

NEWSLETTER

SPRING / SUMMER 2025

PRODUCED BY DAWLEY HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL

WE ARE HAVING OUR OWN DEDICATED PARISH GROUNDS & CLEANSING OPERATIVE

From April 1st the Parish Council is entering into an agreement with T&WC Grounds and Cleansing Team to supply us with our own Idverde operative and van to provide additional maintenance resource within the Parish, this is over and above that which is included in T&WC's core maintenance contract with Idverde.

Work will include additional maintenance of the parish footpaths, litter bins, bollards, signs, shrub beds and mowing, and will include maintenance of non-T&WC assets, local nature reserves in the Parish and maintenance of the Little Dawley War Memorial. Parish Councillors are excited about the improvements which this new initiative will bring to the parish. The agreement is initially for one year and the Parish Council will then decide whether to extend the contract.

At time of writing our operative is being recruited, once selected we will introduce you to the successful candidate via our Website and Facebook page and once the work has begun there will be regular progress updates at our council meetings and pictures and details of the work completed posted on our Facebook page. If you have any suggestions of tasks to add to the workplan please let us know by e-mailing: clerk@dawley-hamlets.org



DAWLEY HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL SENIOR RESIDENTS SUMMER PARTY at HORSEHAY VILLAGE HALL

DOORS OPEN 12PM FOR 12:30PM START - FRIDAY 6th JUNE 2025

The Parish Council will once again be holding a free Summer Party for senior residents of the Parish. If you would like to be invited to attend, please return the slip below or e-mail your name and address to the Clerk.
We will post you a ticket two weeks prior to the event.

Admittance will be by ticket only; places are limited and will be issued on a first come first served basis so applicants are advised to respond as soon as possible.

Name:

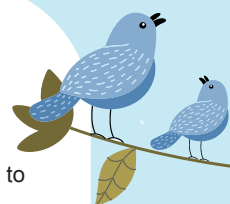
Address:

.....

Postcode: Telephone:

You must be 65 or over and living in the Parish of Dawley Hamlets to be invited to this Parish Council free event.

Please send this form to: K Ewence, Parish Clerk, 7 Earls Way, Telford, Shropshire,
TF6 6FA or alternatively e-mail clerk@dawley-hamlets.org.





AN UPDATE FROM THE FRIENDS OF DAWLEY HAMLETS LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

What's in a name? The Dawley Pools and Pit Mounds Local Nature Reserve was bowdlerised to its present name perhaps to protect the sensitivity of those communities on the edge of Dawley Magna now grouped as Dawley Hamlets. So here we are Dawley Hamlets LNR, 30 hectares of mixed woodland and pools centred around the original heart of Dawley; Church, Castle, industry, mining, canal and railways.

60 years ago, this was still pretty much bare pit mounds, natural recolonisation has transformed it and with luck and good stewardship it'll be mature oak dominated woodland in another couple of hundred years.

Our 'friends of' Committee meets bimonthly at the Scout hut Pool Hill Road. New members are always welcome. We aim to maintain and increase biodiversity and keep access open for everyone. We have detailed plans for the management of the woodland and have drawn funds from various pots including Dawley Hamlets Parish Council. The bigger projects need heavy machinery and are expensive but should have amazing results in terms of opening up areas. Meanwhile smaller interventions go on through volunteer groups and main footpath maintenance through Telford and Wrekin Council whose Ecology officers also give us great support.

Recent projects include:

- A volunteer group from Southall School creating a wild flower meadow by raking and planting yellow rattle which will hopefully depress grass growth to enable a greater variety of wildflowers to establish themselves.

- Madeley Academy work experience group who worked on the Parish mound to maintain the progress of last year's Buglife project.
- The annual winter wonderland event at Castle Pools was very popular with families with young children as was the bat walk.
- And a reinvigorated website, better signage and marked footpaths are all current projects.

We continue to be grateful to those who keep the reserve looking good by picking up any litter and the responsible dog owners who keep their dogs on leads and clear up their dogs' mess. The careless and don't care are a minority that we need to call out when we can.

We know there are people with all sorts of amazingly useful skills out there but are not necessarily up for an evening committee meeting so we have planned a guided walk and meet up in the Dawley Hamlets LNR on Sunday 13th of April at 10am. We will meet in the car park next to the Dandy Pool at the bottom of South View Road, Little Dawley, postcode TF4 3HR.

Everyone is welcome including children and dogs on leads. We'll do a very leisurely three mile or so walk around the LNR during which people can introduce themselves, talk to our current committee and pool ideas for ways forward. The discussions may continue in the Unicorn pub.

*By Dave Jackson, Ecology Officer
for Dawley Hamlets LNR*



CONTRIBUTION RECOGNITION FOR LOCAL LANDLORD

We are pleased to announce that the Parish Council have nominated Mr Denzil Martin, landlord of The Unicorn Inn in Little Dawley, to attend the Lord-Lieutenant's Shropshire Garden Party on the 4th of June with his wife Gina in recognition of their contribution to the local community.



Friends of Horsehay Pool and Environs

"A local nature reserve"

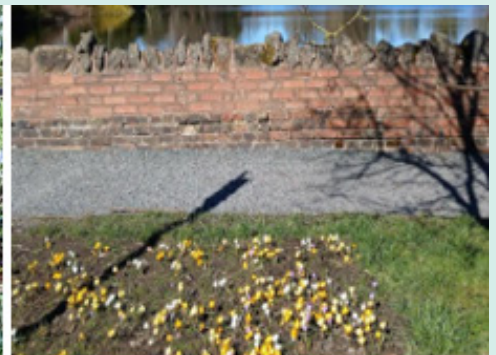
It's been a long, wet and cloudy winter, but we do hope you've managed to walk around Horsehay Pool and seen something rather special.

The snow drops we planted a few years ago have looked spectacular, their best ever. The bank of white blooms can be spotted a good distance away and have looked stunning against the green backdrop of the vibrant grass.

We have also been delighted to see that the crocuses we planted last Autumn are blooming. We have had a carpet of yellow and white in the beds alongside the Pool and perimeter grass verges near to the Telford Steam Railway. The purple crocuses are just appearing and should provide a good spectacle near to the Village Hall. These crocuses provide early nectar for insects and are, also lovely to see. Thank you to all our sponsors in providing the bulbs: DHPC, Local TWC Councillors and the Telford Central Rotary Club. Also, a huge thank you to everyone who helped us to do the planting.

Our next project will be to get on with improving the area by the pool opposite the Cod Father Chip Shop. We want to clear the area of brambles and weeds and replace it with more suitable vegetation for the wildlife and to improve the appearance of this area. It is a very popular seating area. However, the area has been subject to huge variations in water levels over the last few years so we have to be very careful about the scheme we commission. Watch this space, we are determined to make it more attractive for everyone.

The very high recent water levels have meant that our reed planting to date at the North end of the Pool has not been successful. This is very disappointing, but we are hoping the Telford and Wrekin Council will agree to the purchase and planting of some floating reed beds. If this is successful it will be a huge benefit for our local wildlife. We've had lots of wildlife on the Pool over the last few months, including Crested Grebes, Tufted Ducks and our visiting Swans. All lovely to see.



Remember if you are not already a member of the Friends Group we would love you to join, it's free and you will be the first to hear about what's going on. Visit the Friends of Horsehay Pool Membership Mojo page.

DAWLEY HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL GRANT AWARDS

The Parish Council offers grant awards to voluntary and community activity groups in recognition for their contribution to local residents' well-being and is committed to supporting and strengthening these groups to help them make a positive difference in the Parish.

We award grants which will benefit some or all of our residents and each year we make provision in our budget for grants of up to £300 per application.

Over the last twelve months we have awarded grants to:

- Friends of Dawley Hamlets Local Nature Reserve for their Adventures in Nature Family Day

- Britannia Historical Society for promotion of activities such the Service of Remembrance**
- T&WC Interfaith for Interfaith Santa visit and the provision of Christmas meals**
- Ladygrove School Association towards a school 'Concentration Station' seating area**

Applications are considered at our April and October meetings. An application form and a copy of our grant awarding policy can be found on the Parish Council website:

www.dawley-hamlets.org/grant-awards.

Please submit applications at least one week before the meeting date.

Your Parish Councillors

AQUEDUCT WARD



Chair of the Council
Cllr. Bob Wennington
chairdhpc@aol.com
07887 880064



Cllr. Lyndsey Parker
lyndsey.parker1991@gmail.com
07462 736006



Cllr. Sue Wennington
wenningtonsusan@gmail.com
07887 880063

HORSEHAY WARD



Cllr. Zona Hannington
CllrHannington@outlook.com
07757 174464



Cllr. Raj Mehta
dr.saab@nhs.net
07545 023519



Cllr. Ian Preece
Ian.Preece@telford.gov.uk
07581 006487

LITTLE DAWLEY WARD



Cllr. Kate Barnes
cllrbarnes@outlook.com
07759 244666

NIGHTINGALE WALK WARD



Cllr. Mark Rogers
Mr152994@gmail.com
07960 570058

SMALLHILL ROAD WARD



Cllr. Stefan Heighway
Vice-Chair
stefanheighway@icloud.com
07777 653502

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Parish Council meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm (excluding August and December). Meetings are held alternately at these venues:

- Aqueduct Primary School, Castlefields Way, Aqueduct Telford TF4 3RP
- Horsehay Village Hall, Bridge Road, Horsehay, Telford TF4 2NF

Please check our website for the latest information and meeting agenda before attending.

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 its residents.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Children of our Parish are welcome to attend the Great Dawley Breakfast Club held at Dawley Town Hall during the school holidays. Great Dawley Town Council also host a number of school holiday afternoon activities which our children are welcome to attend.

You will find further details on Facebook or Twitter
#greatdawleybreakfastclub



THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Dawley Hamlets Parish Council is hosting the **Annual Parish Meeting** at Horsehay Village Hall at **7pm on Wednesday 16th April** and we would like very much for you to join us. At this meeting the Parish Council and our local community groups will provide an update of what they have achieved over the last twelve months and the plans they have for the future.

To find out more about this meeting please go to our website:
www.dawley-hamlets.org/annual-parish-meeting.

Keep in touch with your Parish Council

Tel: 07941 212311

Email: clerk@dawley-hamlets.org

Web: dawley-hamlets.org



Join us on Facebook

Search for Dawley Hamlets Parish Council.

Articles published in this newsletter do not necessarily express the views of the Parish Council.