

April 2022 - April 2023 Friends of Dawley Hamlets Local Nature Reserve Report.

The Friends group meet every 2 months in the Scout HQ in Pool Hill House at the rear of Captain Webb School.

### **Events.**

Spring pond dipping event cancelled due to low water levels.

Our summer event scheduled for Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July was postponed due to very high temperatures. The event was rescheduled for Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September, but cancelled due to the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

The pumpkin trail for Halloween was very successful, visited by many families.

The Christmas event was also very successful, with many families visiting the Christmas lights trail and the fairy houses.

The recent Easter event was partially disrupted by the removal of Easter eggs on the trail by persons unknown., but still enjoyed by families.

### **Grants.**

Cost of Summer Jubilee event from Telford & Wrekin Council

Buying of litter picking equipment from Jessop Brothers Builders.

### **Physical Improvements.**

New benches around Dandy and Castle Pools.

Resurfacing of wooden bridges.

New fishing pegs on Widewaters.

Resurfacing of footpath along Widewaters.

Tidying up work by TAA.

### **Latest News.**

The most exciting news from the LNR is that we are now part of the Mercian Woodland Biodiversity Project, working with David Reeve and Rachel Bates both from Small Woods Association and working with Kate Jones from Buglife and Rick Shaw from Telford & Wrekin Council.

The MWBP is allowing us to use the expertise of both David and Rachel to help manage the woodland within the LNR. There have been several site visits and some practical on-site workdays. We are hoping, with the help of Smallwoods, set up a weekly onsite volunteer day.

The Buglife Project is taking place on the Pitmound Mount behind Manor Road in Dawley. The project's aim is to restore wildflower rich habitats to help wildlife. Work has started on clearing scrub, making log piles and leaving standing deadwood. It is hoped, with the help of volunteers, to start planting plug plants and sowing wildflower seeds.