



Spring/Summer 2021

Produced by Dawley Hamlets Parish Council

**WELCOME to your Spring/Summer 2021 newsletter**  
**We hope you are all well and weathering this unprecedented situation**

The latest information from **Telford & Wrekin Council** regarding the Coronavirus pandemic including support for local residents and businesses can be found on their website:

[https://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20692/coronavirus\\_covid-19](https://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20692/coronavirus_covid-19)  
or by telephoning **01952 382030 (residents)** or **01952 383838 (businesses)**.



For those of you who are not aware we are sad to report that Councillor Beryl Onions passed away on 30th January 2021. Councillor Onions has served on the Parish Council since 2007, she was a conscientious and dedicated Parish Councillor who was passionate about her community and she is sorely missed.

Due to Councillor Onions passing there is a vacancy for a Parish Councillor in the Dawley Hamlets Ward and due to Councillor Jane Pinter's resignation last year there is also a vacancy in the Aqueduct Ward. The latest information regarding these vacancies can be found on our website or please feel free to contact the Clerk if you would like any further information.

## **DAWLEY HAMLETS IS FORMALLY DECLARED AS A LOCAL NATURE RESERVE BY NATURAL ENGLAND**

Since 2011 Telford & Wrekin Council has recommended more local nature reserves than ever before – an incredible feat – and one of these, Dawley Hamlets Local Nature Reserve, has been formally recognised by Natural England.

So we would like to say thank you. You joined our Friends group, helped with and attended our events, and helped us litter pick the site clean – collecting everything from old tents and trolleys to knee-high boots!

We are lucky to have an engaged Friends group with such diverse skills and interests – and we are always welcoming of new members (it's free!). The skills of our members have allowed us to do things like raise much-needed funds for site improvements and events, hold fun and engaging events for local children (and hopefully for the wider community too when it is safe!), and start to survey the site's wildlife to understand what treasures the area already holds and what we can do as custodians to improve the site for the future.

Although some of the events we dearly hoped would

happen, like the Big Dawley Tree Planting Day have been held back by the pandemic we do hope to hold these in future once it is safe to do so.

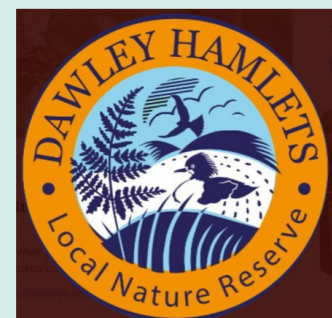
Seeing this site grow from strength to strength is a dream come true, and we can't wait to get stuck in again.

If you have not joined the group already sign up via our Facebook page:



[www.facebook.com/dawleyhamletsLNR/](https://www.facebook.com/dawleyhamletsLNR/)

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



## SWAN LAKE ON HORSEHAY POOL

This year we have been delighted to welcome a family of swans onto Horsehay Pool; but there is a tale to tell about this family.

A family of two adults and two mature cygnets arrived just as the third lockdown was underway and the icy weather was developing. They brought much joy to visitors and residents alike.

Sadly, the male adult was found on some ice in Bridge Street a few days later. No one saw what happened, but there was some speculation that he may have crash landed onto the ice. He did not appear to be hurt and was carried back to the pool. He re-joined his mate and their two cygnets. At first, he seemed to be well and the family were clearly delighted to be reunited. Unfortunately, over the next few days, he deteriorated, isolating himself from his family and not eating. He passed away. His mate was distraught. Then, within a week, there were four swans again. Not a new family but our family with a new mate! We have no idea where the new mate came from but she wasted no time in moving in. Speed dating or what! We now have four beautiful swans again on the pool.

If you enjoy looking at Horsehay Pool why not join the Friends of Horsehay Pool Group. Membership is free and you will be first to hear about any developments.

Just visit the Friends website – [www.membermojo.co.uk/fohpe](http://www.membermojo.co.uk/fohpe)

**Angela Porteous - Secretary Friends of Horsehay Pool**



*Picture courtesy of Hayley Stephens*

## TELFORD STEAM RAILWAY

The Parish Council have kindly awarded a grant to the Horsehay and Dawley Signal Box Rebuild Project. Telford Steam Railway are trying to get the signal box rebuilt. The signal box used to proudly sit at the end of the Horsehay and Dawley Station, which is just off Bridge Road, Horsehay.

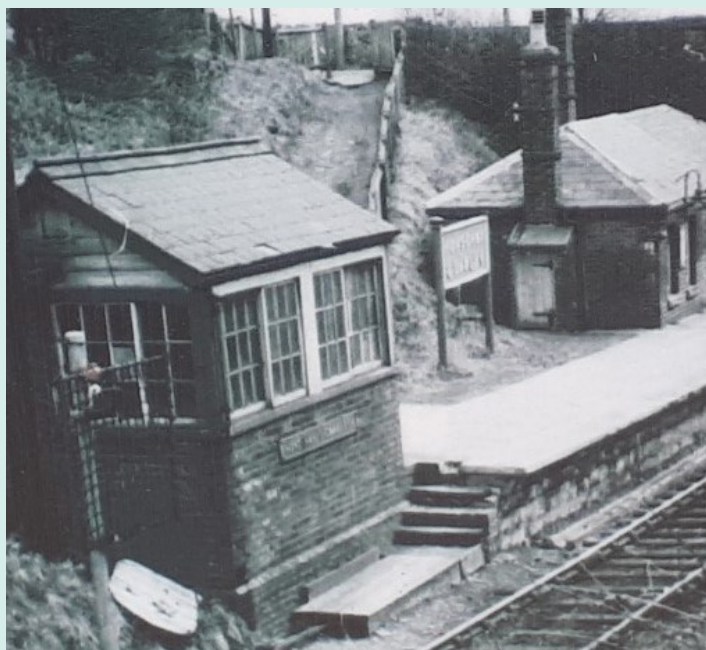
The Great Western Railway line ran from Wellington, through Horsehay to Buildwas and was later extended to Much Wenlock and Craven Arms. The line to Horsehay opened to passengers in 1859, with early photos showing a frame on the platform for the signal levers, before the signal box was built in 1883. As well as the station, there were 10 goods sidings, and things were quite busy with 4 staff working at the station in 1920.

The line closed to passengers in May 1962, just over 100 years after opening. The station buildings and signal box were demolished later in the 60s.

Telford Steam Railway are planning to rebuild the signal box to look as near to the original as possible. We plan to reuse some of the original bricks, which we have discovered lying in undergrowth around the site. Some of the work will be done by our volunteers, but we will have to employ others to do some sections. When complete, we hope to restore the interior to look like the original, but do not initially intend it to be operating

signals. One idea is to use the space to display some memories from local people and their families who used the station or worked there.

If you are interested in helping, have suggestions for grants, memories to share or would like more information please contact Paul Sanderson at the TSR or email [paul.sanderson@telfordsteamrailway.co.uk](mailto:paul.sanderson@telfordsteamrailway.co.uk)





## HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & EATWELL PROJECT

Your Parish Council continues to contribute to funding the Holiday Activities & Eatwell Project AKA the Dawley Breakfast Club. The last year has been challenging as the club has not been able to operate from Dawley Town Hall and Old Park Primary School as it usually does so club organisers have had to be creative and are currently offering breakfast parcels available for collection together with activity packs and a host of on-line activities.

There are currently 175 children registered for this service throughout the Dawley & Aqueduct, Horsehay & Lightmoor and Malinslee & Dawley Bank Horsehay wards.

Eligible families are notified about this free provision via their primary schools, social media etc. if you would like to know more about this scheme please contact Sarah Houlston at Great Dawley Town Council on 07876 401714.



## GARDENING SCHEME

This year the Parish Council are continuing to offer a free gardening service to residents of the parish who are 70 years of age or over or who have a disability. If you would like further information please contact your Clerk.

## RECENT PARISH IMPROVEMENTS

The Parish Council have recently funded the replacement of the goalposts on the Little Dawley / Old Phoenix fields and replaced a well-used bench on Pageant Drive. We are also contributing to some of the improvements to the Spring Village play area starting with the replacement of the swings. If you have any suggestions for improvements in your neighbourhood please contact your Clerk.

## COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM SCHEME

On the 1st of April the Parish Council enter into a new 3-year partnership with Telford and Wrekin Council's (T&WC) Community Action Team (CAT) which is a new neighbourhood enforcement scheme. This will provide the parish with an enhanced level of action undertaken by T&WC's team of Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers (NEO's) investigating and leading on a wide range of environmental crime issues that can blight and cause concern for local residents. These actions are:

- School patrols providing advice, guidance and where applicable issuing parking tickets for poor and inconsiderate parking
- Investigating fly tips
- Dog fouling and litter patrols
- A targeted patrol plan with high visibility patrols across the parish
- Close working with the Safer Neighbourhood Policing Teams
- A dedicated mobile cctv camera that can be moved around the parish to provide a visible presence in the local community and support in evidence gathering processes



# Your Parish Councillors

## AQUEDUCT WARD



**Chair of the Council**  
**Cllr. Andy Burford**  
Dashwood House,  
Poachers Gate, Dawley  
Telford, TF4 3PZ



**Cllr. Kate Barnes**  
2 Bailey Croft, Holly  
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**Cllr. Concepta Cassar**  
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**Cllr. Byron Cook**  
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*For further details  
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the Clerk*



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## DAWLEY HAMLETS WARD



**Cllr. David Hopkins**  
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**Cllr. Raj Mehta**  
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Rd, Horsehay Telford  
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*For further details  
please contact  
the Clerk*

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

A Parish Council Meeting is held on the third Wednesday of each month (excluding August and December) at **Horsehay Village Hall, Bridge Street, Horsehay, TF4 2FN at 7pm**. All residents of the parish are invited to attend and each meeting has a 15-minute public session at the beginning where the Council is able to receive comments and reports from the residents of the Parish.

**\*\*\* Due to Coronavirus Pandemic meetings are currently being held virtually by Zoom, please contact the clerk for meeting login details \*\*\***

### DAWLEY HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL SENIOR CITIZENS SUMMER PICNIC

We apologise for having to cancel this event but look forward to inviting you back as soon as it is safe to do so.

**CANCELLED**



### COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH GROUP

Volunteers from the local community are still being sought to start a Community Speedwatch group in Horsehay. Speedwatch is a nationwide scheme which enables volunteers to work with their local police forces to monitor vehicle speeds within their communities. Training is provided. If you would like to join the group please contact your Clerk for an application form.

### Keep in touch with your Parish Council

Telephone: 07941 212311

E-mail: [clerk@dawley-hamlets.org](mailto:clerk@dawley-hamlets.org)

Website: <http://www.dawley-hamlets.org>



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