

## **Friends of Dawley Hamlets Local Nature Reserve**

### **Report to Dawley Hamlets Annual Parish Meeting**

**April 2023 - April 2024**

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

#### **Events.**

Pond dipping event very well supported and enjoyed by children and adults alike.

Our summer event/King's celebration was successful after a couple of postponements. Lots of families taking part with treasure trails, face-painting, craft stall and story-telling.

Bat walk August 2023 was a great success. 26 of us aged 0-70+ used the bat detectors around the pools. 5 species clearly identified and possibly at least 2 more from recordings taken.

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.

Involvement in the Telford Green Spaces Partnership group.

Madeley Court work experience students working in the reserve.

#### **Physical Improvements.**

Two extra ponds in the Reserve developed through T&W. Biodiversity net gain.

More new fishing pegs on Widewaters. Tidying up work by TAA.

T&W have removed rotten pegs on Castle Pool and fenced off the area to the west of the pool.

Water throw lines have been installed by Castle Pool and the car park.

Path laid along the canal and train tracks.

#### **Project work.**

Mercian Woodland Biodiversity Project - Smallwoods have completed two stints of volunteer work managing the woodland within the LNR. They have been ring-barking and coppicing, also damming the slope to the west of Furnace Pools.

The Buglife Project - Work on the Pitmound Mount behind Manor Road in Dawley has continued apace. Volunteer work parties have been well attended. Bramble control and heather harvesting and re-seeding are the priorities.

**Reptile mats.**

Supplied by T&W, have been placed around the LNR and mapped.