

# NEWSLETTER

*Autumn 2013*

*Produced by Dawley Hamlets Parish Council*

## Senior Citizens' Christmas Party

The Christmas Party has proved to be an undoubted success and the Parish Council continues to receive very positive feedback from those who have attended. The very success of the occasion has in itself provided us with something of a conundrum.

With upwards of 100 guests it has become quite a challenge to serve everyone at their table in a timely and efficient manner and we have found that it is difficult to ensure that no one is kept waiting for their meal. We are very conscious that some may be waiting to be served whilst others are practically ready for their dessert! All this despite the fact that we are fortunate to have some very able, courteous and efficient serving staff; it is simply the sheer numbers of guests requiring service which makes it seem to be less efficient than it actually is.

With this in mind, it has been suggested to us that we might like to consider a completely different format. Many have noticed that our Summer Picnic, because it is a buffet, has none of the inherent problems we have encountered in our Christmas table service and we have been asked if we might consider providing a Christmas buffet instead.

If we were to do so, our guests can be assured that the meal will be entirely appropriate to the season but before we make any changes we thought that it would be best if we had a vote.

We are therefore asking those who wish to attend to complete an extra part of the application form to indicate their preference. We promise that we will cater for whichever option the majority choose so it's important that you let us know which you prefer.

If you want further details please feel free to ask any of your Councillors.

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## Dawley Hamlets Parish Council Senior Citizens Christmas Party

**12.30pm for 1pm Friday December 6th 2013**

The Parish Council will once again be holding a free Christmas Party for senior citizens of the Parish. If you would like to be invited to attend please return the slip below. Admittance will be by ticket only and places are limited, so applicants are advised to return their slips as soon as possible.

Name .....

Address .....

I am a senior resident of the Parish of Dawley Hamlets and I would like to be invited to the Parish Council's free Christmas Party for senior citizens.

I would prefer a Christmas Buffet / a Christmas Dinner (please delete the option you don't want).

Please send the form to: M. Goldstraw, Parish Clerk, Regent Villa, London Road, St. George's, Telford, TF2 9LH

## Completion of Audit

The Audit of the accounts for the Council for the year ending 31st March 2013 has been concluded. The Annual Return is available for inspection on-line by any local government elector of the area of the Council. The original document is available for inspection on application to the Clerk or at:

<http://dawley-hamlets.org/audit-report-13.pdf>

The Annual Accounts of the Council are also available for inspection upon request.

Councils spend public money. The money comes from national and local taxes – as well as charges to users of services. Councils have a special responsibility to tell local residents and taxpayers how they spend your money. They do that by publishing yearly accounts and details of their spending.

‘Council accounts’ are the financial statements that most organisations have to produce at the end of the year – a balance sheet and summary of income and expenditure. But the term also covers all related documents used to make up the council’s accounts and any report by the external auditor about how the council organises itself to conduct its business.

As a local resident, or interested party, you have legal rights which let you inspect your council’s accounts and related documents. If you are also a local elector (a person who has the right to vote in a local election or for members of a national parliament) you also have rights to ask questions about the accounts, and object to them.

You do not have to pay directly for exercising your rights – but there is a cost, which will be added to the costs of running your council. And therefore, indirectly, the cost of exercising your rights is added to your council tax.

The Audit Commission has produced a leaflet called “A Guide to your Rights” which can be found on-line. The guide explains how you can use your rights responsibly. It explains what the law says about the accounts and your rights. And, if you have concerns about your council that are not about the accounts, it points you to other sources of advice and more information.



## The Cinnamon Trust Can Help You!

We have volunteers who can help elderly or terminally ill owners across the whole of the UK. We offer services such as dog walking, cat care, and transport to the vets and even short term fostering when owners face a short spell in hospital.

If you know someone who can benefit from our services, please get in contact!

...We are waiting to hear from you!

Call: 01736 757900 or call 01736 758707

Email: [sherry@cinnamon.org.uk](mailto:sherry@cinnamon.org.uk)

The Cinnamon Trust, 10 Market Square, Hayle, Cornwall, TR27 4HE

Telephone: 01736 757900 [www.cinnamon.org.uk](http://www.cinnamon.org.uk) [admin@cinnamon.org.uk](mailto:admin@cinnamon.org.uk)

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### Chairman's Chunterings

Paying for parking. How often, if you are lucky/unfortunate enough to run a car, do you find yourself having to pay for the privilege of parking the thing?

Is it fair?

These car parks do require maintenance, they don't pick up their own litter, or re-surface themselves when pot-holes appear. The ground taken up could be used for something else.

May I venture to make a comment? Taking Telford as a whole, the situation could be a lot worse. In fact, a few years ago, it was worse. However if you venture outside of the Council owned facilities, the situation is car owners are faced with fees that are sometimes prohibitive.

Surely we (car owners) pay enough into the coffers of the Government through fuel duty, road tax and VAT to 'subsidise' car parking?

Of course privately owned car parks are an entirely different thing. If you want to visit an attraction then perhaps payment for the privilege is appropriate, but not if you have to pay an entrance fee as well!

Back to matters closer to home. Recently a piece of kitchen equipment ceased to work and being lucky enough to have access to a computer, I searched for a 'Blender' and found one at a store in Telford Town Centre. I got on my motorbike and off I went. There I was told that delivery would be two to three days and that I needed to return home and order (it) on the internet. I replied by saying that I would return in a car and pick it up myself if the store paid my parking fee. They refused. I left and purchased the item from a store on a retail park with no parking charges. Why should I pay for the privilege of spending my hard earned money?

The moral? Shop around, if the bigger stores want your trade they can pay for your parking.

#### ***Are you keeping up to date with Parish Council business?***

Dawley Hamlets Parish Council has its own web site where you can view its minutes which are a legally required record of its business. Minutes of all meetings going back to the years 2001 are archived on the web for all to see.

Up to date minutes are usually placed on the web site within days of them being approved, by Council, as a true record of the proceedings.  
<http://dawley-hamlets.org.uk>

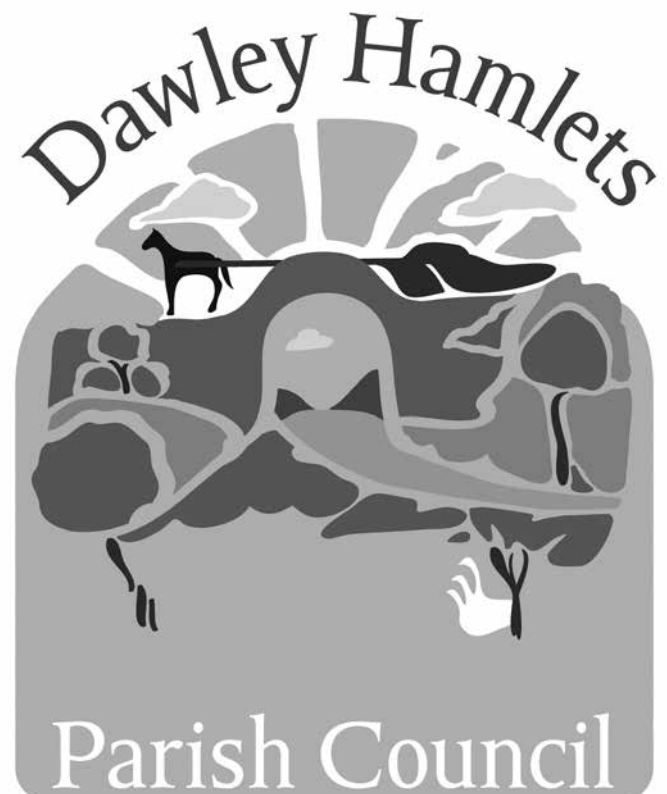
If you help to organise a local group or event in the parish of Dawley Hamlets we will be only too happy to publish your meeting dates and times for you free of charge in our Newsletter. We aim to ensure that all households in the parish receive a copy.

All you have to do is contact either the Clerk or any of your Parish Councillors with the details and we will do the rest. Our only condition is that your organisation or event should benefit the parish and be non-profitable.

**GET YOURSELVES SOME FREE PUBLICITY!!**

Email the Clerk: [clerk@dawley-hamlets.org](mailto:clerk@dawley-hamlets.org)

**[www.dawley-hamlets.org](http://www.dawley-hamlets.org)**



# Contact Us

## Your Local Parish Councillors

### Aqueduct Ward

**Councillor Andy Chetwood**

14 Malvern Crescent,  
Little Dawley  
Telford TF4 3HD  
Tel: 402699

**Councillor Angela Jordan**

86 Majestic Way,  
Aqueduct  
Telford TF4 3SA

**Councillor Geraldine King**

36 Malvern Crescent,  
Little Dawley  
Telford TF4 3HE  
Tel: 591894

**Councillor Susan Tarr**

67 Ellis Peters Drive,  
Aqueduct, Telford, TF3 1AW  
Tel: 593202

**Councillor Linda Gough**

13 Holly Road,  
Little Dawley  
Telford TF4 3HA

**Councillor Alan E Scott**

28 Avon Close,  
Little Dawley  
TF4 3HP

### Dawley Hamlets Ward

**Councillor Tansy Swain**

17 Suffolk Way,  
Horsehay, Telford TF4 3UL

**Councillor Mrs B. Onions**

9 Foresters Close,  
Horsehay, Telford TF4 3BW  
Tel: 502473

**Clerk:** Martin Goldstraw

Regent Villa, London Road, St. George's, Telford TF2 9QD  
Tel: 01952 458006 Fax: 08703 156 809

**Councillor John Lovett**

The Oaks,  
Spring Village, TF4 2LT

### DAWLEY HAMLETS PARISH COUNCIL

Meets once a month at Horsehay Village Hall, Bridge Road,  
Horsehay at 7.15 p.m.

The meeting is held on the third Wednesday of the month.

There are no meetings in August.

**All residents of the parish are invited to attend and all meetings have a 15 minute public session where Council is able to receive comments and reports from residents of the Parish.**

**Visit our new on-line photo gallery:**

**<http://dawley-hamlets.org/gallery>**

Malinslee and Dawley & Hamlets Safer Neighbourhood Team are now on



Follow the action...

**@GreatDawleyCops**



[www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk)