and caring for others. They were asked how they could challenge unfairness and came up with ideas such as contacting elected members or joining the UK Youth Parliament. Pupils were also encouraged to make a 'Personal Commitment', however small, to make a difference to respecting and getting on with others. This enabled pupils to address issues such as how we can live together and value diversity.

Pupils had been asked to prepare either a poster or a poem on the subjects of bullying, oppression and racism. Two winners were picked by Councillor John Cairns, Chairman of Worcestershire County Council who presented them both with a prize.

Here is the [Prize winning poem](#)

Here is the [Prize winning picture](#)